

The BELLS of St. JAMES

*news, inspiration,
and opportunities
for ministry*

Message from the Rector **For All the Saints & All Souls**

Earlier this week I got the chance to take a tour of the St James Cemetery with Glenda Hogg. I learned about many of the individuals buried there, their families, their connections to our parish, the city of Marietta, and to the wider Episcopal Church. I greatly enjoyed this opportunity to stroll along the lanes of this historic corner of our parish, located at on the corner of Polk and Winn Streets, which was once the far boundary of the 20 acre St. James property. I took a moment to pause in front of the repaired gravestone of one of my predecessors, the Rev. Samuel Benedict, rector of St. James from 1858- 1867, and tried to imagine what the congregation and the city itself must have looked like in his time.



Thursday

October 23, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS



October 23, Thursday
TONIGHT



special Evening Prayer for
the feast day of
St. James of Jerusalem
6:30p

October 24, Friday
Guardians Night Out
5:45p-8:30p

[Link to sign up for
Guardians Night Out](#)

October 25, Saturday
Cemetery Clean Up Day
at St. James cemetery
*bring loppers,
heavy gloves*
9am-noon

October 26, Sunday
Regular schedule
[link to the schedule](#)

My historic cemetery tour also reminded me of passing by it when I was a child, sitting in the back of my mother's or father's car, and always noticing the statue of a woman cradling her twin babies. The urban legend of the late 80s early 90s was something along the lines of walking backwards around her grave a certain number of times in the dark would cause the statue to cry real tears. Nothing that dramatic happened on this visit, but in the crisp fall air, magnolia leaves crunching underfoot, I was reminded of what an honor and a responsibility it is to have care over this place.

On Nov 2nd at 4pm, we will be having a Vigil Mass for All Souls in the St James Cemetery. The oddities of the liturgical calendar mean that the Feast of All Saints, which always falls on Nov 1, is transferred to the nearest Sunday- Nov. 2nd. This bumps the Feast of All Souls/the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, which falls on Nov 2nd, to the 3rd, and so we will get our All Souls celebration started a little early, as a vigil near sunset of the day preceding. Confused enough yet? It's fitting that this calendar shuffling happens for a pair of Feasts that mark how God's time differs from our human timekeeping, Kairos versus Chronos.

These two feasts, All Saints and All Souls, have gotten amalgamated over the years in Western Christian practice, but I am glad that this parish has a tradition of keeping them as their own separate observances, as they are two very different sorts of feasts. On All Saints we give thanks for the communion of Saints, the martyrs and Christian witnesses we celebrate officially on our church calendar, those we have decided upon as a denomination to be our spiritual heroes and forebears in the faith. Our Sunday school kids will dress as their favorite saints and lead our entrance procession at the 10:30am service (be sure to ask them at coffee hour to tell you all about their saint), and we will welcome six individuals through baptism, a sacrament of Christian initiation especially appropriate on this Feast.

All Souls give us a space to remember and give thanks for all the everyday saints of our own lives- loved ones, family, and friends we see no longer in this mortal life. We read the necrology, or list of the names of the dead from our community, and are reminded in our sharing of the Eucharist that in the mystery of that sacrament we are united with them once again, even as we look forward to joining them in that new life in Christ that waits for us on the other side of death. In the words of a friend, "On All Saints we remember Saint Mary, on All Souls we remember Aunt Mary," and I hope that you will be able to attend both services.

In Christ,
Mo. Mariclaire+

P.S. Please join the Cemetery Board Members and members of the Friends of St. James Cemetery this Saturday at 9am for our Fall Cemetery Clean-up. Bring your work gloves, hand trimmers, rakes, paper lawn bags, etc. and help to get the cemetery looking its best

+
Handbell Choir plays
and
Acolytes are installed
10:30
+
Trunk or Treat
[link to RSVP](#)
5p

October 28, Tuesday
special Evening Prayer
for St. Simon & St. Jude
6:30p

October 29, Wednesday
Program for all ages :
Youth group, 5:30
Dinner, 5:45 [RSVP here](#)
Worship in the main
church, music for children
and youth upstairs, 6:30
Adult formation 7:00
Parish Choir 7:30...

