

The Spirit of St. James'

Fall Spirit 2025



Dear St. James',
As this program year begins, I am excited for the year ahead. As we prepare, I want to remind all of you about our scheduling changes. On September 14th, St. James' new Sunday morning schedule will be as follows:

7:00 a.m.- Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Traditional)

*Our Mini-Saints Sunday School ages 3-6 will have their program during this service.

9:45 a.m.-Coffee Hour & Saints-in-Training Sunday School

10:00 a.m.-Adult Forum-Lakeside Room

10:45 a.m.-Holy Eucharist Rite II (Contemporary)

Our biggest changes will be weekly coffee hour and adult forum in between the services. Our Sunday school program for our older kids (Saints-in-Training) will also take place during the forum hour. The adult forum will be hosted in the lakeside room allowing the parish hall to be reserved for a longer time of fellowship.

Older children will join us in worship this year as acolytes, readers, oblation bearers, and ushers. They will be scheduled regularly in whatever ministry they feel most comfortable with and called to, worshipping alongside us as fully integrated members of the parish. It is important for all of us to be positive and encouraging as we make this

much needed change. Our children will be present at both our 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services depending on which tradition is most comfortable for the family. This also means that there will be added elements to the contemporary service to allow for more opportunities for participation such as a processional cross, torches, gospel procession, as well as other jobs when needed.

For our families who have younger children in the Mini-Saints Sunday School class and older children in the Saints-in-Training, there will be a play area in the parish hall to entertain the younger children as their siblings finish Sunday school. It will end at 10:30 a.m. This will allow parents to have fellowship time as well. The morning is flexible enough for families to choose 8:30 a.m. worship with Fellowship, Adult Forum, & Sunday School or begin with the fellowship time and end with the 10:45 a.m. service.

There are so many exciting things to come this year and I look forward to all the ways we will grow in God's love.

Yours in Christ,

Mother Pilar



Thank you for supporting St. James' Ministries! Use this QR code to make a donation.

Adult Forum with Mother Pilar Sundays 10 a.m. Episcopal Studies

- **October 12:** History of the Episcopal Church
- **October 19:** What does membership mean? An introduction to stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.
- **October 26:** What are the Sacraments?
- **November 2:** The Book of Common Prayer and how it shapes our sacramental lives.
- **November 9:** Death, Dying, and Resurrection.
- **Advent Forum Topic** TBD
- **Lent Forum Topic** TBD

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Thank You for a Successful Jumble Sale Fundraiser!

The Jumble Sale was held Saturday, August 2 and was a huge success! Our sincere thanks to everyone who volunteered to receive donations through out the week (several days were 90+ degrees, making the parish hall a veritable oven). We are also very grateful for everyone who worked on the day of the sale... what a team!! God blessed us with beautiful weather for the Jumble Sale and Pie and Bake Sale. Our special thanks to Dave Palen for picking up, delivering and moving several large and heavy loads of furniture and other miscellaneous items, Liz Samhammer for taking care of all the cashiers and financial side of the Jumble, Amy Tuttle who not only arranged for lunch for the volunteers, but surprised Tara Covert and Beckie Hidy with a cake to celebrate their birthday weekend, Tara for helping Beckie organize and advertise and Margie Amberge for being there every day during the day and helping get rid of everything at the end. And, of course, we couldn't have been able to have such success without the generous donations by all of you, including all those who baked pies and other baked goods for the Pie and Bake Sale. In all, we raised about \$4000 (including \$400 from the bake sale). The proceeds will happily be used for various special ministries at St. James'. We are already making plans and looking forward to next year's Jumble Sale. God is good... all the time!

Warmest regards,

Beckie Hidy and Tara Covert



Good-bye Chuck and Justin!



Thank You Good And Faithful Servants – Bill & Corinne Buterbaugh! Altar Guild Leadership Transition

As we enter this program year, I want to express my deepest gratitude to Corinne and Bill Buterbaugh as they transition from their role as co-chairs of the Altar Guild. The Altar Guild is crucial for all worship that happens at St. James'. There are many moving parts to an Episcopal worship service and each clergy leader likes things their own way. The Altar Guild volunteer team is the "stage crew" for each unique service making sure all the parts are clean & polished, where they need to be for service and clean up after service. It is a daunting and often thankless task. The beauty found during special services such as baptisms, All Saints Sunday, Christmas, Easter, and funerals which can never be planned is all due to the efforts of the Altar Guild. The Buterbaughs manage four teams of volunteers and fill in when there is a need ensuring seamless coverage year round. After several years and countless hours of dedication, they will take time for a well-deserved rest from this role. I am so grateful for them and thank them for all the ways they supported our liturgies I learned about St. James' this past year. Please be sure to extend your appreciation for years of dedication.

St. James' will honor Bill and Corinne during our church services on September 14th.



Also on September 14th, Diane Steckel, will begin her role as the Altar Guild Chair. Ultimately, we intend to have a co-chair to serve alongside Diane, but we have been unable to secure someone to share this role with her. I can't stress enough the importance of the altar guild volunteers. Many hands are required. If you have any questions or would like to explore working with the altar guild please reach out to me in the Parish Office or Diane Steckel at 315-447-7113.

