

### From the Rector' Desk

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Each Fall, as we turn our focus toward stewardship, we are reminded that the church is not a building or a budget — it is a living body made up of all of us, joined together in faith, hope, and love. At St. James's, we have seen time and again how together we can make a difference.

When a child (or anyone for that matter) learns that they are deeply loved just as they are, when a hungry neighbor receives a warm meal, when a piece sung by our choir stirs your heart, when we stand for justice and compassion — that is the difference your generosity makes. Each pledge, each hour volunteered, each prayer offered becomes part of something greater than any one of us could do alone.

Your giving sustains our worship, our outreach, our youth and children's ministries, and the sacred care we offer to one another along with so many other vital parts of God's mission though the life of St. James's. It allows us to be the hands and heart of Jesus in a world that longs for kindness and connection. This is what it means to live our faith: not in isolation, but together.

As you prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year, I invite you to think about what St. James's means to you — the ways this community has shaped your spirit, supported your journey, and helped you see the face of God in others. Then imagine how your continued generosity can help us deepen that blessing for all who seek belonging, hope, and renewal.

With gratitude for all that you give, all that you do and all that you are, and with faith that, together, we will continue to make a difference.

If you have not yet returned your pledge card, you may use this QR code to make a pledge online.





## Nov/Dec 2025

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## Highlights in Nov/Dec

- Sunday, Nov 2 All Saints' Sunday, one service at 9:30am
- Sunday, Nov 16 Annual Stewardship Brunch, 11am / Youth Group, 5-6:30pm
- Sunday, Nov 23 Gifts from Jerusalem: Olivewood carving sale, 11am
- Sunday, Nov 23 Original Children's Musical: Theoretta & the Dissonants, 5pm in the Parish Hall
- Sunday, Nov 23 Deadline for HCW Thanksgiving Food Collection
- Thursday, Nov 27 Thanksgiving
   Day Eucharist, 10am in the chapel
- Saturday, Nov 29-Sunday, Dec 7
   Christmas Tree Sale (see inside for hours)
- Sunday, Nov 30 Christmas Bag Mission Project, 11am
- Sunday, Dec 14 Christmas Concert, "O Radiant Dawn," 5pm
- Christmas Eve & Christmas Day,
   Dec 24 & 25 (see inside for service times)

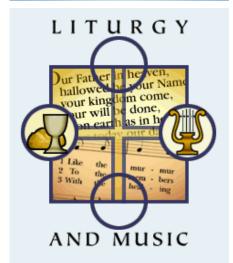
## From the Organist & Director of Music

## What is Theoretta & The Dissonants? And why are we doing this?

HROUGHOUT my career, I've struggled to find a suitable curriculum for chorister-aged singers. There are a number of reasons for this: 1) The options are quite limited and typically focus on a small fraction of musical history/genre (mostly 18-19th century Western European traditions). 2) One of the most well-known curriculums comes from England, which uses a completely different language for notes and rests ("quaver" instead of quarter note, for example). 3) Finally, these curriculums almost always come in the form of workbooks. Our kids, I've found, need something much more interactive and participatory to really learn concepts like musical intervals, rhythmic subdivision, etc.

Until this year, my solution - and the solution of many other music educators out there - has been to teach a concept (like an anacrusis/upbeat) and then connect it to a song (like Amazing Grace). Over the summer, it occurred to me that I could simply write songs that taught these concepts and thereby eliminate the "middle man." I wrote a song about intervals ("Interval Roll Call") in which the melody and lyrics were the literal intervals. I wrote another song that included explanations of expressive textures like "staccato" and "legato" while literally being sung staccato and legato. Often the more complicated concepts (like "modulation") can be overwhelming, so I wrote another song in an attempt to demystify this, with lyrics about how we already can tell the difference between high/low, fast/slow and intuit melody and rhythm as well as key changes (modulation), even if we don't yet know the vocabulary. Gradually I began to imagine a story connecting songs together. Before too long, and with the help of some wonderful colleagues, I was creating a fully-formed plot and a cast of characters.

