



Presiding Bishop,
The Episcopal Church:
The Most Rev'd
Michael Curry

Bishop, Diocese of Western
Louisiana:
The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Jacob
Owensby

Priest-in-Charge
The Rev'd W. James
Yazell

Organist/Choir Director:
Kaye Owen

Nursery:
Rhonda Robertson

Administrative Assistant:
Cortni Turner

2019 Vestry:

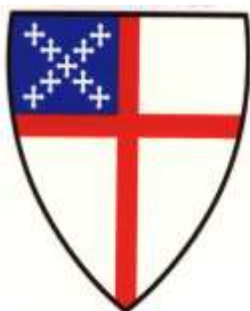
David Scott— Sr. Warden
Curtis Shelton (21)—Jr.
Warden

Members:

Dave Caporossi (20)
Krystal Eason (20)
Debbie Fitzpatrick (21)
Lisa Lewis (22)
Lauren Ocmant (20)
Matt Parker (21)

Ex Officio:

Julie Eason—Treasurer
Tommy Mosley—Treasurer
Emeritus
Janie Parker—Clerk



Church phone: 318-686-1261
Church fax: 318-686-4527
Church E-mail address:
stjames_sport@att.net
Church website:
www.stjames-shreveport.org



A Message from our Deacon



One of the ways the Church calendar has become rather countercultural is in the celebration of Christmas. In our wider culture, the season of Christmas has stretched out to be earlier and earlier with decorations and commercials going out just after Halloween. Even Black Friday sales often end up beginning in the afternoon of Thanksgiving!

But in the Church's calendar, the season of Christmas doesn't even begin until the eve of Christmas day and then stretches out from there for twelve days of celebration. Of course, by December 26th most people have been so saturated with Christmas that they are much more interested in turning their attention towards New Year's resolutions rather than continue to celebrate Christmas!

This leaves us Christians in an interesting spot through December. While everyone in the wider culture is celebrating Christmas themes, what we read each week points to a contemplative, even penitential, waiting for the coming of Christ. The time for celebration has not quite arrived just yet. Which means there is a tension that must be held as we operate within the world but not of the world. Encouraging and enjoying the wider celebration of generosity, joy, and love that this time of the holidays engenders while also resisting the selfishness, anger, and loneliness that consumerism brings. But that is the nature of the Christian way of life, and by cultivating a posture of expectant waiting for Christ's arrival in the world, perhaps through home devotions like advent wreaths or calendars, we can witness to those positive traits of Christmas and resist the negative. May you have a holy Advent and a merry Christmas!

*In Christ,
-Fr. James*

As some of you may already know, I'm pregnant! My husband and I are looking forward to spending the Christmas season decking the halls and decking out a nursery. I will be in the office for the first half of December, but will be out the rest of the month and will not return until early March. While I am gone the office will be manned; however, we will need volunteers to assist in assembling the monthly newsletter. If anyone would like to assist with the newsletter or any other office tasks, but is unsure of how they can do so feel free to contact the office at [686-1261](tel:318-686-1261) or stjames_sport@att.net.

*-Cortni Turner,
Parish Administrative Assistant*



To make sure everyone is protected against the cold Outreach has begun their winter clothing collection. Sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, blankets, scarves and gloves are all welcome. Look for donation bins in the Parish Hall.



Is your closet getting cramped? Outreach is still accepting clothing donations for their Goodwill ministry! To contribute, place your clothing in the Goodwill bags provided by Outreach; they are located in the Parish Hall. If you would like to donate any sweaters, hats or other cold weather gear they can be placed in the donation bins provided for the winter clothing collection.



We are striving to not only clothe the less fortunate, but to feed them as well. We are collecting canned goods to donate to the Salvation Army. The bins are located by the front door of the Parish Hall.

Want to help others in the community to have a Merrier Christmas? Join Outreach in their annual collection for the Fuller Surplus Christmas Sale. Gifts for all ages, children to teens are welcome. No one item can cost more than \$25. They are also in need of large gift bag and tissue paper to wrap the gifts. They ask that all toys donated be given unwrapped, with the tags still in place. Donations can be left in the Parish Hall. The deadline to donate is December 11th.



Calling all St. James children and youth! Sunday, December 22nd will be the annual Christmas pageant. Anyone interested in participating should attend Sunday School on December 8th and December 15th at 10:00 to prepare for the pageant.