Yours in Christ,
Mother Pilar



Let's Meet John Gillmeister, Seminarian Intern

John Gillmeister is a third year seminarian attending Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity school in Rochester, NY. John's spiritual journey begins as a child being brought up by his mother and father with the help of his maternal grandmother, who instilled in him a deep love of the Lord and a passion for loving people. After graduating from Oneida high school, John initially attended Alfred University, where he played football and was a part of their BAFA fine arts program. Halfway through his junior year, John felt "the road" calling to him and toured in a band extensively throughout the United States. John and his friends jumped in a 15 passenger van and played punk rock music from Massachusetts to California and back. When the band he played in broke up, John returned to school and graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a BA in Art History.

Feeling unsure whether he should pursue a career as a teacher or go in a different direction, John's aunt Alice encouraged him to get a job working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a field that was constantly underserved and required patience and compassion. John decided to follow his aunt's advice while he planned his next move. This decision catapulted John into his career in human services. Over the past twelve years John has worked as a Direct support professional, Employment specialist, a Residential Program manager, and now as a Care manager, helping individuals and families navigate their services and supports by identifying providers and healthcare services that enrich lives and promote independence through the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).



In 2018, John discerned a call from the Holy Spirit to pursue discernment for the priesthood. John felt ill-equipped, unqualified and resisted this call as long as he could. Only relenting when he says "God ran me down and I was just too tired to run anymore." John has progressed through the discernment process and is a Postulant for Holy Orders, seeking Ordination to the priesthood. John currently holds a 3.98 GPA at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and has received his Level 1A Clinical Pastoral Education Certificate. John's passion for ministry focuses on the immeasurable grace, mercy, forgiveness, and love God offers to all people through his Son Jesus Christ. That no one is excluded from that unfathomable love. A calling for all God's children to embrace that love and responsibility to share it with everyone we meet, both inside the church walls and out in the community so the Holy Spirit can work through us in our everyday lives.



A Restorative Experience for Essential ENJOYCHI.COM

**September 9: 9 a.m. -4 p.m.
at St. James'**

In Person STOP & FLOW™ Stress Relief for You, Sep 9th 2025. Immersive 1 day event 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Skaneateles, New York.

Join us at our peaceful waterfront retreat center in Upstate NY for a full-day, hands-on STOP & FLOW experience led by founder Kristin Onderdonk.

Explore science-informed techniques shown to generate vitality and lasting energy. This immersive experiential event will help you reset, build clarity, and access your unique and sovereign resilience.

Explore the Level 2 certification page for details on training to lead others. Level 2 begins with a foundational Level 1 course. For more info & to register Visit: <https://www.enjoychi.com/level1-sep-9-2025>

***Positive Thinking Needs to be
Followed with Positive Doing!***
John Maxwell

Stewardship & Supporting Our Community

As we enter this new and exciting time in the life of our parish, we will also be entering our fall season of stewardship. At our annual meeting last February, I shared that this year we would be focusing on year-round stewardship. Being good stewards of our parish life, isn't just about money, it is also about supporting our community with time and with our spiritual gifts.

As we moved toward spring, we held trainings for different ministries and throughout May we highlighted and blessed the different ministries of St. James'. As we enter budget season again, our focus will again turn to our stewardship of money. Our vestry is gathering together a stewardship committee, who will prepare our pledge cards and stewardship letters, as our finance committee builds our projected budget.

As part of our fall adult forum series on October 19th, I will be leading a discussion about membership, finances, and why they matter. Please mark your calendars!

Yours,
Mother Pilar

Make Your Voice Heard! Vital Local Elections this November – Know the What, Where & How!

Confirm Your Voter Registration:

Be sure to check with the Board of Elections in your county to be sure your name and information is correct, current and on record. If you have not voted in awhile, you may be inactive.



How to Vote: November 4, 2025 General Election Deadlines

• Mail Registration

Applications must be received by a board of elections no later than October 25, 2025 to be eligible to vote in the General Election.

• In Person Registration

You may register at your local board of elections or any state agency participating in the National Voter Registration Act, on any business day throughout the year but, to be eligible to vote in the General Election, your application must be received no later than October 25, 2025.

• 2025 General Election Early Voting: October 25th through November 2nd

Applications requesting to receive an early mail ballot must be received by the board of elections in your county no later than ten days before the election. For early mail ballots to be received in-person, applications must be received by your board no later than the day before the election.

Music for an Autumn Evening Presented by Cayuga County Habitat for Humanity

Featuring:

Andrew Russo, Concert Pianist
Nicholas Kilkenny
Michael Larkin
Vocalists, accompanied by
Robbie Padilla



Tickets: \$30.00



Hosted by:
Willard Chapel
Auburn, NY
October 3, 2025
7:00 PM

Followed by a Champagne Reception



Did You Know? You Can Track Your Mail-In Ballot! Early Mail Ballot Tracking

Voters can track their early mail ballot via the Board of Elections' Poll Site Search, Voter Registration, and Mail Ballot Tracker available at <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>



St James CreationCARE Fast Facts

Dr. King's powerful reminder of interconnectivity inspires our mission: to protect marine wildlife, oceans, and inland watersheds while uplifting communities on the frontlines of environmental degradation. The environmental movement owes much to this intersectional truth to justice, recognizing that social, racial, and environmental inequities are deeply intertwined.