I imagined Camden Jacobs, a confident young boy who doesn't hesitate to step up in musical leadership, as Captain Counterpoint, the head of the Consonants. For Gideon Byrne, a quirky and wildly expressive kid, I created Lieutenant Leading Tone (who anxiously is looking for the tonic, which is what we call the root note of a scale) as well as the 12-Tone Toad (a comically grumpy, number-minded amphibian). Gideon's older sister, Lina Byrne, a kind, soft-spoken teenager who sings in the adult choir and studies cello, also expressed interest in a role. Since harmonics and microtones are uniquely possible on string instruments, I created a character that is both cellist and tree (as the metaphor of branches and leaves works well to explain these concepts) called the Glissand-Oak. ("Glissando" is what we call a long upward or downward slide and an oak is, well, an oak.) And as a tree who teaches about microtonality, she is therefore a microtonalitree. For Walter Bowman, with his love of military history and his beautifully supportive spirit, I made Major Third (a regimented and supportive Consonant) and the Metrognome, who's similarly rigid in behavior for the sake of helping his friend keep in time. Wesley Otto, with his wonderfully boundless energy and constant, curious question-asking could be encapsulated perfectly as Philip Glasshopper who, as a representation of both minimalist composer Philip Glass and a grasshopper, is constantly hopping around joyfully and repeating himself. For our dear Evie Normand, who although still too young for choristers, is a quite dedicated and passionate singer, I crafted Chica Corea (a pun on Latin-Jazz composer Chick Corea), who, as a shimmery butterfly role model, embodies Evie's warmth of spirit and playfulness, as well as her beautiful desire to explain things and help younger kids learn music. In Mack Raissian, I could imagine a character of dramatic interjections (the comically dark and hardened Minor Sixth), as his sense of humor allows him to creatively craft personalities and commit to them. And for Laurel Raissian, who has no trouble taking center stage and embodying a full range of drama as a budding actress/singer/songwriter, I made Antigone, one of the protagonists in the show who is nothing if not unapologetically herself. With a flare for drama and a boldness of spirit, Antigone's reactive and rebellious nature is also what makes her take risks and lead us to ways of being. And finally, for Louisa Smith, who I've always admired for her self-awareness, kindness, and non-judgmental nature, I made Theoretta, the best friend of Antigone, who - although quieter and more reserved - has great potential for leadership as one who enjoys learning, observing nuances, and treating others with unconditional positive regard. I couldn't imagine



## **Important Dates**

Sunday, November 23
An Original Children's Musical:
"Theoretta & the Dissonants"
5:00pm in the Parish Hall

Sunday, December 14
Annual Christmas Concert:
"O Radiant Dawn"
5:00pm in the church

Christmas Eve, December 24 Choral Prelude at 9:30pm Choral Eucharist, 10:00pm

## Jubilate Deo!

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Psalm 100:1 anyone better to assist with the direction of this and to narrate the story than Lyla Fisher, whose can-do attitude and intuitive assistance with the choristers has been invaluable.

The plot is as follows: the Consonants are strict enforcers of musical "rules" and govern the ant colony, as they believe it is their duty. It's important to realize that their rigidity is not evil in any way; they simply believe they're doing the most honorable thing, which is to

keep order "as the Queen would have wanted." Antigone and Theoretta begin their training to become Consonants, but Antigone has a hard time conforming. She begins questioning their rigid rhythmic structures in "Two by Two" (a song about duple meter and subdivisions) and ultimately fails to stay in diatonic formation during "Interval Roll Call" which leads to her banishment. Outside the colony, Theoretta joins in solidarity and they comfort each other, imagining another musical path that isn't about rules ("How Can Any Melody Be Wrong?") before meeting a myriad of other characters in the second act who live outside the colony and have very different ways of being. Each teaches a totally new musical concept or genre (dodecaphony, microtonality & the harmonic series, minimalism, syncopation, experimentalism, etc.) and the two ant friends have very different reactions. Theoretta's curious, non-judgmental spirit is focused on learning while Antigone is quick to form opinions, ultimately becoming just as rigid in her thinking as the Consonants were in the beginning. ("But I know now! I know what's music and what's not.") The friendship severs, as Antigone goes back to the Consonants, ready to fight, while Theoretta, now alone in the forest is approached by the elusive Queen, who finally tells her the true story of the colony. ("My guidelines were never meant to judge, but to give us a shared musical language.") Now with the Queen's support, Theoretta returns to the ant colony to find everyone fighting.

