

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025



Sunday, January 12, 2025

7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon

Rector: The Reverend Canon Beverley Sealy-Knight

THE ORDER OF SERVICE	P
THE OPENING	3
COLLECT FOR PURITY	4
THE KYRIES	5
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS	5
THE COLLECT	5
LITURGY OF THE WORD	
1ST READING: ISAIAH 43:1-7	
7:15 A.M. ROSE-ANN RICHARDS	6
9:15 A.M. DEREK CORBIN	
PSALM 29	7
2ND READING ACTS 8: 14-17	
7:15 A.M. JORDAN GRIFFITH	9
9:15 A.M. FELICIA CORBIN	
THE GOSPEL LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22	10
THE SERMON	
THE NICENE CREED	11
INTERCESSION	
7:15 A.M. SUSAN GILES	12
9:15 A.M. MICHAEL BYNOE	
ACT OF PENITENCE	14
THE ABSOLUTION	14
GREETING OF PEACE	15
LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT	
PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS	17
ELEMENT BEARERS:	
7:15 A.M. ENA BOWEN	
COLIN BOWEN	
9:15 MONICA KELLMAN	
ORWYN BURMEISTER	
SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS	17
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER	18
THE LORD'S PRAYER	20
BREAKING OF THE BREAD	21
THE COMMUNION	
THE INVITATION	21
AGNUS DEI	21
THE ADMINISTRATION	
POST COMMUNION PRAYER	23
NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	
THE BLESSING	24
THE DISMISSAL	25

PRAYER LIST

ALLISTAIR ABRAHAM
LORNA ALLEYNE
HENRY BANNISTER
MARION BICKLEY
PETER BOURNE
SALLY BOURNE
ANTOINETTE BUTCHER
NOREEN COWARD
SHIRLEY FIELDS
JEREMY FORBES
ENA GOODING
JUDITH GRAZETTE
SHEILA HATCH
CHARLIE HEATH
YVONNE INNISS
RAYN JOHNSON
MILDRED PAYNE
MURA PAYNE
IOTHA RILEY
FRANCIS ROCK
THELMA ROCK
VIOLA ROCK
JENNY ROUSE
MONA ROUSE
RALPH SHEPHERD
MICHAEL SMITH
DAISY STUART
SHARON TROTMAN
FRANCISCA WILKIE

*The St. James' Church
Family would like to
extend a blessed
welcome to all today.
A special welcome is
given to our visitors.
May this service be an
inspiration to all.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

ORGANIST: DR. PHILIP FORDE, ARCM, FRCO

OPENING SENTENCE: EPIPHANY

God chose to make known how great among the nations are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1: 27

HYMN FOR THE INTROIT: 99

1. Earth has many a noble city;
Bethl'em, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven
came to rule his Israel.
2. Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing
seen in fleshly form on earth.
3. Eastern sages at his cradle
make oblations rich and rare;
see them give in deep devotion,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.
4. Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.
5. Jesu, whom the Gentiles worshipped
at thy glad Epiphany,
unto thee with God the Father
and the Spirit, glory be.

PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia!
Alleluia!

ALL:

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The following may be said by the President and people:

ALL:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY**ALL:**

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.

THE KYRIES

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to His people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One;
 you alone are the Lord:
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT:

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and

anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING - ISAIAH 43: 1-7

Judah has complained that God has deserted them, his people, in the destruction of Jerusalem and in their exile. God asks, through the prophet, "Who among you ... will attend and listen for the time to come?"

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 43, beginning at the first verse.

Thus says the Lord,

he who created , Oyou Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
 Because you are precious in my sight,
 and honored, and I love you,
 I give people in return for you,
 nations in exchange for your life.
 Do not fear, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you;
 I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
 and to the south, "Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from far away
 and my daughters from the end of the earth
 everyone who is called by my name,
 whom I created for my glory,
 whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

The majesty of God is described in the likeness of a thunderstorm; the Lord is mighty over land and sea.

1. Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
2. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
3. The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

4. The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
5. The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
6. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
7. The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
8. The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees
writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
9. And in the temple of the LORD *
all are crying, "Glory!"
10. The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
11. The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of
peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son:*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now:*
and shall be forever. Amen.