...and please note that
Wednesday at 5p is when
names are due for loved
ones that you wish to have
named aloud at the All
Souls vigil Sunday
afternoon, Nov. 2. These
names will also be printed
in the bulletin for the All
Saints service that
morning. Email
communications@stjamesmarietta.com

October 30, Thursday
Wonderful Days Preschool
Halloween parade through
the halls of St. James
10:30a
*you're invited to watch --
and bring treats!*

November 1, Saturday
Low Country Boil
6p - 9:30
[RSVP here](#)

November 2, Sunday
All Saints Sunday
regular schedule
[link to the schedule](#)

+
baptisms 10:30

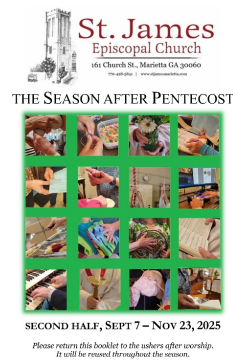
+
All Souls' Vigil
Rite I Holy Eucharist
outdoors in St. James

Livestream HQ - Links & Booklets for Worship at Home

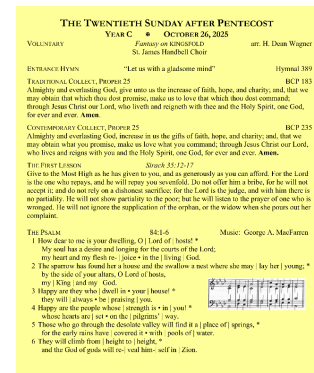


10:30 Service On Line
Click on "live" to see a service
live or archived.

[Link
to livestream
on YouTube](#)



**Worship Booklet
for the Season**
contains prayers, service
music, and responses that we
will use until Advent.
[Download
Worship Booklet](#)



The Service Bulletin,
updated weekly, contains
lessons, hymn numbers, and
announcements: items that
change each Sunday.

[Download the
Service Bulletin](#)



Can't see photos in *The Bells*? You never get the blue-shaded "Pulse of the Parish" at the end of this newsletter? You can tell your email service to show blocked or dropped content. Need help? Email communications@stjamesmarietta.com

Children & Youth News



Tomorrow, Oct 24th, we will have our first **Guardians Night Out**, an evening of worship and fun for parents/guardians and their children.

Starting with an informal Eucharist for all at 5:45PM-6:30PM, the kids will stay at St. James from 6:30 to 8:30 with Riley, Natalie, and our nursery staff for games and a movie while their guardians get some free time for a fun night on the Square.

[Link to Guardians Night Out sign-up page](#)

Questions? Email Natalie
children@stjamesmarietta.com

Serving for Sunday's 10:30 service: Joni is crucifer.



**TRUNK
OR
TREAT**

SUNDAY 26 OCT
ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL

ST. JAMES CIRCLE LOT
Have trunks arrive by 4:30
5 pm - 7 pm

**CARNIVAL GAMES
IN PARISH HALL**

**HAUNTED BASEMENT
TOUR**

COSTUME CONTEST

FOR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT
youth@stjamesmarietta.com

Trunk - or - Treat Details

[RSVP here for Trunk-or-Treat](#)

Join us for Trunk - Or - Treat in the Circle Lot Sunday, October 26th.

- Please arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. to decorate your trunk.
- If you are just participating without a decorated trunk, please park in the Polk Street Lot.
- We will begin the festivities at 5 p.m. Lasting till 7 p.m.

Along side our Trunk - Or- Treating, we will have Carnival games and a Haunted Basement Tour.

Contact Us

Natalie Fowler, Children's Ministry Coordinator children@stjamesmarietta.com

Riley Dugan, Director of Youth Ministries youth@stjamesmarietta.com

Keep up with the Diocesan Youth Council at <http://eycdioatl.org/>



Our Handbell Choir plays the tune *Kingsfold* just before the 10:30 service Sunday. That tune is used with two different sets of words in the Hymnal 1982, on pages 292 and 480. Listen for the difference in texture when the musicians ring with the clapper and when they strike the bells with mallets.

God's holy temple is a motif in the readings and in the hymns chosen for today. It is the subject of the words in Hymn 517 "How lovely is thy dwelling place," a paraphrase of the Psalm for Sunday, #84, set to the *Brother James' Air* by James MacBeth Bain. Like *Kingsfold*, it was composed apart from the words. In 1915, the composer inscribed the music with this note, "This hymn, sung slowly, will be found to be a potent requiem for the blessing of those dear men who have fallen in this war." He couldn't have known that war would continue three more years, destroying a generation of men.

The anthem is a setting from 1959 of the text, "Christ is made the sure foundation." The composer Dale Wood, well-known for his hymns, won a national hymn-writing contest in 1947 -- at age 13!

