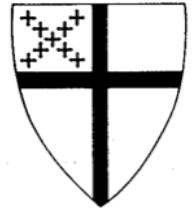




The Staff



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.”

October 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. John Tober, *Rector*

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

“ You are guaranteed that your sins will be filtered through, hidden in, and screened out by the sacrifice of Jesus. When God looks at you, he doesn't see you; he sees the One who surrounds you. That means that failure is not a concern for you. Your victory is secure. How could you not be courageous?”

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—Max Lucado

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Saint James' Family—

What a wonderful time of year to be in New Mexico! Right on cue, the fall equinox brought a crisp nibble to the air, and the days have cooled off dramatically. We're now in the season of harvest festivals and craft fairs and livestock shows: the Mesilla Valley Maze has just opened down the road from our house, allowing people the opportunity to revel in the marvel of God's creation and the cleverness of human ingenuity. I think God wants us to consider our own ingenuity and put it to work for Him.

In Matthew 9, Jesus tells His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Maybe He said this at the end of September; maybe not. Matthew tells us Jesus said this in a break from the crowds who came to see Him and hear Him and be healed by Him. When Jesus saw the crowds, "He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." It's a remarkable dichotomy of scarcity and security; of want and manifestation.

We are at the beginning of pledge season for St. James. It's a time of looking over our books (not that we don't do that at every vestry meeting), gathering pledges from our congregation, and setting goals for the next year—much like a farmer gathering in the harvest. A farmer calculates the bounty of the harvest versus the farm's expenses and then... decides what to do with the surplus. Maybe the farm needs a new outbuilding. Maybe equipment needs repairing. But maybe it's time to tighten belts to expand production and generate a greater harvest.

We at St. James' have so much potential, despite our size. And there is so much need in our community despite the plenty our society generates. At present, we are pretty secure: our facilities need little beyond routine maintenance. However, all around us there is evidence of scarcity. Maybe it's time to consider what we do at St. James' for our community and think about what more we might do with the gifts we've been given. Maybe there is a little bit of luxury we can sacrifice for mere comfort to provide opportunity for others.

The next few months give us opportunity to share our bounty with one another at a number of special occasions:

- Share the joy of our pets on St. Francis Day on 5 October;
- Renew our life together with my installation on 15 October;
- Remember and share the joy of our loved ones for Dia de los Muertos and All Saints' Day on 1 and 3 November;
- Commemorate Veterans' Day with a combined Eucharist and potluck on 10 November;
- Celebrate the bounty of our nation on Thanksgiving Day on 28 November.



The challenge for us as we remember all these good things where God makes manifest the bounty of creation is the realization that so many around us live in want. For example, a recent study shows that 48% of community college students and 41% of university students experience food insecurity. In October we will also begin offering regular midweek worship at 6pm on Wednesdays targeting our neighbors at NMSU. Just like Jesus preaching on the mount or on the plain, we'll offer the Good News of the Kingdom of God to any who show up, but just like Jesus, I'd like to also offer something more practical: something to eat for the hungry who may attend. To be able to do that, we need resources, and I'm looking for funding from outside sources to help. But we also need people: people to offer just a little bit of time, or talent, or treasure to create a successful outreach. The harvest is out there just beyond our doors. I'm asking you to take a small step and join in the labor.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. John Tober, Rector

Vestry Meeting Highlights for September 10, 2019

REPORTS

Rector's Report

Translation of Rite II into Spanish-plans to do a bilingual (English/Spanish) service once a month
Pastoral Care-Everett asked about how one becomes a eucharistic minister
Requesting LGBTQ support for NMSU community

Senior Warden's Report-Phala White

Fixer Upper committee is being scheduled and Phala will keep us informed
Paint samples for doors for red, trim color to be presented and discussed at the fixer upper meeting
(subcommittee of Building and Grounds Committee)

Junior Warden Report-Manny Terrazas (Building and Grounds committee report)

Church alarm update-Manny will create a sign which will be placed by alarm pad, stating steps to be taken and how to deactivate and reactivate the alarm.
Lockboxes/keypad box on the library, Manny will work on this and hopes to be done with that within the month. He will monitor and see how it works.
Wellhouse is up and old one has been dismantled and hauled away to the dump

