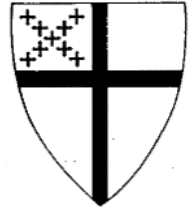




The Staff



Jesus said, "I say to you who hear: Love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you,
and pray for those who spitefully use you."

March 2019

Give me my scallop-shell of quiet
My staff of faith to walk upon,....
and thus I'll take my pilgrimage.
— Sir Walter Raleigh

Luke 6:27-28 (English Standard Version)

Anglican worship of Jesus Christ and Biblical preaching of the Good News.

DIOCESE OF THE RIO GRANDE

Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church*

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Hunn, *Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Vono, *Retired Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb (ret), *Assisting Bishop*

The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Lutz, *Priest-in-Charge*

The Rev. Dr. Frank Williams, *Assisting Priest*

“ **A**t Tara today in this fateful hour
I place all Heaven with its power,
And the sun with its brightness,
And the snow with its whiteness,
And fire with all the strength it hath,
And lightning with its rapid wrath,
And the winds with their swiftness along their path,
And the sea with its deepness,
And the rocks with their steepness,
And the earth with its starkness
All these I place,
By God's almighty help and grace,
Between myself and the powers of darkness.
—”The Rune of St. Patrick”

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From the Priest-in-Charge, Good Friday and the Holocaust

As I prepare this article, Christians are entering into the season of Lent. Lent is a time when we examine our consciences, embark upon six weeks of personal discipline to remind us of our Lord's sacrifice on the Cross, and engage in more systematic study and prayer. All this is done, not for the purpose of self-improvement, but that we might be more receptive vessels of God's grace and more fully prepared for the joy of Easter.

Recently I attended a forum at Temple Beth-El in Las Cruces about anti-Semitism and the State of Israel. By the time our next newsletter is published in April, Holy Week will be upon us. Historically, the Good Friday service in Christian tradition has been rife with anti-Semitic overtones, though modern liturgies in both our own and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America have tried to soften this. So I have decided to share with you some personal lessons learned from Jewish friends, which I believe to be relevant to Holy Week and to the Easter event for which we prepare.

My first contact with Judaism came through a neighbor from childhood, Myrna Dvorski. In North Carolina of the 1950s, Jews were not readily accepted, so it was a courageous act on my parents' part to allow me to attend Friday services with Myrna a few times. It did not bother me that the language of that service was often one I could not understand. This was before Vatican II, so when I went to church with my Roman Catholic friends (also not readily accepted), the same thing was true. What this cradle Episcopalian first noticed about the synagogue in Raleigh was the absence of kneelers. People stood to pray! The rabbi explained to me that this was the traditional respectful Jewish posture that Jesus would have used (Mark 11:25, "Whenever you *stand praying*, forgive . . . ")

Not long after my husband and I bought our second home in Las Cruces, Rabbi Joseph Klein and his wife moved into the neighborhood. In between listening at his house to every opera recording ever made (so it seemed), we talked about Judaism and Christianity. As I have mentioned in a couple of sermons, it was Rabbi Klein who told me that when Jesus fought with the Pharisees, it was a family feud. "And you know that family feuds are the worst kind," he would add.

I missed Rabbi Klein when we moved to Albuquerque, but after we returned to Las Cruces, God blessed us with next-door neighbors, Claire and Ernest Bellak, Jews from Vienna. Over the years, we heard parts of their stories. Ernest fled to the Jewish community in Singapore during the war, which was almost as bad as a concentration camp. Claire's Jewish father had the foresight to immigrate to South America before the occupation of Austria. Her mother's father was Catholic and took her in, "covering up for me," as Claire described it. While she was spared the ultimate horror, Claire has retained throughout her life a startle reflex at loud knocks on the door. When one of the members of Temple Beth-El sued the City of Las Cruces (unsuccessfully) to have the crosses removed from our logo, Claire opposed him, stating that the crosses were a part of our heritage as a town. To her, the cross was not a symbol of oppression but of love.

My brother was also blessed in his mother-in-law. Lea was brought up in a Jewish family in Poland. On the way to Auschwitz, a Nazi guard threw her and other children off the train. He was not trying to hurt them, Lea explained; he was trying to save them. Immediately after her fall from the train, several people hastened to her side and took Lea home, nursing her broken hips as best they could while hiding her in their barn, Anne-Frank style. Lea told my brother that these folks were Catholics whose names may or may not be listed at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Center in Jerusalem, but they remained in Lea's heart to the day she died—and I have no doubt, in God's.



