

St. James Episcopal Church | 860 N. Section St., Fairhope, AL, 36532 | 251.928.2912 | stjamesfairhope.org

## December 6, 2023

Volume 27, Issue 12

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Service Times

Service of the Longest Night

Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 PM in the chapel

Sunday, December 24

Advent IV (regular Sunday service) at 10:30 AM

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 PM, 7:00 PM & 10:00 PM Adult choir sings at 7:00 PM service Nursery available at 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist at 10:30 AM

The church office will be closed the week following Christmas. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2.

# Christmas Flower Dedications

The form below may be cut out and returned to the church office - PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY. If you'd prefer to complete your form online, visit our website <u>here</u>. You are also able to pay for your dedications online. Questions may be directed to Leslie at communications@stjamesfairhope.org.



# CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION

Remember or honor a loved one with flowers on the altar at Christmas. Please *print* your dedication neatly on the form below. Flower dedications received by Monday, December 11, will be included in the bulletins at all Christmas services. The cost is \$25.00 *per dedication*. Please use a separate form for each dedication. Additional forms are available in the Parish office and on our website at <u>stjamesfairhope.org</u>.

Completed order form and check payable to **St. James Flower Fund** may be mailed to the church, returned to the parish office, placed in the "Drop Box" or placed in the Sunday offering. *Please turn in your check and your form at the same time*.

# \*\* PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION \*\*\*

Email:		phone:		
Circle <b>ONE:</b> Name(s):	In memory of	In honor of	In thanksgiving for	

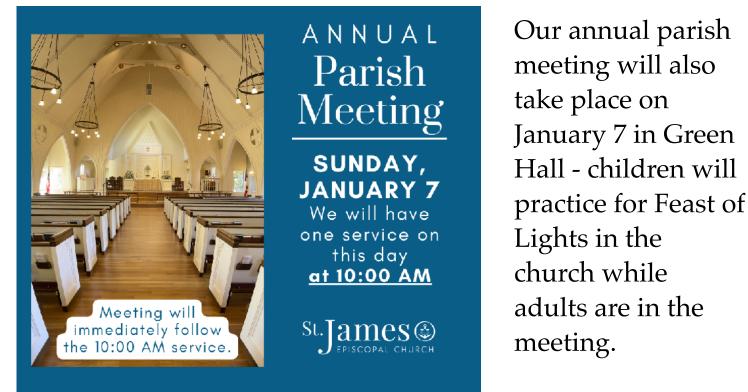
*Please use a separate form for each additional dedication. Each Form is \$25.00* Mailing address: St. James Episcopal Church, 860 North Section Street, Fairhope, AL 36532.



Parish News & Events



Calling all angels, shepherds, sheep, and wise men! Our **Epiphany Feast of Lights** is open to children and youth ages 3 and up. Please contact <u>Natalie</u> at <u>stjameseyc@stjamesfairhope.org</u> if you'd like to participate in this beloved annual event. Dinner will follow that evening in Green Hall.



Parish News & Events

# What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop. Confirmation classes are open to all adults, and youth 9th grade or above. If you are interested in being confirmed, received, or re-affirmed into the Episcopal Church, please email the church office at info@stjamesfairhope.org





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We are a community anchored in Christ, seeking God, sharing His love and serving others.

## N C H O R L I N E S

# Parish News & Events

Altar Guild Luncheon

St. James staff and Altar Guild members enjoyed a luncheon in Green Hall on November 29. Highlights included a delicious and beautifully decorated lunch, presentation of a gift to outgoing Altar Guild head Elaine Estefan, and unveiling of new vestments and altar paraments. (Vestments modeled by our very own Mother Amanda Dosher!) Thank you, Elaine, for your service, and thank you to the Altar Guild for this wonderful luncheon.









and texts, it's a good precautionary measure to change your Instant Church Directory password.

# Remember:

Father De, Father Forbes, Mother Amanda, and the church staff, will never email or text you asking for gift cards, money, or secretive meetings. Always check the email address; if it's not from a @stjamesfairhope.org address, it is not authentic. If you need assistance with Instant Church Directory, please call the church office at 251.928.2912

# N C H O R L I N E S

# Children & Youth News

# **Upcoming Events**

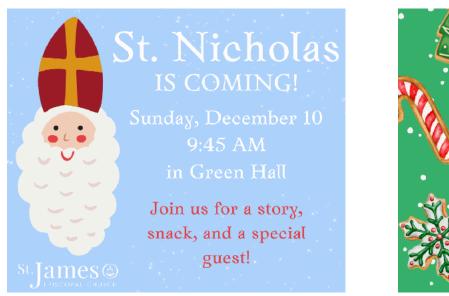
**December 10th:** Meet St. Nicholas! (special guest appearance and introduction of St. Lucy) 9:45 AM in Green Hall

**December 10th:** You Group 5:30-7:00 PM **December 13th:** Prodisee Pantry youth outreach 5:00 PM

**December 17th:** EYC Christmas Party 5:00-6:30 PM **December 21st:** Cookie Decorating in Green Hall 2:00 - 4:00 PM

December 24th: No Sunday School December 31st: No Sunday School







Thank you to our youth who cooked a delicious spaghetti dinner for our annual Advent Wreath Making event on November 29!







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# Christmas Giving

Thank you to everyone who responded so quickly and generously to our Christmas giving opportunities - all tags/angels have been spoken for at this time. Because of you, these organizations will be able to fulfill all holiday needs!

Our school is still collecting toys for Toys for Tots through December 15. See information below.





Don't forget to support our parish school this holiday season! Collecting for Toys for Tots

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through 12/15!

# School News



Dear Parish Families,

I am grateful to be part of this wonderful school especially during this season as the children have such hope, joy, and expectation. The students and staff are anticipating the Advent and Christmas season.

