Dear friends,

Welcome home! Homecoming Sunday is always one of my favorite Sundays of the year, a chance to celebrate our life together and reconnect as we begin another program year together. This year, we will also celebrate our Feast of Dedication and recommit ourselves to Christ and his mission for the church. With glorious music and festive meals following the 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. services, it will be a great day—St. James’ at its finest.

Most of you reading this letter love St. James’ dearly, as do I. I have had the privilege of being your rector for nearly 22 years now. But it also seems to me that sometimes our love of St. James’ can obscure a deeper truth. Sometimes we get things backward, identifying first and foremost as a St. James’ parishioner, then as an Episcopalian, and then as a Christian. (Perhaps the last title has taken on political or cultural overtones that make us nervous.) But the order is backward—and Homecoming, for all the ways it is wonderfully unique to St. James’, is a chance to remind ourselves that we are, first and foremost, Christians. That’s the identity God gives us in baptism, that’s our truest calling. We love our parish, and we love the Anglican/Episcopal spiritual path we follow here, but only because they help us find our true home in Christ. So as we begin a new year together, let us recommit to that most fundamental and deepest of calls: to know Christ and make him known.

In Christ,
The Rev. Brenda Husson

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**Today at St. James’**

**Confirmation Orientation** 9:00-10:00 a.m., Coburn Hall
All 8th grade Confirmands and their parents are invited to meet other Confirmation families, clergy, and teachers George Wade and Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis. Get a sense for the direction of our Confirmation Program. Contact Jeremy for more information.

**Homecoming Sunday celebrations**
Celebrate the start of a new program year and catch up after the summer months at a parish-wide picnic on 71st Street following the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. Enjoy delicious barbecue and family-friendly activities, or a barbecue dinner after the 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion. All are welcome! No RSVP necessary.

*Please note that our programs for children and youth, including choir, will resume after Homecoming. Full schedule inside and online at stjames.org/calendar!*

**Beginning next Sunday**

**Fellowship**
- After the 9:10 a.m. service, coffee outside Coburn Hall
- After the 11:15 a.m. service, coffee in Sunderland Hall

**Nursery Care available downstairs**
Nursery care is available during the 9:10 and 11:15 a.m. services, and the adult formation offerings.

**Formation for all ages!**
At St. James’, we believe that if you come here, you will grow. To learn more, visit the First-time Families podium in the Narthex.
- Toddler (ages 2-3) and Primary (ages 4-6) 9:05-11:00 a.m.
- Church School, Youth Group (grades 1-12) 10:15-11:00 a.m.
- The Forum 10:30-11:00 a.m.
- Afternoon Bible Study 4:30-5:30 p.m.

**Healing Prayer**
Is there something you would like prayer for—a joy or a concern, for yourself or someone else? Join our Healing Prayer ministers in the Chapel following worship at 9:10, 11:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

**New?** START HERE TO BEGIN YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST
- Pick up a “Start Here” brochure and return the welcome card.
- “Meet me at the bell” (after 9:10, 11:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.)
Meet next to the bell at the back corner of the church for an informal conversation with a priest about what led you here and where you might be called to go in your spiritual life.
Next Sunday: Sept. 16

Education Sunday
The Feast of the Holy Cross
Isaiah 45:21-25, Psalm 98, Philippians 2:5-11, John 12:31-36

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Homily by Matthew Leaycraft, Lay Associate.

9:10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist
Sermon by the Rev. Brenda Husson. The Compostela Choir offers music by George Oldroyd, Austin C. Lovelace, and Harold Friedell.

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

Church School Orientation after the 9:10 a.m. service
Students and families are invited to Coburn Hall for Church School Orientation. Please contact Vicki Hall if you would like to learn more or register your child for Church School.

Youth programs resume after the 9:10 a.m. service
Students in the 6th and 7th grades, Confirmation Class, and Youth Group will kick-off a new year in their classrooms. Contact Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis to learn more.

Baptismal Preparation 10:15 a.m., St. George
Interested in having your child baptized? Come learn more! Contact the Rev. Zack Thompson with questions.

Festive Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m., Sunderland Hall
Enjoy a cup of coffee and learn more from the Rev. Ryan Fleenor about what’s to come in Adult Formation this year, with Book Sale and copies of our fall issue of the Camino!

EFM Commissioning during the 11:15 a.m. service
Members of St. James’ 2018-2019 Education for Ministry group will be blessed at the 11:15 a.m. service. Visit stjames.org/efm to learn more about this program.