There are many themes in this show, including the questioning of genre hierarchy, demystification of music theory concepts, inclusivity and welcoming of differences, the power of learning and curiosity, etc. There is no villain in this story except a hardened spirit - the human (or ant) ego that gets rigid, preventing us

the children of St. James's present. new musical about new music written and directed by Michelle Horsley Sunday, Nov. 23rd at 5:00pm St. James's Episcopal Church 1018 Farmington Ave -West Hartford, CT

from truly listening and seeing each other. In reality, the Consonants are just as rigid as the Dissonants, with each creature inside and outside the ant colony being absolutely sure that their music is superior. That is, until antennas are extended with curiosity and a true desire to learn from each other. "You Can Tell the Difference" becomes "You Can Love the Difference" because after all, the arc of the musical universe is long, but it bends toward... harmony.

It has been an honor to work on this with Priscilla Hooper, whose spirit of collaboration makes all of this possible, as well as the many parents who have moved mountains (err, anthills) to design costumes, build sets, juggle scheduling, rehearse at home, etc. Thank you. Our kids are putting together something incredibly unique. The hard work they've put into it and the life they have breathed into these scenes amazes me every week. Our audience will also include many educators and professional musicians from all over the state. Don't miss it!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Histolle Huly

the music ministry of St. James's presents

ORADIANT DAWN

5:00pm

Sunday

Bach's Cantata #62
"Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland"
and other works with instrumental ensemble

free admission

Dec. 14th

## St. James's Center for Family Ministries



Nurturing your children's spiritual life from birth through high school

# KFC (Kids for Christ) Sundays at 9:30am

KFC (Kids for Christ) meets in the parish hall on Sundays. If you have questions, please email Priscilla at:

education@stjameswh.org.

### **Mondays Music & More**

A fun program for children ages 3 to third grade every Monday from 4 to 5:15pm during the program year.
Music with Michelle Horsley and art with Priscilla Hooper.

### **Youth Group**

Sunday, November 16 from 5 to 6:30pm.



S WE head into November and December, there is a lot of activity for children and families here at St. James's. In KFC or Kids' Liturgy on Sunday mornings, we have been exploring many of Jesus' parables- the Good Samaritan, the Lost Sheep, the Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son and many more in September and October. Children have begun to see Jesus' theme of God's unending love for us. In November, we will be studying some Old Testament lessons, Abraham and Sarah, Jonah, and Samson. Before we head into Advent, we will have our wonderful musical "Theoretta and the Dissonants", created by our own Michelle Horsley. All the kids in Mondays, Music and More plus the choristers are very excited to be involved. There is only one showing of this original play, Sunday, November 23 at 5 p.m. Don't miss it! Beginning the first Sunday in Advent, Kids for Christ will be exploring the ideas of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love.

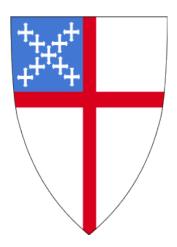
Also coming this Advent, we are bringing back the Jesus doll! A parishioner is donating a Jesus doll to St. James's families. Every Sunday, one family will get to take the Jesus doll home for the week. Accompanying the doll will be a small journal. Please feel free to tell us what you and your family did with Jesus during the week. You can include pictures, drawings or letters. Whatever you want! It should be fun.

Everyone get ready because, once again, we will have our Christmas Pageant during the 5:00 Christmas Eve service. This year, like the last two years, we will have few narrators and main characters who will rehearse their parts. The rest of the characters in the pageant, will come a few minutes early on Christmas Eve to pick out their costumes and join in the fun! The idea of this type of pageant is intended to increase the number of children who can be involved. Even if your child doesn't like to wear costumes, there are parts available to them as well. In addition, there are also some exciting surprise elements to the pageant as well! We do our best to make the pageant accessible for any and all who would like to participate. I hope you join us.

As the days get shorter and colder, please do your best to make church a priority for your family. Sometimes it is difficult to get out of the house on a cold Sunday morning, but the warmth and love found at St. James's makes it all worth the effort. Even if it has been a while since we have seen your family, we are always happy to welcome you here.

Your sister in Christ,

## **Vestry Corner**



## Treasurer's Report / January—September 2025

### **Summary of Current Position:**

Through the end of September, the church had a deficit relative to budget of \$40,167. At the end of August, the church had a deficit of \$1,900. The deterioration in the YTD variance is due to significant decrease in income relative to the budget. As of the end of August, income was \$17,300 greater than budget but

ended September \$16,964 below budget. Pledge payments that are lower than budgeted are the primary contributor to the income shortfall. Expenses were \$19,200 greater than budget as of the end of August and are now \$23,202 higher than budget.