When I visited Yad Vashem in 1995, before the new one was built, I was particularly interested in the garden dedicated to the Righteous among the Nations. It contains monuments to Oskar Schindler, Raoul Wallenberg, Corrie Ten Boom, and other Gentiles who had the courage to give aid and sanctuary to the Jews of Europe during the war, often paying the ultimate price. What I noticed most about the memorial was its placement. In order to get from the parking lot to the entrance and back, a visitor had to walk through this garden. I often wonder if those who placed it there did so in order to communicate to the rest of us that evil does not have the last word in this world, in spite of appearances to the contrary sometimes.

On Easter Sunday, our Savior Jesus Christ demonstrated in another garden the same message: *evil does not have the last word in this world*. It was necessary for Christ, and for his followers, to go through the agony of Good Friday in order to arrive at Easter. Our own journey this Lent will also take us to the foot of the cross before we celebrate the resurrection. I hope many of you will attend at least part of the three-hour service at St. James' on Good Friday, during which we will meditate on the Seven Last Words of Christ from the cross and include the Good Friday prayers from our Book of Common Prayer. When you do, may we give thanks together for our Jewish forebears, "the first to hear the word of God," (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Good Friday Service*), the people of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A Blessed Lent to you all,

Padrecita Jeanne+

Senior Warden's View

It's a very busy time for Sy. James'! The Search Committee has been working very hard as we seek a new rector for our parish. Our website is now complete, the rector position posted, and applicants will now be coming our way. It is an exciting time to see who God will send our way.

The library has been renovated and looks wonderful. Plans are also underway to upgrade the Sunday School area.

Thanks to Terry Meyer and his Evangelism Outreach Committee, St. James' will have a presence at the Las Cruces Farmer's Market. Sign up sheets are in the Parish Hall if you would like to help in this ministry.

As we go forward into this Lenten season of reflection, I wish you God's peace.

Senior Warden,
Phala White



Rector Search

Check out the "Rector Search" on the St. James' Episcopal Church Website and on the Episcopal News Service!

www.stjameslascruces.org , www.episcopalnewsservice.org/jobs/rector-190/

Holy Week Schedule at St. James':

**Sunday, April 14th Palm Sunday Procession and Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rite I
10:30 a.m. Rite II**

Wednesday, April 17th, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, Bishop Hunn, Celebrant and Preacher

Maundy Thursday, April 18th, 7:00 p.m. Eucharist, Foot-washing, Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday, April 19th Noon to 3:00 Good Friday
Liturgy with Meditations on the Seven Last Words
At St. James'
7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy
at St. Andrew's, 518 N. Alameda**

**Easter Sunday, April 21st, 8:00 Eucharist, Rite I
10:30 Festival Eucharist with Baptisms, Rite II**

Bishop Hunn to Preach and Celebrate on Wednesday of Holy Week

St. James' will be delighted to welcome Bishop Michael Hunn as our preacher and celebrant at the 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Eucharist during Holy Week, on April 17th. There will be a light lunch in the parish hall after the service to welcome Bishop Hunn and to visit with him.

Good Friday Pilgrimage up Mt. Cristo Rey

For the strong and adventurous, St. James' continues our recent tradition of joining in an area-wide pilgrimage with Stations of the Cross to the top of Mt. Cristo Rey in Sunland Park, New Mexico. This year we are joining Fr. Wally Lalonde and the congregation of St. Andrew's on Good Friday, April 19th, in their parking lot at 518 N. Alameda at 4:30 a.m. (yes, that is in the morning!) in order to arrive, park and walk to the mountain by 6:00 a.m. The parking lots at Mt. Cristo Rey become crowded early on Good Friday. Bring water and wear comfortable shoes. Those who have participated in the past tell us that the hike is strenuous but exhilarating and adds much to the Holy Week devotions.

Good Friday Liturgy with Meditations on the Seven Last Words

On Friday, April 19th, St. James' will have a traditional three-hour service from noon to 3:00 p.m. The Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross will intersperse meditations by Fr. Frank Williams, Padrecita Jeanne and Canon Scott Ruthven of St. Andrew's with hymns and readings from the Gospels. Thank you to Margo Lamb for playing the organ! The service will close with the traditional Good Friday prayers from the Book of Common Prayer. Parishioners may come and go during this service or stay throughout the three hours. Members from St. Andrew's Episcopal Church will be joining us. St. Andrew's will also have an hour's service at 7:00 p.m. to which St. James' parishioners are cordially invited.