On December 22nd, all participants should arrive at St. James at 9:00 to practice. The pageant will be presented at the service at 10:00. I am sure it will be a great time for all!



**MARY THOMAS MARTIN
ONE OF ST. JAMES' FOUNDERS**

A memorial service was held for Mary Ethel Rosalee Thomas Martin, one of the original founders of St. James, on October 11, 2019 at St. George's Episcopal Church. Mary was 92. In 1955 she and her husband Bennet A. Thomas were among the 9 families that met for the first time to establish a church in the Sunset Acres area. Three laymen from St. Paul's had a vision to establish a mission in southwest Shreveport. They included Dr. Richard Spears, Robert Booth and Truman Thomas. The meeting was held in a vacant storeroom facing Hearne Avenue in Sunset Village Shopping Center. Mary officially became a communicant of St. James in January of 1956.

Mary was born in Shreveport on February 16, 1927 to Cary and Aline Rosalee. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband Thomas Martin. She is survived by her daughter Sharon Thomas Patton, son Bennett Arthur

Thomas, 5 grandchildren, 10 great grand children and 6 great great grandchildren. Mary had attended St. Matthias before coming to St. James and was a parishioner of St. George's at present. I met her a few times in the past when she would visit St. James. Her former brother in law, Robert Thomas, also was a parishioner of St. James until his death.

Thank you, Mary, for being one of our founders. St. James was blessed to have people like you to care so much about spreading God's Word. Rest in Peace, dear Sister in Christ.

-Mattie Mosley

DR. JOHN MCNEIL RUST

Dr. John McNeil Rust, local veterinarian and former parishioner of St. James, died peacefully at the age of 92 on November 14, 2019. Dr. Rust and his family: wife Dot, children Carol Rust McClure, sons Vernon, Kenneth and Mark all were confirmed at St. James in the 1970's. He and Dot were faithful church goers. The children were in their preteens and teens and were very active in the St. James Youth Group. Dot and Mark have passed away.

The Rust family went on to become members of Christ United Methodist Church. He was the founder of the Summer Grove Animal Hospital which expanded to Towne South Animal Hospital. He was a consultant to both LSU and the VA hospitals and was voted as Veterinarian of the Year in 2004.

Dr. Rust was a personable, intelligent man, and an excellent veterinarian. I remember him saving the life of our Cairn Terrier, Charlie, who developed a serious ailment and had to spend several weeks with Dr. Rust at the clinic. He and his staff saved Charlie's life and I will be forever thankful! John loved horses and had wagons and surreys, driving them until he was in his eighties. He continued to ride after he sold his wagons.



Since he had served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, he was buried at the Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Keithville. Rest in Peace dear friend and brother in Christ.

-Mattie Mosley

THOMAS ELLINGTON LEWIS



Tom was born on July 13, 1938, in Shreveport, Louisiana and passed away on October 31, 2019. He is preceded in death by his parents and his son-in-law, Bob Burleson. Tom is survived by his wife, Martha-anne Lewis, brother Howell M. and Alice Lewis, sister-in-laws Katy Wallace and Joy McArthur, daughter Rebecca and Smokey James, son James and Lisa Lewis, and daughter Amanda and Chris Kairschner. His grandchildren are Jeremiah and Katie Burleson, Elizabeth and Bryn Ollendike, Julie Burleson, Sara Lewis, Ellie, Jackson, Pierce, and Cabbott Kairschner. Great-grandchildren are Lucas, Annabelle, and Logan Burleson, and Norah and Violet Ollendike as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The Fair Park Indians and Northwestern State Demons continued to hold a special place in Tom's heart after he graduated college in 1960. During his early career, Tom served in the Army and left as a Captain in 1969. He was employed by the Caddo Sheriff's Office, Bewley's Furniture Store, and The Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish before retiring as Chief Probation Officer in 1998. Playing golf with his buddies, walking his dogs, making his weekly trips to Wal-Mart and Sam's, and visiting with his friends from school, Cypress Baptist, First Bossier, and Broadmoor Baptist were just a few of the pleasures Tom had in life. Memories were made getting together for family dinners, cheering on grandchildren in ball games and swim meets, and sharing his never ending wisdom with his children and grandchildren.

Dad was larger than life, and we will miss him tremendously. Dad left us with the knowledge and assurance that we will see him in Heaven one day. What a tremendous legacy and gift to leave your family! Thank you Dad!