## **Income & Expense Summary:**

Category	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income (+)	\$666,052	683,016	16,964
			Below plan
Expense (-)	733,764	710,562	23,202
			Above plan
Net	(67,713)	(27,546)	40,167
			Negative
			variance to budget

Income: Year-to-Date (YTD) actual income is \$16,964 below budget (or 2.5% below budget). As of the end of August, income was \$17,300, or 2.9%, above budget. The following components impacted the income position through the end of September: Regular Contributions (Current-Year Pledges, Prior-Year Pledges, Seasonal Offerings and Unspecified Offerings) ended the month \$27,420 below its \$461,159 YTD budget, or 5.9% below budget. At the end of August, Regular Contributions were \$300, or 0.1%, above budget. Current Year Pledges, the largest of the components in Regular Contributions, are \$34,040 below budget through the end of September. Contribution statements were sent on October 19 in an effort to close the gap between actual and budgeted pledge payments.

**Facilities Income:** Actuals trail budget by \$1,540, reflecting the timing of rental payments. The year-to-date budget is \$60,648.

**Special Contributions:** The General Purposes category contains the one-time gifts from the Rector's Annual appeal and usually accounts for a significant portion of the balance in this account. However, in April, we received a refund from the IRS of taxes that were overpaid in 2020. That income was booked to the General Purposes account and contributes to the \$16,765 positive variance relative to budget.

**Expenses:** YTD expenses are \$23,202, or 3.3%, above budget. As of the end of August, expenses were \$19,240, or 3.0%, above budget. The consistent change from the reports earlier in the year is that most of the expense categories are above budget. The categories with the greatest variances are:

**Property:** Actuals exceed budget by \$12,800, compared to a budget of \$87,355. Water, General Maintenance and Repairs, and Lawn Care/Grounds are the subcategories contributing to the negative Property variance.

**Personnel:** Continues to exceed budget and currently stands at \$5,000, compared to the \$10,000 negative variance as of the end of August.

## **Vestry Nominations 2026**

HE Vestry Nominating Committee welcomes suggestions, from members of the parish, of persons who they believe would be fine members of our vestry and officers (Senior and Junior Warden, Treasurer and Clerk).

### Vestry members must be:

- 1. committed to Jesus Christ;
- 2. regular in attendance at public worship;
- 3. participants in the life and ministry of the congregation;
- 4. solid financial supporters of our ministries;
- 5. be willing to commit to regular attendance at monthly meetings (the 3rd Tuesday), annual vestry retreats, and to serve as liaison with committees or programs within the parish.

The members of this year's Nominating Committee are: Chuck Kinney, Ruth Mitman, and Bill Thompson. The Nominating Committee will publish its nominations in the January 2026 issue of *The Open Door*.

In accordance with the by-laws of the church, any member may submit a petition to include any other member for inclusion on the ballot as a candidate for the vestry or as an officer. The petition must be signed by the nominating member, not less than three additional members of the parish and agreed to by the signature by the nominated member. All petitions are to be submitted to the Clerk no later than two weeks prior to the annual meeting to be held on January 25, 2026. Nominations not submitted as set forth will not be allowed from the floor at the annual meeting.

## Mission & Outreach

## Christmas Gifts...

For Parkville Children

NCE again, St. James's will be assisting Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford, by purchasing Christmas gifts for the children of the Parkville section of Hartford. At the end of October, we will receive the names of families who use the Food Pantry at Grace. Each family will list the names and ages of their children plus a 'Wish List' of gifts from each child. Members of St. James's purchase a couple of gifts for each child and return them unwrapped to the church. They will be delivered to Grace Church for distribution. Last year, parishioners from St. James's contributed over 700 Christmas gifts to the children of Parkville! This is a wonderful outreach ministry that is easy to do and means so much to so many. Please contact Ruth Mitman if you are willing to help: 860-561-1594 or mitmangroup@comcast.net.

