

The BELLS of St. JAMES

news, inspiration,
and opportunities
for ministry

Message from the Rector Transitions Temporal and Eternal

Dear Ones,

Fall is a season of change, and that is true in our parish life as well. Late last week Riley Dugan, youth director at St. James, let me know he had accepted a new position as Associate Director for Middle School Ministries at the Cathedral of St. Philip. His last Sunday at St. James will be November 23rd. In Riley's own words, "I am excited for this new chapter in my faith and ministry, yet leaving this beloved community is far from easy."

Riley has spent five years in his role here, and the transition is a bittersweet one. "It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve at St. James, I will always carry a piece of St. James in my heart," Riley says. "I leave knowing this parish is in wonderful hands, and it fills me with joy to see the life and love that continue to burst from this community." This is a great opportunity for Riley, and we all wish him well in this new endeavor. You can read [Riley's full resignation letter here](#), and we will celebrate him with a festive coffee hour on Nov 23rd, before his final Turkey Bowl with the youth.

The Wardens and I met with Riley, the youth, and their parents and guardians Sunday during their usual EYC time to share the news. Parents and I also took some time together to discuss what the next couple of months will look like, and to dream about the next season in ministry with our older youth (6th grade-12th grade).

In the immediate term, parents and other volunteers will be taking on essential roles like leading youth Sunday School, coordinating EYC gatherings on Wednesdays and Sundays, and helping maintain a schedule of youth events, like our new Wonder Church service and Guardians Night Out.

I am working with Holle Tubbs, Missioner for Youth for the Diocese, to identify interim candidates to help lead us through the rest of this program year. In the new year

Thursday

October 30, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1, Saturday

Low Country Boil

6p - 9:30

*for all who RSVP'd by
yesterday night*

*Questions? Email Chase at
chasef@bellsouth.net*

November 2, Sunday

All Saints Sunday

regular schedule

[link to the schedule](#)

+

parade of saints
and

six baptisms

10:30

+

All Souls' Vigil

Rite I Holy Eucharist
outdoors in St. James
Cemetery on Polk Street

4p

*Many will walk from our
Polk St. parking lot;
parking on Winn St. is
available; please leave the
five parking spaces in the
cemetery to those with
mobility issues.*

I will meet with a group of parents and other stakeholders to discern as a group what we value in our next minister with youth and families at St. James, with the expectation that we will develop and post a profile for a permanent position in early Spring.

On transitions eternal, this Sunday we will celebrate the Feast of All Saints with services of Holy Eucharist at 8am and 10:30am, including six baptisms. Later in the day we will gather in the St James cemetery for a vigil Eucharist to commemorate the Feast of All Faithful Departed, also known as All Souls. That service will be at 4pm. It is fitting that we do this surrounded by all the saints of this parish who rest in that hallowed ground, including at least one bishop and a former rector, as we remember all those we love but see no longer.

In Christ,

Mo. Mariclaire +

P.S. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour this Saturday night, so that you don't accidentally arrive extra early for church on Sunday!



Photo: Cheryl White at St. James cemetery during the clean-up day last week.

November 9, Sunday
regular schedule

[link to the schedule](#)

+

choir retreat 2.0

12:30p

+

Concert of new music by
choral scholar
Nathaniel Davila
at KSU Fine Arts Center

7:30pm

RSVP [at this link](#).

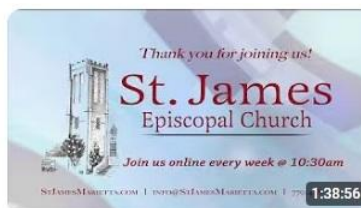
November 16, Sunday
Parish Meeting
between services

9:15a

see details

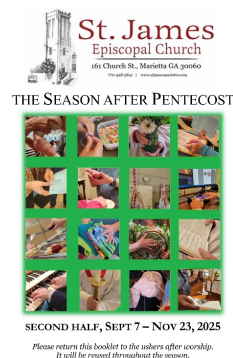
in "Announcements" below

Livestream HQ - Links & Booklets for Worship at Home

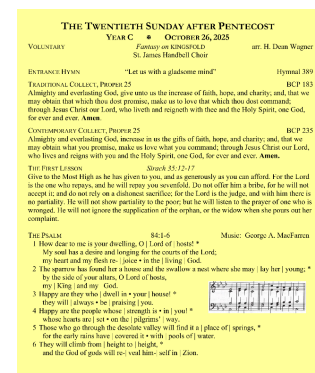


10:30 Service On Line
Click on "live" to see a service
live or archived.