One of the hymns during communion is 665, which your communications director has chosen for his own funeral (note: you can fill out your [funeral preference form](#) any time). "All my hope on God is founded" was composed by Herbert Howells when he had lost hope: his young son Michael had died. When the text refers to change and chance and falling towers, the accompaniment shifts to unstable chords before returning to strong positive harmony under phrases about God's call to our hearts, God's power, God's *being* our "temple and tower," and God's promise that "ye who follow shall not fall." I love the pun in that last phrase! The tune's name, listed at the end of the page, is *Michael*.

Each week, The Bells talks with Music Director Dr. Bryan Black about links between music for the 10:30 service and the liturgy. Email [The Bells](#) with your questions and comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the altar this week were given to the glory of God by **Dr. Winifred Nweke** in loving memory of **Dr. Ernest Nweke** on the 45th anniversary of their marriage.

Photo: flowers on the altar earlier this year.

Baptisms and Confirmation.

- The next date for baptisms at St. James is All Saints Day, Sunday Nov.



- The next date for Confirmation is Sunday, Dec. 7th, at 4PM at the Cathedral of St. Philip.

Please contact Mother Mariclair for more information about participation in either sacrament.

Cemetery Clean up Day this Saturday

Saturday October 25 9am-12pm, St. James Friends of the Cemetery invite you to spend some time tidying up our beautiful and historic cemetery.

Bring your work gloves, loppers, trimmers, rakes and lawn clipping bags. Also bring friends who enjoy working in the dirt. A cooler of bottled waters will be on site for our helpers to enjoy.

Low Country Boil Nov 1, Saturday

All are invited to our annual Low Country Boil held in the parish hall and circle lot on Saturday, November 1 at 6pm. This is a longtime tradition at St. James, and a favorite!

Our chef Chase Fortenberry goes shopping for the event on Thursday. To know how many pounds of goods to buy, he needs to know by Wednesday who's coming.

We defray costs with a charge of \$20 per person, \$50 for a family (kids must be under 18), children under five free; \$10 kids ages five-ten.

Iced tea, lemonade, and water will be provided. Please bring a dessert or side dish that you would like to share.

Please RSVP by Wednesday evening. [Use this link.](#)



Books about Us

Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Are you preparing for Confirmation? Do you seek a "brush-up" on all things Episcopal even though you're a longtime member?

There's a book for you! A special shelf of books on the Episcopal Church and its liturgy and traditions awaits in the church library.

Come by and take a look!

Could Family Promise be your ministry? *a message from Eileen Hilburn, Laura Fortenberry, and Chris O'Connor.*

For one week every quarter, St. James used to host a family experiencing homelessness. (Photo collage, ca. 2012) Homeless shelters



separate older boys and adult men from women and children; we, in partnership with a dozen other churches, helped to keep families together.

If you are interested in helping to revive our Family Promise ministry, please complete the linked survey.

[Fill the Family Promise survey here](#)

St. James Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, Nov. 16

There will be no Bible Study or Adult Formation this day, and nursery care will be provided, so all may be present for this meeting between the services, beginning at 9:15.

Leaders of our various ministries are at work now on their reviews of the year for the annual report to the parish. Please email these to communications@stjamesmarietta.com by October 31.

FAQ: Yes, breakfast will be served as usual!

Call for Vestry Nominations

At our Annual Meeting on Nov 16, 2025, we will be electing 4 new vestry members.

Candidates for Vestry must be a member of St. James in good standing, which means:

- **Not less than 18 years of age**
- **Baptized, as recognized by the Episcopal Church**
- **Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church**
- **On the membership rolls of St. James either through baptism here, confirmation or reception into the parish, or a recorded transfer of membership from another Episcopal Church to St. James.**
- **A regular communicant of the parish, having received Holy Communion at St. James at least three times in the preceding year,**
- **Is known to the Rector or Treasurer as having made and maintained a financial commitment (pledge) in support of St. James in the preceding year.**

In addition the Candidate should evidence:

- **A commitment to Jesus Christ, the Gospel, and His Church**
- **Regular attendance at church services**
- **Good stewardship in all areas of our Church life**
- **The acceptance of responsibility to attend Vestry meetings (the 3rd Monday of each month at 7PM), annual Vestry retreat (Jan 30-31, 2026), and a commitment to complete one's term on the Vestry.**

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else as a Candidate, please use [this form](#) . If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please first obtain their consent.

Mail the form to St. James, 161 Church Street, Marietta GA 30060 attn: Vestry Nomination. Sundays, you may drop the completed form in the plate or slide it under the door to the church office.

