



The MESSENGER

INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE OUR LIFE AND MINISTRIES AT ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VOLUME 93, NUMBER 43

225-387-5141 • FAX 225-387-1443 • WWW.STJAMESBR.ORG

December 11, 2009

We Look Forward to Seeing You Sunday!

Sunday, December 13, 2009

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 - 8:00 a.m. Blood Mobile Opens
 - 8:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the Chapel*
 - 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
 - 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages & Coffee Hour*
 - 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
 - Noon Christmas Dinner for Neighbors
 - 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chapel
 - 6:00 p.m. Young Professionals Meet & Greet in the Parlor
- *Nursery available

Sunday Lectionary: Year C
Revised Common Lectionary
Daily Office: Year TWO

The Lectionary — December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent:
First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20; *The Response:* Canticle 9;
Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7; *The Gospel:* Luke 3:7-18.

IN THIS ISSUE	
<i>St. James Highlights</i>	1
<i>Community</i>	2
<i>Prayer List</i>	2
<i>Birthdays</i>	3
<i>Announcements</i>	3
<i>This Weeks' Calendar</i>	4

Advent at St. James

The labyrinth is open each **Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.** Volunteers will be available to introduce the method of labyrinth prayer and meditation to you if necessary, and to keep the environment conducive to your walk.

Advent Quiet Day

An Advent Quiet Day for adults will be held this **Saturday, December 12.** The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast in the Parish Hall.

Linda Nelson, the Director of Advent House at Christ Church Cathedral in New Orleans, will present meditations on "Reconciling Martha and Mary Within."

Linda, who is certified in Spiritual Direction and Christian Education and an experienced retreat and



workshop leader, writes of her plans, "In our time together we will look at ways to find new balance in life and ways to learn to distinguish a sense of being called from being driven when saying yes to new responsibilities and new projects." The Quiet Day will conclude with lunch.

Kids can enjoy their own activities that morning with a program put together by Alison Nikitopoulos. Registration will be at 8:30 in the foyer of the Ministries Center, followed by various Advent activities centering around prophecies and waiting. There will be crafts, music, and outside time, so wear clothing appropriate to the weather. Kids will be provided with snacks and lunch.

Thompson Elected Bishop

The Very Rev. Morris K. Thompson was elected 11th Bishop of Louisiana on the third ballot at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, December 6.

Thompson, one of six candidates, received 61% of the clergy votes and 57% of the lay delegate votes. St. James was represented by six lay delegates and five clergy.

Fr. Thompson said, "I am honored and humbled to serve you as the 11th Bishop of Louisiana. Your rich tradition, your attention to the survival of your diocese, and the possibilities are what attracted me when I first read your profile. Under God's grace and with our shared ministry, I look forward to being among you as your pastor."

Thompson is currently Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky. A native of Cleveland, Mississippi, "[h]e's a very gentle, deeply spiritual man. A kind man," said the Rev. Henry Hudson, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, who nominated Thompson. "His first instinct is always the pastoral word. He's a listener, and that's going to be very helpful."

Thompson took a round-about road to the episcopacy. He did a two-year stint in the Marine Corps in the 1970s as an enlisted man. Later, he worshipped in a progressive Southern Baptist church in Jackson and was ordained a Southern Baptist preacher in 1981.

Thompson said he found pastoral care was his passion, particularly in hospitals. In the late 1980s he joined the Episcopal church.

As delegates to the relatively rare electoral convention dispersed, the bells of Christ Church Cathedral pealed over St. Charles Avenue. And in a nod toward Catholic tradition marking the election of popes, a small electric pump briefly squirted white smoke above the cathedral rooftop.

Assuming sufficient consents from bishops and Standing Committees, Thompson's consecration will be May 8, 2010 at Christ Church Cathedral with the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori presiding.

Convention delegate Phillip Wright, ENS and NOLA sources contributed to this report.

