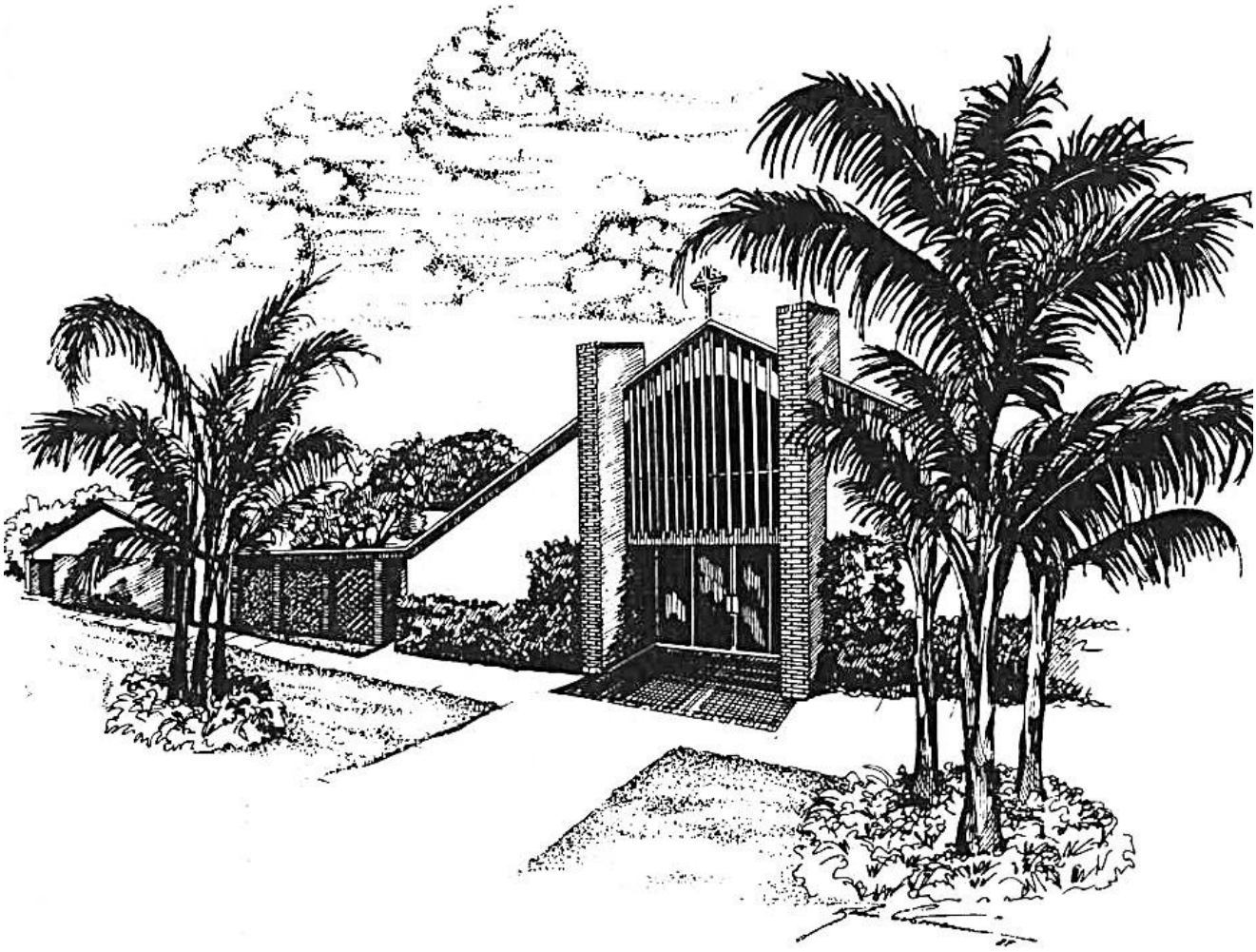
ST JAMES IN THE HILLS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ESTABLISHED 1961



Advent

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY SERVICE 9:30AM

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II - 9:30 A.M.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O come, O come, Emmanuel (verses 1-2)* **Hymnal 56**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE



Leader: Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. (*Matthew 24:42-44*)

