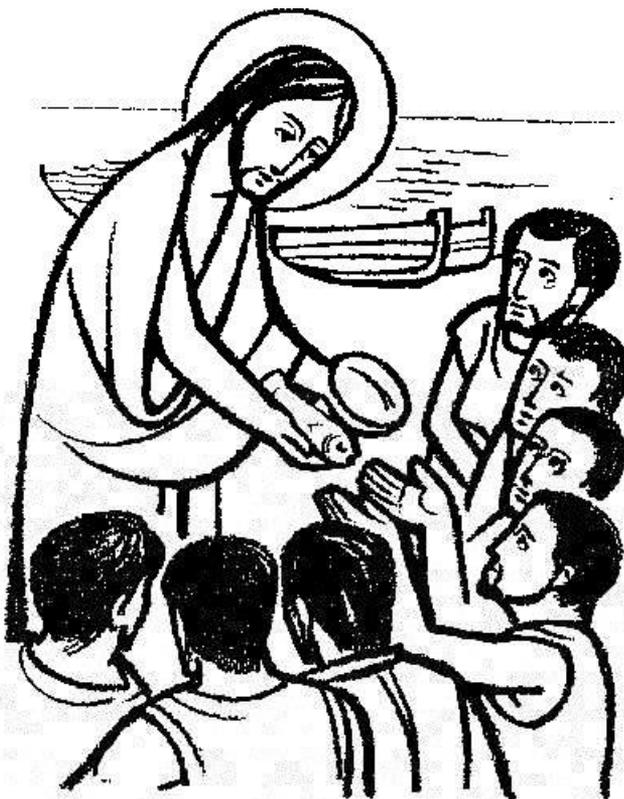


The St. James' Weekly News  
The Third Sunday of Easter  
April 10, 2016



Courtesy of [http://www.msperu.org/grafic/graficoslit/cuaresma\\_pascua/13\\_pasc\\_c.htm](http://www.msperu.org/grafic/graficoslit/cuaresma_pascua/13_pasc_c.htm)

***The Very Rev. Christopher L. David, Interim Pastor***

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Visit our Website

[www.stjamesarlingtonvt.org](http://www.stjamesarlingtonvt.org)



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# WELCOME

A warm welcome to all and a special welcome to those who are visiting; the addition of your praise and thanks heartens us all. If you are seeking a church home or simply a place to rest for a while on your spiritual journey, we invite you to consider St. James' to be that place. The service leaflet will guide you through the liturgy. In the pew racks you will find the *Book of Common Prayer* (red binding) and *The Hymnal 1982* (blue binding). Please do not hesitate to ask a fellow worshipper for help.

**If you are new to St. James'** and wish to be included in our weekly e-mails (*This Week At St. James'*), please fill in one of the welcome forms (available on the table in the narthex) and leave it in the offertory plate or with an usher. Restrooms are located in the undercroft on the right-hand wall. There is an elevator located in the narthex for those who need it. **Please do not hesitate to speak to an usher or any church member if you have questions or need assistance.** Whether you are a visitor or a parishioner, if you would like a call and/or a visit please call the office at 375-9952 or send an e-mail to [stjamesparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesparishoffice@gmail.com). If you have a need for hospital visitation for yourself or for a family member or friend, **you must call Fr. Christopher or the Parish Office.** The SWVMC, like many hospitals these days, does not inform us of nor do they make available the names of patients being admitted.

**TODAY'S HYMNS** are listed on the hymn board and also on the back cover of this issue.

**TODAY WE WELCOME HOME** our Interim Pastor, Fr. Christopher L. David, from his trip to Wales.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO KATHLEEN MOORE** who has been admitted as Postulant for Holy Orders. In his letter of April 5 to Kathleen, Bishop Thomas C. Ely stated his concurrence with the recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and continued:

“The Commission was impressed by your energy, and your self-awareness about your learning needs and goals. . . . They find your energy inspiring and were particularly struck by your ability to communicate with people in non-traditional settings. Overall, members found you very accessible, disciplined in your work and strong in your commitment. . . . The Commission appreciates your willingness to access people in the richness of their faith through on-traditional means. It likewise appreciates your willingness to explore a priestly vocation that might be exercised in a bi-vocational manner, and hopefully in Vermont.”