"Through our scientific and technological genius we've made of this world a neighborhood. And now through our moral and ethical commitment we must make of it a brotherhood. We must all learn to live together as brothers--or we will all


perish together as fools. This is the great issue facing us today. No individual can live alone; no nation can live alone. We are tied together." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Image Credit: Nobel Foundation - Description page, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9719576>

1700TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNCIL OF NICAIA
Public Lecture and Dinner
 September 27, 2025 - Christ Episcopal Church



Bishop William Franklin, PhD
Assisting Bishop of Long Island and XI Bishop of Western New York
 Lecture: 4:00 p.m. Ticketed Dinner: 5:30 p.m.
Christ Episcopal Church
 10 Henry Street, Binghamton
 visit www.christchurchbinghamton.org/nicaea for more information or reserve your spot with the QR Code



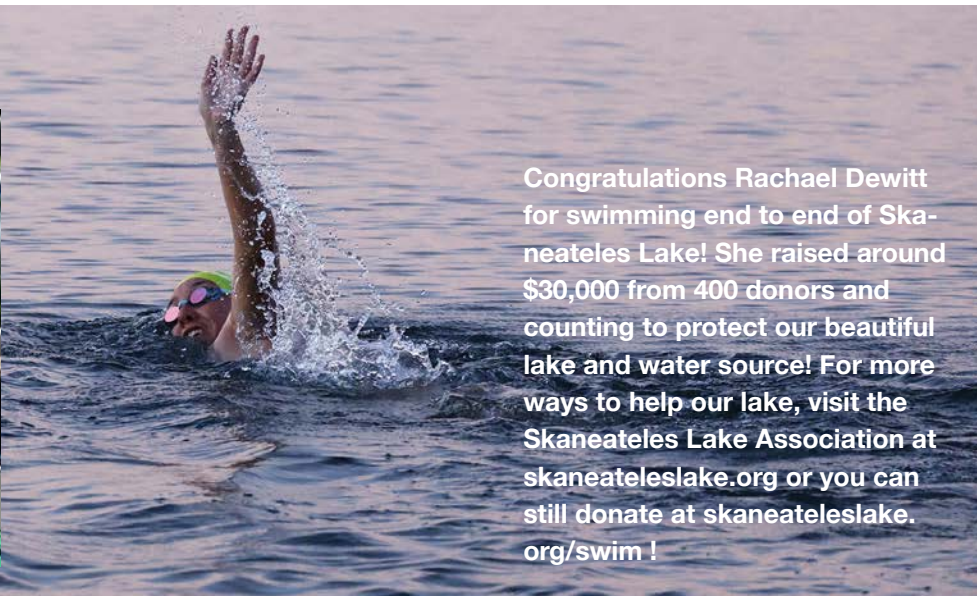

CreationCARE's first meeting of the year, Sunday, September 21st, 9:30 in the conference room.

New ideas for the year, starting with October 4th at Baltimore Woods, especially for families.

Coming Saturday, October 4th, from 9-12, in keeping with St James' Community Service Month, we invite you to give your time to volunteer at Baltimore Woods.

More info will be coming as we get closer to the date. We encourage families to join us as we help care for God's creation. Watch for a sign up soon.

Come join us and create more ideas to support our environment in 2025-2026. "We must take care of the beautiful things God has given us."



Congratulations Rachael Dewitt for swimming end to end of Skaneateles Lake! She raised around \$30,000 from 400 donors and counting to protect our beautiful lake and water source! For more ways to help our lake, visit the Skaneateles Lake Association at skaneateleslake.org or you can still donate at skaneateleslake.org/swim!

Are you concerned about food insecurity in our community?

The Skaneateles Ecumenical Food Pantry is seeking an Assistant Director. The Assistant Director will work in partnership with the Director and assist with the day-to-day operation of the Food Pantry operations including:

- Pantry organization
- Inventory and ordering
- Volunteer communication and management
- Committee oversight
- Community outreach (food drives, social media posts etc.)
- Compliance with Food Bank of CNY requirements

This is a volunteer position which provides an opportunity to give back to our community in a meaningful and much needed way. If you are interested, please contact Rita Keyes at Skpantry@gmail.com.

Serving with a Smile: Join St. James' at the Saints Peter & John Soup Kitchen

The last Saturday of every month, you'll find a small but mighty crew from St. James' making their way to Auburn — not for a concert, but for something even better. The stage is the kitchen at Saints Peter & John Episcopal Church. The setlist? Serving up soup, a hot entrée, salads or a side dish and a sweet dessert to those in need in our local community.

Like any good gig, everyone has their role. The first shift — 9 to 11 a.m. — volunteers are needed to lay the groundwork, making meals and packaging them in to-go packages. The second shift — 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. — steps into the spotlight, serving guests, offering a smile and maybe even a kind word or two. No cooking skills? No problem. If you can lend a hand and treat your neighbor with warmth, you've got what it takes.

Some of our volunteers are long-running regulars, showing up almost every month for more than a decade. Others drop in when they can. Some come once and never return — though we always hope for an encore. All are welcomed warmly.

We need 2 to 3 people for the first shift and another 2 for the second. Volunteers for the first shift must be 13 or older; younger helpers are welcome for the second shift if accompanied by a responsible adult.

Scheduling is simple: about 10 days before the last Saturday, Megan Glass will circulate an invitation via email to see if you're in for that month. We share the roster with the soup kitchen a couple of days ahead.