Afternoon Bible Study 4:30 p.m., Sunderland Hall
A Bible Study opportunity for regulars of the 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion! Join us whenever you are able.

Register for Church School and children’s programs today!
Visit stjames.org/cfmregistration to sign up for weekday activities and Sunday School. Payment can be made securely online.

Come home to where your heart is
Your support of St. James’ worship, ministries, and mission alongside fellow parishioners is cause for celebration. If you haven’t offered a commitment for the year, please consider what percentage of your income God is calling you to give for the work of God’s kingdom. Contact Sandra De La Cruz or visit stjames.org/commitment to get started.
Welcome, Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis and Emilie Han!

We are thrilled to welcome two new staff this summer. Jeremy joined us in August as Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries. Emilie, a native of Seattle, came to St. James’ this week as our Mission Intern. Please give them a warm welcome!

St. James’ hosts Park Avenue Synagogue

To support our neighbors during their ongoing construction project, we are pleased to offer our church for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services this month.

Daily Office expands Monday through Friday

As part of our commitment to daily worship, and in response to last winter’s RenewalWorks survey, our services of Morning and Evening Prayer will expand to five days a week. If you would like to learn more about being an officiant, contact Matthew Leaycraft.

Back-to-School for children of incarcerated parents by Monday

Thank you to those who have participated! Donations of pencils, pens, notebooks, loose-leaf paper, binders, crayons/markers, and folders can be left at reception, marked “Osborne” by Monday.

Wednesday Bible Study resumes Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Make Bible Study a part of your weekly routine at this clergy-led morning session following the Eucharist. All are welcome!

Children’s programs resume

Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Little ones and their parents and caregivers are invited to join us every Thursday for We Love to Sing or Bible Stories & Legos at 4:00 p.m., Thursdays for Families at 4:45 p.m. (this week, we make ‘The Wall’ in Donegan Hall), and supper at 5:30 p.m. Contact Vicki Hall to learn more.

Music for Children & Youth

Being a chorister at St. James’ is a wonderful way to experience music across the centuries, reinforce faith-based formation, and participate in church! To learn more, contact Loraine Enlow.

Prospect Park Picnic with Nickelodeon Saturday, 10:45 a.m.

Join the children of incarcerated parents for a day of fun, food, and games sponsored by Nickelodeon. Contact Susana Ferrer to learn more or get involved.

20s & 30s Kick-off at the Met Fri. Sept. 21, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Kick off the new year at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Meet on the steps for a guided tour by parishioner Brad Whitehurst and the Rev. Eva Suarez, followed by refreshments on the roof.

Register now for our 2018 Parish Weekend Away Oct. 5-7

We’re going back to camp! Will you come, too? St. James’ second Parish Weekend Away will be held over Columbus Day weekend. Learn more and register at stjames.org/weekendaway.

An Invitation to Volunteer: Albion Prison Visit Nov. 29-30

Help the children of incarcerated parents visit their moms in upstate New York this holiday season. Contact Susana Ferrer to learn more or to get involved.

Last chance to sign up for the Holy Land! May 21-June 3, 2019

Deepen your faith, enlarge your understanding of issues, and walk in the footsteps of Jesus’ disciples. Visit stjames.org/holy-land or contact Rosa Gentile to learn more.

News & Notes

Prayer List

Thanks be to God

• for the homecoming of our parish and for the opportunity to grow together as we seek to follow in the way of Jesus Christ
• for the faithful volunteers who served at the Lunch Program, Dinner Program and Homeless Shelter ministry in the summer months.
• for the generosity of parishioners who have made pledges for 2018.

