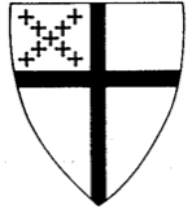




The Staff



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."

Luke 6:27-28 (English Standard Version)

July 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

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*

"The church is like the Incarnation itself, a shaky proposition. It is a human institution, full of ordinary people, sinners like me, who say and do cruel, stupid things. But it is also a divinely inspired institution, full of good purpose, which partakes of a unity far greater than the sum of its parts. That is why it is called the body of Christ."

—Kathleen Norris in *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*

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From the Rector's Desk

Dear St. James family—

As I write this, Amy is driving and Luna (our greyhound) is resting comfortably in the back seat. We've just passed Lafayette, LA, on our trip back west! It is with a sense of bittersweetness that we leave Baton Rouge and look forward to joining with you. At dinner last night with friends, I was asked what I'll miss most about Baton Rouge and Trinity, my former parish. In all our comings and goings over the years, the answer to this question is always the same: the people.

Yesterday I preached my final sermons on, appropriately, Trinity Sunday. At one of our services, we celebrated a baptism, welcoming a baby boy into the community of the church. What a wonderful way to commemorate a departure: with an arrival! I was struck by the comings and goings in our lives and the people we are blessed to have enter our lives and share our journeys on the roads we travel. Amy and I have been enlivened by the people of St. James we've met as we take our first bold steps down a new path, and we look forward with eager anticipation to future encounters as we return to the Diocese of the Rio Grande.

As we journey from Trinity Sunday into the heat of summer, I pray for you in the words of Bp. Charles Henry Brent, Chaplain General of the American Expeditionary Forces in WWI, and the Bishop of Western New York: "May the love of the Father enfold you, the wisdom of the Son enlighten you, the fire of the Spirit enflame you; and the blessing of the Trinity rest upon us all and abide with us evermore."



Father John

Junior Warden's Report

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

There are several new developments around our facility.

After our most recent rain we now have a leak in the ceiling in the office. The foam roof is in decent shape but there is an obvious area that does need repair. We will be submitting some bid proposals to the Vestry in order;

1. have the area of concern addressed and
2. to have two coats of the elastomeric coating applied to the entire roof from the office area all the way down to the Sunday school room.

The ground water well (which supplies water to the sprinkler system around the church as well as the water bib at the NW corner of the office) has gone out. With the help of your Building and Grounds "response team" (thanks Wayne, Rick and Godfrey) it was determined that the "overload switch" keeps tripping. We keep losing pressure in the water tank. I have called several water well service and repair businesses and am trying to schedule a service call. Some of you may also recall that a couple of years ago we had issues with sand coming up with the water from that well. In turn that sandy water would clog the sprinkler heads around the grounds causing them to pop off; ultimately affecting the grassy areas. I will ask about a possible remedy for that issue as well, as we already have a sand separator installed).

Additionally, one of the refrigerated air units at the church has gone out. Initially a leak was detected and repaired and both units ran efficiently for about two weeks. The church was noticeably cooler during this time. However, now the compressor has burned out in that unit. We will be having the unit worked as soon as possible in order to be ready for the heat which will surely be rising in the near future.

Other updates:

- The library is taking shape thanks to some great volunteers who have stepped forward to provide the necessary manual labor of cleaning the books and shelves and returning them to the library.
- The color selection for painting the exterior woodwork is ongoing with the Fixer Upper Committee, headed by Phala White. They plan to make a recommendation soon to the Vestry, who will then vote on the color to be used.

The plan for the Sunday school renovation is about 80% done. We are waiting for some of the Sunday school staff to return from vacation to schedule a follow-up meeting.

The fun never stops at St. James....

Respectfully submitted,

Manny Terrazas



MUSIC NOTES:



Johann Sebastian Bach used his skill as a composer and painter of words to glorify God.

I've just completed a lengthy paper for my Master's degree on this subject and wanted to share some thoughts with you. Some of you may know Bach well, have sung or played his compositions, while others may be less familiar, or consider Bach and his music foreign, boring or irrelevant. For me, as I've "got to know Bach" and his music over the years, my appreciation for the man and his works has grown immensely.

Johann Sebastian Bach was born in 1685 in Eisenach, a small town near Frankfurt Germany. Bach was born into a very musical family. Over the course of seven generations the Bach family produced more than seventy-five organists and composers. The name "Bach" was synonymous with "musician."