The Word of God

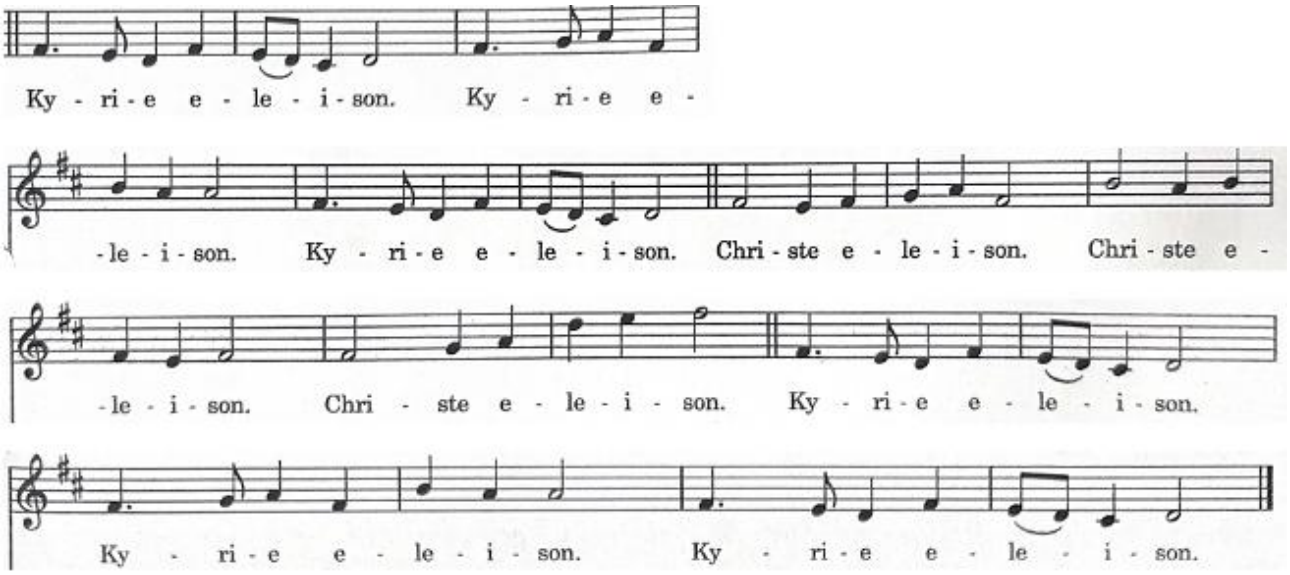
OPENING SENTENCE AND PRAYER BCP 355

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: His mercy endures forever.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

KYRIE *(sung)*



Sung to Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II, Donald Nelson Warner. Copyright 1978, The Bishop and Diocese of Colorado. Used by permission.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Priest: Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

THE OLD TESTAMENT **ISAIAH 64: 1-9**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (*read responsively)* **PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18**

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE **1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9**

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GRADUAL HYMN *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding (verses 1-2)* **Hymnal 59**

THE HOLY GOSPEL **MARK 13:24-37**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding (verse 3)* **Hymnal 59**

CHILDREN'S DIALOG

THE SERMON ***Rev. David Potter***

Silence is kept.

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Intercessor: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor: We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons; especially Archbishop Sarah Mullally of

Canterbury, our Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, our Bishop Peter Eaton, and our priest Reverend David; In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy, and people of St. Patrick's, West Palm Beach, and St. Cuthbert's, Boynton Beach.

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Intercessor: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor: Protect all innocent lives at risk across the Middle East, in Sudan, Nigeria, Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, Venezuela, Colombia, and to all affected by gun violence;

People: That a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow.

Intercessor: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Intercessor: For all who are ill, injured, or suffering from despair or anxiety, especially for those on our parish prayer list… and for those who offer skilled, tender care for them;

People: That they may have strength for today and for tomorrow.

Intercessor: For those struggling financially and find their future uncertain;

People: That they may discover resources and support for the days, weeks, and months ahead.

Intercessor: For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially… and those celebrating an anniversary this week, including… and for all those we name silently or aloud;

People: That they may see the blessings of the past and the blessings you provide in the present.

Intercessor: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Prayer of Protection from Hurricanes

Almighty God, Creator and Redeemer of humankind, grant to us your supplicant people, protection against the ravages of hurricanes, floods, and other calamities; that in tranquility of weather we may rejoice in the comfort that we ever desire and may always make right use of Your great goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Priest: God of unveiled truth, faithful flame in times of darkened sun and waning moon: lift up our unknowing hearts and waken our sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN BCP 359

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us

and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE BCP 360

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME OF VISITORS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OFFERTORY HYMN *My Lord, What A Morning* **Lift Every Voice & Sing II 13**

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF ALMS & OBLATIONS
Priest: All things come of Thee, O Lord,
People: And of Thine own have we given Thee.

HOLY COMMUNION

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Priest: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS *(sung)* S 130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, (2x)
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. (2x)
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. (2x)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the

fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)* BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD BCP 364

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome to the Lord's Table. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please kneel at the communion rail, and cross your arms across your chest, forming an X.

COMMUNION HYMN *The King shall come when morning dawns* **Hymnal 73**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion Said by Those Not Present at Holy Communion

Priest: In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer BCP 365

Priest: Let us pray.

ALL: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Commissioning

(if the licensed LEVs are bringing communion to shut-ins, the following is said)

Priest: I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Congregation: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Blessing

Priest: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

People: Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Blest be the King whose coming* **Hymnal 74**

Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

NOTICES

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

We pray that you are well on this the first Sunday of Advent.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in Feaster Hall provided by Farzaad Kamrudeen. We thank him for his kindness!