## **Christmas Bags**

ELP MAKE a difference this Christmas season for the men at area shelters. St. James's Outreach has been collecting warm socks and toiletries for these men in the Hartford area since 1989. During the months of October and November we will collect men's socks and toiletries for this mission project. Join us on The First Sunday of Advent, **November 30** after the 9:30 service to help fill the bags with toiletries and other goodies. This mission project is greatly appreciated as your Christmas bags are often the only holiday gift these men will receive.

### Here is a list of what we need:

Men's heavy boot socks (no dress socks), travel-size shaving cream (3 oz), travel-size shampoo (3 oz), travel-size deodorant, small combs, chapstick, travel-size toothpaste, toothbrushes, disposable razors, and bars of soap. Items can be found at good prices at Target, The Dollar Store, or online at Amazon. Your purchases can be either delivered (if you purchase online) or brought to the church. We could also use some candy canes to add an additional holiday touch to the socks. Bring your donations to the church during office hours or on Sundays.

## St. James's "Embrace" Ministry

HE Embrace Ministry invites people into God's love through acts big and small. Weekly phone calls, cards/ letters, friendly visits to those unable to leave home, or help with light chores or transportation are all ways we may be of help. If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who may benefit from our ministry, please contact Susan Ritz (860-904-8588) or Marilyn Thomlinson (860-372-1193) for further information.

## **HCW Thanksgiving Collection**

Now Through November 23

NCE again, St. James's is helping to provide our friends at the Hartford Catholic Worker with food donations for Thanksgiving dinners. Food needed: Gravy, shelf-stable pies, stuffing mix, onions, carrots, sweet potatoes and celery. Please drop off your donations to the church no later than Sunday, November 23. You may



also give a monetary donation to cover the cost of food. Cash donations can be made by check, cash, or through stjwh.org/3Wsowws or by using the QR code. Thank you!

## Hartford Catholic Worker Food Pantry

T. JAMES'S is currently asking for bi-weekly donations for the following items for the Hartford Catholic Worker: tuna fish, mayo, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, bags or boxes of pasta, and canned hearty stews. Donations can be left at the cloister door Monday through Friday 9:00a-4p. If you are dropping off after hours, please place donations in the rubber bin in front of the cloister door! Monetary donations are also accepted to help purchase these items. Just note "HCW Food Pantry" in memo line.

## Winter Coat Collection Now Through Thanksgiving

NCE again, Doug Compton is collecting winter coats for our neighbors in need. Please bring your gently used or new coats to the church on Sundays or during parish office hours and place them in the cloister or bring them to the office. Let's help keep our neighbors warm this winter. Thank you!

## Gifts from Jerusalem: Olivewood Carvings & Sacred Souvenirs for Sale

DVENT is a perfect time to purchase beautiful gifts from the Holy Land and support a family fleeing political instability and violence in the Middle East. Ihab and Samah Awad



have moved their two sons from Bethlehem to Connecticut, intending to earn a living selling olivewood carvings as Christian families from the Holy Land have for centuries. Carvings and other sacred souvenirs, each one a symbol of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, will be for sale on Sunday, November 23 after the 9:30 service in the parish hall.

## **Chef Ministry**

HEF Ministry for expanding/changing/evolving families! This is chance for the St. James's family to help "feed their sheep". Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteer chefs who cook on demand. If you know of any family that is welcoming a new family member (not just a birth!) or having a life event where they might need a bit of support (taking care of a loved one, dealing with a loss, etc.) please let Martha Parish know so that CHEF Ministry can reach out and provide a meal or three. Please email or text so a member of our church family can help out and ease the burden. <a href="mailto:mach1goon@gmail.com">mach1goon@gmail.com</a>, 978-505-1333.

## Around the Parish

# All Saints' Sunday & Stewardship Brunch *November 2 & 16, 2025*

E will celebrate the Feast of All Saints' on **Sunday, November 2** with one service at 9:30am followed by coffee and refreshments in the parish hall. There will be no 8:00 service this day. On **Sunday, November 16** we will hold the Annual Stewardship Brunch after the 9:30 service in the Parish Hall. If you are able, please bring a breakfast item or casserole to share with the group, and bring your pledge cards with you! The 8:00 Eucharist WILL be celebrated in the chapel on this day. **Note:** Daylight Saving Time ends on November 2. Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday, November 1.