Bach spent his early years in the shadow of Wartburg Castle which overlooks Eisenach. Wartburg Castle is where Martin Luther, the founder of the Lutheran church took refuge after he was excommunicated from the Catholic Church by Pope Leo X. It was there also that Luther translated the New Testament of the Bible from Latin into German. Bach was baptized in St George's church, the church where Luther spoke on many occasions. Bach attended the same school that Luther attended in Eisenach. Bach's life from start to finish was immersed in a world of devout faith, a faith grounded in the premise to get to the word of God out of the church's Latin and to the people so they could understand the Bible for themselves. Bach was a very religious and devout man who considered his music as an expression of his faith. He saw no division between his "sacred" life and his "secular" as all was for God. Bach believed that music refreshed the spirit and notated this on some of his title pages. He believed that music brought glory to God and notated "SDG" or *Soli Deo Gloria*, "To God alone be the glory" at the end of many of his scores.



Lutheran ideals were based on getting the message of the Bible into the vernacular so that people could understand its meaning. Bach was so steeped in this as his *raison d'être* or reason for existence, thus the very fabric of his music was Bach's canvas for getting across meanings, not just by the words which Martin Luther had brought to the people, but by using all of his skills to convey the meaning, the emotion of the text. Bach's skill was immense in his use of harmony and counterpoint, melody and polyphony, however this skill alone was not what has kept his music speaking to audiences for three hundred years, Bach's music speaks to the soul of the listener.

Bach used extensive word painting or tone painting throughout his music to express his deep faith by using the text combined with skillful harmony and counterpoint to evoke an emotion or concept of ideas to the listener. Bach was not seeking to preach the sermon, but was composing music to illustrate the dramatic effect of various aspects of the Christian message. In my paper I analyzed one of Bach's cantatas. Here are a few interesting treasures I found: When the choir sings about blessings, the music flows in sixteenth notes (very short notes) over a long period of time (over several measures) to show the ongoing nature of blessings. When singing about Heaven, the notes are high in the singer's range, when singing of earth, they are low notes. God is represented musically by strong musical foundational chords, chords that anchor the key (tonic and dominant chords) to show the steadfastness of God.

Bach was a humble man who was called by God to use all of his skills to communicate God's message to the people through their intellect and emotions. We are called by God to use all of our skills to do the same.

Carol



St James Episcopal Church, Mesilla Park, NM

Our parish has been blessed by having Rev. Jeanne Lutz, as our Priest in Charge for the past 13 months (May 2018-June 2019). Padrecita (as she is so fondly and respectfully known) finished her term as Priest in Charge on June 13th. At her last service on June 9, 2019, the 8:00 AM and the 10:30 AM services were combined, and our sanctuary was full of parishioners wishing to bid adieu to our dear Padrecita. The service was followed by a potluck with gift presentations to Padrecita. It was a full house and many remarked that our parish is a happier, healthier, readier to do God's work place because of Padrecita. Padrecita's deep love of and expertise in pastoral care, her beautifully effective sermons and her heart as big as our great Southwestern skies have opened more widely our own hearts and minds to follow His word more closely. Filling Padrecita's shoes won't be easy, but St. James is excited and ready for our next step with our new Rector, Rev. John Tober. Vaya con Dios, Padrecita and Bill Lutz; not goodbye but see you later. We are so grateful for our time with you both.



St James Episcopal Church
Financial Report Summary
MAY 2019

Citizens Bank Account Balances at the end of the month from Balance Sheet:

ACCOUNTS	Current Month	Previous Month
Operating Account	\$ 54,112.11	\$ 78,676.98
Restricted Account	\$ 37,553.89	\$ 41,303.11
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 2,677.26	\$ 1,738.26

Operating Income and Expense Summary for the month:

	Current Month	Current Mo. Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	Annual Budget
Income	13,064.51	17,933.33	88,491.72	90,166.65	218,000.00
Expense	17,714.38	21,891.50	75,953.14	86,257.50	211,030.35
Variance	4,649.87	-3,958.17	12,538.58	3,909.15	6,969.65