Bishop Ely concluded his letter by offering his and the Commission on Ministry's continuing support “as you enter this next stage of your formation and preparation for ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church.”

Kathleen announced this exciting news in an email to Vestry members and members of her Discernment Committee. She has granted permission to share part of that message. You will find it elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations, Kathleen! We are so proud of you and happy for you!

# *A Report and an Invitation from the Ministry Discernment Committee*

Sunday, April 10, 2016

Dear St. James Parishioner:

When we were commissioned as members of the Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC), we promised to keep you up-to-date on our activities and our progress; this letter is intended to do that. We begin however, by extending a cordial invitation to you to participate in the **Congregational Discernment Meeting on April 17, 2016 following the liturgy at 9AM. (Please note that there will be only one service on that day.)** The work of discernment is the responsibility of the Committee in an organizational sense but it is also entrusted to the entire congregation. We encourage and urge you to make a special effort to be present.

One of the major responsibilities for the MDC is to answer the questions posed in the Office of Transition Ministry Community Portfolio Information Worksheet. At the appropriate time in the process, these questions, and their answers, will be posted on our website so that potential candidates for our new rector can gather the information they need initially to discern their own interest in being part of the vision and ministry of St. James'. Answering the questions so that we may present an accurate picture of St. James', its people, its community and its vision and ministry is not a task that MDC can complete without your participation. April 17 will be an exciting day because it is an opportunity for you to contribute your thoughts about where St. James' is now and where we are headed in the future. **We cannot move forward without your help because you are St. James' Church.**

What will we do as a congregation on April 17? We will be collecting your thoughts about three very important questions:

1. Who are we now?
2. Who is God calling us to be?
3. What gifts and skills do we need, both from ourselves and from clergy leadership, to get there?

We ask that you come on April 17 with your ideas about these questions written on three separate pieces of paper – any kind of paper. At the meeting, we will collect your written thoughts and put them into three baskets. During our gathering, we will read the submissions, one by one, for consideration and reflection. Please do not put your names on the papers or identify your answers on that day. We want the discussion to be about our purpose as a church, not about things that may have happened in the past. If you have additional thoughts and ideas on that day, there will be paper and pen to capture these as well.

Here's what we will **NOT** be doing on April 17: We will not be judging anyone's ideas or thoughts nor the level of their commitment to St. James'. We will not be investigating reasons why some people no longer attend worship every Sunday. We will also not be discussing the potential salary and benefits package for a new rector as that is up to the Vestry to decide.

The MDC has been reading *Changing the Conversation: A Third Way for Congregations* by Anthony B. Robinson. We invite you to do the same. There are copies on the table at the back of the church. Please take one and read it. We ask you to return them as soon as possible so that others may read the book also. You might wish to purchase one for yourself. It is excellent reading.

Robinson says that "the vision statement should reflect the contributions of 1) the congregation; 2) the governing board (vestry); 3) the pastor; 4) analysis of the external environment (the larger community in which the church exists); and 5) an outside perspective." For that outside perspective, the MDC has chosen the Reverend Jean Smith whom some of you met on March 13 when she attended worship with us and then met with MDC following the service. Mother Smith is a Priest Associate at St. Michael's Church in Brattleboro. Before retiring to Vermont, she served for 10 years as the priest at Trinity Church, Princeton, New Jersey and also as President and Executive Director of the Seaman's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. She will be with us again on April 17 to assist us with the important conversation among us about our way to the future.