Junior Warden's Report

Jr. Warden Report for March 2019 respectfully submitted by Manny Terrazas

Your Vestry have approved several projects that continue around St. James. . Above, see photos of the Fr. Salazar memorial being poured. The next photo is of the library as it is being renovated. Funding for the Fr. Salazar memorial was funded by his family who established this memorial fund. The library renovation is being paid for by two donors. Thank you to these wonderful people!

Updates:

A Subcommittee of the Building and Grounds Committee, currently called Design Committee was approved. Phala White will serve as chair with Jennifer Huntsberger and Lynn Marshall . This committee will serve to make recommendations about color, design, etc.

The library project keeps moving along nicely. All of the painting, plastering, lighting and blinds have been completed. The last portion will involve replacing the carpet. A representative of the newly formed design committee and the donor(s) will be meeting soon to select the design and color.

Mrs. Salazar has agreed to allow us to use excess Salazar Memorial funds to do some concrete maintenance work around St. James. Thank you, Mrs. Salazar!

A proposal that has been considered by every Vestry since 2015 is finally coming to fruition. A sound system to enhance the spoken word has been approved by your current Vestry. Installation of the system will be happening soon.

Discussions with the Sunday School staff will begin soon concerning the improvements needed for this space. Two very generous donors are contributing money for this project as well as all proceeds of the St. James quilt raffle.

I have been approached by another donor who wishes to pay for labor and materials to have exterior surfaces painted around St. James. Further discussions with them and the Design Committee will be held, and final approval will be sought from your Vestry.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers who help with ideas, planning, telephone calls, research, input, and showing up to help when we have an outdoor project to complete. (You all know who you are! My life as your Jr. Warden is made so much easier by your considerate willingness to do the needed work-thank you!)

**Your Jr. Warden,
Manny Terrazas**



Thursday Night Supper and Spiritual Sustenance

On Thursday evenings during Lent (except for Holy Week), we offer a light supper in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m., followed by an hour of study and discussion at 6:30. This year we are discussing two books, which parishioners signed up for and began reading during the Advent season. They are: “Reckless Love” by John Newton and “Impressions of Jesus” by Denis McBride. Both involve Bible study, the Newton book being thematic in nature with discussion questions at the end, and the McBride book consisting of narratives written in the first person by various characters in the life of Jesus, some biblical and some imaginary. By the time you receive this newsletter, only one of these evenings will probably have taken place, so it is not too late to join us. There are extra books on hand, but more can be quickly ordered. We ask that you stick with the same group for the entire six weeks. Participants will set their own schedule of readings, normally two or three chapters a week.

Lenten Meals

Please contact Lynn Marshall if you would be willing to provide one of the Thursday night suppers for our Lenten season. Dates are: March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4 and 11. The dinners can be as simple as you would like. In the past several years we have had pizza, soup and sandwiches, and salads. Others have provided some lovely full dinners, including salmon, ham, and pasta. It is totally up to the individual cooks or cook teams. We are not picky eaters on Thursday evenings. Contact Lynn Marshall at 523-9218 or 644-4902.

Guest Celebrant and Preacher for March 17th

On the weekend of St. Patrick’s Day, Padrecita Jeanne will be in Las Vegas, cheering on the Aggies to certain victory in the Western Athletic Conference! We are pleased to welcome as guest celebrant and preacher Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Lowe (Father Tom), recently retired rector of St. John’s in Alamogordo, where he served for ten years. Before being ordained, Fr. Tom served in the U.S. Navy on active duty for 20 years, retiring with the rank of Captain. While on active duty he was one of the nation’s AIDS experts, functioning as a special advisor on AIDS prevention to the US Surgeons General C. Everett Koop and Antonia Novello. In that role he testified before Congress and on national TV networks concerning AIDS prevention, wrote the Surgeon General’s Statement on AIDS and Condoms, and was the first author on the CDC Recommendations for Prevention of HIV and Hepatitis Transmission in Healthcare Settings. He also treated AIDS patients as a volunteer clinician in a free clinic in Washington, D.C., for a decade. Fr. Tom has published numerous works on health related matters and edited a medical journal with a circulation of over 1 million. After retiring from the Navy, he was a consultant for the National Cancer Institute and the American Red Cross and did expert witness testimony for 13 years. In our diocese he was elected for three terms on the Standing Committee, with several years as president, served on the Diocesan Council, chaired the Bishop’s Search Committee, and served as Canon for Rural Ministry.