## Coffee Hour Volunteer Hosts Needed

olunteers are needed throughout the school year to prepare the coffee, bake and/or buy snacks, set up before, and clean up afterward. A second person makes hosting twice as much fun, so invite someone to join you and make it a team effort. Hosts will receive instructions ahead of their assigned shift. If you can't host, please consider contributing a homemade or store-bought baked good, fruit, or other food item. Please indicate what you are bringing in the "My Comment" section of the sign-up so the host(s) can plan accordingly. Thanks in advance to everyone for your faithful support of our Sunday fellowship. Any questions, contact Mary Goeldner at <a href="marykirkg@gmail.com">marykirkg@gmail.com</a>. Sign up at <a href="marywww.stjwh.org/coffee">www.stjwh.org/coffee</a>.

## Men's Discussion Group

group of men from Saint James's and a few from other churches meet twice monthly on the second and fourth Saturdays for about an hour beginning at 8:00 am in the parish room for discussion of topics related to religion or ethics. Typically, the discussion is led by one of the group members. The discussion group meets next on Saturday, November 8. Bob Burnett chairs the group. Interested? Contact him at <a href="mailto:robert.burnett@comcast.net">robert.burnett@comcast.net</a> for further info. Coffee and other refreshments are provided at each meeting.

## Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

Thursday, November 27 at 10am

E will celebrate Thanksgiving Day with Holy Eucharist on **November 27 at 10am** in the chapel. Let us gather on this day in celebration and thanksgiving for all of God's many blessings.

# Wednesday Morning Eucharist Every Week at 7:00am in the Chapel

OLY Eucharist is celebrated every Wednesday morning in the chapel at 7:00 followed by breakfast in the Parish Room. We hope to see you there!

## Christmas Flowers

IVE Christmas flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones! Just fill out and submit a flower envelope with your name request along with your donation. Envelopes will be placed in the church and the narthex, outside the chapel entrance, and on the cloister table, and will be available beginning **Sunday, November 23**. Please return your envelopes to the parish office no later than **Monday, December 15**. A list of those loved ones so honored or remembered will be included in the Christmas bulletins.

## St. James's Flower Guild

F you love arranging flowers or would like to learn, here is a new way to be involved in the liturgical life of the parish. Beginning Sunday, November 2 every member of St. James's who feels called to share their creative gifts can sign up to arrange the altar flowers for one or more upcoming Sundays. For those interested in participating but who would benefit from instruction, there will be opportunities for both design classes and one-on-one guidance. Training session: Nov 15 at 10:00a at the church. Visit to Hartford Florists: Tuesday, Nov 18 or Thursday, Nov 20 at 11:30a with Mary Ann. Signup using link below.

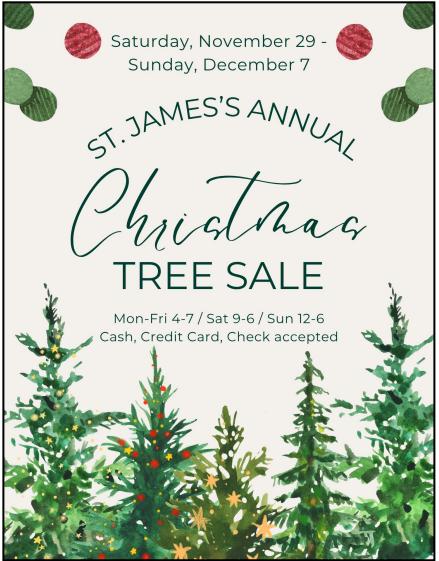
Please sign up for the Sundays you would like to arrange the altar flowers. There are two slots available for each Sunday: one for a leader and one for a learner. If you prefer to work alone, that is also welcome. You can sign up by clicking on this link: <a href="www.stjwh.org/flowerguild">www.stjwh.org/flowerguild</a>. Please note there are no flowers during Advent; Christmas flowers are a team effort. Please see the bulletins for a list of responsibilities.

## West Hartford **Holiday Stroll**

Thursday, December 4

attending the 38th Annual Holiday Stroll on Thursday, **December 4** from 5-8pm in Blueback Square, West Hartford Center. The classic New England-style holiday stroll features food samples from area restaurants, activities for kids, live music, a holiday tree and menorah lighting, and so much more. Stroll the streets and take in the beautiful window displays while getting some holiday shopping done at the same time. The event will be held rain, snow or shine and is free of charge.