**Once again, we look forward to seeing you on April 17.** We promise that we will keep the meeting focused and moving forward. We value your participation and your input more than we can say adequately. If you are unable to be present on April 17, we hope very much that you will send us your responses either by e-mail, by the postal service or by hand in an envelope to the church office. Although such delivery negates anonymity, we will be sure that your comments are not identified as coming from you when they are placed in the gathering baskets on the day of the meeting.

We thank you for the confidence you have placed in us and we ask for your help and for your prayers.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen Rice, Chair

Susan Gratz; Chris Meyer; Patricia Michael and Garry Roosma, members of the Ministry Discernment Committee

For further information:

1. An explanation of the discernment and transition process is available on the website of the Episcopal Church Office of Transition Ministry at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/transition-ministry>. If you are not web-enabled, please see Eileen Rice for a paper copy of the information available on that site.]

2. Visit the Diocese of Vermont website at <http://diovermont.org/resources-links/for-congregations>. Scroll down to "Congregations in Transition" for detailed information about the process and also for a listing of other congregations in transition in the state.

3. Copies of *Changing the Conversation: A Third Way for Congregations* by Anthony B. Robinson are available on the table behind the last row of pews on the Epistle side.

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In Her Own Words:  
A Personal Message from Kathleen Moore,  
Postulant for Holy Orders

*[Excerpts from her April 5, 2016 email message to PDCOM and the Vestry]*

"I have returned from a meeting in Burlington where I was told I have been admitted as a Postulant for Holy Orders! I am thrilled and overwhelmed and kind of in disbelief. It feels on the one hand like it's been a very long road, and on the other like I just started. And I know in truth this is just the very beginning of the journey! ...

"I have been accepted to Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, CA as an "Excellence in Ministry Scholar," which provides full tuition and a stipend for all three years of study. CDSP attracted me for many reasons including its academic program and faculty members, forward-thinking approach to being seminary and church in the modern world, place within a larger organization called the Graduate Theological Union (which means I will be studying alongside students from other faith traditions), and resources that will help me grow and learn in a rural ministry context -- because my plan is to come home to Vermont!

"I would not be here without St. James. This is a fact. This is something I knew I felt called to, but it was not until I was welcomed into this community that I felt safe enough to really start exploring. Thank you for listening to me, for praying with me, and for being my teachers and supporters, reality-checkers, cheerleaders, and more. But you're not off the hook -- I have a feeling I'm gonna need all that more than ever

going forward! The weirdest part of this is knowing it means I will be across the country from Arlington -- a piece that makes me so sad, and will be a really big adjustment. I am thankful for email and all kinds of communication we have available to us.

BUT, school doesn't start until September. So until then, I will enjoy each and every moment with you all!

Thank you, thank you.”



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For the Sick: Bob Alexander; Ken Blackler; Garrett Brewer; Don Brown; Janet Cassell; Joseph Eppink; Tammy Lynn Farrell; Peter Garneau; Mary Gerisch; Jo Gillikin; Pamela Harris; Thomas Hayton; Esther Jaffee; John Jaworski; Jane Jersey; Bruce Keene; Marianne Kennedy; Joyce Klugewicz; John Laughrey; Shirley Letiecq; Mary Loring; Gail McDevitt; Charlie Menghini; Jack Michael; Cecelia O'Brien; Ralph and Natalia Panelli; MaryAnn Schaefer; June Sherwin; Tom Snow; Dot Whitley; Anita; Beth; Bruce; Celia; Dennis; Dick; Helen; Isaac; Jan; John; Judy; Kathy; Kay; Kelly and her parents; Mary Ann; Susan; Laurie and Jim; Val; Susan Gratz' mother.

For the Departed: In memory of our loved ones departed this earthly life; remembering the victims of violence and oppression throughout the world.

For Those In Need of Our Prayers: Charles; Anna, Sherri; Alyce; Sue; Sara; John; Katie; Joan; Cathy; Alex; Sofia; Eleanor; Jack, Vin, Jan and A.J.; Wanda; the Kluj family; the victims of terrorism, strife, hunger and deprivation throughout the world; for the homeless; for all who need our prayers. Pray for peace among all nations and among all peoples.