[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

Acolyte schedule for Nov 2 : Crucifers **Lucas** and **Cora**; torches **Stella** and **Molly**.

For All Saints Sunday, **Natalie** says, young Saints will parade ahead of the choir. The children learned about many saints and then each child chose one to be their own. Over the past couple of weeks, they've put together costumes and hand props to display saints' characteristic symbols.

Riley's letter to St. James. Mother Mariclaire announced in her opening message that Riley will be leaving soon for a position at the Cathedral. [Read Riley's letter to us](#).

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/>

We're Needed

Ahead of Thanksgiving, the news has been reminding us of people who are struggling. We're hearing daily about rising prices, layoffs, a suspension of federal programs SNAP and WIC, and a hurricane. St. James has ways to help.

Thanks for Giving is a drive to help families in our own community to put good food on their tables for Thanksgiving and beyond. St. James has long participated. For the next two Sundays, the flier pictured below will be available, along with shopping bags. You can download the flier now, with a shopping list on the backside. [Link here to the flier](#).



Groceries for neighbors in need



Our next-door neighbors have a thriving program to stock empty pantries year-round. Several of our members help. Read more at the website of First Presbyterian Pantry on Church <https://fpcmarietta.org/pantry/>

Episcopal Relief & Development (**ERD**) is in close contact with local dioceses and agencies in Jamaica, Cuba and Haiti, as **Hurricane Melissa** continues to cause widespread devastation throughout the Caribbean region. [Link here](#). Our ERD contact is Jane Sanders.



We will sing the opening hymn traditionally used to celebrate All Saints Sunday, "For All The Saints." Ralph Vaughan Williams composed the melody in 1906 and named it *Sine nomine*--Latin for "no name" which was a theological gesture recognizing those unknown saints who are nevertheless a part of the eternal company of heaven.

The anthem "Pilgrim Song" is based on a traditional American folk hymn tune sometimes attributed to Joseph Holbrook. The words are by John Newton (1725-1807) who is best known as the author of "Amazing Grace." The arrangement by Ryan Murphy (Associate Director of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir) carries the listener on a journey that ends in deep peace and rest.

The opening voluntary arranged by Edwin T. Childs is a spiritual that carried profound significance. Before emancipation, enslaved communities sang it in worship as a promise of hope but also as a coded message that signaled an opportunity might be at hand to "steal away" and pursue freedom on the Underground Railroad. (Lyrics are printed on page 103 of the book *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, copies available in every pew.)

After we hear the Beatitudes read for the Gospel lesson, we'll sing "Remember your servants, Lord" a hymn in the vocation and pilgrimage section of The Hymnal. Richard Proulx adapted the text and melody from the Russian Orthodox liturgy—a musical setting of Matthew 5:3-12 that mingles the Beatitudes with the plea spoken by the condemned criminal to Jesus.

Special musical invitation: Music composed by Nathaniel Davila, one of our choral scholars, will be performed by his talented colleagues and friends. This is his senior capstone project. We're invited to attend next Sunday, November 9, at 7:30. The performance will be at KSU, Bailey Arts Center, Scott Hall. RSVP [at this link](#).

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 **Mary Nimsgern** in memory of **Bill Nimsgern**, in honor of his birthday November 3.

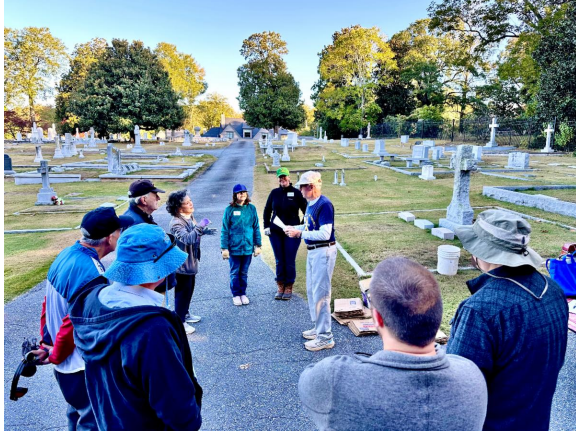
Photo: flowers on the altar October 26.