THE SECOND READING: ACTS 8: 14-17

Philip, one of the seven chosen to ensure the welfare of widows, has proclaimed the good news in Samaria.

Many have listened to what he has to say; some have been healed. Many have been baptised.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of Acts, Chapter 8, beginning at the fourteenth verse.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL: 102

1. "I come," the great Redeemer cries,
"To do thy will, O Lord!"
At Jordan's stream, behold!
He seals the sure prophetic word.
2. "Thus it becomes us to fulfill
all righteousness," he said.
Then, faithful to the Lord's commands,
through Jordan's flood was led.
3. Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks
from heaven's exalted height:
"This is my Son, my well-beloved
in whom I take delight."

4. The Saviour Jesus, well-beloved!
His Name we will profess,
like him desirous to fulfill
God's will in righteousness.

5. No more we'll count ourselves our own
but his in bonds of love.
Oh, may such bonds for ever draw
our souls to things above!.

THE GOSPEL LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

People flock to John the Baptist, responding to his urging to start new, ethical lives – as a way of preparing for Jesus. John has condemned those who seek his baptism with no intention of reforming their ways. Failure to respond to his call to repentance can lead to condemnation at the end of time.

Gospeler: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Gospeler: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to

clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Gospel of Christ

The people: Praise to Christ our Lord.

(NRSV)

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and

born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body
 and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE INTERCESSION: FORM D:

7:15 A.M. SUSAN GILES

9:15 A.M. MICHAEL BYNOE

LEADER: Our Heavenly Father has promised through our Lord Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith. Let us therefore pray for the Church and the World, and let us thank God for His goodness.

Silence may be kept.

LEADER: We pray for the Church of God in every place; especially for this Diocese, our Bishops, Michael, Rufus and Wilfred and all the people of God.

ALL: Strengthen your Church to carry forward the work of Christ; that we and all who confess your Name may unite in truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory to the world.

LEADER: We pray for our country and for all the nations of the world, especially Haiti, with its many social and economic challenges; and for all peoples in their various callings.

ALL: Direct this nation and all nations in the ways of

justice and truth. Give wisdom to all in positions of public trust and authority; that they may promote the prosperity, godliness and peace of your people everywhere.

LEADER: We pray for our own community, for this parish, for our families, friends, and all who live and work with us.

ALL: Give grace to all our friends and neighbours in Christ, that we may serve Him in one another and grow together in His love.

LEADER: We pray for the poor, the sick, the unemployed, the handicapped; all who have requested our prayers and all who seek the prayers of the Church in their time of trouble.

ALL: Give healing and strength to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and sustain all those who remember and care for them.

LEADER: We commemorate the departed, especially those who have died in your faith.

ALL: We commend all people to your unfailing love, that in them your will may be fulfilled; and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may share with them in your eternal kingdom.

Silence may be kept.

LEADER: Accept these prayers, O Lord our God, for

the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

PRESIDENT:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(1 John 1: 8 - 9)

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

ALL: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

PRESIDENT:

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

PRESIDENT:

We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL:

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

PRESIDENT:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth,
 And let it begin with me.
 Let there be peace on earth
 The peace that was meant to be.
 With God as our Father
 Brothers all are we.
 Let me walk with my brother
 In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
 Let this be the moment now.
 With every step I take
 Let this be my solemn vow.
 To take each moment
 And live each moment
 With peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 108

1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
- 2 To hail thee, Sun of righteousness,
The gathering nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home.
3. For thou their burden dost remove,
and break the tyrant's rod,
as in the day when Midian fell
before the sword of God.
4. For unto us a child is born,
To us the Son is given,
And on his shoulder ever rests
All power in earth and heaven.
5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored.
6. His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end
7. Lord Jesus, reign is us, we pray,

And make us thine alone,
 Who with the Father ever art
 And Holy spirit, one.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

PRESIDENT: AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you

ALL: And also with you

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God:

EPIPHANY

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in coming

to dwell among us as man, He revealed the radiance of His glory, and brought us out of darkness into His own marvellous light.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER - FORM C:

PRESIDENT:

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love you have made
known to us in creation;
in calling 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 Saviour 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.