### For Those Who Celebrate This Week:

Birthdays: 4/10-Patrick King, Ed Weissman; 4/12-Walter Berger, Don Moors; 4/13-Philip Brown, Cody Goebel; 4/14-Zuri Hush, Nathan Mattison; 4/15-Kevin Horton, Melanie Zylinski, Emma Weeks

Wedding Anniversaries: None this week

Baptismal Anniversaries: None this week

For Those Who Serve in the Armed Forces: Gary Marckres; Margaret; Willow Bucchieri-Sibley

In Thanksgiving For: For the ministry of our Interim Pastor, Father Christopher; for Dan Frank's gift of music; for Kathleen Moore, admitted as Postulant for Holy Orders; for God's love, freely given; for the gift of hope; and the continuing presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

For The Church: For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; the people and mission of this Diocese; the Very Rev. Christopher L. David, Interim Pastor; this parish of St. James' and its mission; the Revs. Paul Gratz, Sean Lanigan, Rolfe Lawson, John Miller, Scott B. Neal, Keith F. Patterson, priests; Kathleen Moore, postulant; in the Diocesan Prayer Calendar we pray for the Congregation of St. James' Church, Essex Junction; and The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.

**TODAY'S HYMNS** can be found in the blue-covered *The Hymnal 1982* in the pew rack.

Processional: #213

Offertory: #460, vs. 1-4

Sequence: #256

Recessional: #535

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Sunday, April 17, 9AM ONE SERVICE ONLY. The Baptismal Covenant Parish Meeting, part of our Ministry Discernment process, follows the liturgy.**

Friday, April 29, 5:30-7PM.....Free Community Dinner  
Co- Chairs: Susan and Paul Gratz

**MEETINGS**

Wednesday, April 13, 12 noon, Memorial Lounge.....The Women of St. James  
Wednesday, April 20, 6:30PM.....Meeting of the Vestry  
Sunday, April 24, following the 10AM Liturgy.....Meeting of the St. James' Foundation Board

**ALL HANDS ON DECK!** At the Annual Meeting Senior Warden Joanna Taylor made a call to each of us to pitch in and help with St James' activities: Coffee hours, church cleaning, community dinners, assisting in the office, etc. We especially need chairpersons for our three major fund raising events: Pork Roast, Saturday, June 18; Norman's Attic, Saturday, August 13; and Harvest Fest, Saturday, October 1. This can be a rewarding task personally as well as a benefit to the community and St. James: Fun; camaraderie; financial support for St. James' activities and the satisfaction of a job well-done. See Garry Roosma if you need more information or to volunteer.

**BENNINGTON COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS WISH LIST.**

Deodorant; soap; shampoo; toothbrushes; toothpaste; razors & shaving cream; diapers (all sizes); feminine products; men's clothing (all sizes); cleaning supplies; toilet paper; paper towels; garbage bags. There is a large plastic bin in the narthex to collect the donations. For more information, please check with Michael Rice.

**2016 VESTRY CONTACT INFORMATION.**

Steven Blackler (518-677-5024); Nancy Boardman, Clerk of the Vestry (375-6138); Rob Faley (375-9355); Ed Gust, People's (Junior) Warden (375-9311); Evan Lawrence (518-677-5662); Kathleen Moore (768-8027); Patricia Gordon Michael (379-8132); Garry Roosma (375-1374); Joanna Taylor, Rector's (Senior) Warden (375-9330).

**THE ST. JAMES' FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS**

Marilyn King, President; Nancy Boardman; Pat Clancy; David Durfee; Vivian Lacy; Evan Lawrence; Patricia Gordon Michael; Jill Roosma; Joanna Taylor.

**MINISTRY DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE:** Susan Gratz; Chris Meyer;

Patricia Gordon Michael; Eileen Rice; Garry Roosma