Dear friends,

Parents of young children here at St. James’ may remember the sign that hangs on Vicki Hall’s door. Next to a picture of rather pouty toddler are the words “be patient, God isn’t finished with me yet.” As cute as the photo is, though, it’s a sentiment that doesn’t only apply to young children. Growth is a mark of life; things that stop growing are things that have begun to die, or never lived at all. Each of us is meant to keep growing in faith and hope and love. Each of us is a disciple, a student, of Jesus—learning to walk in his ways and to trust in his love. As a teacher of mine likes to remind us, the church isn’t a club for those who think they’ve arrived, so much as a group of disciples on the way.

Today we celebrate Recognition Sunday, pausing to give thanks for a wonderful year together in Christian formation for all ages. And there’s a lot of growth to celebrate! Our church school classes, children’s choirs, and Thursday afternoon activities continue to nurture our children in faith. Our youth groups have seen a year of growth, and last Sunday we celebrated with the largest confirmation class in recent memory. And we have lived into our 2018 RenewalWorks goals with forums, small groups, retreats and workshops that have helped us rediscover the power of the Eucharist and the truth of the Apostles Creed, ask the “Big Questions,” nurture our spiritual gifts, and walk in the Way of Love. Watering the seeds of faith and building upon foundations laid, God has given us growth this year (1 Cor. 3:5-11). May the Spirit of wisdom continue to lead us into all truth, that we may know, love, and follow Jesus in all we do.

In Christ,
The Rev. Ryan Fleenor
Next Sunday: May 26

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Homily by the Rev. Zack Thompson.

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sermon by the Rev. Zack Thompson. The Canterbury Choir offers music by Nicholas White and Philip W.J. Stopford.

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion
Homily by the Rev. Eva Suarez. Music for piano and guitar.

Summer Sundays at St. James’
Summer at St. James’ is chock-full of opportunities for fellowship, formation, and worship. Make sure you are subscribed to our weekly e-newsletter at stjames.org/enews and visit stjams.org/summer to learn more about summer offerings.

“Seculosity” and summer reading suggestions
Get your copy of our 2019 summer parish reading, Seculosity, by David Zahl, today! This wise, funny book explores some of the ways we seek to find meaning, identity, and purpose in life, from food and parenting to dating and voting. As Bishop Curry says, “you will find [in this book] rest from the relentless effort to be enough and encounter Jesus, who truly loves you as you are.” See a full list of summer reading suggestions from St. James’ clergy and staff at stjames.org/summer.

Offering our best gifts to God in 2019
To date, more than 400 households have offered financial commitments for 2019, but we want every parishioner to be “all in” as we offer our best gift for God’s work in this city. Have you made a financial commitment for the year? Please visit stjames.org/2019commitment to make a commitment or stjames.org/give to set up a recurring weekly or monthly gift.

Bible Memorization Project
Challenge yourself to commit Scripture to memory, one bit per week!

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 19
“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” —John 13:34
Symes@gmail.com.

For more information, email Audrey. Parishioner Audrey Symes has become an advocate for this cause and her hard work has resulted in a senate resolution in support of diaper banks. Please drop off any diapers (sealed or unsealed) outside the nursery. For more information, email Audrey. Diaper Drive (and congratulations!)

St. James’. He will be away from June 17 until Homecoming on June 29. Join us to learn more about this transformative adult formation opportunity, restarting in September 2019. Visit stjames.org/efm or contact Chris Veillon to learn more.

Ascension Eucharist Thu. May 30, 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the Feast of the Ascension at a service of Holy Eucharist. Members of the Compostela Choir and organist Tyler Walker will offer music by Andrea Gabrieli, Michael Praetorius, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and J.S. Bach.

20 & 30s host the Dinner Program Fri. May 31, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Join the St. Jamesians in serving a seated, three-course meal for our homeless and low-income neighbors. Contact Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis to learn more or get involved.

Shelter Open House Sun. June 2, 1:00 p.m.

St. James’ partners with Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church to shelter 12 men, 6 nights a week. Are you being called to a ministry of hospitality? Join us at MAPC to learn more or get involved.

20s & 30s at the Rectory Wed. June 5, 6:30 p.m.

Join other young adults and St. James’ clergy for nibbles and candid conversation around faith and the workplace. Contact Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis to learn more. Friends welcome!

Osborne Achievement Ceremony Thu. June 6, 3:45 - 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate the youth of the Osborne Association at a ceremony here at St. James’. Volunteers are needed to provide appetizers, desserts, and applause! Contact Susana Ferrer to learn more.

Pentecost Sunday & Parish BBQ Sunday, June 9

Celebrate the Day of Pentecost and the end of the Easter season with a special 10:30 a.m. Festal Eucharist (wear red!), followed by a parish BBQ picnic. Save the date; invite a friend! All are welcome.

Is your child ready to join or move up in choir?

This time of year is a great opportunity to assess whether your chorister is ready to move up a level...or whether your child (4-18 years) would like to begin choir involvement. Please contact Loraine Enlow to learn more.

Thank you, Second Time Around volunteers!

Thank you to all those who helped make Friday’s thrift sale a huge success...including those who sorted and priced items over months; who set up, helped out, and cleaned up on the day of the sale; who donated goods; and who came to shop! All proceeds support the work of St. James’ Grants Programs, serving those in need throughout New York City.

Sabbatical for Ryan Fleenor

The Rev. Ryan Fleenor will enjoy a sabbatical this summer, a well-earned period of personal development and rest after nine years at St. James’. He will be away from June 17 until Homecoming on Sunday, September 8. Please keep him in your prayers.

Diaper Drive (and congratulations!)

The cost of diapers is a tremendous burden on low-income families. Parishioner Audrey Symes has become an advocate for this cause and her hard work has resulted in a senate resolution in support of diaper banks. Please drop off any diapers (sealed or unsealed diapers) outside the nursery. For more information, email Audrey. symes@gmail.com.
The Vestry
Jennifer Charrington, Sr. Warden · Missy Condo, Jr. Warden

Sue Bennett
Hugh Boston
Gerlinde Brixius
Richard Brown
Tristan Bultman
Stephen de Francesco

Dolly Geary
Susanna Guffey
Elizabeth Littlejohn
Marcy Sendax
Bob Stinson
Anne Strassner

Mary Malhotra,
Vestry Officer for Stewardship

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Emil Ramirez
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Davis Wortman
Director of Music
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The Rev. Carol Anderson
Non-stipendiary Priest Associate

St. James’ Church is a community that actively shares the love of Jesus Christ with each other, our city and the world.

Worship

SUMMER SUNDAYS (BEGIN MAY 26TH)
8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. · Holy Eucharist (Church)
6:00 p.m. · Candlelight Communion

WEEKDAYS
M, T, Th 8:00 a.m. · Morning Prayer
Wed. 8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist
Mon., Tue. 6:00 p.m. · Evening Prayer

CENTERING PRAYER
Tue. 6:00 p.m.
Wed. 12:00 p.m.
Fri. 12:00 p.m.

LECTIO DIVINA
Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Visit Us

PARISH HOUSE HOURS
Mon. - Thu. 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

ST. JAMES’ CHURCH
865 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK, NY 10021

To reach any of us during the week, or in case of pastoral emergency at any time, call 212-774-4200.

STJAMES.ORG

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