Also, a heart-felt THANK YOU to Corinne Buterbaugh who has served as the exceptional coordinator for St. James' volunteers in recent years.

So, if you're ready to be part of a crew where the applause comes in smiles and thank-yous, contact Megan at meganpglass@gmail.com or 561-302-6992.

The show goes on every month. We'd love to see you there.



Thank You to the St. James' Mowing Crew Led by John Spear!

These dedicated and talented team members have been taking care of the church and rectory landscaping and lawn for the spring through fall season.

Through heat, wind, rain and cold—these folks keep us looking great. And we were lucky to get a new mower this year so we could turn left! Be sure to share your thanks!

John Spear	Jim Lanning
John Devins	David O'Neill
Brad Allyn	Steve Osborne
Barb Carmody	Dave Palen
Jim Iles	





TABLE TOP FELLOWSHIP! (aka Foyer Groups) will be starting again in the fall – Hooray!

SEVEN Table Top groups of 6 met for 3 months this spring, generating fellowship opportunities that would not have happened without intentional groups being formed. People have enjoyed meeting and sharing time with others they may have only shared the peace.

In October we will reorganize the Table Top groups and start again for another 3 months, getting to know more people. And groups will continue to be an intimate size of six people. This is a great way for newcomers to get to know parishioners outside of worship!

If you were not able to join last spring and would like to start in October, just let the office know or Nancy Graham 315-317-0138 before October 1st.

We will get new group names to you early in October.

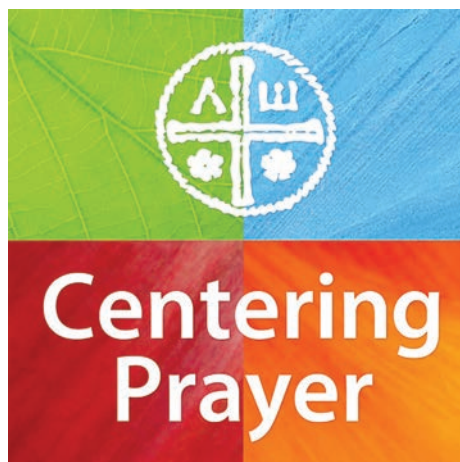
ST. JAMES' HEALING EUCHARIST

Wednesdays at 12 p.m.

Mother Pilar will start this service back September 17. Join us for a midday service of the Holy Eucharist with the Sacrament of Unction at Noon on Wednesdays. This service will be live-streamed as well on facebook.com/StJamesSkaneateles.

Come and pray with us and spend your lunch break with Jesus!

Fellowship & Caring



CENTERING PRAYER

Tuesdays & Fridays 7:45-8:30 a.m. ZOOM
Centering prayer is a part of the ancient Christian contemplative tradition that has seen a resurgence in the last 50 years. It is a silent prayer that can be done alone or in groups that seeks to "open our awareness of God who is within us" (Thomas Keating, a chief spokesperson and architect of Centering Prayer).

All are welcome to join.

**This group meets on ZOOM
Tuesday and Friday mornings
7:45-8:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID. 867 8552 3729
Passcode PRAYER**

If you have questions, please contact Cindy Bright at cgbright1@gmail.com.



DIVE DEEPER

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

This Group meets weekly to discuss and study the readings for the coming Sunday. It's a great way to get deeper into the lessons you hear on Sundays.

Contact Chuck Stewart at cnstewartsyr@gmail.com for the Zoom link. We will send the readings by email in advance.



Prayer Teams are available at 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. services during Communion at the front by the peace altar. Also, everyone can all offer a listening presence to each other and reach out with love. If you are in need of a loving ear, contact the Parish Office 315.685.7600 or Nancy Graham at 315.317.0138.



St. James' Offers Safe & Confidential Space for AA & ALANON. Visit their website for meeting information.

**COMING SOON!
WEEKLY COMPLINE
SERVICE LED BY
JOHN GILLMEISTER-
LIVE STREAMED!**



Art & Sensory Play Studio

Baby's Early Language & Sensorimotor Class

Multi age Caregiver & Child Classes

Learn More at play2learntot.com or @play2learntot



Play2Learn Tot Skaneateles

(across from the choir room in the park-side hallway)

play2learntot.com

Play2LearnTT@gmail.com

(315) 382-3725

Play2Learn offers caregiver & child classes, camps, and events, to promote learning & socialization during the early childhood years. Multiage Art & Sensory Play Classes Early Language & Sensorimotor Class for Baby's First Year.

Our 8 week fall session at Play2Learn Skaneateles is around the corner and registration is filling fast! Our seasonal weekly themes will allow for pretend play, sensory play, artful play, music and movement, and of course socialization (for both the children and caregivers!) You can learn more about our Caregiver and Child Multi Age Playgroups (ages ~18 months – 5 years).

FALL SESSION AT SKANEATELES!

Multi Age Art & Sensory Play Groups (*~18 months – 5 years old)

Mondays: September 8- October 27 9:20 – 10:20 a.m.

Tuesdays: September 9- October 28 9:20 – 10:20 a.m.

Fridays: September 5- October 24 9:20 – 10:20 a.m.

OR 10:55 – 11:55 a.m.

Skaneateles Lake Association

(lower level next to the Toppie Bates Lakeside Room)

skaneateleslake.org

Frank Moses – Executive Director frank.moses@skaneateleslake.org

Together, we can protect Skaneateles Lake.