From The Daughters of the King

The Power of Being Thankful

Coffee: Our Women's Informational Coffee went well on February 23! We served lots of coffee and pastries to 20 women of St. James. There were plenty of "regulars" and a sprinkling of new parishioners, and our Diocesan President, Donna Ace from St. Chad's in Albuquerque attended. We showed the new video

from the National Order, more sprightly and upbeat than past efforts, and it even included a familiar local face: Rev. Margaret Short! It was a busy morning.

It was a busy month, actually. We also served at two funeral receptions (for George Gray and for Joann Lytton). It is a joy to be able to serve and bless the families in this way.

Lenten Quiet Day, March 23, 9 am – 3 pm at Saint Andrew's: The Daughters of the King from St. James' and from St. Andrew's look forward to presenting a Lenten Quiet Day for all women of the two parishes and their friends. (Men are welcome, too!) Please save the date! Our speaker will be Rev. Canon Scott Ruthven, rector of St. Andrews. Look for a flyer with more details coming soon.

I know I've said it before, but it bears repeating: The Order of the Daughters of the King is a religious ORDER for lay women, not a social club. We do not have boring meetings. If you are on a journey with the Lord and would enjoy companionship in the faith with like-minded "sisters" in Christ, now would be a good time to join. We have an enthusiastic new Bishop who *depends* on the Daughters of the King to pray for him daily and is eager to see our numbers increase. If you are interested in meeting with us to see what "DOK" is all about, we meet for coffee, prayer, and support for our journeys in Chickie Lerdal's home the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings each month—10 - 11:30 am. We'd love to have you come and "look us over." Call Johanna Binneweg (575-527-8575) for directions.

~~~~~

For His Sake, and in His Love,

Johanna Binneweg, Nancy Cain, Judith Forney, Kathy Fisher, Lucy Gray, Chickie Lerdal, Charlene McKinney, Bink Nelson.

*Forgiveness is the hallmark of Christians. Have you forgiven someone lately?*

## Sunday School Collection Ministry

This year our Sunday school young people will again be collecting funds for children's ministry. If you did not receive one of the new "church" banks on March 3<sup>rd</sup> (these have replaced the dilapidated piggy banks from years past) it is not too late to obtain one. Please talk to Charlene McKinney, Mary Ganier, or Luci Kirkland. Fill your "church" with offerings and bring it back on Easter Sunday for the children to collect during the services. Proceeds will be divided between two local children's ministries: Jardin de los Niños and Children's Literacy Alliance.

# Saint of the Month

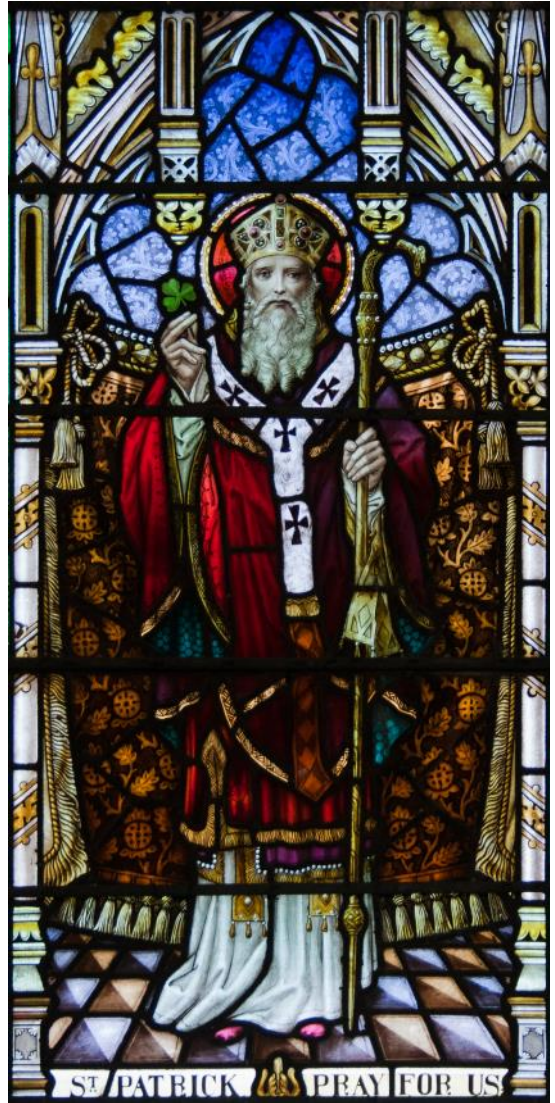
## THE PAUL OF IRELAND-- PATRICK, MARCH 17

We've written about him before, but since we've just talked about Brigid it seems a good idea to discuss Patrick. Brigid is partly legendary, but there is nothing legendary about Patrick; we have his "Confessio," written in fair Latin, and there's no doubt that he's the author.

You can find a translation of the Confessio on the Internet. It reminds me of Augustine's Confessions—Patrick was born a generation or so after Augustine—and also, a good deal, of Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians. Like the latter, Patrick wrote it in self defense—he was accused of some sort of financial misbehavior—and like both it's a magnificent statement of faith, which incidentally says a bit about his life.

Patrick was born in a village on the coast of England or Scotland—or some would say, Brittany—his dad was a deacon and his grandfather a priest, but the church did not interest him. At 16 he was kidnaped by Irish pirates and spent six years in slavery, a good deal of it herding sheep, though he also learned the Irish language and customs. Out of desperation, I guess, he began to pray, and says he said as many as 100 prayers a day, in all sorts of weather. Then a voice told him to run away to a place he'd never been, 200 miles away. A ship was waiting, but the captain wasn't about to take him. He went and prayed, and before the prayer was finished the captain changed his mind.

