

Welcome

TO ST. JAMES



ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the pages of this ministry directory, you will find just some of the ways the people of St. James seek to make the kingdom of God known in Baton Rouge and beyond. In this time of pandemic, it is vital that we build-up our beloved community in Christ while also doing our part to keep people safe. Therefore, it is imperative that we do what we can to meet people where they are and offer a variety of opportunities as we are able. This directory is primarily focusing on educational, fellowship, pastoral care, and outreach ministries.

Whether it is through fellowship, pastoral care, education, outreach, or worship, St. James seeks to transform lives in the name of and for the sake of Christ. There are many ways you can get involved, even during a pandemic. Please also note that as circumstances evolve, our ministry leaders and staff are adapting and expanding our ministry opportunities.

This directory is just one of the valuable tools we can use to help us grow as the body of Christ in faith. Also, any staff member will gladly help in any way that we can. Thank you for all the ways you help build up St. James in mission and ministry.

Blessings,

Fr. Chris, *Rector*

Adult Formation and Fellowship

Adult Sunday School

Sunday Christian Education, 9:15-10:15 a.m. via Zoom

- **Home by Another Road: Sermons in the Light of Christ**

Led by Fr. Drew

Sundays | Jan 10-Feb 14 (except Jan 24)

During the season after the Epiphany, we are confronted with familiar scriptures and stories that speak to following the light of Christ. In that light, our Sunday Adult Formation during this time will focus on several foundational topics by way of sermons that challenge us to see God in a new way. Each week, we will gather via [Zoom](#) from 9:15a-10:15a to hear from a different notable preacher, reflecting together on themes, texts, and questions critical to a life of faith. Fr. Drew will guide our discussions, which will explore topics of love, doubt, and prayer, among others.

You can access each week's discussion on Sundays at 10a using the Join Meeting link below.

Online Offering, [Zoom](#), [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#)

Scheduled Lineup (subject to change)

Missed a session? You can access previous programs through our YouTube channel by clicking on the linked topics below.

Jan 10: [Love](#) [Michael B. Curry](#)

Jan 17: [Doubt](#) [C. Fredrick Buechner](#)

Jan 24: Annual Parish Meeting

Jan 31: [Fullness](#) [Barbara Brown Taylor](#) **Note: this session will begin at 10 a.m.**

Feb 7: Unity_ Kelly Brown Douglas **Note: this session will begin at 10 a.m.**

Feb 14: Prayer_ Herbert McCabe, OP **Note: this session will begin at 10 a.m.**

Feb 21: "Here's the Church. Here's the Steeple", church architecture, Father Chris Duncan **Note: this session will begin at 10 a.m.**

Adult Sunday School will continue via zoom through the end of the spring semester.

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education based upon small-group study and practice. EfM will meet via zoom this spring on Thursdays, from 5 to 7pm. Anyone interested can contact

Marsha Wade, mwade50@gmail.com, 225-802-8067

Ann Holmes, aholmes@lsu.edu, 225-936-4510.

EfM Graduate Group

Education for Ministry graduates gather monthly, on the third Thursday of February and March at noon, via Zoom. Different grads will take turns providing a short theological reflection topic for deeper discussion. Contact: Nancy Jo Poirrer, npstudio@bellsouth.net.

St. James Young Adults

The young adults group seeks to create space for members and friends of St. James in their 20's and 30's to gather in fellowship, worship, and learning. This is an opportunity to connect with your peers in new ways as we explore what it means to be a Christian and an Episcopalian in today's world. The

group meets every third Tuesday at 7:00pm. Gatherings in the spring will start initially via Zoom, and are scheduled for every third Tuesday (with a break at Easter) as follows, February 16, March 9, March 30, April 20, and May 11. Contact Laura Sorey, lc.sorey@gmail.com.

Saint Mary's Bible Study

Saint Mary's is an intergenerational group of women mostly in their 20's, 30's, 40's, and 50's who meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm starting in September at different member's homes. Guests enjoy a fun social evening with food, drink, and a presentation by a different member each month. This spring the group will meet outdoors with social distancing. The group will be reading Churchy: The Real Life Adventures of a Wife, Mom, and Priest by Sarah Condon. *Churchy* is a hilarious and deeply touching book about experiencing grace from the trenches of everyday life. For more information, contact Caroline Ross, carolineross@cox.net.

Senior Men's Bible Study

Shortly after stay-at-home orders were given back in March, the Senior Men's Bible Study moved to zoom and has been going strong. This group will continue to meet via zoom this fall as they explore 2 Kings and other stories from the Old Testament. All senior men are invited to join the group by contacting Philip Wright, carfilhwt@cox.net.

