PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS
May 1, 2016

Birthdays

Jon Miller, Jr., Kyle Heidt, Samantha Kimball, Trevor Kimball, Debbie Wiley, James Phipps, Nicholas Bennett, Brittany Couturier, Dan Holt, Andrew Poor, Colby Cook, Jeannette Poor

Today we welcome Deacon H. Mark Smith And the Diocesan Youth Council

Today, we have the honor of Deacon H. Mark Smith preaching at both services and at the 10am service we are hosting the Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) Senior send off. This is the last event for DYC of the year where we wish all the seniors good luck in their future endeavors. The DYC are here today and will lead the Offertory Anthem.

The Day of Pentecost – Bishop Gayle Harris' Visitation

The Day of Pentecost is May 15th. Bishop Gayle Harris will be making her visitation to St. James this day and will be Confirming, Reaffirming and Receiving members of our Parish. There will be one service at 10am. Please make special note of this day as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and welcome Bishop Harris among us! The loose plate offering this day will go towards the Bishop's fund for theological education.

Baptisms

The next Baptism Service will be on Sunday, May 15th.
If you or someone you know is interested in being Baptized, please speak with Fr. John.

Spring Fun and Clean-up

This coming Saturday, May 7th and on May 14, in preparation for Pentecost and Bishop Harris' visitation we will once again be sprucing up our property inside and out. The clean-ups will begin at 10AM and parishioners are invited to offer whatever time they can. We want St. James to be a warm inviting place and one way to do this is to make sure we take care of our Church. This is also a wonderful opportunity for our children, youth and their friends to earn community service hours. A list will be posted of what needs to be done. Friends are always invited.

Summer Lawn Care

The Summer Lawn Care sign up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Please help us keep our grounds looking nice during the Summer Months. Lawn Care is cutting and trimming of the grass. If you have questions or wish to sign up you may sent us an e-mail at stjames.office@verizon.net or give us a call at 978-388-0030.

The front garden is maintained by Pam and Paul Fenner (Thank You!) and the side garden and back garden is maintained by the Garden Committee. If you would like to participate as a Garden Committee member, please let us know!

Planning for College in Grades 9-11: Info Night for Students and Families

Thursday, May 5th from 7:00-8:30pm
St. Paul's Newburyport
166 High St, Newburyport, MA 01950
(978) 465-5351
Sponsored by the Lower Merrimack Valley Collaborative

This session is intended for high school freshman, sophomores and juniors who want to learn more about how to begin planning for college now. Topics to be covered include high school curriculum, the importance of developing good writing and time management skills, the role of extracurricular activities in college admission, identifying a good college match and how to make the most of a college visit. Elisha Anderson has worked in highly selective college admissions for seventeen years – the last fifteen of those years at Brown University. At Brown, Elisha is responsible for reviewing the first year applications of students who apply to the college from the Deep South, parts of Appalachia, Northern Virginia, Manhattan and Brooklyn. Elisha is also the Director of Transfer Admission at Brown. He serves on the boards of two national scholarships that recognize academic achievement among community college graduates.

Relay for Life

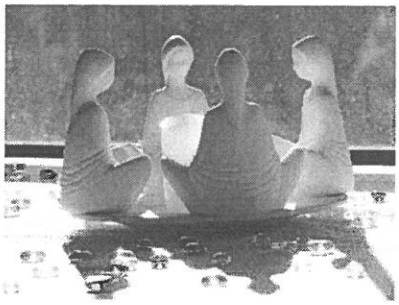
It's that time again! The Amesbury Relay for Life is being held at Landry Stadium on June 18, 2016 at 4pm. Please come out and support this important cause. You can go to the Relay for Life website and sign up for Bishop Tom's Team or make a donation through Bishop Tom's Team. Our website has a direct link to the site where you can click on the "Register" or "Donate" link, then find the link to Bishop Tom's Team.
Thank you for your support!

Women on the Journey

Women on the Journey will meet on Saturday, May 21st. Coffee and fellowship begins at 10am and the Program begins at 10:30am. Julie Steer is our guest speaker and the topic is: "Deepening Our Faith through Knowing Ourselves."
Women on the Journey is open to all women of St. James.

May Food Donations at Our Neighbors Table

During the month of May, 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.



In the Arms of God and Women:
June Overnight Retreat Registration Open
June 3 through June 4, 2016
Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center
Byfield, MA

Julia Steer and Louise McRae are excited to announce that enrollment is open for the summer Martha and Mary Retreat to be held on June 3 and June 4 at Adelynrood Retreat and Conference Center in Byfield, MA.

The title of our "In the Arms of God and Women Retreat" is "You've Been Heard." The Retreat will include information from Dr. Brene' Brown, a highly revered and thoroughly enjoyable researcher and author of "*The Gifts of Imperfection*."

You are welcome to check in as early as 3:00 pm on Friday June 3 to settle in, walk the labyrinth and enjoy the grounds. We will meet for dinner at 6:00 pm and the retreat will begin at 7:00 pm Friday night, June 3. We will conclude at 3:30 on June 4.

As you know, we pass on only the actual costs for the Retreat. This year Adelynrood has increased costs for the rooms, dinner, and lunch by 20% (they have generously excused the price increase for us for the last two years). The cost for the retreat is $150 which includes a private room with hall bath, three meals and a book.

You can reserve your room now with a $50 deposit made out to Julia Steer, 56 River Road, Merrimac, MA. We are limiting enrollment to 20 even though we are in the large conference room in the parlor. Reserve soon as we expect the Retreat to fill quickly.

For more information, call Julia at 978 346-1116 or Louise at 978 388-8473. We are looking forward gratefully to being with our friends In the Arms of God and Women.

Email to: jsteer45@comcat.net or lsmcrae@verizon.net.