We kicked off the holiday season with our lighting of the school Christmas tree, caroling, and a special visit from Santa (aka Ed Shell). This was a fun evening for our students, staff and school families.

I invite you to join us for the fun activities that we have planned at school.

For our December outreach project we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for "Toys for Tots" sponsored by the United States Marine Corps. A collection box is located in our school hall entrance. **We will collect items through December 15.** 



Look for the St. James School float in the Fairhope Christmas Parade on December 7th.

Our annual Christmas program will be presented by all of our school children on December 14th at 9:00 am in the church. You will not want to miss this presentation of "The Story of Christmas - A Nativity Tale for Children".

Re-enrollment will begin on January 3rd and run through January 31st.

I, along with the staff, wish you all the joys and peace of the season. We wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Blessings,







# Music News

A note from Helen...

Dear St. James Family

Thank you for the wonderful sendoff reception, precious Jo Patton chapel painting, and carefully worded notes and gifts. I loved every open mic story! The slide show brought back so many happy memories and I trust those memories blessed you as well.

I thank you too for your continuing prayers for my recovery. It was fascinating to sit in the congregation these last weeks after years on the bench not knowing what you were up to. I was disturbed by how few of you are singing. Here are some parting thoughts:

Have you heard the St. Augustine quote that "he who sings prays twice?" Where else can you get a bargain like that? Sing the hymns and the service *tifiifififififififi* 1919 - 9.2670 7617

music! Sing the communion songs! I promise you it is cheaper than therapy and you will feel better! Take joy in your choir. They support you in your efforts to sing. It is 10 degrees warmer where they sit, no fancy church clothes, same ole robe, lots of stairs to climb; not to mention the commitment to rehearsals and church attendance. What a group!

Thank you for all the opportunities you gave me for growth.

Soli Deo gloria!

Helen

From the Finance Office

# Did You Know: An FYI on Qualified Charitable Distributions.

# A QCD is a charitable giving opportunity available to IRA owners who are over 70 1/2.

An individual donor can contribute up to \$100,000 per year in QCDs, as long as that individual is 701/2 years old or older. For married couples, each spouse can make QCDs up to the \$100,000 limit for a potential total of \$200,000. As a result, donors may avoid being pushed into higher income tax brackets and prevent phaseouts of other tax deductions.

Normally, distributions from a traditional IRA are taxable when funds are received. But with a QCD, these distributions are tax-free as long as the funds are directly transferred from your IRA custodian, and payable to a qualified charity, such as St. James. Your QCDs can be counted towards satisfying your required minimum distribution for the year, as long as certain rules are met.

In addition to the benefits to a charity, a QCD excludes the amount donated from your taxable income, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Keeping your taxable income lower would reduce the amount of taxes owed for the year.

If you are considering a charitable donation, a CPA or financial advisor can help you minimize your tax liability and maximize the value and impact of your gift by choosing the right strategy for donating to St. James Episcopal Church.

Have you visited the Pathways to Generosity page on our website? You can find everything there, including:

1. An introductory video message from Father De.

2. Daily devotional videos recorded by the Pathways to Generosity team and others.

3. Our "Storybook" that contains personal stories of giving and what inspires us.

Visit our website <u>here</u> or at https://www.stjamesfairhope.org/giving/stewarship

ESTIMATE OF GIVING	Pathways to GENEROSITY	-	ontribution is \$ month	per: year	
2IV	Please reserve envelopes for me.	Please have a member of the clergy contact me.			
JF (	Name(s):	Date:			
Ĕ	Address:				
MA	City, State, Zip:				
STI	Phone:Em				
ш	By request, this estimate of giving may be changed at any time. If you are unable to give financially but would like to give of your time and talents, please contact finance@stjamesfairhope.org.				



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### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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# **OUR CLERGY**



Rev. De Freeman, Rector



Rev. Forbes Sirmon, Associate Priest



### Rev. Amanda Dosher, Associate Priest

# **OUR VESTRY**

Jeanie Smith, Senior Warden Lauren Arington, Junior Warden Mary Mullins Redditt, Clerk Katie Smith, Treasurer

## Class of 2023

Bebe Goetter Earl Jackson Chris Nelson

## **Class of 2024**

Ben Codding Peter Gaillard Laura Jones Matthew Myrick

# **Class of 2025**

Margaret Cadden Tracy Corte Jim Daniell Dee Gambill

## Weekly Recurring Schedule

### **SUNDAYS:**

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel 8:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church 10:30 AM\* Holy Eucharist in the Church \*also online Children's Chapel at 10:30 AM Nursery available at both services

### MONDAYS

9:30 - 10:30 AM Gentle Yoga, Green Hall 1:30 - 2:30 PM Chair Yoga, Green Hall 6:30 - Women's Bible Study

#### TUESDAYS

5:45 PM Men's Bible Study

#### WEDNESDAYS:

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Chapel

9:00 AM - Wednesday Morning Bible Study 12:30 PM Centering Prayer

### **THURSDAYS:**

5:45 PM Yoga, Green Hall 7:00 PM Chess, Green Hall

## **3rd SUNDAY of the Month:**

9:30 - 10:30 AM Breakfast

For staff email addresses or other contact information, go to the About Us tab on our website at stjamesfairhope.org or click here for St. James Staff.

Anchor Lines Deadline: The Next Anchor Lines will be published January 10, 2023. Please email information to be published in the Next issue to communications@stjamesfairhope.org, no later than 5:00 pm on the Thursday prior to the published date.

**READ THE ANCHOR LINES ONLINE**—Call the church office or email *communications@stjamesfairhope.org* and request to be added to the distribution list. In addition, the newsletter is available on the website at www.stjamesfairhope.org.