Whether you live on it, play in it, look at it or drink from it, Skaneateles Lake is your lake, and you can help keep it pristine. The Skaneateles Lake Association is the only non-profit organization solely dedicated to keeping Skaneateles Lake clear and pure.



Registration is now open for our
FALL session!

10 weeks of new music
and learning 9/8-11/16

*Mixed-Age classes:
ages 0-5

*Babies classes:
ages 0-6 months

*Rhythm Kids:
ages 4-8



sign up today!

www.bluebirdmusictogether.com

Bluebird Music Together

(parish hall)

bluebirdmusictogether.com

director@bluebirdmusictogether.com

(315) 427-6985

Weekly music and movement classes for children, and the adults who love them.

Building Bridges and Creating Community

Following on the momentum of the successful screening of *Undivide Us* at the Auburn Public Theater last April, the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission (RJRC) received a \$3,000 ministry grant from the Episcopal Diocese of CNY for a new initiative to continue the dialogue.

The new program, *"Undivide Us: An Invitation to Dialogue across Difference"* aims to facilitate conversations among diverse groups of people about difficult topics facing our communities and our nation. The goal is to cut through inflammatory and toxic rhetoric that stoke division in our local, state and national communities. Led by trained facilitators, dialogue-group participants will learn to approach difficult conversations with an attitude of curiosity, authenticity, and respect for other viewpoints, skills that are fundamental to building bridges and promoting reconciliation. The RJRC will be recruiting people to participate in pilot dialogue groups throughout the fall, primarily from Skaneateles and Auburn.

The film showing in April attracted more than 130 people to the Auburn Public Theater.

Thank You to Everyone Who Donated to the Security Fence for the People of San Marcos in El Salvador!

St. James' raised about \$2,230. This will help so much! Below is a message of appreciation from Bishop David Alvarado.

Saludos Chuck,
Gracias por esta donación, ya la hemos recibido y pronto la enviaremos al Padre Ernesto para que inicie su proyecto, por favor extender mis saludos y siempre les esperamos en El Salvador.

Atentamente,

Obispo David Alvarado

Facilitated conversations moderated by Sue Dwyer, former Cayuga County Clerk, and Chris Legg, Town of Skaneateles Supervisor, followed the film. Through the intimate lens of six focus groups across three U.S. cities, the film reveals how toxic polarization drives us to fundamentally un-American places. In the process, the film reveals the potential for healing, conversation and rediscovery of the values that unite us.



The model for the *Undivide Us* dialogue groups was developed by the Pluralist Lab at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Members of the RJRC will receive training from the center to facilitate the focus-group conversations. More information will be forthcoming as the pilot program is developed over the next few months.



New Organist Michael Larkin & Choir Director Nicholas Kilkenny

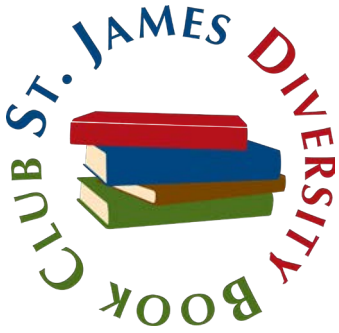
Parish Family,

It is my greatest joy to share with all of you that we have expanded the role of Michael Larkin and Nick Kilkenny to include organist and choir director. Beginning September 1st, Michael will serve as organist and Nick will serve as choir director. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to interview three candidates/teams, and Michael and Nick were clearly the right fit. This decision was made with input from the choir and church leadership and I am looking forward to this next season at St. James'! Thank you for your support during this transition.

Yours in Christ,

Mtr. Pilar





The Diversity Book Club's Upcoming Fall/Spring Season

The Diversity Book Club is a ministry of St. James' Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission. The discussions are held at noon in the Toppie Bates Lakeside Room (and via Zoom) and are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Judy Holmes (judyholmes76@gmail.com) or Meg Osborne (mhosborne7@gmail.com).

Great Reads Found in the St. James' Book Nook!

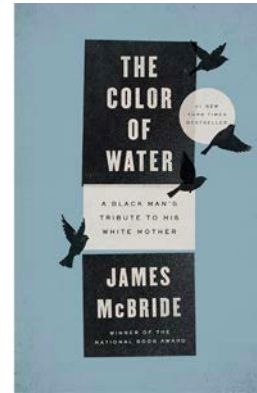
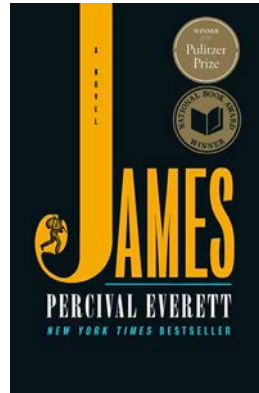
Looking for a good read over the coming winter months? Look no further than the Diversity Book Nook conveniently located in the cupboard in the back of the St. James' Nave. All are welcome to borrow books and/or lend books to the collection. Borrowers are asked to sign out the books in the notebook located on the shelf and sign the books back in when returned. Lenders are asked to include their names in the books so the books can be returned to their owners. The Diversity Book Nook includes several of the titles (fiction and nonfiction) that the Diversity Book Club has featured over the past two years. The Nook also includes other titles (including children's books) written by diverse authors whose works address the difficult issues facing our society today from a faith perspective, through memoir, and through the lens of extraordinary characters readers won't soon forget. The Diversity Book Nook is a ministry of St. James' Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission. Contact Judy Holmes (judyholmes76@gmail.com) with questions.