Restricted Account with Entries

ACCOUNT	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
Mission and Outreach	7,659.00	77.76		7,736.76
Memorial Fund	17,177.02	75.00		17,252.02
Organ-Piano Fund	3,000.00		2590.00	410.00
Organ Fund	4,026.65		78.84	3,947.81
Building Fund	6,249.90	1,025.00	595.72	6,679.18
BLDG – Sunday School Room	1,792.00			1,792.00
PH Interior Refurbishment	9,403.76		1600.00	7,803.76
Flowers for Altar	1,780.14	254.63		2,034.77
Restricted – Special Offering	290.00		290.00	0.00
Columbarium Fund	12,923.15			12,923.15
Rector Discretionary Fund	1,738.25	1,300.00	461.00	1,738.25
Vestry Designated Fund	12,007.29			12,007.29

Fair Share Information

FAIR SHARE	Current Month
Total Income	\$ 15,797.27
Total Exclusions	\$ 2,732.76
Net Disposal Income	\$ 13,064.51
Fair Share Paid for Reported Month	\$ 2,057.66
Year to Date Fair Share Paid	\$ 18,065.33

Daughters of the King News!



It will be a hot July! A good time to supply shower and freshening-up needs for people who must live in tents! The Daughters of the King have met recently to plan their community service project for the year. We have decided to give 50 Grooming Kits to the tenants at The Las Cruces Tent City. We are sewing drawstring bags, and we are asking for help from the congregation to supply the grooming essentials. We are seeking these items (you may provide one of each item, or purchase several of one item):

15-oz. bottles of shampoo and conditioner
small cans of shaving foam & razors
mosquito repellent wipes

sunscreen
deodorant
toothbrush & toothpaste

A local Crochet Group will be providing hand-crocheted bags with bars of soap in them. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall on June 30th.

The Daughters also look forward to their annual diocesan Assembly at Bosque Retreat Center in Albuquerque, Friday-Saturday, August 16-17. Our speaker will be the Rev. Meg Hunn, Bishop Hunn's wife. She will teach us about the connections between "Praying and Playing." All women of the Diocese may attend! Look for flyers and registration materials—coming soon.

Prayer Works! The Daughters of the King pray for every person on their prayer list several days a week, if not every day. You may add a name to the Daughters of the King prayer list by contacting one of the women listed below (our contact information is in the Parish Phone List), or fill out a Prayer Card found hanging at the end of each pew, and place it in the collection plate.

For His sake, and in His love,
Johanna Binneweg, Kathleen Fisher, Judith Forney, Lucy Gray, Chickie Lerdal,
Jane Madrid, Charlene McKinney.

Saint of the Month

Christian Politian: William Wilberforce, July 30

He was a little guy, five feet three, and in rotten health; his career was interrupted now and then by long periods of illness. But could he talk! James Boswell, who heard him in Parliament, said, "I saw a shrimp get up to speak, and the longer he spoke the bigger he got, until I felt I was looking a whale."

He was born of a wealthy family in 1759 and showed an early interest in an evangelical Christianity, which was making itself felt in an English church far too devoted to routine. His family were horrified and sent him away to school, and he dropped it. At Cambridge he became a typical undergraduate. He regretted his life very much later but it doesn't seem all that bad; his chief sins seem to have been staying up late drinking and talking. He didn't bother to study much, he made some good friends, and was especially close to William Pitt, the future prime minister.

The two of them grew interested in a political career and -- at the age of 21 and still in school! -- he ran for Parliament as the candidate of his home town and was elected. This wouldn't work in our country, or in England now, but then it was a matter of knowing the right people and having the money to treat voters to some drinks. (That's how George Washington was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses.)

In Parliament he attended to business, but as an independent; he refused to back either party but voted in accordance with his conscience. And he was impatient with the constant round of luncheons and other social engagements which member in Parliament involved.

Meanwhile, English ships were carrying 40,000 slaves from Africa a year to the West Indies, under horrible conditions, and English people were making a lot of money from the trade. People began to react against this; in 1783 the Quakers introduced the first anti-slavery petition into Parliament. It was around this time that Wilberforce's conversion came. It took a good while; he reviewed his life and associations, felt thoroughly disgusted with himself, and resolved to serve Christ. He wondered whether he should give up the government but his friend John Newton, the ex-slave ship captain who wrote *Amazing Grace*, convinced him he would do better to stay and work for Christianity.

