Dear friends,

Happy New Year! Hope this finds each of you well as we conclude our celebrations of the 12 Days of Christmas and begin a new year—and new decade!—together.

We are moving into the Epiphany season, the season of light and revelation in which we encounter the resplendent glory and steadfast love of the Incarnate God in the person of Jesus. In this, we join the Wise Men, Simeon and Anna, fishermen-turned-disciples, and countless others who encountered Christ and found their lives changed by it. The invitation is the same for us: seek the Lord’s face, and you will find your life flooded with the light of grace and possibility.

New Year’s always invites resolutions and new commitments. Beginning a new year, we feel drawn to return to our roots and to strengthen our foundations. What if our resolution this year was to more intentionally seek the Lord’s face and to let ourselves be changed by it? This Epiphany, St. James’ is going to read the Gospel of Matthew together. We start at the Forum today and continue until Ash Wednesday. We will be guided by a wonderful little book, *A Journey with Matthew: The 50 Day Bible Challenge*, which includes daily reflections, questions and prayers. And a new round of small groups in February will explore Matthew’s vision of Beloved Community through the Sermon on the Mount. I hope you will join in. And I hope that in returning to the Scriptures this Epiphany you will be blessed by the light and love of Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Christ,

The Rev. Ryan Fleenor, Vicar

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**Today at St. James’**

**The Forum**
10:30 a.m., Coburn Hall

This Epiphany, we will read the Gospel of Matthew together as a parish—including a daily reading guide, seven-week Sunday Forum series, and four-week small groups to take a deep dive into the Sermon on the Mount. Rediscover the radical invitation to Beloved Community at the heart of Matthew’s Gospel. The Rev. Ryan Fleenor will kick us off!

**Church School & Youth Group resume**
10:15 a.m.

Church School & Youth Group resume for “spring semester”?! Please visit the First-Time Families podium before or after the 9:10 a.m. service, or contact Vicki Hall or Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis to learn more about offerings and opportunities for children, youth, and their families.

**Chalking the Doors: An Epiphany tradition**

At Epiphany, we invite parishioners to try a time-honored tradition of blessing one’s home at Epiphany with a chalk inscription over the door. Intrigued? Pick up a flier and a piece of blessed chalk at Coffee Hour.

**The Feast of the Epiphany**

Tomorrow, 6:00 p.m.

Epiphany marks the end of Christmastide and the beginning of “the season of light.” The Compostela Choir offers a service of Lessons & Carols; followed by a festive reception.

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**Every 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.

**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: January 12

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: Baptism of our Lord
Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17; Psalm 29

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Holy Eucharist</td>
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<td>Homily by the Rev. Ryan Fleenor, Vicar.</td>
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<td>9:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Baptism &amp; Holy Eucharist</td>
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<td>Sermon by the Rev. Brenda Husson, Rector. The Canterbury Choir</td>
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<td>offers the music of Maurice Greene and Gerald Near.</td>
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<td>11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Choral Eucharist</td>
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<td>Sermon by the Rev. Ryan Fleenor. The Canterbury Choir offers the</td>
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<td>music of Hans Leo Hassler, John Gardner, and Peter Hallock.</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Candlelight Communion</td>
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<td>Homily by the Rev. Zachary Thompson, Associate Rector. Music for</td>
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<td>piano and oboe.</td>
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### The Forum

10:30 a.m., Coburn Hall
This Epiphany, we are reading the Gospel of Matthew together as a parish. The Rev. Zack Thompson will continue our 7-week Forum series, with “Mountains, Law & the New Moses.”

### Overnight Shelter Open House

1:00 p.m., MAPC
Are you being called to take on a new ministry this new year? Join us for a brief and informative introduction to one of our most vital ministries. We will gather near reception, and walk together to tour the shelter housed at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. All are welcome; an RSVP to Hannah Minton or Windsor Jones is highly encouraged.

### Puerto Rico Missioners Meeting

4:00 p.m., Sunderland Hall
Parents, Chaperones, Organizers, and Missioners are meeting to discuss the next stages of our Youth Mission Trip to Puerto Rico! Please contact Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis to learn more.

## Epiphany 2020: The Beloved Community According to Matthew

Purchase your copy of “A Journey with Matthew: 50 Day Bible Challenge” and take up our parish-wide Epiphany reading! Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor for details.