Treasurer's Report-Nyeta Haines-monthly reports

Financial Summary Report- our income was down for the last month
Terry asked about the EVOM line item and about the Sunday School collection/donation. Nyeta spoke about the process of the Sunday School collections and how it was debited and credited.
Expense and Income-Nyeta noted that the Jazzercise donation is higher, and she is grateful for this.
Operating income comparison analysis for 2019-August was the 2nd lowest month in comparing all months during the 2010-2019 years.
Nyeta and Carol have been working on the Memorial Funds and hope to report at the next Vestry meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds-Manny Terrazas (see Jr. Warden Report and Sr Warden Report-Fixer Upper Committee)

Evangelism Outreach and Missions Committee Vestry Report-Terry Meyer

All 85 Esperanza Bags for the Homeless have been distributed. Thank you to all church attendees who participated with the distribution. Thanks also to Margo and Patrick Lamb for initiating this project. Margo has been contacted and requested to let us know when she is able to provide more materials for preparation of additional bags. Currently her husband is recovering from surgery so the project may need to be placed on “hold” for a while.

The last Saint James Farmers Market booth display was last Saturday, Sept. 7th. The location was changed and the majority of those participating seemed to like the change of location. Thank you to John Kirkland, Charles Nike, Phala White, Godfrey Crane, Mary Garnier, Johanna Binneweg, and Terry Meyer, for their participation. A special thanks to John Kirkland who provided the truck and transported all necessary equipment and materials from Saint James to Farmers Market and returned everything to the church

A reassessment meeting was held Sunday, 9/8/2019 at the church. All present agreed that the Farmers Market project should be continued for at least another 6 months. Suggestions for improvement included more shading is needed for the tent and the shading could be another opportunity to advertise additional information about the church. We may perhaps hand out business cards and Eric, our parish administrator may be available to help with preparation of business cards. Father John requested a “sandwich board” which can be used for advertising St. James both at the university campus and at the Farmers Market booth. Tee shirts with Saint James information may perhaps be purchased for those participating with the booth. Terry Meyer stated a budget for expenses related to the booth needs to be formulated and money from the 02 restricted account (Mission and Outreach) could possibly be transferred to the 01 operating “Administrative Expense-Advertising” line item” to pay for the suggested items. Terry will work with John Kirkland to put together a budget to submit to Finance Committee and Vestry by the time of the October meetings. Charles Nike offered to lend his “Sandwich Board” to the Farmers Market project. The next Farmer Market Booth is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th., the first Saturday of the month. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Respectfully submitted, Terry Meyer, Chairperson, Evangelism Outreach and Missions Committee

Everett suggested that food and maybe open-ended questions could be put out so that customers walking by might be more engaged. Terry asked Manny if it was okay to use one of his photos of St. James and if it would be okay to contact him, Manny assured him that would be fine. Terry spoke about the possibility of creating a banner with the church’s photo on it, Sig shared that he had two different companies and information he would provide to Terry.

Finance-Nyeta Haines/Phala White

Old historic buildings usually have designated donation box for upkeep. Something to think about. Everett asked if that might be a target for inappropriate activity around the church? Jennifer suggested talking to other older sites and find out how it is done. Terry suggested creating a bronze plaque citing our history and erecting it. The Vestry agreed that would be a great idea. Jennifer also suggested looking into having one created and placed on or by the Parish Hall since it was the original church building.

The altar flower procedure needs to be worked on. Finance committee will work on it.

Pastoral Care-Fr. John spoke about in his Rector's report

Stewardship-Sig Johansen

Handed out ideas for the 2020 pledge campaign, discussion took place with input from the Vestry. Sig will take our discussion notes and turn it into recommendations to share back with Fr. John and the Vestry.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Audit-response needs Vestry input, Nyeta presented the response to the 2018 Audit results. Everett Campbell moved, and Manny Terrazas seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Fixer Upper Committee-Phala White-see above

Nominating and Elections-Sig asked Eric to provide him the last 5 years' worth of members who have served on the Vestry and/or as a delegate. Sig will have more details at our next meeting. He is also attending the 8:00 service periodically to try to reach out to attendees at that service. He hopes that others who have never served as either a delegate or on the Vestry will step up and volunteer to serve.