Bad Girls Book Club

The St. James Bad Girls Book Club is a women's group that meets monthly to read and discuss timely books, enjoy an informal meal, and socialize. The group generally meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30. This spring, the group will continue to meet via Zoom. The books for February 15 and March 15 are *The Yellow House* by Sarah M Broom and *The Only Woman* by Maire Benedict respectively. Contact Mary Boutwell, mboutwell@stjamesbr.org.

Garden Guild

The gardens of St. James are a welcoming reminder of God's creation and an invitation to others to get to know our parish. The Garden Guild's mission is to maintain and enhance these spaces for the enjoyment of our parish and our city. The landscaping immediately around the church will be completed this fall. As for the rest of the campus, parishioners will meet periodically to work in the gardens. All are welcome to volunteer! In fact, this is a great opportunity for families. Our Spring Parish Work Day is on Saturday, March 27 at 9:00 am. Contact Steve Boutwell, steve.boutwell@keanmiller.com.

Wine, Cheese, and a Question

This new ministry is seeking to help build community in this difficult time of social distancing. Join Fr. Don White via Zoom each Wednesday at 5pm for fellowship and conversation. The group will consist of mostly informal fellowship, but each week's gathering will conclude with a thought-provoking question. You bring the wine and cheese while Fr. Don provides the Question. Wine, Cheese, and a Question will continue through the Spring. Contact Mary Boutwell, mboutwell@stjamesbr.org.

Family Ministries

Sunday School

This spring we will continue having doing a mix of in person and pre recorded video lessons for Sunday School. *One Sunday a month, we will meet in person, outdoors, with masks between the 9:00 and 11:00 am services to add variety for our children.*

- **February 7:** In person lesson on the Lost Sheep & Lost Coin
- **February 14:** No Sunday School- Mardi Gras Break
- **February 21 and 28:** Pre recorded Lessons on Ten Men Haled and The Woman at the Well
- **March 7:** In person lesson on The Woman at the Well
- **March 14-21:** Pre recorded lessons on 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8- “Love is...”
- **March 28:** Palm Sunday
- **April 4:** Easter Sunday
- **April 11:** In person lesson on Jesus Feeds 5,000
- **April 18 and 25:** Pre recorded lessons on Jesus Feeds 5,000 and the Fruits of the Spirit
- **May 2:** In person lesson on the Fruits of the Spirit
- **May 9 and 16:** Pre recorded lessons for Mother’s Day and our Semester Wrap Up

Children’s Chapel

We are excited to be meeting in person every week for Children’s Chapel this spring. Children up to 3rd are welcome to join us during the 9:00 am service to explore our service’s gospel lesson in a more child friendly way through crafts and games.

Youth

Our Youth group will meet the 3rd Sunday of the month at a prearranged time. We are also encouraging our Youth to get service hours by volunteering to assist with Children’s Chapel weekly.

Nursery

Our Nursery is open weekly from 8:45 am-12 pm.

Please contact Haley Schroeck, Family Ministries Coordinator, at hschroeck@stjamesbr.org.

Music Ministry

The Music Ministry at St. James is a comprehensive program, encompassing musicians of all skill levels and ages. Music in worship is an outward expression of our faith in God, therefore it is our goal to produce the highest possible standard of music-making - music is a living sacrifice.

Sunday Music

While we are unable to engage in congregational singing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we can still experience the beauty of holiness through music on Sunday mornings. Now that renovations are complete and we are returning to worship in the church, music will be offered by a vocal quartet made up of the St. James Schola. The Schola will sing hymns, psalms, and anthems on behalf of the congregation, who are invited to engage in active listening, absorbing the sound and texts. Accompaniments will be played on our charming four-rank portatif organ, and we will occasionally be treated to guest instrumentalists.

Choirs

St. James has two principal choirs - the St. James Choir, made up of adult professionals and volunteers, and the St. Cecilia Choir, our Treble Choir of young singers who are trained in the curriculum of the Royal School of Church Music. Anyone is welcome to join the choirs after a friendly vocal interview with the Director of Music, as long as they can commit to the schedule.

While the full choirs are unable to offer music as a group on Sundays, they are still meeting regularly to practice in small groups, using masks and social distancing. Some rehearsals are used as lecture periods, when we learn about the church, music history, and music theory. The choirs are also planning several virtual choir projects for the spring semester of 2021.

When we are able to resume our normal schedules, the choirs will offer a number of services and events to celebrate the return to normal, as well as our new pipe organ, which will be installed in the spring of 2021. We also plan to begin two new youth choirs.