He was confronted with the evidence of the slave trade's evil; urged by evangelical friends especially the prominent abolitionist William Clarkson, he began to feel responsible for leading the battle. Finally a conversation under an oak tree with his friends William Pitt and John Grenville -- both prime ministers in their time -- convinced him, and he introduced the first bill against the slave trade in 1787.



He wasn't alone of course. He was prominent among a large group of people of all classes; it was, in fact, one of the earliest grass roots movements in England. Opposition was intense, and the French Revolution and subsequent war with France didn't help. But Wilberforce kept at it. He said, "Let us not despair...Already we have gained for these poor creatures the recognition of their human nature, which for a time was most shamefully denied...Never, never will we desist until we have wiped away this scandal from the Christian name, released ourselves from the load of guilt, and wiped away every trace of this bloody traffic..."

Altogether he introduced a bill against the slave trade twelve times. The Slave Trade Act was finally passed in 1807. In a strange way, the war helped; English ships were carrying slaves to enemy colonies and everyone could see this needed to be stopped. Actual emancipation, for which Wilberforce worked hard, had to wait until 1833; by this time he was on his death bed, but three days before he died he received the assurance that the bill would be passed.

Wilberforce backed a lot of other things also, some very good and some not so. He helped found the Church Mission Society, and introduced measures which required the East India Company to bring chaplains and educators to India. He joined in financing the Sunday School movement, the purpose of which was to make the poor literate. He introduced legislation to help chimney sweeps.

Not all the things he did were appreciated. He was intensely anti-union, and he felt strongly that women belonged at home. He joined a society for improving the observance of the Sabbath -- which meant that you couldn't work on Sunday. It sounds OK, but what about your servants?

Personally he was extremely generous. He was always giving money away, in one year a greater amount than his annual income. He died a poor man, because his son had lost an enormous amount farming, and he insisted on paying his son's debts. He wanted to be buried near his family (he had six children) but the government felt he should be interred in Westminster Abbey and he is, close to his lifelong friend William Pitt. A politician can be a Christian.

—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!

Sermon Reflections

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)

I really related to Fr. Tom Low’s sermon on Sunday (June 16), Trinity Sunday. After apologizing, as Trinity Sunday sermonizers always do, for giving what may be a confusing bunch of words, he proceeded to preach a little jewel of a Trinity Sermon.

As part of his opening remarks, Fr. Tom pointed out the many triangles to be viewed in the church sanctuary, pointing out that a triangle is the strongest, steadiest of the primary geometrical shapes. He spoke of the Trinity usually being presented symbolically, usually as a triangle, with “Father” printed on one side, “Son” on another side, and “Holy Spirit” on the third side, as a way of demonstrating the strength and reliability of God. His description really took me back... .

My Journey with Christ began one evening (in another lifetime) when I was sitting down after dinner having my coffee and cigarette(!), and gazing out the window at the little Victorian house across the street. I noticed, as I had many times before, the lovely little gable in the roof, in the middle of which was a round stained glass window. The setting sun caught the gable just then, and it lit up and glowed, riveting my attention. I remembered the symbol from my Lutheran catechism class some 15 years prior. The triangle with a circle inside was a symbol that decorated some of our beautiful hangings in the church, and Pastor AmEnd told us what the symbol meant: The Triangle for the “Trinity” (Father-Son-Holy Spirit), and the Circle for “Eternal.”

In my relaxed state, I made up a little mantra: “Father-Son-Holy-Spirit-Eternal” and repeated it several times. I was completely unprepared for what happened next: my whole being opened up and I received the Holy Spirit, and a promise: “Just be patient and you’ll have everything you want.” Mystified by this event, I began going to church again; the rest, as they say, is history.

I’m still working on the “patience” part, but my life changed radically, overnight. That was more than forty years ago, and not one of them has been dull! As St. John says (in the last sentence of his Gospel), “If every one of [the things Jesus has done for me] were written down, I suppose that even the whole world (or at least this Newsletter) would not have room to fit all...that could be written.” God is Good.

In Christ’s love,

Johanna Binneweg

Vestry Highlights



July 2019 Birthdays

3	Susie Hosford	20	Elizabeth Wellborn
5	Jaime Fisher	23	Judith Forney
9	Lorraine Southward	25	Mike Murphy
10	Phala White	27	Carol Baker
14	Ronald Joyner	30	Daniel Armistead
15	Art Fountain		Elsie Bonfantini
16	Pat Fraley-Alexander		

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!

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