## Poinsettia Plant Sale Sunday, December 7

OUG Compton will have poinsettias this year for purchase on Sunday, December 7 after both services. There will be 4", 6", and 8" pots. They sell out quickly so plan ahead. Proceeds benefit the St. James's Feeding Ministry.

## Greening of the Church

ALLING all men and women to help with St. James's annual greening of the church. Come and share in the preparations of the sanctuary for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. Please join Mary Ann Haar in the church on Monday, December 23 from 10am to 12:30pm. Light duties include the hanging of wreaths, other greens, and arranging plants. Your help is very much appreciated!

## **Holiday Parish Office Closings**

HE parish office will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov 27 and 28 for Thanksgiving, and closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays from Dec 24 through Friday. January 2. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 5.

## 4th Friday Family Night

No November or December Gatherings

amily night will take a short hiatus during the holiday season. We will resume in January 2026 on every fourth Friday of the month at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. We'll send an Evite for RSVPs as we get closer to the date. If you're new to 4th Fridays and want to be added to the list, please email Liz Normand (e.julia.ernst@gmail.com). All are welcome, and please bring a friend!

# Registry and Readings Baptisms

Gavin William Celadon—October 19, 2025

Son of Garrett Celadon & Allison Anderson Celadon

Elizabeth Rose Gooley—October 19, 2025

Daughter of Brendan Gooley & Valerie Ferdon

# Parish Birthdays Children and Youth

#### **NOVEMBER**

Jack Keough, 1
Quinn Ciccone, 9
Emily Jacovino, 9
Evelyn Normand, 9
Chloe Lovin, 10
Jude Reynolds, 10
Violet Long, 11
Thaddeus Normand, 12
Brayden Tyler, 14
Trey Keating, 24
Kayleigh Daniels, 29

### DECEMBER

Wrenly Ernest-Jones, 3 Lewis Baier, 4 Laurel Raissian, 4 Ethan Sheldon, 8 Joshua Campbell, 10 James DeLibero, 18 Rowan Guerraz, 21 Andrew Stafford, 23

## Parish Prayer List

### Those in our parish family

Jeffrey, Greg, Elsa, Michael, Elly, Chuck, Sue, Will, Tom, Chris, Rachael, Eileen, Nancy Jo, Fran.

### Those in our extended parish family

Jeff, Joanie, Teresa, Audra, Ann, Patricia, Carrie, John & Rita, Tavern, Mohan, Barbara, Hudson, Guy, Stephen, Clark, Sydney, Clare, Leo, Denise, Javier, Janet, Sue & Claudia, Larry, Gretchen, Denise, Jocelyn, Forrest, Laticia, Suzanne, Karen J., Charlie & Jean, Linda.

### **Those Serving in the Military**

**Andrew Clark** 

## **Sunday Lectionary**

### All Saints' Sunday, November 2

Daniel 7:1-3,15-18; Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

### Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost, November 9

Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22 or Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

### Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, November 16

Isaiah 65:17-25; Canticle 9 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

### **Christ the King, November 23**

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Canticle 16 Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

### First Sunday of Advent, November 30

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44; Psalm 122

### Second Sunday of Advent, December 7

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

### Third Sunday of Advent, December 14

Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11; Psalm 146:4-9 or Canticle 15

### Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21

Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

### Christmas Eve & Day, December 24 & 25

Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14(15-20); Psalm 96

### First Sunday after Christmas, December 28

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 John 1:1-18; Psalm 147 or 147:13-21

# Women Of St. James's November/December 2025

### Tuesday, November 4

### Marty Podskoch, Author & Historian

"The Connecticut 169 Club" (Harvest Buffet Luncheon)

## Tuesday, November 18

### The Rev. Bob Hooper, Rector, St. James's Church

"Mission Trip to Ecuador" (Hot Lunch by Cindy Welch)

### Tuesday, December 2

"Holiday Cards for the Elderly" (Pizza party luncheon)

### Tuesday, December 16

Michelle Horsley, Director of Music, St. James's Church (Holiday Buffet)

Holiday Hiatus, December 23 and 30.