St. James' Diversity Book Club Fall 2025-Spring 2026

Fall

James by Percival Everett (Oct. 19)

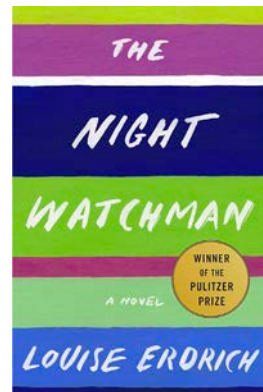
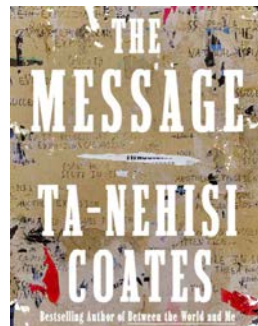
The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to his White Mother
by James McBride (Nov. 23)



Spring

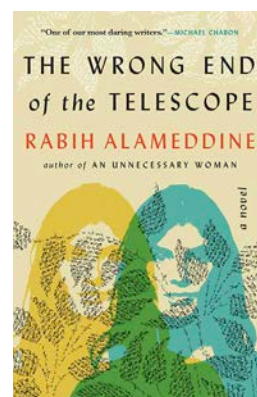
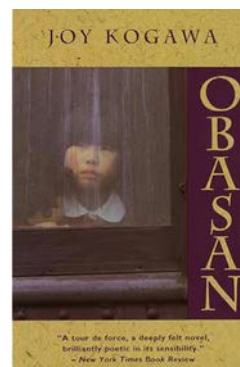
The Message by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Jan. 18)

The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich — Native American (March 1)



Obasan by Joy Kogawa (April 12)

The Wrong End of the Telescope by Rabi Alameddine (May 17)



Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Peace. Humility. Open Mind. Eyes that See. Ears that Listen. Heart of Love.

Did You Know? *By Emma Cowley*

Did You Know? Philadelphia Eagles quarterback and Super Bowl MVP Jalen Hurts is taking on a new role—as a children’s book author. His debut picture book, *Better Than a Touchdown*, is a heartfelt story aimed at kids ages 4 to 8 that blends sports with life lessons about perseverance, leadership, and community.

The book follows a young boy named Jalen who is eager to join his school’s football team, only to find it’s been canceled. Instead of giving up, he teams up with friends and community members to create something even more meaningful—learning the value of teamwork, resilience, and believing in yourself.

Beautifully illustrated by Nneka Myers and published by Flamingo Books (Penguin Random House), the book is set to release on March 10, 2026. Hurts says the story is inspired by his own journey and is meant to encourage kids to “do something bigger than yourself.” Praised for his off-field leadership as much as his on-field talent, Hurts adds “author” to his growing list of accomplishments—making this book a must-read for young readers, classrooms, and families alike.

Say It with Flowers – Altar Flowers, that is!

Parishioners are extremely generous donating money for flowers, greens, and plants at Easter and Christmas. Although flowers the rest of the year aren’t as elaborate as during major festive seasons, Flower Guild members arrange fresh flowers or “fall bounty” (pumpkins) every Sunday throughout the year except during Lent (when we have curly willows) and Advent (evergreens).

Please also consider donating for flowers one other week during the year.

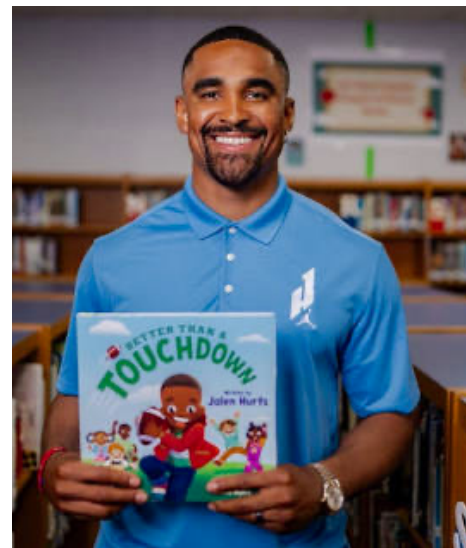
What better way to honor the memory of a loved one or give thanks for a child or grandchild, a wedding anniversary or milestone birth day, or another special occasion? Your donation (suggested amount: \$50) covers the cost of flowers, which are purchased from Fleur de Lis and arranged by Flower Guild members (Mary Bradley, Bill and Corinne Buterbaugh, Lois Laxton, Dot Pitman, Diane Steckel).

After the last service each Sunday, Margie Amberge rearranges the flowers into smaller arrangements that are taken to parishioners who are ill, experiencing difficulties or loss, or celebrating a milestone.

To donate, please contact the church office to provide the date and name of the person(s) or occasion being honored/remembered. Questions? Contact Dot Pitman at 315-685-6968.



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Getting Involved – Pick Up a Copy of the Ministry Guide!

Frequently Asked Questions

SAFE CHURCH

Our parish and our diocese are committed to the safety and well-being of the adults and children who make up our beloved community. When we are baptized, we vow to "seek and serve Christ in all persons" and "respect the dignity of every human being." These vows are reflected in the Safe Church policies we have developed to prevent sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment in our churches and diocesan programs.