St. James Staff

The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins -
Bishop of Louisiana
The Very Rev. J. Mark Holland-
XXIII Rector of St. James
The Rev. John Sloan Miller -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Laurie M. Brock -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Mary Ann Garrett -
Associate Rector
The Rev. Ralph F. Howe, Jr. -
Priest Assistant
Deacon Pat Lyle -
Spiritual Director in Residence
Deacon Mark Hudson
The Rev. Charles A. Wood -
Chaplain, St. James Place
The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Witcher -
Bishop-in-Residence
XIX Rector of St. James
The Rt. Rev. James M. Coleman -
Bishop-in-Residence
XX Rector of St. James

David H. Culbert Organist-Choirmaster
Alison Nikitopoulos Children's Ministries
Alina Williams Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Helen Campbell Director of Lay Ministry
Sylvia Rabalais Admin. Secretary
Debbie Stiltner Comptroller
Cheryl Speights Olinde Bookkeeper
Tyler Ellison Maintenance
Mary Davis-Palms Dietician
Linda Chauviere Head of School

Email addresses available on the church web site:

www.stjamesbr.org

St. James Vestry

Claudia Black Senior Warden
John S. Campbell III Junior Warden
Manette Sammons Clerk
Kevin Curry Treasurer

Jane Christensen Phil Martin
Pat Culbertson Jay Noland
Daryl Ellis Chrissie Clark Olsson
Lynnette B. Frazer Emile Rolfs
Bob Frazier Tom Wade
Charles Frey IV Scott Westbrook
Emily Wray Lamont Otey White
Sue Larisey



*The Diocese of Louisiana is one church, faithful
to Jesus Christ, united in mission,
reaching out to seekers.
We live in joyous witness to the power of grace
and divine compassion in our lives.*

Christian Education Notes

Nursery Care for children three months to four years old is available 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the first floor of the Parish Hall. Pagers are also available for your comfort and convenience.

Children's Programs

Christmas Around the World — On each Sunday in December leading to Christmas, we will learn about a different country and its Christmas traditions: Sweden on Advent 3, December 13; and, Japan on Advent 4, December 20. Volunteers (and natives!) are invited to contact Alison Nikitopoulos to help make this series successful at 387-5141, ext. 222 or email: anikitopoulos@stjamesbr.org. Everything is provided if you can help as story leader, group leader, crafts supervisor, or as helper for 45 minutes one Sunday morning!

Adult Class

History of Anglicanism in the 19th Century - On December 20 at 10:00 a.m., Bishop Witcher will finish the series that was started

last spring on Anglicanism in the 19th century with Leonidas Polk, Louisiana's Fighting Bishop, in the Ministries Center.

Downtown Festival Changes and Christmas Pageant News

Come by St. James for food and fellowship beginning at 4:30 p.m. (after Christmas pageant rehearsal) before you head out to see the sights at the Downtown Festival of Lights on its rescheduled date, Friday, December 11.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals: Friday, December 11 from 3:45–4:30 p.m. (choir room and church) is a **singing rehearsal** for all participants (children at St. James Day School may stay in after care on those two Fridays until 3:45); and, **Wednesday, December 23** from 9:00–10:30 a.m. in the parlor and church for our **dress rehearsal**.

On Thursday, December 24, pageant participants should arrive at **3:15 p.m.** to the parlor to costume and gather for the **Christmas Pageant** which takes place during the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.



The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *Julia McCall Hightower* from her husband Jack, daughter and son-in-law Kara and Derek Mathews; and, in memory of her father, *Stephen B. McNair, Sr.*, by Emalie LaNasa. The arrangement in the Parish Hall foyer is by Genny Nadler Thomas. The Coffee Hour arrangement is by Sharon Poirrier.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers ...

For the dear departed: Estelle Copes; Mary Washburne, grandmother of Ashley Heyer Casey; Tom Raggio; Katherine Gant, mother of Elizabeth Libbers

Prayers are asked for: Debbie Terrell, Michael Kennedy, Jean Fielden, Hayes Taylor, Terry Irby, Ruth MacMurdo, Jennifer Hollenbeck, Jim Fritze, Christopher Leavins, Glenn, Karen, Jesse, Kate Leupin, Cindy Leake Wilson, Steve, Carlyle, Elizabeth Beauchamp, Raylynn Gibbs, Zach Romero, Jim Bowers, the family of Tommy Kirkpatrick, Jean Mitchell and family, Bo Moreno, Jake Moreno

Our continuing prayers are offered for: O.B. Romero, Michael Matassarini, Marguerite Matassarini, Nicholas Yiannopoulos, Bill, Thomas, John and Kathy Gummersell, Sue Tweedy, Donoghue, Nancy, Sallie, Cameron