Published in Shreveport Times from Nov. 6 to Nov. 8, 2019

Jnanne Zepeda, long time St. James Parish Administrator, died at the LSU-Ochner Hospital after a brief illness. She is survived by her daughter Olivia and her husband, Christopher.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, December 5th at 11:00 AM. The service will be held at:

Church of the Holy Cross Episcopal Church

875 Cotton Street

Shreveport, LA 71101

Father Garrett Boyte will officiate and the Reverend Margaret Ayers will deliver the homily.



Directory Update

If you would like to update or verify your contact information, birthdays or anniversaries look for a copy of the 2019 Parish Directory in the Parish Hall and write in any necessary changes. If you would like to add or update a picture, email a copy of your picture to the church office.

Want to be more involved in church decision making? Want to learn more about what goes **on behind the scenes? Here's your chance!** We need up to 5 people to volunteer as Vestry members for 2020. For more information, contact David Scott at (318) 426-9321


ANNOUNCEMENTS SUBMISSION DEADLINE

If you would like an announcement placed in the Sunday bulletin, please submit it by 10:00 am on the previous Wednesday. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am until 2:00 pm. Announcements that are in printed form may be mailed, sent through e-mail to stjames_sport@att.net, or dropped at the parish office.

Newsletter deadline: December 15th

St. James Episcopal Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	
1 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM Parish Breakfast 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II	2 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Jared Ocmand	3	4
8 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II HAPPY BIRTHDAY Joe Johnson	9	10	11 10 HA T
15 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II Vestry Meeting HAPPY BIRTHDAY Lorain Thrash	16 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Holly Johnson	17 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Wain & Debbie Thompson	18 10
22 <i>Greening of the Church</i> <i>10 AM</i> <i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>	23 HAPPY BIRTHDAY Barry Taylor	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> <i>Service</i> 5:30 PM Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:30 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II	25 C
29 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 9:15 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II HAPPY BIRTHDAY Lauren Ocmand	30	31	

	<i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> DECEMBER 1	<i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> DECEMBER 8	<i>3rd Sunday</i> DECEMBER 15
LECTIONARY	Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44 Psalm 122	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:1-11 Psalm 146:4-10 Canticle 15 [1-3]
VESTRY PERSON	David Scott	Lisa Lewis	Dave Capone
EUCHARISTIC MINISTER 8:30 11:00	Janie Parker Ron Maberry	Lynette van Heerden Ken Murphy	Janie Parker Volunteer
LAY READER 11:00	Ken Murphy	Julie Eason	Julie Eason
LECTORS 8:30 11:00	Pat Parker Kathy Calhoun	Chelsea Fitzpatrick David Scott	Pat Parker Kathy Calhoun
ACOLYTES 8:30 11:00	Melanie Winkler Clay Shane	Kelly Parker Clay Shane	Melanie Winkler Clay Shane
ALTAR GUILD	Linda Endicott Chelsea Fitzpatrick Janie Parker	Kathy Watkins Faye Wynn	Kathy Watkins Faye Wynn
USHERS 8:30 11:00	Debbie Fitzpatrick Mike Kendrick Tricia James	Pat Parker Mary Taylor Janet Gregory	Volunteer Betty McDevitt Kathy Watkins

Any time you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement or advise the Vestry Person of the Day.

PRAISE TEAM

Time and Talent Booklet

Are you willing and able to commit your time and talents to St James? Look for the "Time and Talents" binder located in the Parish Hall to see how you can contribute.

December Breakfast

This month's breakfast will be sponsored by Julie Eason and BJ Pritchard. Proceeds will go towards Huntington High School's Washington DC trip.



Some of the Saints Commemorated in December

Nicholas Ferrar

December 1

Nicholas Ferrar (1592–1637) was the founder of a religious community at Little Gidding, Huntingdonshire, England, which existed from 1626 to 1646. His family had been prominent in the affairs of the Virginia Company, but when that company was dissolved, he took deacon's orders, and retired to the country.



At Little Gidding, his immediate family and a few friends and servants gave themselves wholly to religious observance. They restored the derelict church near the manor house, became responsible for services there, taught many of the local children, and looked after the health and well-being of the people of the neighborhood. A regular round of prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer was observed, along with the daily recital of the whole of the Psalter. The members of the community became widely known for fasting, private prayer and meditation, and for writing stories and books illustrating themes of Christian faith and morality. The community became an important symbol for many Anglicans when religious orders began to revive. Its life inspired T.S. Eliot, and he gave the title, "Little Gidding," to the last of his Four Quartets, one of the great religious poems of the twentieth century.