- Who should be Safe Church trained?**
All clergy, licensed lay ministers, and most parish leaders and volunteers, including vestry members are required to maintain up-to-date Safe Church certification.
- Where and how can someone be trained?**
Initial training should be on-site. Look for info about upcoming sessions or scan the code to contact Deb Denny. Individuals must be re-trained every 5 years. Re-training can be completed online or on-site.
- How can I learn more about Safe Church or report a concern?**
Scan the code to visit our diocesan Safe Church page and connect with our intake officers.

The Episcopal Diocese of
Central New York



St. James' Children's Ministry REGISTRATION 2025-2026

Mini-Saints (3-7 years old) & Saints in Training (7- 11 years)

(Children at age 6 & 7 can choose which class that best fits)

Child's Name/Age/Grade: _____

St. James' Youth Program: _____

DOB (We send birthday cards): _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone/Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Emergency contact (name & phone #): _____

Please list any severe allergies or medical conditions: _____

At times throughout the year pictures or video may be taken and displayed in the Sunday School room, on the St. James' website, in a St. James' church service, or on the St. James' Facebook page (no names will be included), or published in the local newspaper. Videos may also be included in DVDs for St. James' use & enjoyment.

Please check one of the following:

☐ Yes, my child's picture/video may be displayed/published in the weekly newsletter or on the St. James' website.

☐ No, I do not wish to have my child's picture/video displayed or published.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Children, Youth & Family Ministry



Saints-in-Training Sunday School Sundays – 10 a.m.

This ever expanding children's ministry has developed into a fun, inviting, energetic and interactive way to learn about faith. The curriculum will be a customized version of Simply Loved that showcases Bible lessons following the same lessons the church read about during worship. The key is that concepts are simple and apply lessons to the lives of children in today's world. Children discover that Jesus is a real person—a real friend—who makes a difference in their lives today.



Children are valued and integral members of St. James'. They learn and grow in Sunday School Classes -Mini-Saints for kids 3 to 6/7 years old and Saints-in-Training named long ago by actual students for 7 to 12 year old children. Each class is run by Safe Church trained teachers and volunteers and meets kids and families where they are. Descriptions of each class is below. While we would love to see your children every Sunday, St. James' understands the stresses and responsibilities pulling all families today. Programs are flexible and we try to respond to the needs of our parents and children. In addition, children participate in worship side-by-side with adults. This active engagement shows everyone that children are full members of the body of Christ. With the arrival of Mother Pilar Parnell, children's ministries is transforming and growing. It is an exciting time. Register your child as soon as possible since the first day of classes are on Sunday, September 14. The registration form is on the form on the adjacent page. If you have any questions regarding children's ministry, please contact Laura Posecznick at laura@stjamesskan.org or Mother Pilar at pilar@stjamesskan.org.

Mini-Saint Sunday School Sundays-8:30 a.m.

Our youngest kiddos learn through the curriculum Young Children in Worship. This Montessori style program has been used all over the country and provides a wonderful faith foundation. The class is held in the refurbished "former nursery room" on the lower level. There are opportunities to assist in this class and hopefully inspire others to be trained in this special curriculum. This calm and spiritual class is led by Cindi Fowler who has years of experience in both Sunday School and childcare. If you have ever wanted to see the miracle of seeing God's light in the eyes of young children, visit this classroom.



*You are a child of God, you are wonderfully made, dearly loved
and precious in His sight. Psalm 139*

St. James' Prayer List

Those who are sick and in need of prayer: Pat Odom (mother of Michele Lytle), Helgren Family, Diana O'Brien, Maria Malvaso, Betty Werner (Barb Burton's Mother), Tara Covert, Rick Keyes, Barb Baker, Matt Bates, Tom (Nick Kilkenny's father in law), John Devins, Edward, Laura Volk, and Adam Slavis (friends of Katie Grau), Jim Lanning, Mike Fowler, Sharon Gannon, Dennis McEnery (friend of Helen O'Neill), Ed & Mary Kay Cole, Cheryl Speno, Sharon Arliss, Ann Scholl, Spencer Gervasoni, Susanne Rynkiewicz, Sandy Fillingham.