## November/December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II—Chapel 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Livestream— Church 9:30 KFC (Kids for Christ) - PH 11:00 AM Christmas Bags—PH 12:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	1 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 4:00 PM Monday, Music & More 4:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	7:00 AM AA Group - DR 12:00 PM WOSJ Luncheon—DR 4:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	7:00 AM AA Group - DR 7:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel 4:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale 5:30 PM Chorister Rehearsal 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group—DR 4:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	5 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 4:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	1/6 9:00 AM Christmas Tree Sale 7:00 PM AA Group—DR
2/7 Daylight Saving Time Ends 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II—Chapel 8:30 AM Prepare for Loaves and Fishes 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Livestream 9:30 KFC (Kids for Christ) - PH 11:00 AM 200 Identical Sandwiches 11:00 AM Coffee Hour 12:00 PM Christmas Tree Sale	3/8 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group - DR 11:30 AM Serve for Loaves and Fishes 4:00 PM Monday, Music & More	4/9 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 12:00 PM WOSJ Luncheon—DR	5/10 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 7:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel 5:30 PM Chorister Rehearsal 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	6/11 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group—DR	<b>7/12</b> 7:00 AM AA Group - DR	8/13 7:00 PM AA Group—DR
9/14 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II—Chapel 8:30 AM Prepare for Loaves and Fishes 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Livestream— Church 9:30 KFC (Kids for Christ) - PH 11:00 AM 200 Identical Sandwiches 11:00 AM Coffee Hour—PH 5:00 PM Christmas Concert, "O Radiant Dawn" - Church	10/15 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group - DR 11:30 AM Serve for Loaves and Fishes 4:00 PM Monday, Music & More	11/16 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 12:00 PM WOSJ Luncheon—DR	12/17 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 7:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist— McAuley 5:30 PM Chorister Rehearsal 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	13/18 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group -DR 10:00 AM FOODSHARE	<b>14/19</b> 7:00 AM AA Group - DR	<b>15/20</b> 7:00 PM AA Group—DR
16/21 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II—Chapel 8:35 AM Prepare for South Park Inn 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Livestream— Church 9:30 KFC (Kids for Christ) - PH 11:00 AM 200 Identical Sandwiches 11:00 AM Stewardship Brunch—PH 11:00 AM Coffee Hour—PH 5:00 PM Youth Group	17/22 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group - DR 4:00 PM Monday, Music & More	18/23 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 12:00 PM WOSJ Luncheon—DR	19/24 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 7:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist— McAuley 5:30 PM Chorister Rehearsal 7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM Christmas Pageant 9:30 PM Music Prelude 10:00 PM Choral Eucharist	20/25 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group—DR 10:00 AM FOODSHARE	21/26 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR	22/27 7:00 PM AA Group—DR
23/28 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II—Chapel 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Livestream— Church 9:30 KFC (Kids for Christ) - PH 11:00 AM Coffee Hour—PH 11:00 AM Gifts from Jerusalem Sale—PH 5:00 PM Theoretta & the Dissonants—PH	24/29 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group - DR	25/30 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR	26/31 POC New Year's Eve 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 7:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel	27 Thanksgiving— POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR 10:00 AM AA Group—DR 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Chapel	28 POC 7:00 AM AA Group - DR	29 9:00 AM Christmas Tree Sale 7:00 PM AA Group—DR

## St. James's Episcopal Church

19 Walden Street West Hartford, CT 06107

Phone: 860-521-9620

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## The Clergy

The Reverend Robert C. Hooper, III Rector
The Reverend Canon Douglas T. Cooke
The Reverend Dr. Molly F. James Priest Associate
The Reverend John L.C. Mitman Priest Associate
The Reverend Dr. Borden W. Painter Priest Associate
The Reverend Joan P. Phelps Priest Associate
The Reverend Jean R. Smith Priest Associate

### The Staff

Cheryl C. Batter Administrator Leon Fraser Sexton

Priscilla Hooper Director of Family Ministries
Michelle Horsley Organist & Director of Music

Stephanie Latif Financial Secretary

Volunteer Staff

Harry Meyer Assistant Treasurer

## The Vestry

Greg Jacobs Senior Warden
Tyler Smith Junior Warden
Chuck Kinney Clerk (Interim)
Michael Sherrill Treasurer

### Term Ending 2026

Chuck Kinney, Ruth Mitman Bill Thompson

### Term Ending 2027

Doug Compton, Joey Meyer Liz Normand, Marilyn Tomlinson

### Term Ending 2028

Susan Gutierrez, David Kramer Jonathan Lewis, Susan Ritz