Policy-Nyeta Haines-tabled for now, as personnel covenants are being reviewed and updated for all part time church employees

Safety Committee-inactive

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Personnel issue, Vestry went into closed session at 7:22 p.m. and came out of closed meeting at 7:34 pm

***At 7:30, the Jr. Warden informed the Sr. Warden that a vote needed to be taken if the Vestry chose to continue the meeting. Susan moved that the meeting continue for another 15 minutes, Manny seconded, and the Vestry voted to continue the meeting for another 15 minutes.*

The personnel committee will continue working on updating all employee's covenants.

Jennifer brought up the lack of usage of the Building Use Request Form. ANYTIME any building on church property is used a building use form must be filled out and submitted to Fr. John, who in turn will share this information with the Parish Administrator, Sr. Warden, and Jr. Warden. Nyeta suggested using the calendar on the website, Jennifer stated that she was concerned about using this solely as many parish members do not use the website and might not be comfortable doing so. A large calendar will be purchased, and Eric will be asked to keep it updated with all events for usage of any facility. For example, any musical performance, usage of the church or parish hall for any occasion, quilting events, Jazzercise, yoga, etc. need to fill one out.

NEW BUSINESS

St. James' will host The Rev. Frederick "Ted" Howden Memorial and Eucharist, date and time to be announced by Fr. John

DRG State Convention update-Phala White stated that an agenda has not yet been sent out, she will look into this further for Vestry members and delegates who will attend.

Día de los Muertos event-October 31-November 2, more details to follow from Fr. John

Quilts of Valor-Jennifer shared that dates have been established for: Sept 7 and 21, October 5 and 19, November 2 and 16, Dec 7, Jan 4 and 18, Feb 1 and 15, March 7 and 21st, April 4 and 18, May 2 and 16th. The first pattern has been chosen and they will be cutting material this week and constructing on Sept 21. Any member of St. James is welcome to attend. The quilts made will go to the state/national organization to recognize soldiers who have served our country.

Raffle quilt-Jennifer reported that the 2019 raffle quilt is pieced, and that she will quilt it soon and then it will be bound and ready for tickets to be sold. The St. James Sewing Circle has also received a beautiful cross wall hanging made by one of the Thursday ST. James Sewing Circle that will be raffled as well.

Daughters of the King News!



So, you are hesitant about joining the Daughters of the King. Well, let's examine some assumptions you may be entertaining by explaining what we are, and what we are not:

What we are NOT:

- a community service organization like PEO
- a social/fund-raising club, like the Soroptimists
- a re-birth of the ECW
- a group of white-haired old ladies who do nothing but pray
- a group of old ladies who only "do" the funeral receptions at church
- like those nuns who rapped your knuckles with a ruler when you were in grade school

We ARE a group of women who:

- love the Lord and want to be His disciples
- love the Church that teaches us about loving Jesus
- recognize we are on a spiritual journey, and have been since our baptism
- seek fellowship with like-minded women
- seek commitment and accountability for our spiritual growth

What we DO NOT:

- have long boring meetings (governed by Roberts's Rules of Order)
- have minutes or a treasurer's report
- do fund-raising (but we can help others raise funds)
- have members provide food for our meetings
- discuss with non-members what is said of a personal nature during our meetings

What we DO:

- meet twice a month for 1 hour; meeting time and place can be flexible
- "check in" with each other about our daily lives and help each other find instances of God's grace
- read and discuss spiritual literature from all eras of Christianity, mining it for help on our journey
- bring to each meeting something devotional to share
- handle business over email
- serve at St. James at the discretion of the rector; serve in many ministries in our congregation
- pray daily for:
 - Our bishop and the Diocese of the Rio Grande
 - Our Priest and clergy and their families
 - St. James' Church, its Vestry and its ministries (Sunday school, administrator, Altar Guild)
 - Our parishioners and their families and friends
 - The diocesan DOK President and board members

Daughters of the King are each committed to becoming the person God created us to be. Knowing that we cannot do this by ourselves, we choose to belong to a group of women who are committed to helping us achieve this goal. For more information, call or text Johanna Binneweg (575-386-7690), Lucy Gray (993-2103), or Chickie Lerdal (642-9151).