After a series of adventures, including being taken prisoner for a while in France, he got home and was joyfully received. But God wasn't through with him. In a dream he saw an Irishman named Victoricus begging him to come to Ireland as a missionary—compare Paul's dream of the Macedonian saying, "Come over and help us"—and, over strenuous objections by his family and friends, went to France for his education. (He bewails the fact





that he isn't well educated, but that may have been a convention, I'm not sure.) Anyway he was consecrated bishop and sent to Ireland.

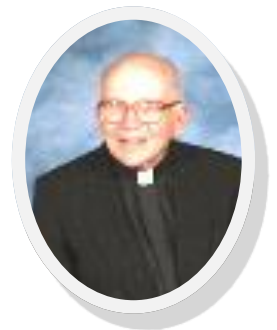
In fact, he wasn't the first to go there. There were Christian communities along the coast and we know a name connected with them, Palladius. But Patrick certainly deserves the title, "apostle of Ireland"; he worked in the north and west and, as he says, baptized "thousands" of people. He ordained clergy to take care of them and persuaded many, women in particular, to enter the Religious Life—that didn't have to wait for Brigid). He accepted no money from anyone, he insists; when wealthy women laid gifts on his altars, he gave them back. In fact he spent money of his own—again, this reminds me of Paul.

Also like Paul's was the sort of life he led. Not everyone appreciated his being there. Religion in Ireland had been in the hands of the druids, and they would have been happy to get rid of him. On one occasion he was robbed of everything and imprisoned for a while, though this ended with his being released and having his money restored. In fact he says he was delivered from danger twelve times, though he doesn't tell the story. He was always a foreigner in Ireland, had no legal protection and was rather lonely. He says he would just as soon have gone home, but he was responsible for the work he'd started, and that came first.

As with Brigid so with Patrick there are plenty of yarns about him, but in Patrick's case these are likely to be unpleasant; he curses somebody and makes him behave. In one case he meets three heroes from Irish mythology (alive somehow, don't ask!) and has a big argument about religion with them; I presume he wins. Of course you know about his holding up a three-leafed clover and saying, "See! Three in one!" In fact the Trinity was a hot topic in the fifth century, though officially the doctrine had been agreed on. And everyone knows he drove the snakes out of Ireland; he made them jump into the ocean.

March 17 comes on a Sunday this year; in Boston and New York there will be big parades and a lot of celebrating. It isn't that important here, but some of us will be wearing green. I have the obligatory Irish grandfather myself, though I don't make that much of it. But you don't have to be Irish to appreciate someone like Patrick.

—Father Frank



**Jazzercise—Have you tried a Jazzercise class yet? Jazzercise is a variety of jazz dance based exercise classes including Dance Mixx, Fusion, Strike, Core, and Strength60. Jazzercise instructors are trained to show modifications for all class varieties to ensure the safety and success of all of our fitness level customers. We offer class in the morning at 8:45 Monday through Saturday, and evening class at 4:40 PM and 5:45 PM Monday through Thursday. We look forward to having you join in on our fun soon!**

## **Pilgrimage: A Lent Retreat at Camp Stoney on March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>**

Registration forms for Pilgrimage, A Lent Retreat, are available in the parish office or on the diocesan website ([www.dioceserg.org](http://www.dioceserg.org)). The retreat will be sponsored by the Women of the DRG and led by Bishop Michael and the Reverend Meg Hunn.

Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 Mini-pilgrimage option to Santuario de Chimayo, with Eucharist at the Santuario. The Hike will be about an hour. You can also meet the group at noon for Eucharist. Afternoon is free for lunch and time on your own (or an 8-mile hike from Nambe). Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. at Bishop's Ridge/Camp Stoney, followed by Way of the Cross and first meditation. Registrants may stay at Camp Stoney overnight.

March 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30: Retreat at Camp Stoney with meditations, worship, talks, quiet time, and "Walking the Labyrinth." Details regarding times and activities will be sent with registration.

Prices: \$80 for full retreat if staying at Camp Stoney; \$60 for dinner and lunch, if staying elsewhere; \$45 for Saturday only, includes lunch.