For, on the night that He was betrayed
He took bread,
and when He had given thanks to you,
He broke it and gave it to His disciples
and said: "Take this, and eat it:
This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And 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."

PRESIDENT:

Therefore, Father, according to His command:

ALL:

**We remember His death;
We proclaim His resurrection;
We await His coming in glory.**

PRESIDENT:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in Him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
Almighty Father, now and ever.

All: ***Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESIDENT:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name;
 your kingdom come;
 your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours now and forever. *Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

PRESIDENT:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL: Though we are many we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

THE AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 grant us peace.**

THE INVITATION:

PRESIDENT:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL: Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

HYMN FOR THE COMMUNION: 572

1. Be still, my soul! For God is near!
The great High Priest is with thee now;
The Lord of life himself is near,
before whose face the angels bow.
2. To make thy heart his lowly throne
thy Saviour God in love draws nigh;
he gives himself unto his own,
for whom he once came down to die.
3. He pleads before the mercy-seat;
he pleads with God; he pleads for thee;
he gives thee bread from heaven to eat,
his flesh and blood in mystery.
4. I come, O Lord! For thou dost call -
to blend my pleading prayer with thine;
to thee I give myself - my all,
and feed on thee and make thee mine.

HYMN FOR THE BLESSING: 659

1. Lamb of God, I look to thee,
thou shalt my example be:
thou art gentle, meek, and mild,
thou wast once a little child.
2. Fain I would be as thou art;
give me thy obedient heart;
thou art pitiful and kind,
let me have thy loving mind.

3. Meek and lowly may I be;
thou art all humility:
let me to my betters bow,
subject to thy parents thou.
4. Let me above all fulfill
God my Heavenly Father's will;
never his good Spirit grieve,
only to his glory live.
5. Thou didst live to God alone,
thou didst never seek thine own,
thou thyself didst never please,
God was all thy happiness.
6. Loving Jesu, gentle Lamb,
in thy gracious hands I am;
make me, Saviour, what thou art;
Live thyself within my heart.
7. I shall then show forth thy praise,
serve thee all my happy days;
then the world shall always see
Christ, the Holy Child, in me.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God and Heavenly Father,
we thank you for feeding us
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you and all persons in you,
with gladness and singleness of heart,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE BLESSING

EPIPHANY

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with good news of His kingdom; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

ALL: AMEN

HYMN FOR THE RECESSION: 103

1. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before Him, His glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore Him: the Lord is His Name!
2. Low at His feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on His heart He will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy
prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.
3. Fear not to enter His courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on His shrine.
4. These, though we bring them in trembling and
fearfulness,
He will accept for the Name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear

5. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before Him, His glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore Him: the Lord is His Name!

THE DISMISSAL

PRESIDENT: Go in peace and serve the Lord

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen

ORGAN POSTLUDE

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Best wishes are extended to all celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this week. We wish you many more.*





ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

*35th Annual
Harvest Garden Party*

Come see The Church decorated with flowers
In the Garden Sidewalk Art, Craft, Food,
Drinks, Tea

Activities for Children

Entertainment by The Barbados Police
Service Band and others

Saturday, February 1, 2025

1:00 pm - 6:00 pm on the Church grounds

ADMISSION: Adults \$15.00

Children under 12 - \$5 at the gate

St. James Parish Church • Holetown, St. James, Barbados
stjamesparishchurchhgp@gmail.com
(246) 422-4117

Our records indicate that the following members are celebrating their birthdays this week. Special greetings are extended to them.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>D O B</u>
<i>Bannister, Maureen (Mrs.)</i>	<i>Jan. 16</i>
<i>Walters, Wilbert (Dr.)</i>	<i>Jan. 15</i>



Hoyte, Marcia (Miss)
January 17



ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH



P.O.Box 3009, Holetown, St. James,
Barbados

Tel: (246) 422-4117

Website <https://stjames-barbados.church>

Email: jamesthegreat@caribsurf.com

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St. James Parish Church