Mott, Linda, Angie Denny, Gordon Loudon, Carole, Anne and Wayne Williams, Prentiss McClendon, Ava Jet Blencke, Penny, Caleb Hutchins, Margaret Blades, Fred Frey Jr., Rubye Harris, Estelle Schilling, Vic Roy, Anne Howe, Betty Romero, Lillian Shipes, Donie Schmidt, Mary Ann Ford, Ken Shuler, Russell Fish, Marion Hart LeBlanc, Clyde Harrelson, Donald Killilea, Kip Gremillion, Mary C. Elliott, Kerry Triche, Kevin Stockton, Patrick O'Reilly, Danie Singleton, Sarah Romero

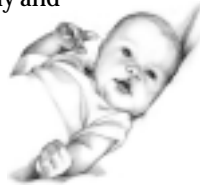
For those in the Armed Forces: Rob Hutchins, PFC Hal Town, Captain John Lyford V, Captain Allison Laine Lyford, Cpl William Martin, PFC Don Ellen, Lt. Col Michael Benson, Pvt Stephen Arnold USMC, Captain Charlie Hines, Sgt Clayton Edmonds, Sgt Toni Edmonds

Birthdays December 11-17

- 11 Merrell Irby, Tori Michelli
- 12 Allie Pogue, William McKnight, Ben Kurz, George Holmes, John Woolf
- 13 Anne Howe, Pat Bacot, Anne Wilson, Tom Hoyt
- 14 Ben Agnew
- 15 Ruth Vordenbaumen, Sharon Bergeron, Catherine Saurage, Anna Frey, Anna Johnson
- 16 May Baynard, King Woolf, Jennifer Oliver, Louise Hines, George Scully, Adkins Davison
- 17 Amelia Brown

Congratulations to ...

Dorothy Morris, who is the proud great-grandmother of *Cecelia Chambers* born November 30, 2009 to Amy and James Chambers. Cecelia weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz. and was 22 inches long. All are doing just fine.



Light the Fire Within You

Fr. John Pitzer opened his Center for Spiritual Formation's Fifth Sunday evening talk with the question: What is your passion? We all have one he said, "Family, food, football, golf, cooking, etc. The question is — what do we do with our passion, is it life giving?"

The Center for Spiritual formation had asked Fr. John to come from Memphis to speak on how to achieve a healthy and effective spirituality. He outlined five ways to enhance our own spiritual journey:

- See life through God's eyes, not our own.
- Breathe the breath (spirit) of God. Let God breathe on you in moments of silent prayer.
- Journey with Jesus. Life is an ongoing journey where we strive to become like Jesus.
- Eat in solidarity. Share our bread with others less fortunate and give thanks to God in the Eucharist.
- Speak aloud the fruit of our contemplation.

He continued, "The words of Jesus will not be heard unless they are proclaimed by the community. Our call is to serve.

Fr. John concluded, "You must light the burning fire deep within you" because *you* are Christ on this earth."

Coming Soon ...

St. James Associate Vestry hosts the fourth quarter OLOL **Blood Drive** on Sunday, **December 13** from 8:00 a.m. 'til noon. Please give so others may live.

St. James' Young Professionals (20s and 30s) are invited to a **Wine and Cheese Meet and Greet**, in the Parlor after the five o'clock service on **December 13**, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Guests welcome!



Sign-up for *From the Parish*

Nancy Jo Poirrier is the editor of this unofficial exchange of information from parishioners to parishioners. If you would like to receive her e-newsletter, send your request via email to npstudio@bellsouth.net.

Secular and sacred info is welcome. Please send any news from your world: announcements, requests, items for sale, awards won — any news that you want to share with your faith community. Send news also to npstudio@bellsouth.net by 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays for each week's edition.

- **Sunday, December 13, after 11:00 a.m.** service: EYC will be participating in the Christmas Dinner for our homeless neighbors.
- Service Hours Alert!
- Junior high and high school students are needed to help with the **Advent Noisy Day** on December 12 and to help supervise the **Children's Program** during the lunch on Sunday, December 13. If interested, please contact Alina Williams, awilliams@stjamesbr.org. Service hours are available!
- **Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.:** EYC will meet for church then deliver toys and other gifts to the Angel Tree children.
- **Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m.:** EYC will attend Lessons and Carols as a group.

Holiday Food Drive

St. James Food Bank needs holiday specials: canned pumpkin, green beans, and sweet potatoes; cranberry sauce, packaged stuffing and cornbread mixes.

One item, once a week from our parishioners can make a difference for those in need in our community!

Christmas Flowers

We are now compiling the Christmas poinsettia listing. If you would like to place poinsettias as a memorial or thank offering during the Christmas season, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate, or drop it by the church office on or before Sunday, December 20. The usual donation is \$35.

