



THE NET OF ST. JAMES



JULY 2008



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• Podcast: St. James



From the Rector . . .

June 24, 2008
(The Feast of the Nativity
of St. John the Baptizer)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This July issue is a shorter one, reflecting the slower pace of our Parish's activities in this month. While keeping up our usual round of Sunday services and many other ministries, Rev. Audrey, Rick and I are using July and August not only to take some time for rest and recreation, but also to prepare for the kick-off again of many ministries in September.

If your schedule is more relaxed in July or August, *please join me for conversation over breakfast, lunch or coffee.* Ever since I arrived at St. James' in August 2006, I have invited you to take the time to get to know me. Many of you have taken up my offer and tell me that you have enjoyed getting to know me better. If your Summer schedule permits you join me over a meal or coffee, I would enjoy chatting with you! Please just call me at (973) 744-0270 to schedule a time.

I want to remind you that we are continuing a couple of our Parish's Summertime customs for our Sunday services. First, we are eliminating one Scripture reading (and at our second service, the Psalm) from our Sunday services of the Holy Eucharist.

The Revised Common Lectionary – since last Advent, our guide to what Scriptures we read on Sunday morning – provides us the opportunity to read many of the Old Testament stories in an almost unbroken sequence over the Summer months. For that reason, our Sunday morning reading – before the Gospel reading – will be from these Hebrew Scriptures that were “the Scriptures” to Jesus and his first followers.

Second, we are singing your requested hymns during our July and August services. If you haven't already taken a minute to write your hymn requests on one of the clipboards – near the main entrances of the church – please call Michele and tell her the number of your favorite hymn (or two) as it appears in *The Hymnal 1982.*

Of course, these Summertime customs are simply part of our Parish's larger practice of trying out new approaches to our worship in the Summer. For several reasons that I detailed in the June issue of *The Net of St. James*, we are not closing our church building in July and August and moving to the Chapel. Instead, *we begin our second service an hour earlier: 9:30 a.m.* (Our earlier service will still begin in the church at 8:15.)

Beginning our second service at 9:30, we will finish our worship around 10:30 a.m. We will then *gather on the front lawn for a brief time of refreshments and fellowship* and still get on with our other Sunday activities well before lunchtime.

Don't forget that at 9:30 a.m. on *July 13th and August 10th* – weather permitting - we will worship outdoors on the front lawn. Of course, we encourage you to dress suitably for being outside for our "*Mass on the Grass*". (Wherever we worship, please always feel free to dress more lightly on Sunday mornings in July and August.) Still following the Prayer Book, our worship on these Second Sundays – in keeping with our surroundings – will be a little less formal and will feature some special musical instruments. Please come and join in the fun of creative worship.

I am always
Your Brother in Christ
Jesus,
John+

Our Children Need You !

Ever consider teaching Church School ?

- No experience necessary
 - Just one hour with a partner on Sunday morning
 - Get to know some fascinating kids
 - Learn a lot about God, the Bible and yourself
 - Get involved and feel the rewards of helping
- Interested ? Call Rev. Audrey at (973) 744-0270.

From the Assistant Rector...

Summer is a time to slow down, take a break, and follow a slower path through the day. You might see summer as Sabbath time compared to the rest of the busy year. Sabbath, by definition, is a day of rest and worship created by God for us. For our spiritual health, we need to intentionally set aside time to worship, and for rest from the work of the week.

During the summer many of us make plans to go away for a break. We are very good about planning specific aspects of our vacations, but please do include in those plans the exciting opportunity to visit a new church on Sunday morning. Visiting a new place offers the opportunity to experience God in a different way than you have before. If you have settled on where to go the night before it will be much easier to carry out your plans come morning. Engage your children, too, in deciding where to worship, and talk with them about what you experience.

Taking a vacation from work is refreshing; taking a vacation from worship is not. Oh, we may get a few more hours of sleep, or a longer hike, but we haven't really given ourselves what we need! All of us long for God, and in worship we satisfy some of our need.

This summer bring back service bulletins from the places you visit. Add some brief comments about your worship experience, and even include a photo (with family) if you can! I will post your souvenirs on the hallway bulletin board for all to enjoy. God bless you !

Rev. Audrey+

Members of YAC on Mission Trip to Jamaica !

On June 23rd, three YAC class members, Eryn Callahan, Kate Gilruth, and Gerry Evans and I are leaving for Kingston, Jamaica where we will be doing mission work for a week. At the airport we will meet the EYC of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Sparta. Together we will be working very hard at a compound that houses a school, medical center, and nursing home. We will be cleaning, doing prep work and painting the buildings inside and out.