Operating Income and Expense Summary for the month of August 2019:

	Current Month	Current Mo. Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	Annual Budget
<u>Income</u>	14,238.41	17,933.33	140,533.50	143,966.64	218,000.00
Expense	16,445.81	19,292.58	131,783.46	140,279.91	214,221.88
Variance	-2,207.40	-1,359.25	8,750.04	3,686.73	3,778.12

Note: The full August 2019 Financial Summary may be found in the Parish Hall on the bulletin board at the back of the room.

COMING MID-OCTOBER: SOMETHING NEW! ST. JAMES SPIRITUAL GROWTH BOOK CLUB FOR WOMEN

No need to purchase a book. No homework! The books will be supplied (you may purchase later if you wish). We'll read a chapter out loud at each meeting and discuss what we find there. You do not *have* to be a reader.

The SJSGBBC will meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM at Chickie Lerdal's home. If you'd like to attend, but the time slot doesn't work for you, a second meeting time can be arranged. When you see the book, you will want to read it!

We'll start our journey with Ruth Chou Simons' book *Beholding and Becoming*. Ruth Chou Simons is an artist (water colorist), and the book is lavishly illustrated by her, and beautifully written, combining poignant and inspirational passages from scripture, and quotations from many classical and contemporary literary works. Ms. Simons has a down-to-earth point of view, and speaks to us of how to "practice the Presence of God" in the midst of raising children, caring for ailing spouses and parents—all the usual "stuff" of life that we find ourselves graced with (she and her husband are raising 6 sons). Her voice is not cutesy or chirpy, but rather, toned-down, kind and wise.

We'll start on Tuesday, October 15. To reserve your chair at Chickie's table, please sign up on the sheet provided on the back table in the Parish Hall, where you'll also find a copy of the book.

Junior Warden's Report

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

"The sulfurous smell of the water in the Parish Hall is caused by the interactions of dissolved sulfate ions with metals in the plumbing, generating what is known in polite circles as "sewer gas." The situation is worsened by heat, contact with electricity, and **stagnation**. The simplest work-around I know is to minimize the build-up of sulfide ions by letting the water run a little as often as possible.—Godfrey Crane"

Respectfully submitted,

Manny Terrazas

Saint of the Month

He Died for His People: Alphege of Canterbury, April 19

This is a man who really impresses me. He absolutely and consistently refused to let his people be charged for his liberty, and died as the result of it.

It was the tenth century. The English had pretty much been converted; England, however, was a number of small kingdoms, and it was bothered by massive raids. The Wikipedia says the raiders were “Vikings,” but I’ve always heard they were “the Danes,” and I suspect that is the right term. Anyway, whoever it was rampaged all over the country, and they weren’t easy to resist.

Alphege was born about the middle of the century. He loved God and early in life became a monk. In fact he became an “anchorite”; that’s a hermit, as Cuthbert was. Like Cuthbert, he wasn’t allowed to live by himself; he was too useful. He was called into service—we don’t know the details of it—and was made the abbot of the monastery at Bath.

From there he was promoted to bishop of Winchester, also in the south of England, and served in that capacity for about twelve years. His acts in the diocese wouldn’t interest us, but in 994 there was a rough Danish raid—and, surprisingly, its leader, Olaf Trygvason, was converted to Christianity. Again, we don’t know the details, but he received some money and swore never to fight against the English again (apparently, it was all right to fight against other people). It isn’t clear what part Alphege took in the making of the treaty, but we know he confirmed Olaf.

In 1006 he was named Archbishop of Canterbury. He traveled to Rome to receive his “pallium”—that’s a white cloth that archbishops wear—in person, but got robbed on the way. I’m not sure whether he got to keep the pallium. In any case, he took his seat in Canterbury, and probably pretty much ruled the city. In those days civil government was disorganized, and often the bishop of a town was all the law and order there was. Legally he was a judge in any case, and it wasn’t unusual for him to give the orders, providing what protection there was to the citizens.