Your prayers are requested

• for St. James’ in this season after Pentecost, that the Holy Spirit would move powerfully in our lives and through our ministries.
• for members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble; Donald, Henry, David, Susan, Terry & Mary Jane, Mal, Elona, Carol, Cynthia, Pam, Caroline & Michael, Walterence, James Edward, Joan, Lois, Brian, Sara, Michael, Jen & Ulrik, Janet, Eula Mae, Carol, Kathy, Jane, Lilly, Laura, Ann & Ben, Bob, Chris, Amanda, Blanche, Victor, Carolyn & David, Valli, Charles, Seth, Jeanette, Alice, Iris, Sophie, Asher, Marielle, Maria & her parents, Frank, Lisa, Carmen, Milton, Alice Mary, Maurice, Andy & Sabra, Isabel, Rick, Doug, Peter & Dianne, Ben, Peter, Bill, John, Prune, the Kirkpatrick family, Martha, Tom, Douglass, Vicky, Ramon, Pelham, Anthoiiy, Nancy, Zoey, Lenore, Nadine, Isabelle & Viviane, Tracey, Hermie, Meshida & her children, Kevin, Greg, Betsy, Jeannette, Rodney, Mary Frances, Dorothy, Grace, Mary, JoAnne, Sue Ellen, Dorothy, Elnora, Harriet, Alex, Marc, Travers, Susan, Mudge & Bill, Christopher, Margot, James, Peggy, Katharine, Jerry, Casey, John & Catherine, Theresa, Ruth, Filip, Sandy, Dick, John, George, Peter, Samuel, Al, Jose, Laura, Pam, Deborah, Josefin, Jorge, Barb, Nick, Craig, Peter and Jana, Megan, Grace, Wayne, Bonnie, Matthew, Isabel, Babis, Kiley, Margaret, Nancy, Silvia, Gabriella, Thomas, Chloe, Tom, Paul, Blake, Barbara, Chertam, MaryAnn, Bill, Carl Jandernoa family, Don, Alida and Martin, Dale, Wendy, Brunilda, Carol Sue, Robert, Jonathan, John, Ben, Bryce, Christine, Elena, James, Elena, Kelly, Mackenzie, Jason, Carter, Angelo, Isabel, Kathryn, Bruce, Brad, Hilary, Jake, Alec, Laura, Nicholas & Nancy, Donnice, Teresa, Ben & Juergen, Lian, Ann, Aaron, Molitor, Bonnie, Emily, Anne Marie, Tom, Rob and Kathy, Madaline, Paul, Adrian, Ken, Deborah, Andrew, Lisa, Jerome & Marten, Charlie, Felicia & Alex, Roger & Jovie, Alex, Todd, John, Helen, Monique, Susie, Cilla, Sally, Rich, Karen, Helen, Michael, Hannah, Sharon, Verne, Janet, Karen, Carlos, James, Julie, Barbara, Behida, Caroline, Bob, Dominic, Bruce, David, Sarah, Colleen, Waylon, Ray, John, Forns, Diane, Frank, Glory, Jean, Karen & Craig, James, Tim, Kristin and Matt, Gary, Alex, Kelly, and the people of Japan.
• for St. Andrew’s Church, Hartsdale, according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer.
• for the Province of the Episcopal Church in Sudan, according to the Anglican cycle of prayer.
• for our work as stewards of God’s creation, that we may use the earth’s resources rightly in the service of others, and be mindful of our connection to all living things.
• for the United States of America, for wisdom and grace for our leaders in the exercise of their duties, that the rights and dignity of all may be protected, and our nation be a blessing to other nations of the earth.
• for justice and peace in this city and nation; for those who serve the common good in law enforcement and the courts; and for the victims of racism, injustice, and intolerance.
• for all who are persecuted for their faith, including Christians in the Middle East; for all refugees and all who welcome and serve those in need.
• for members and friends of the parish serving in the Armed Forces, in the Diplomatic Corps, and with the U.N.; Tracy, Christian, Mads, Michael, Mark.

We commend to God’s never-failing care

• victims of war and violence throughout the world, including all victims of terrorism; all migrants and refugees who have died fleeing danger; and all those killed in the military service of our nation.
• all whom we love but see no more, especially Norma Meyers-Miller (Dean Meyers mother), Lydia Marie Clarke (Holly Rochelle’s mother), DeVon Bangert (Tom Kellers uncle), and Barbara Gould.

To have your prayer requests printed in this space, or to provide an update, please e-mail the clergy at pastoralcare@stjames.org, or visit stjames.org/prayer.
The Clergy & Lay Staff

The Rev. Brenda Husson
Rector
bhusson@stjames.org
212-774-4250

Sam Hutcheson, Sr. Warden - Jennifer Charrington, Jr. Warden

SUNDAYS
8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
9:10 a.m. · Family Eucharist
11:15 a.m. · Choral Eucharist
6:00 p.m. · Candlelight Communion

WEEKDAYS
M, T, Th, F 8:00 a.m. · Morning Prayer
Wed. 8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist
Mon.-Fri. 5:30 p.m. · Evening Prayer

CENTERING PRAYER
Tue. 6:00 p.m.
Wed. 12:00 p.m.
Fri. 12:00 p.m.
Open for prayer and meditation
Sunday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Visit Us

Open for prayer and meditation
Sunday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

St. James’ Church is an Episcopal Church, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.