Gerry Evans has collected about 40 pairs of soccer shoes and many soccer balls

to present to the children at the school. Items such as these are a luxury to these children who have so little. We will have an opportunity to spend a day playing with the children after they receive this equipment.

We want to thank Lyenda Delp and her father, Kip Simpson, for all the work they have done arranging this trip for us. The last two days we will have the opportunity to tour the island and discover some of the natural beauty that Jamaica holds.

On September 14th – Kick-Off Sunday – we will make a presentation to the Parish showing the work we accomplished and our experience in Kingston. Please come and see !

Joanne

Torrissi

Farewell from The Rev. John C. Fisher

After almost 18 years' association with St. James', the time has come for me to take my leave. Sue and I have both decided to take the daunting step of retiring, and I will be finishing up my psychotherapy and pastoral counseling practice at the end of July.

Since September 1990, St. James' has generously afforded me office space down in the basement. You have also over the years given me numerous occasions to worship with you – often as a preacher and celebrant. I haven't been able to spend many Sundays with you lately; nevertheless, I've come to know enough of you individually and to participate in your corporate life to appreciate what a truly wonderful parish family you are. I hope that all of you can also appreciate the gift St. James' offers – a place and a community where worshipping God takes place with an unusually welcoming spirit and where caring and concern for each other abound.

I will always be grateful for the generosity you have shown me, and I will

treasure the associations and friendships I've made here.

This fall Sue and I will be starting the next phase of our life in a new place – one that we've come to love over the past several years. If any of you would like to keep in touch, our address after the middle of September will be

8244 Crooked Creek Lane
Edisto Island, SC 29438

. . . and, if you should find yourselves anywhere near Charleston, y'all drop in and pay us a visit.

With profound thanks for your many kindnesses, I am

Faithfully

yours,

John Fisher

+

(fishrink@aol.com)

Guide to the Sunday Scriptures of July

Our Education Committee has subscribed to *Synthesis CE*, a guide to the Scripture readings that are vital to our Sunday services of the Holy Eucharist. Please pick up your copy of the July guide to the Sunday Scriptures and please let Melissa Kneuer, our Education Chair, know your thoughts about *Synthesis CE*.

Welcome, Joanne Torrissi, to Journey to Adulthood

We are happy to announce that Joanne Torrissi and Ivan Max will be leading the J2A class this year ! The leaders are very excited about the lesson plans and can't wait to get started. Having taught our YAC and Rite 13 groups, Joanne has long been very active with our youth education programs.

***September Social for
Parents of our Rite 13, J2A, & YAC
Youth***

Sunday, September 7 - 9:15 a.m. – Guild Room

This is a *getting to know you* event for the parents of youth in our Rite 13, Journey to Adulthood and Young Adults in the Church programs, their teachers, and the clergy. When members of a group know each other, they can more easily work towards a common goal – in our case, the goal of helping our youth to grow into spiritual maturity. Over coffee and goodies, our teachers will talk about class plans and expectations for the up-coming months and answer questions that parents may have. RSVP to Rev. Audrey at (973) 744-0270 or ahasselbrook@optonline.net.

Pilgrimage – A Journey to Adult Spirituality

A pilgrimage is more about the process of traveling spiritually than it is about the place to which we go. The place is but God's tool – a setting that is different enough to enable us to be more open to God's presence and power.

We are developing options for our J2A pilgrimage and will choose our itinerary in the Fall. Please keep our J2A youth, their leaders and their parents in your prayers.

Support our Pilgrimage – Clean out Your Basement !

Our J2A class is holding a tag sale on our Parish's front lawn on Saturday, Sept 20th – Upper Montclair Sidewalk Sale Saturday – to support their 2009 pilgrimage. This is a great way for you to give away household items that you have been keeping, but don't need. Please begin to bring your donations to the church in August. We will take small pieces of furniture, but please bring no computers, TVs or similar electronic devices. Questions ? Please speak to Rev. Audrey.

Rent a Trio of Teens!

Journey to Adulthood offers you the "Rent a Teen" program to help fund its pilgrimage in the Summer of 2009. Our program is available *only* to parishioners or neighbors whom a parishioner personally knows very well and includes outdoor work only. Now, we are offering lawn work, such as mulching, weeding, planting flowers or vegetables, and garden upkeep. In the Fall, we will offer raking of those tons of leaves and, in the Winter, shoveling walks and driveways. We travel only in groups of 3 youth and the cost for three is \$15.00 an hour – that's just \$5.00 per teen per hour! All checks should be made payable to St.

James' for the number of hours you have requested. Please contact Rev. Audrey.