## **St. James Sewing Bee**

The St. James Sewing Bee has now been in existence for just over a year. We are so delighted to use the beautiful Parish Hall at St. James and are so grateful for the wonderfully warm welcome our members have received. We would love to have you join us any Thursday between 10:00 am and 3:30 p.m. Do you sew, knit, crochet, hand quilt, machine quilt, embroider? If yes, we have a place for you, full of camaraderie and fun! Come on down for a great time. Questions? Please contact Lynn Marshall at 575 644-4902 or Jennifer Terrazas at 575 993-0498. Thank you.



## *March 2019 Birthdays*

|    |                |    |                  |
|----|----------------|----|------------------|
| 2  | Mary Ancker    | 24 | Rick Marshall    |
| 3  | Mary Lou Arend | 26 | Ron Lerdal       |
| 4  | Jody Wellborn  | 27 | Louis Van Doran  |
| 9  | Larry Pickett  | 29 | Johanna Binneweg |
| 18 | Lucy Gray      |    |                  |
|    | Jeanne Lutz    |    |                  |

If your name is not listed and should be, please call the office (526-2389) and let us know.

We'd love to wish you a Happy Birthday!

# Charitable Giving through your IRA

**If you are over 70, making charitable gifts directly from you IRA may be your best tax move going forward! Your gift and/or your pledge can be made simply by notifying your IRA plan custodian of your intent to make a current transfer to St James Episcopal Church or another charitable organization. It's a win-win!**



**There is now a permanent tax law concerning qualified charitable distributions (QCDs). This law allows individuals 70 ½ or older to give directly from their IRAs rather than having to take a distribution that would trigger an income-tax bill. Because a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) reduces income and is not an itemized deduction, it even benefits investors who do not itemize.**

**The benefit of giving to charity this way is twofold. First, since the amount given directly to charity is not considered income, you might avoid surcharges that kick in at particular income levels and stay under “phase-outs” which is the loss of deductions, if you itemize. Also, it is not considered income for the purposes of determining Medicare premiums or taxation of Social Security income. Secondly, and more importantly, since the tax benefit is not dependent on the tax deductibility, you do not have to itemize for the benefit. But even if you still itemize your taxes under the new tax rules, doing a QCD may be more advantageous when looking at your entire tax picture.**

**The simplest way to make a QCD is for your IRA account custodians to write a check to your chosen charity directly from the IRA account. Writing checks, especially for small donations, is simple and the most common way most people make these types of donations. Alternatively, most custodians have special forms you can complete for a QCD and they will either write the check or transfer the money directly to the charity.**

**While every family’s situation is different, we believe that for those who use this alternative form a payment will find it is easier and more beneficial than gifting with cash or a check from your bank account. We have already had 2 parishioners that received savings by gifting or paying their pledge this way! One, the transfer was done electronically from the IRA to St James Citizen’s Bank account, the other received a check from their IRA addressed to St James Episcopal Church. If you are using your IRA to fund your pledge or have an IRA that you must now withdraw funds, consider using a Qualified Charitable Distribution! For direct transfer information, please contact the St James Treasurer, Nyeta Haines at [nyeta@comcast.net](mailto:nyeta@comcast.net).**

**St. James' Episcopal Church**  
**P.O. Box 2427**  
**Mesilla Park, NM 88047**  
**Tel.: 575-526-2389, FAX: 575-526-4821**

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“Love is the way. Love is the only way. Those who follow in my way follow in the way of unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial love. And that kind of love can change the world.”

—**Bishop**  
**Michael Curry**



**St. James' Holy Eucharist Service Schedule**

**Sundays at 8:00 am Rite I**  
**Adult Sunday School 9:30 am**  
**Children's Sunday School & Nursery 10:15 am**  
**Sundays at 10:30 am Rite II**  
**Wednesdays at 10:00 am Rite I**