At all events, in 1011 the Danes came again. I have the impression they landed in Northumbria and crossed the country, though I’m not sure. Anyway, whoever organized the defense of the city, it wasn’t enough. The Danes took the city, sacked it, burned the cathedral, killed a lot of people, and carried off those for whom they thought they could collect ransom. Among these, naturally, was Alphege.

I assume the other prisoners named a ransom. Alphege said, “No way!” He was not going to allow the Danes to collect money from his people for him. They kept him prisoner for seventh months, I suppose exerting all sort of pressure on him, but he was absolutely firm; he would not allow his people to pay for his liberty.

At Greenwich—the town where the prime meridian is now—the Danes had a camp. Whether simply out of frustration, or perhaps as a last attempt to get money out of him, they tied him to a post in the town square. They were obviously having party, and as there was lots of wine not many of them were sober. They started throwing bones at him—bones and the heads of oxen. Finally someone cracked him on the head with an axe and sent his soul to God.

This is usually thought to be a drunken murder, though some say his murder was a Christian convert who wanted to put him out of his misery. In either case, the result was the same.

He was buried at St. Paul's in London—it existed even then—but later King Cnut, the famous Danish king of England, moved his body to Canterbury with great ceremony. His shrine was next to Thomas Beckett's. Henry VIII destroyed both of them.

—Father Frank



October 2019 Birthdays

6	Margo Schultz	11	Godfrey Crane
7	Marianna Fountain	16	Karen Amison
8	Margaret Ritter	20	Cynthia Bailey
9	Mary Ganier	28	Paul Huntsberger
10	Harry Wiley		

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' Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: Fr. Frank Williams
Location: The St. James' Library.
Contact: Fr. Frank Williams: 541-1768.

Wednesday, 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Fr. Frank Williams
Location: The St. James' Library.
Contact: Fr. Frank Williams: 541-1768.

Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Leader: John Fitzgerald
Location: The St. James' Library.
Contact: Elsie Bonfantini: 650-3680.

If there is **not** a Bible Study group meeting at a time convenient for you, why don't you start one? Speak to Father John about it!



Synaxis of All Saints, early 17th century, Tempera and gold leaf on linen and wood, 23 x 22 cm, Musei Vaticani, Vatican

HOW TO DONATE SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

The procedure for donating Sunday Altar Flowers is fairly simple. In the Parish Hall is a Flower Calendar, with spaces beside Sunday dates for you to sign up to provide flowers that Sunday. Be sure to put your name on it. A pen may be found close by. This part is very important to avoid duplications.

Nearby, you will find small sheets of paper on which you can state your request: the Sunday's date; the person(s) to be remembered, the event to be celebrated, etc., and what you wish the bulletin message to say. There is also a space for you to put your name and contact information, in case the Parish Administrator needs clarification. Place the filled-out form in the pocket provided **OR...**

...this form may be dropped into the collection plate along with a check for \$50.00 (per occasion) the following Sunday. Make the check out to St. James, with "altar flowers" in the note blank.

You may also email the Parish Administrator and make your request, supplying the information mentioned above, and remembering to place a check for \$50.00 in the plate the following Sunday. Be sure to place your name on the flower chart in the Parish Hall soon after.

You may use the form provided below, if you'd like!

Remember: Flowers are not placed on the Altar during Advent (December 1, 8, 15, 22) and Lent (March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5).

Flower Donation Form

Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Or email: _____

The Sunday you want: _____

Your message: _____

The flower arrangements belong to you. Will you want to

_____ keep the arrangement(s) for personal use?

_____ give them away at the Rector's discretion?

_____ keep one, give one?

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

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We must in our time, we must reclaim a Christianity that actually looks something like Jesus of Nazareth. A Christianity that believes in the Jesus who said blessed are the poor, and the poor in spirit. A Jesus of Nazareth who said blessed are the peacemakers. A Jesus of Nazareth who says blessed are those who hunger and thirst that God's righteous justice may prevail in all the world. A Jesus who says from the cross, Father! Forgive them, they know not what they do. The Jesus who says, by this everyone will know that you are my disciples. That you love one another. That's Jesus. That's Christianity. It is the Way of the Cross. It is the way of God's unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial love. And that is the way that will save us all.

—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
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Outreach Service