REMINDERS

Wednesdays at St. James. You can count on our serving dinners on Wednesday **except** November 19 when the Bishop's visit to celebrate Mother Mariclair's new ministry will supersede all other activities.

Bible Study Tuesdays 12:30pm. Come to the Conference Room, 127.

Free books! Browse the Library's table in the Parish Hall from which you may choose as many books as you'd like to take home.

Prayer list. To receive the weekly prayer list, email Cari Edwards selvine@hotmail.com Leave prayer requests in the offering plate or at the desk by the parish office. You can phone in prayer requests 770-428-5841 Mondays through Thursdays, 9-12:30.



Parking passes for St. James. During scheduled church events, Cornerstone doesn't charge for vehicles in our Polk Street Lot. Other times, we do need a parking tag to hang in our autos.

Send your name, your vehicle's make, model, **COLOR** and license plate number to Lucia Bird luciabird@gmail.com or 770.402.0024.

If your vehicle has changed since you got your hang tag, you will need a replacement, so give Lucia the information on the old hang tag, too.

Your pledge helps the Vestry plan for the year . [Pledge here.](#)

Contact Us

*Program staff available via email Sunday - Thursday;
office staff, Monday - Thursday, 9am-1pm*

Mother Mariclair is rector@stjamesmarietta.com

- Emergency phone or text: 678.369.1775
- To make an appointment with the rector, sign up for a 15m check-in, a 30m chat, or a coffee hour at <https://calendly.com/rector-stjamesmarietta>

Riley Dugan is youth@stjamesmarietta.com

Natalie Fowler is children@stjamesmarietta.com

Dr. Bryan Black is music@stjamesmarietta.com

Scott Smoot is communications@stjamesmarietta.com

Phone 770-428-5841.

Pulse of the Parish

from Scott Smoot, Communications Director

Mother Mariclair forwarded these photos of Damian James Hoblitzel taken during a visit by his *abuelita*, **our sexton Rosemary Merida** . Damian was born September 25, her first grandchild.



A soprano asked at choir rehearsal Wednesday, "Do we have a bike rack?" *Do we!* **Building Superintendent Erik Linso** put it in a year ago. It recently saved the day when my car wouldn't start and I had to ride to work. I felt safe riding the whole way on sidewalks and trails.

Photo: the Communications Director has arrived at work on a bike several times recently.

In conversations at Wednesday evening events and coffee hours, I know now of at least five cyclists at St. James besides me: **Dan Bird, Mitch Partee Carlsen, Mary Hall, Michael Reeves, and Mason Williams.** Maybe it's time to put in another rack?

Know any good news items about goings-on in the parish? *Share them with me at the [communications](#) desk.*



Message from the Rector
Contemplation, Fun, Renewal

Dear Ones,
The weather is finally shifting into fall. Halloween is just around the corner, and our parish schedule is full of opportunities to gather with the St. James community for contemplation, fun, and renewal!

This Saturday, Oct 18th, from 9am-12pm, Mark Dannenfelser, founding director of The Mindfulness Center of Atlanta, will be joining us for a half day retreat exploring the intersection of mindfulness meditation and contemplative spiritual practices.



This retreat is sponsored by the St. James' Centering Prayer ministry, and is open to all. There is a suggested donation of \$10 payable through Realm or cash/check to offset costs of the retreat, but all are welcome regardless of ability to donate.

Saturday evening sees the Episcopal Church Women of St. James gathering for an early dinner at Seven Tequilas at 4pm, followed by a painting activity in the parish hall. You need to RSVP for this one so there are adequate art materials, and you should also bring some fresh leaves or flowers that can lay flat for printmaking. RSVP to Kate Daniels, tybris22@gmail.com

Thursday

October 16, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 18, Saturday
Retreat "Mindfulness and Prayer" in our Parish Hall

9:00am-noon
all invited for free,
donation of \$10 suggested

+
ECW dinner at
Seven Tequilas, then
parish hall art workshop

4:00p
bring leaves & flowers
to press (RSVP!)

+
Evening Prayer
for the feast of St. Luke
6:30p

October 19, Sunday
regular schedule

+
Adult Confirmation Class
begins
conference room (127)

9:30a
email Mo. Mariclaire
to register & get booklist

+
Newcomers' Welcome
reception and tour
parish hall

12:30p
for all who consider
themselves newcomers;
all members are welcome
to join the tour!

You can download a PDF of this newsletter suitable for printing. [Link here](#)



St. James

Episcopal Church

161 Church St., Marietta GA 30060

770-428-5841 | www.stjamesmarietta.com



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