HANGING OF THE GREENS 12/5
Volunteers are needed this Saturday at 9:30am to help Father Potter decorate the sanctuary for Advent. Please see the sign-up sheet in the back of the church.

DOK ADVENT BREAKFASTS
All are welcome to attend each Advent Prayer Breakfast hosted by The Daughters of the King. The St. Catherine of Sienna Chapter will host on Saturday, December 5 at Holy Family Episcopal Church in Miami Gardens, and the Louise E. Hindry Chapter on Saturday, December 12 at Holy Trinity in West Palm Beach.



SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL PICNIC
The St. James in-the-Hills Episcopal Church Parish Picnic Day at TY Park will be **Sunday, December 13, 2026, at Pavilion #5**. The Service begins at 9:30am. Members are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and their favorite games. T.Y. Park is located at 3300 N. Park Road, Hollywood, FL 33021. The park has an entry fee of $3 per vehicle (maximum 8 occupants per vehicle). We still encourage everyone to wear your St. James T-shirts and bring family and friends! Please contact the Fellowship Committee or the Office to pick up your order.

Picnic Contributions - If you would like to contribute, we would appreciate the following items: gift cards ($10) for raffle prizes, pastry items, canned sodas, and bottled waters. A sign-up sheet is available in Feaster Hall on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

JOIN US WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
Join us for Bible Study on the continuation of the Gospel according to Matthew, Wednesdays at 7pm via Zoom. Find the Zoom link in your Constant Contact email or contact Amanda in the St. James Office.



FORWARD MOVEMENT DAY-BY-DAY DEVOTIONALS
The NOV-DEC-JAN edition is available now in the Sanctuary and the Church Office during the week. We provide Forward-Day by Day to parishioners as a simple and effective daily prayer practice. Each day features a Bible verse from the daily readings, and a related reflection written by a different author each month, all in less than 200 words. It even includes the daily feast days, as well as prompts to take faithful action in your daily life. Please take a copy to share with friends or loved ones.



COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

Those who signed up to volunteer as host for coffee hours, please review the tips and reminders card located above the sign-up sheet on the blue bulletin board outside the Parish Office with upcoming dates. For any Sundays not chosen by volunteers, the coffee station only will be provided by the Church. Please contact the Office if you have additional questions concerning supplies and procedures or need to collect the keys if needed.

2027 OFFERINGS

New parishioners who wish to receive personal offering envelopes for the year 2027, please contact the Office and we will designate a numbered envelope box to record a future offering statement. Members, please take home your new envelope boxes available now in the Chapel.

POINSETTIA CHANCEL GARDEN



During this special time of year, please consider honoring or remembering a loved one by purchasing a poinsettia(s) to adorn our sanctuary from December 20 through December 27, at which time plants may be picked up following the 9:30am Mass. A list of the donors and those remembered and honored will be included in the Christmas bulletins. Suggested minimum donation is $15 per poinsettia. All donations are welcome. Donation envelopes are available at the entrance of the Church and can be placed in the offering plate or delivered to the Church Office. Please place your order by Monday, December 14th.

Send Money with Zelle®

Scan in your banking app to pay

St James In The Hills

Zelle

Trying to make a secure offering online?

Use the QR code here.

Members, please include your envelope # in the memo.

Please Pray for…

Our Anglican Community:

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

Our Diocesan Community:

St. Patrick's, West Palm Beach

St. Cuthbert's, Boynton Beach

Those in our Parish:

Jan Pushkar, Richard Sutherland, Rick Sanford, Paul Crosta, Pat Miller, Riley Ruppert-Richendollar, David King, Elisha Clarke III, Irene & Cristobal Herrera, Michael Piro

Please note that prayer requests are in effect for 60 days and can be renewed in 60 day increments. You may contact the Church Office or Father David.



We pray for the members of our parish family who are celebrating their anniversary this week:

Janet & Frank Mirjah





ADVENT

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sunday, November 29th
Fellowship Hour

Wednesday, December 2nd
Bible Study on Matthew via Zoom – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 5th
Hanging of the Greens – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 8th
Vestry Meeting via Zoom – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 13th
Rescheduled Parish Picnic at T.Y. Park

The Episcopal Church
IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

REV. DAVID POTTER, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

TASHAMEE WILLIAMS - SENIOR WARDEN, LIZ MILLER - JUNIOR WARDEN, ROBERT WHITEHEAD - TREASURER, BARBARA BECKER - CLERK OF THE VESTRY, ELISHA CLARKE IV, LORNA SMITH, GLADYS WOOD

Amanda Groome, our Parish Administrator, is available in our Parish Office Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and via Office Email:

stjameshollywood@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. James in-the-Hills Episcopal Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and to invite all of God's diverse community into a personal relationship with our Lord.

St. James in-the-Hills Episcopal Church

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