

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 3, 2016

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mikala Skalecki, Marty Casey, Zoe Chapman

## The Day of Pentecost – Bishop Gayle's Visitation

The Day of Pentecost is May 15<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Gayle will be making her visitation to St. James this day and will be Confirming, Reaffirming and Receiving members of our Parish. Please make special note of this day as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and welcome Bishop Gayle among us!

## Baptisms

The next day for Baptism will be on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the 10am service. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in this Great Sacrament, please speak with Fr. John.

## Inquirers Class

The next Inquirer's Class will be held on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in Fr. John's Office starting at 7pm. Fr. John will be talking about Confirmation, Reaffirmation and Reception. If you are considering Reaffirmation, you must attend this meeting.

The Ministry of Hospitality: We are looking for a few people to sign up to host for our Gathering for Coffee Hour after the 10am service as it is an important part of our life together here at St. James.

Hosting a Coffee Hour is an important ministry. It is more than just feeding people, it also helps people feel welcome in our church. Coffee Hour gives us an opportunity to introduce ourselves to visitors and newcomers. It gives us the chance to catch up with other members of our parish family.

Breaking bread together--even in this very ordinary way--helps strengthen us as a parish and renew us as individuals. Could you help host a Coffee Hour? Just one Sunday every so often and share in the hosting with another parish member! Please sign up in the Parish Hall or talk with Kelly Bennett, our Hospitality Chair, about how and when you can help.

Altar Guild: The Altar Guild invites anyone who is interested in knowing more about this ministry or who are interested in joining to let us know. There are many rewards in serving as an Altar Guild member such as: a unique sense of fellowship and community, the opportunity to contribute to our worship in a powerful way and the experience of inner peace and centeredness one feels when preparing God's Altar. You are also welcome to shadow this role with Beth Mauch for a Sunday or two as a step in your discernment process for a new and rewarding ministry. Please feel free to ask Beth for more information. You may contact Beth via e-mail at [beth@themauchs.com](mailto:beth@themauchs.com) or see her at St. James on any given Sunday!

Men's Group at St. James: The Men's Group at St. James meets Sunday mornings in the Parish Hall immediately following the 8am service to read aloud and discuss appointed selections in the Holy Bible and related resources. They learn about the circumstances of Biblical events, their significance and the people involved. We encourage men of St. James and their friends to join the group.

For information contact Arthur Yarranton at 978-364-4749 or Mort Gilbert at 978-388-3831.

The St. James Visual Arts Gallery: Those who are enthusiastically involved in various forms of visual art are encouraged to submit their work for display in the St. James visual Arts Gallery.

The Gallery's predominant theme is "Gratitude for God's Blessings." What, then, are you artists, great and small, thankful for? Clergy? Friends and family? Events? Purple mountain majesty above the fruited plain? Learning to whistle? What will you bring to St. James Church's art ministry?

Your choices should also reflect the gallery's two rotating secondary themes, i.e., subjects and events associated with the months of November through April and those associated with the months of May through October. Both periods, one colder, one warmer, open all kinds of possibilities by which to express artistically, gratitude for God's blessings. If you are interested in displaying your art work, please talk with Mort Gilbert for further details.

April Food Donations at Our Neighbors Table: During the month of April, we will be collecting Peanut Butter, Almond Butter, Jelly/Jam, Tuna Fish, Mayo, canned fruit and cereal for ONT. Also, personal items such as deodorant, mouthwash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc., are always in need.