Diocesan Offerings for Your Calendar

Sept. 6th – "Safeguarding God's Children Training"
Sept 26th-27th – "Middle School Peer Ministry Training"
October 24th-26th – Christophany
March 20th-21st – Confirmation Retreat – J2Aers, note well !
May 17th – Confirmation Service at the Cathedral

Stewardship Committee

Don't Save the Date – Look for a Different One !

Our old "Stewardship Pledge Drive" is now a part of our Parish's proud history. So don't look for it this Autumn !

Instead, as we work to restore the legacy left to us – so that we may carry on our mission – we will be introducing our "Annual Commitment Campaign" together with this year's Capital Campaign in September.

Why an "Annual Commitment Campaign" ? For more information, speak with John Bylancik, Frank Lawatsch or Dave Smythe. Or wait for many more details to follow in the August issue of *The Net* !

Praying for The Lambeth Conference – July 16-August 3 in Canterbury, England

As our Presiding Bishop – The Most. Rev. Katharine Jefferts-Schori – has requested, we will pray for the success of the Lambeth Conference as it takes place in July and August. We also plan to take a couple of Sundays in the Fall to learn about and discuss this year's Conference.

Lambeth Conferences are the meetings of the Anglican Communion's bishops, invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury every ten years. This year, The Most Rev. Rowan Williams has issued over 800 invitations to Anglican bishops around the globe. Presiding Bishop Katharine and many bishops of the Episcopal Church – including The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith of our Diocese – will take part, this year.

Lambeth Conferences began in 1867 and are one of the communion's four *Instruments of Communion* or *unity*. Those four Instruments are the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lambeth

Conference, the Anglican Consultative Council, and the Primates' Meeting.

***Village Green Concerts return at
7:30 p.m. on July 8th and 23rd***

On Tuesday, July 8th, the first of our Summer concerts will feature the New Sousa Band, a group of professional musicians who will provide an old-fashioned “concert in the park” of Sousa marches, patriotic tunes and Broadway melodies. On Wednesday, July 23rd, the Summer Opportunity Band – a student band – will play favorites such as “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” and “Under the

Sea”. In addition to the Summer Opp. Band, a jazz band of adults and students will play on the 23rd.

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and come enjoy an hour of fun music on our Parish’s front lawn. In case of rain, we will go ahead with the concert in the Parish Hall.

Our fellow parishioner Martha Boughner – band director of Future Musicians, Inc. – will direct both of our July bands. Martha invites all St. James’ students – in Grades 5 through 12 – who play a band instrument and wish to play on July 23rd to join the Summer Opp Band at a special discounted price. Please speak to Martha if you are interested.

**July, August and September:
Please Reserve these Dates in Your
Calendar Now!**

July 2: Monthly Holy Eucharist for Healing in the Memorial Garden at 7:30 p.m.

July 6: Summer Sunday Schedule Begins: Services at 8:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. in the Church

July 8: Sousa Band's Concert on Front Lawn at 7:30 p.m.

July 13: "Mass on the Grass" on the Front Lawn at 9:30 a.m.

July 19: Parish Outreach Day with Habitat for Humanity

July 23: Summer Opp. Band's Concert on the Front Lawn at 7:30 p.m.

August 6: Monthly Holy Eucharist for Healing in the Memorial Garden at 7:30 p.m.

August 10: "Mass on the Grass" on Front Lawn at 9:30 a.m.

August 22: Celebration and Blessing of the Marriage of Denise Bailey and Anthony Rivera

August 23: Celebration and Blessing of the Marriage of Michelle Blackowski and Thorsten Wunn

August 23: Annual Cook-out and Trip to Berra Stadium for Jackals' Baseball Game

August 31: Last Sunday on Summer Schedule; Baptisms at 9:30 a.m. Service

September: Our Choirs Resume Rehearsals on Weekdays and Singing during Sunday Services; Midweek Services of the Holy Eucharist resume weekly on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

September 7: New Mothers' Group Meeting and Parents of Youth Social both at 9:15 a.m.; Fall service schedule begins

September 13: Capital Campaign/Annual Commitment Campaign Launch Party

September 14: Campaign Dedication/Church School Kick-Off Sunday: Presentation on Jamaica Mission Trip, Commissioning of Teachers and Cook-Out

September 16: ECW Luncheon Resumes at Noon

September 20: Upper Montclair September Sidewalk Sale: Blood Drive, Tag Sale, Tours and Oktoberfest at St. James'

September 28: Guest Preacher: The Rev. Fletcher Harper of GreenFaith

Our Regular Weekly Schedule in July

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>8:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Holy</i>
<i>Eucharist</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Choral Holy Eucharist</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Refreshments on the Front Lawn</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Roosters (Bible Discussion & Prayer)</i>

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