Baptisms and Confirmation.

- Six baptisms will occur this Sunday, Nov. 2, All Saints Day.
- 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.

All Souls' Vigil Sunday afternoon at 4 in St. James Cemetery on Polk Street. This will be a Rite I Holy Eucharist outdoors. We encourage worshipers to walk the two blocks



from our Polk Street parking lot to the cemetery across from the middle school. Parking on Winn Street is available. Please, let's reserve the five parking spaces in the cemetery to those with mobility issues.

Photo: Chris Brown leads clean-up at the cemetery last Saturday to make it ready for All Souls this Sunday at 4.

The flower guild would like your help to flower and green the church :

- Gathering yard greens and prepping flowers on **Monday Nov 17** 2-4pm (anise, camellia sesanqua, and tea olive) in the circle lot
- Flower arranging workdays for Mother Mariclaire's Installation on **Tuesday Nov 18 & Wednesday Nov 19** 9am-12
- Greening the church in preparation for Advent on **Saturday Nov 29**

No experience necessary!

St. Anne's Chapter invites you. Dedicated to Bible study and service, St. Anne's Chapter will meet again on Tuesday, November 4, at 10 a.m. in St. Anne's room (144). Our program will be *The Making of the King James Bible*. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Jane Austen is Back! It's her 250th anniversary. Seats are filling fast for a talk by our own Austen expert **Laura Dabundo** at the Cobb County Public Library. It's time to reserve your seat now for the event on December 18, 1:00-2:30p. [Find out more and make your reservation here](#), or email Henny Holbrook at henny.holbrook@cobbcounty.gov

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 from 9:00 onward, so that all may be present for this meeting. We will begin in the parish hall 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 Wednesdaysexcept November 19 when the Bishop's visit to celebrate Mother Mariclaire's new ministry will supersede all other activities.

Could Family Promise be YOUR ministry? Homeless shelters separate older boys and adult men from women and children; we, in partnership with a dozen other churches, have, in the past, 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](#)

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 Edwardsselvine@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 Mariclaire 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

This week, we've celebrated the birthday of our music director **Dr. Bryan Black**. He got first choice of cupcakes that **Mother Mariclair** brought to the staff meeting Tuesday. Then the choir surprised him Wednesday night cake.

He was in a celebratory mood, anyway, having received many compliments for the **Handbell Choir's** prelude to the 10:30 service last Sunday. I even saw a rave review from one of our on-line worshippers.

Photo: Dr. Black conducts the Handbell Choir at the 10:30 service.



We're also celebrating the revival of our water fountain. The sign "*out of order*" has been there for a long time. Then the necessary part was *on order*. Then it seemed to be fixed, only it shot water past the second fountain onto the carpet. Thanks to Building Superintendent **Erik Linso**, everything is now *in order*.

We can celebrate **Riley's** new position at the Cathedral, bittersweet though it is for us. You can read the whole letter here, but I'm especially touched by his memory from early in his time here, during COVID:

When we finally returned for our first full service in the nave, I will never forget the chills and tears that came as our congregation sang "Gloria" together for the first

time. In that moment, I knew I was part of something sacred. St. James is a special parish; a place where God's love is not just spoken, but lived.

I had forgotten that "Gloria." Thank you for the reminder, Riley, and congratulations!

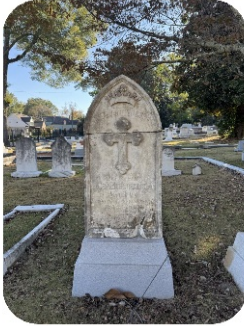
Know any good news items about goings-on in the parish? *Share them with me at the [communications](#) desk.*

[Contact Us](#) [Livestream](#) [Bulletin](#) [Giving](#) [Social Media](#)



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 1861-1867, 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](#)

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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