Those listed on our long term prayer list: Brooke (Ann Scholl daughter in law), Patrice Spalding (sister in law to Molly and Bill), Lauren Javis (daughter to a dear friend), Michele Miller (friend of Dan Johnson), David Austin (brother of Rick), Carolyn (sister of Barb Ozminkowski), Kim Dubois (friend of Jean Beeles), Mary Beth Grau, David Allyn, George (husband of Barbara Kay), Jennifer Evans, Harry Peltz, Bonnie Stavenhagen (mother of Christina), Sarah & Justin (son & daughter-in-law to Susan Gibides), Katy (niece of Kathy Plouffe), Jim & Nora Brown, Joy Pajak (Eva's mother in law and Dan's step mother), Donna Richards, Chris Richards, Michael Brown, Tracy Feocco, Linda Hawley, Pat Brown, Jason Weston (son of Susan Gibes), Kathy Plouffe, Pam Stewart, Ann Wolfe, Suellen Sager, Danae Hidy (daughter of Beckie & Brian Hidy), Emily Thomas, Chuck Davis (brother of Brian Davis), Iris Ramos (mother of Alberto Fry), John Spear, Jim & Patrick Malvaso (Marie Hughes' brothers), Nicole Hyde, Margrif family (niece of Susan Spencer), Matt & Lori Andrews (friends of Joan Johnson), Martha, Cynthia, Lou, and Theresa Rose (Joan Johnson's in-laws), Joan Johnson, Ken Roffo (Katelyn Roffo's father), Andy & Dorothy Pierce, Sue Palen, Henry (friend of Carolyn Legg), Ginny Pfau, twin children Morgan and Robert (children of Gubla & Sofie Jantzen), Helen (sister of Brian Davis), Laila (great niece of Brian Davis), Bud Evans (brother of Don Evans), Joyce Thomas, Steve Giocondo (father of Sara Jones), Vera Foehl, Rick Burton, Sean Arliss (grandson of Sharon & David Arliss), Susan Scholl, Suzy Jones, Sherry Yellot, Terry Askey-Cole & Larry Cole, Sue Newlin (mother of Molly Spalding), Kaiden (grandson of Jean Beeles), Ben, David & Gretchen (grandchild of Joan Johnson, her son & wife), Kelly Ryan, Jacob Matlby (son of Kelly Ryan & Mike Spaces), Robbie Clark (brother of Kristina Abbott), Adam Newlin (brother of Molly Spalding), Darwin Parker, Jude Ker, Linda Lavery, Judy Santillo & Ann Malvaso (sister's of Marie Hughes), Helen Burlingame (sister of Brian Davis), Marilyn Garofalo (mother of Chris Davis), Dot Pitman, Alexander Sturdivant (friend of Nancy & Rick Austin), Marie Bundy, Griffin Palen, Don Evans, Linda & Nick Rossi, Tacy Chantler (sister-in-law of Carrie Chantler), Euclide Mugisho & family, Roxanne Soprano, Cathy Valentine, Linda Morse, Danae Hidy, Alberto Fry, David Bates, Helen Dayal, Scholl family, Patrick & Jonathan Arliss, Jim Corl, Kirsten Juhl (daughter of Jim & Nancy Corl), Gwen Birchenough, Pat Gannon, Jennifer Carson (niece of Linda Lavery), Tricia McMurdy (friend of Nancy Austin), Ingrid McCurdy, Ella (friend of Ingrid), Noelle (daughter of Ingrid).

Those who have died: PJ. Williams (close friend of Kelly Ellerton), Jerome Helgren, Erik Withey

Back to school Prayer

Dear heavenly Father,
As our children
Return to school
We look again

To your eternal faithfulness.
Watch over our beloved ones.
Let your Spirit go before them

To prepare the way
And open the doors
That lead to your grace.

Guide them away from harm.
May your mighty Spirit defend them
From any aggression or attack.

Equip them with discernment
And strength of character.

Let them be free to live and learn
As children of God.

Give us, dear Lord,
The wisdom and patience
To know when to speak or be still
As their parents and caretakers.

Always remembering
That they are yours
From the beginning;
Their lives a loving gift to us
From Almighty God.

We trust in you,
We depend upon you.
Care for your children,
Oh heavenly Father.

In Jesus name,
Amen.



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2025

St. James' Vestry Wardens

Doug Smith (2024-2026)

John Devins (2025-2027)

Vestry Members

John Buterbaugh (2025-2026)

Tara Covert (2024-2026)

Beckie Hidy (2024-2027)

Judy Holmes (2023-2026)

Marie Hughes (2023-2026)

Carol Murphy (2024-2027)

David O'Neill (2025-2028)

Kris Perkins (2025-2028)

Kathy Ploufe (2025-2028)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

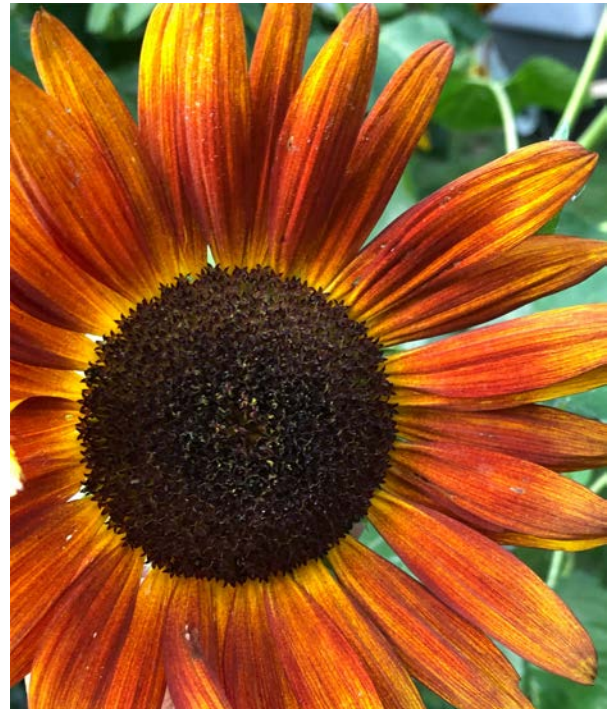
nicole@stjameesskan.org

315-685-7600

Facebook.com/StJamesSkaneateles

Instagram.com/StJamesSkaneateles

StJamesSkan.org



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www.StJamesSkan.org