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

December 6

Nicholas was born during the third century in the village of Patara in Asia Minor. At the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.



Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas.

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and deeds. These accounts help us understand his extraordinary character and why he is so beloved and revered as protector and helper of those in need.



The ECW of St James is in the planning phase for the upcoming year's Mardi Gras celebration! We will be celebrating on **Saturday, January 25th.**

*Save
the
Date*

As everything gets decided and settled more information will be released. To get involved in the planning and preparation process for Krewe of St James Mardi Gras 2020, contact Tina Caporossi at [\(318\)550-8250](tel:3185508250) or tinav0610@gmail.com.



On November 2nd, the ECW hosted a murder mystery musical dinner theater! Food was provided by members of the ECW and the music was provided by Keri Winters and the Spare Time Band.

There were approximately 50 attendees and \$1008 was raised. These funds were dedicated to the playground fund.



*Our Mission Statement: A COMMUNITY CALLED BY GOD TO WORSHIP,
LOVE, AND SERVE.*

Our Schedule of Services:

Sunday—Holy Eucharist, Rite I 8:30 am

followed by Coffee Hour and donuts in the Parish Hall

Sunday School, 9:45 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music 11:00 am

Wednesday—Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10 am



Vestry Nomination Process

While it may seem early, it is important that the entire parish begin now to get ready for the Vestry election which will be held at the Annual Meeting in January. It takes a while for us to receive the names of the people you think would serve well, and then to publicize those names long enough for the parish to make an informed decision.

First of all, to be qualified to serve on the Vestry one must be a Confirmed Episcopalian and a member of the parish. The other qualification is that one must support the parish and the Episcopal Church with a financial pledge. The Vestry's main mission is to tend to the business aspects of running the church, while assisting our Priest as he tends to the spiritual needs of the parishioners. However, Fr. James has no involvement with this process; his job is to allow the parish to go through the election process and then to serve with whomever we elect. As for time commitments, the Vestry has at least one meeting a month where we discuss any pertinent issues coming up, and each Vestry member, on a rotating schedule, is responsible for opening and closing up the church. The Vestry is the governing body of the parish and all that is accomplished here is the result of a partnership between the Vestry, the Priest-in-Charge, and the associated Staff (administrative assistant, music director, etc). Your participation in the election process helps continue this healthy partnership.

This year, Krystal Eason, Lauren Ocmand, and Dave Caporossi will be completing their term on the Vestry, and I do thank them for their hard work over the last three years. And now that we have a Priest to lead the church, I am also rotating off the Vestry. Church bylaws state that we can have up to 9 members on the Vestry, which means that we can have up to 5 people join the Vestry come January, since we currently have 8 members on the Vestry.

If you are approached by Vestry member or parishioner about the Vestry, please do give it some consideration. There are always things in life that we think would make serving on the Vestry difficult. You might think you are too busy, too young, too old, too inexperienced, too tired of serving. But if someone comes to you, it is because they have thought long and hard and feel you have a positive influence in the church. Saying no to them blocks the effectiveness of the process and hurts the parish.

The Vestry hopes to have a slate of people that are of varying ages. We need people who are young and have a fresh perspective. We need people who have some wisdom of experience. We need people who have been in the parish only a few years who might see some things the rest of us cannot see. We need people who have been in the parish longer who see some things that can only be seen with experience. We need a balance of male and female. We need business minds, creative minds, people who think theologically, people who think practically, people who are risk takers, and people who are careful. In short, we need YOU! The more names that are presented, the better. The more people who seriously consider themselves as potential Vestry members, the better. And the more the nominees can see the great service to the parish they are providing just by having their names on the ballot, the better.

As Christians we are called to serve humbly and faithfully. You serve the parish well by providing names and by allowing yourself to be on the ballot when invited. You may contact any member of the Vestry to submit names for consideration, or to get additional information about the Vestry. I can be contacted at david.scott@altecenv.com, or at (318) 426-9321.

The Annual Meeting will be held **January 26, 2020.**

-David Scott, Senior Warden

Vision Statement of St. James Episcopal Church: We see St. James as a spirit-led congregation that is a beacon of God's love shining in the community, welcoming all by reaching out through worship, service, mission, and programming to bring peace and healing to all of God's children. We strive to serve our members by nourishing our faith, giving support in times of need, and becoming a congregation from which community-based outreach programs have their genesis.