St. James Choir	Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 7:00pm-8:30pm
St. Cecilia Choir	Rehearsals on Thursdays, 6:00pm-7:30pm

Pastoral Care

Altar Flowers for Friends

As we have returned to offering small in-person services in Bishops Hall, flowers are once more being donated to adorn the altar. This group of volunteers brings friendship and flowers to parishioners by delivering the flowers to their home. Currently, volunteers do not enter homes but rather contact individuals ahead of time in order to deliver the flowers on the doorstep. Contact Barrie Griffin, lnblee@aol.com.

Eucharistic Visitors

The Eucharistic Visitor Ministry is a ministry that brings communion to members of the St. James community who are home bound or cannot attend Sunday worship service. This group also helps lead a regular service at a local nursing home. Visits are limited at this time, but please contact Mary Boutwell, mboutwell@stjamesbr.org, if in the future you would like to help bring communion or know someone that might need to be added to the list of recipients.

Hospital Visits

The clergy of St. James are committed to pastoral care and typically make hospital visits on a rotating schedule. At this time, visits into hospital are limited due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, it is important to *notify the church* if you, a loved one, or another member of the congregation is hospitalized and would like a pastoral call. Contact Monica Dugas, mdugas@stjamesbr.org.

Friends Feeding Friends

Friends Feeding Friends at St. James was cooked up from a desire to help members of our church family who are recovering from an illness, bringing home a new baby, recovering from surgery or other special circumstances. Our volunteers prepare (or pick up a pre-made meal) and deliver meals as a gift to those in need. To volunteer, or to request a meal, contact Kathryn Clifton, kat.b.clifton@gmail.com.

Prayer Ministry

St. James is a community of prayer and every member is invited to regularly pray for those on our prayer list. For those willing to commit themselves to praying for those on our prayer list, the prayer list will be sent to you during the week. We simply ask that you pray for each person on the list by name. You might commit to doing this one day a week, or to praying daily. If you are interested, send your intentions to Monica in the church office, mdugas@stjamesbr.org.

Saint Martha's Guild

At this time, visitations before or after funerals are limited. Under normal circumstances, St. Martha's Guild members serve as hostesses for visitations held in the church parlor before or after funerals. The volunteer members prepare the parlor to receive guests, assist with receiving floral gifts, keep track of the gift cards, and help with the refreshments. Contact Emily Wray Lamont, enwrayl@aol.com.

Outreach

The Outreach Committee and Fr. Drew are working hard to not only sustain our current outreach efforts, but also to create opportunities specifically for this fall for families to participate in outreach from home or in ways that more people will be comfortable. If you have ideas, then please contact Fr. Drew, dbharmon@stjamesbr.org.

Angel Tree

Working with Salvation Army and Volunteers of America, St. James has a tradition of sharing a little Christmas joy adopting around 125 children and elderly members of the Baton Rouge community to provide a Christmas present. This collection typically begins each November so that presents are delivered in early December. With limited ability to gather, look for more details to come at a later date.

Christmas Feast

This year we will be unable to gather in Bishops Hall for a large meal. However, St. James will still be providing gift bags for our neighbors in need. Look for details in early December on how to volunteer to help stuff Christmas gift bags. Contact Alice Nelson, alicenelson@cox.net.

Hearty Breakfast

Hearty Breakfast is a ministry that serves breakfast to our hungry neighbors on the fifth Sunday of the month. However, this has been suspended due to a combination of circumstances: pandemic and in-person worship held in Bishops Hall. Therefore, the funds budgeted for this ministry are being donated to organizations and ministries in town that have seen an increase in demand and serve in a similar spirit as Hearty Breakfast. Contact Alice Nelson, alicenelson@cox.net, or Nancy Jo Poirrier, npstudio@bellsouth.net

St. James Food Pantry

At the writing of this booklet, planning is in progress to reopen the St. James Food Pantry that serves the residents in 70802. As an official partner and distribution spot with the Baton Rouge Food Bank, St. James offers food in a time of great need. Distribution days this spring are every 3rd Saturday of the Month. Contact Doug LeBluet, dlebluet@gmail.com.

We Care Bags

We Care Bags seeks to provide a lunch/snack bag to the hungry at our door Monday through Friday with about 40 individuals served each day. This ministry was suspended due to COVID, but bags have been constructed and delivered to the Christian Outreach Center of Baton Rouge. There are also conversations happening in Baton Rouge currently about how the various churches along with the city can better partner together to help the homeless and hungry. Contact Tommy Cunningham, tommyfishing@yahoo.com.

On Hiatus

Due to the current risks around the corona virus, the following ministries are on hiatus, and will return as soon as possible:

- Artist Guild
- St. Agnes/Edith/Monica
- Joan of Arc
- Parlor Flowers
- James Gang
- Holy Grillers
- Foyer Groups

Connect With Us.

OFFICE HOURS:

MON. - THURS., 8:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.

FRI., 8:00 A.M. - NOON

225-387-5141

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