

Welcome to all newcomers and visitors!

Please sign our guest book and take a gift bag from the table in the church entrance.
Join us in the parish hall for fellowship and some light refreshments after the 10:30 service.

TODAY

Flowers on the Altar Today are given by Lori Minasian and Doug Throckmorton to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

Advent Adult Education Series, 9:15 a.m.

We'll explore the parallels between the spiritual journey and the framework of twelve-step recovery, led by Ann Venton. Our text will be *Breathing Underwater* by Richard Rohr. Copies of the book are available online. Topics:

Advent 1 (today): Waltzing with God

Advent 2: Self Examination and Reconciliation

Advent 3: Navigating Forgiveness

Advent 4: "The Maintenance Steps"

Sunday School and Childcare

Sunday School is held 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the undercroft. Childcare for infants and toddlers is offered at 9:00 a.m. Contact Andy Mason, Sunday School Co-Director, at SundaySchool@stjamespotomac.org.

Advent Activities in the parish hall after 10:30 service

We'll have advent crafts and decorating stations in the parish hall. Festive family fun!

Last day to pick up Your Christmas Wreath Orders!

Find yours in the parish hall or church office.

Bishop Walker School Ornaments are Here!

Come pick up a boy's wish-list ornament in the parish hall, to help bring joy to the boys at the Bishop Walker School.

Poinsettia Sale Today, after services, parish all

Come see the gorgeous healthy plants that make great gifts! They come fresh from the greenhouse.

Altar Guild Training Today and December 9

New and prospective Altar Guild members: Today we'll meet at 9:15 a.m. to cover the transition between services. Next Sunday, at 11:45 a.m. we'll cover service set-up. Questions? Please contact Kris Smithberger, ksmithberger@icloud.com.

St. James' Advent Prayer Services by Conference Call

St. James' will offer prayer serviced by conference call for those who are home-bound or unable to attend worship in person. Services will be held at 3:00 p.m. on four Sundays in December, led by seminarian Mary Margaret Winn. Instructions for dialing in will be shared as the first date approaches. Questions? Please contact Mary Margaret (mmwinn@stjamespotomac.org).

COMING EVENTS

December 4 Lunch & Learn Holiday Sing-Along

Come sing! Lunch & Learn will have its annual Christmas songs and carols singalong next Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. Led by Cheryl Stafford and accompanied by Newton Lewis, this will follow lunch in the undercroft. Reservations for lunch can be made with Sarah Padgett, \$10.00 per person. And keep in mind: there will be no music critics and many equally untrained singers—all having a good time.

Dress Down and Spruce Up, Sunday, December 9 Landscape cleanup party after the 10:30 service

Come in your work clothes to help spruce up the church and the grounds for Christmas. Everyone's welcome— young, old, and not so old! Enjoy a hamburger or hot dog to get fueled up, and then pitch in. Teamwork and camaraderie make the tasks lighter.

Sunday School Bake Sale and Silent Auction December 9 For Heifer International Project, parish hall, 11:45 a.m.

The St. James' Sunday School, led by the Seniors, is once again supporting Heifer International to provide animals, food, and income to families in need. The students are hoping to raise \$500 through their various efforts including the bake sale and silent auction of gift cards to shops in Cabin John mall. Come buy some treats!

Live Nativity Sunday, December 16, 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendar: St. James' Youth Group will again perform a live nativity on the front lawn of the church.

The Christmas Pageant is Coming Soon!

Children ages three and up are invited to participate in the Christmas pageant during our Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m. There are plenty of costumes for the sheep, donkeys, camels, angels, and shepherds. We also need Readers and someone to play Gabriel. Please contact Lindsay Ragheb at lindsay.ragheb@gmail.com.

Cold Weather Clothing Drive in January, Three Sundays

We will collect donations of cold weather clothing for Interfaith Works of Montgomery County on **January 6, 13, and 20**, in the parish hall after services. Donations of new or gently used winter clothing are appreciated. There are many sales of these items at this time of year. Please take advantage of the discounts! Men's underwear is especially needed. Questions? Contact Bill Wallace.