Donor _____

Exact wording of listing (please print): _____



The MESSENGER

INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE OUR LIFE AND MINISTRIES

Periodicals
Postage
PAID
at
Baton Rouge LA

The Messenger (USPS 590-800) is published weekly except Christmas week and bi-weekly during the months of June, July and August by St. James Episcopal Church, 205 N. 4th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801-1404. Periodicals Postage Paid at Baton Rouge LA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Messenger, 205 N. 4th Street, Baton Rouge LA 70801-1404.

Deadline for copy: Friday, 9 a.m. for the next week's edition. Copy may be delivered to the church office by postal mail, hand, phone, fax or by email to srabalais@stjamesbr.org.

We proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and invite you to join with us in ministry together in his name.

Ministries and Worship December 11-17

- Friday, December 11, 2009
 8:15 a.m. Day School Eucharist
 3:45 p.m. Children's Choir, Mastersingers & Pageant Rehearsal
 4:30 p.m. **Gather prior to the Downtown Festival of Lights**
 5:30 p.m. **Church open for prayer until 7:30 p.m.**
- Saturday, December 12, 2009
 8:00 a.m. **Advent Quiet Day for Kids & Adults**
 6:00 p.m. Downtown Christmas Parade
- Sunday, December 13, 2009 - Third Sunday of Advent
 7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 8:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship in the Chapel*
 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Coffee Hour*
 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
Noon St. James Christmas Dinner for the Homeless
 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in Chapel
 6:00 p.m. **Young Professionals Meet & Greet in the Parlor**
- Monday, December 14, 2009
 8:20 a.m. Day School Chapel
 11:30 a.m. Yoga Class
 Noon Finance Committee
 5:30 p.m. Vestry
- Tuesday, December 15, 2009
 Noon Day School Executive & Finance Committee
 5:00 p.m. Food Bank Preparation
 5:30 p.m. Associate Vestry
 6:00 p.m. Day School Christmas Program
- Wednesday, December 16, 2009 - Ember Wednesday
 7:00 a.m. Bible Study Group
 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Distribution
 Noon Holy Eucharist & Healing Service
 3:30 p.m. Mastersingers Rehearsal
 5:00 p.m. **Labyrinth in Bishops Hall open until 6:00 p.m.**
- Thursday, December 17, 2009
 11:00 a.m. Day School Christmas Luncheon
 Noon EFM
 6:00 p.m. EFM

* Indicates Child Care Provided for Children Three Months to Four Years of Age

Lay Ministry - Sunday, December 13, 2009

- 7:30 a.m. Phil Martin, John Bilisoly
 8:45 a.m. John Cadwallader
- Ushers**
 9:00 a.m. Hillary Poirrier, Trey Roberts, Alan Miller, Brian Murphy, J. Cooper Harrell
 11:00 a.m. Chip Middleton, Rickey Ainsworth, John Compton, Neal Elliott Jr., Jason Creech
- Acolytes**
 9:00 a.m. Samuel Shapiro, Joseph Shapiro, Jacob Shapiro
 11:00 a.m. Carson Saurage, Matthew Saurage, Sarah Catherine Saurage
- Eucharistic Ministers**
 7:30 a.m. Mickey Christensen
 8:45 a.m. Hays Town III, Brent Caldwell
 9:00 a.m. Ben Larisey
 11:00 a.m. Charles Matherne
 5:00 p.m. TBD
- Lectors**
 7:30 a.m. Barbara Sims
 8:45 a.m. Hays Town III, BB Stirling (P), Mimi Riché
 9:00 a.m. Jim Ruble, Melanie Clark
 11:00 a.m. John Noland, Virginia Noland
- Intercessor**
 7:30 a.m. Mickey Christensen
 8:45 a.m. Honey East
 9:00 a.m. Ann Ruble
 11:00 a.m. Liz Holland
- Welcome Committee**
 8:45 a.m. John Cadwallader
 9:00 a.m. Claudia & Allen Black, Catherine & Jim Van Hook, Monica Murphy
 11:00 a.m. Fannie & John Compton, Lloyd Peever
- Altar Guild**
 7:30 a.m. Mary Jarnagin, Karen Kennedy
 8:45 a.m. BB Stirling
 9:00 a.m. Agnes Harrop, Thelma Herthum
 11:00 a.m. Linda Lee, Catherine Harrell, Jennie Price
 5:00 p.m. TBD