### Upcoming Reading Schedule

- **Sunday, January 5** Matthew 1:1-25
- **January 6** Matthew 2:1-23
- **January 7** Matthew 3:1-17
- **January 8** Matthew 4:1-22
- **January 9** Matthew 4:23 - 5:20
- **January 10** Matthew 5:21-48
- **January 11** Matthew 6:1-18
- **Sunday, January 12** Matthew 6:19-34

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### This Week’s Bible Memorization Verse

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you.

——Ephesians 1:17-18
Celebrating The Feast of the Epiphany  Monday, 6:00 p.m.
Epiphany marks the end of Christmastide and the beginning of “the season of light.” The Compostela Choir offers a service of Lessons & Carols; followed by a festive reception.

Festive Epiphany Tea  Monday, 4:30 p.m.
Parishioners and friends in their 50s and above are invited for scones, tea sandwiches, Three Kings’ Cake, and a variety of teas before our service of Lessons & Carols. Enjoy fellowship with friends old and new. With harpist! Contact Grace Beacham with questions.

Family Friday: Exotic Animals  Friday, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Help stock the shelves of the St. James, Fordham Food Pantry! Please bring 16 oz. cans of black beans, rice, and pasta, and learn about opportunities to serve. Then, enjoy Mr. Zelenka & His Exotic Animals. $5/person, $20/family. Contact Vicki Hall to learn more.

Rings & Things Workshop  Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Recently engaged? Interested in a wedding at St. James? Contact Rosa Gentile to learn more about this important first step in premarital counseling.

The Catechumenate  Thursdays, Jan. 23 - Apr. 2, 6:30 p.m.
Do you have questions about what Christians believe? Wonder what it means to live as a Christian today? This is for you! We gather for supper, a talk on a central question of faith, small-group discussion, and prayer. Visit stjames.org/catechumenate to learn more.

Save the Date! Winter Parish Supper  Wednesday, February 5
“In the bleak mid-winter,” join fellow parishioners for a festive evening of good food, drink, and lively conversation. Older children and teenagers are welcome to attend. Nursery care available. More information to come!

Mission Brunch  Sun. February 16, 12:30 p.m.
Interested in mission and service at St. James? Please join our staff and ministry chairs to learn about how you can serve others and deepen your life of faith. Contact the Rev. Eva Suarez to learn more.

Make Daily Prayer a part of your New Year
In this season of resolutions and new beginnings, don’t forget to prioritize spending time each day with God in prayer. Join fellow parishioners in praying Morning or Evening Prayer, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. Or visit stjames.org/online-resources to learn about daily email devotions, apps, and other tools to support your life of prayer.

Growing in faith through Beloved Community at St. James’ Thank you to all who made financial commitments and year end gifts in 2019, and to those who have committed for 2020! If you are ready to make a commitment, please visit stjames.org/commitment. Weekly envelopes for children, youth, and adults who have made their commitments for the year are available for pick up outside Sunderland Hall.

Vestry Nominating Committee
In Episcopal churches, the Vestry is the elected governing body of the parish, and includes the Rector, two Wardens, and 12 members who represent a broad spectrum of the community. Would you like to nominate a fellow parishioner to stand for election to the Vestry in May? Contact the Rev. Brenda Husson and Lisa Smith, chair of the Nominating Committee, to place a name into consideration.

News & Notes

Thanks be to God
• for the generosity of all who participated in the Share the Joy Gift Drive, and for our relationship with the Osborne Association.
• for the generosity of parishioners who have made commitments for 2020, and for all who share in the financial support of the parish.

Your prayers are requested
• for St. James’ on this last day of the Christmas season, that we will know the joy of God with us, and that we make the living Christ known in all the world.
• for those preparing for Holy Baptism next Sunday, Caroline Curry, Elizabeth Katheryn Glysteen, and Olivia Learson Menz.
• for our partners at St. Vincent’s School and in the Diocese of Haiti, during this time of conflict and civil unrest.
• for St. Ann’s Church for the Deaf, Manhattan, according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer.
• for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, according to the Anglican Communion 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

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

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

Jennifer Charrington, Sr. Warden · Missy Condo, Jr. Warden
Sue Bennett
Hugh Boston
Gerlinde Brixius
Richard Brown
Tristan Bultman
Stephen de Francesca
Dolly Bross Geary
Susanna Guffey
Elizabeth Littlejohn
Marcy Sendax
Bob Stinson
Anne Strassner
Mary Malhotra,
Vestry Officer for Stewardship
Annika Gottfrid,
Youth Representative

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

Worship

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

PARISH HOUSE HOURS
Mon. - Fri. · 9:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesdays · 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 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