



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

Sunday, November 19, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Prayer Rite II | Year A





St. Joseph's

Episcopal Church

We welcome you to St. Joseph's Episcopal Church with open arms and open hearts.

Please be reverent while we worship; we encourage you to fully participate in our service with responses and song. Please use the chat to add your prayers, thanksgivings, and petitions so that we may include them in the service.

Prelude | 708 (1982 Hymnal)



WELCOME

Officiant:

The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara

Voice of the People:

Shirley Jones



Opening Hymn | 657 (1982 Hymnal)

LOVE DIVINE

Opening Sentences

*Send out your light and your truth,
that they may lead me, and bring me
to your holy hill and to your
dwelling.*

Psalm 43:3



The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

continued

The Confession of Sin

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. **Amen.**



The Invitatory

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant 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. Alleluia.

The Invitatory

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

continued

The Invitatory

In his hands are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

continued

The Invitatory

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand,
Oh that today you would hearken to his voice!



Old Testament | Reynold Bradshaw

A reading from Zephaniah, Chapter 1, verses 7 and 12 to 18.

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

continued

Old Testament | Reynold Bradshaw

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

continued

Old Testament | Reynold Bradshaw

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Psalm 90:1-12 | Merglen Soares

¹ Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

³ You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

continued

Psalm 90:1-12 | Merglen Soares

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

⁶ In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

⁷ For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

continued

Psalm 90:1-12 | Merglen Soares

⁸ Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

⁹ When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰ The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

continued

Psalm 90:1-12 | Merglen Soares

¹¹ Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?

¹² So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Lector Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

People as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.



The Epistle | Hyacinth Hutchinson

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 5, verses 1 to 11.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

continued

The Epistle | Hyacinth Hutchinson

But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

continued

The Epistle | Hyacinth Hutchinson

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Canticle H | A Song of Hosea

Come, let us return to our God, *

who has torn us and will heal us.

God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, *

after two days revive us,

On the third day restore us, *

that in God's presence we may live.

Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, *

whose justice dawns like morning light,

continued

Canticle H | A Song of Hosea

its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
God's justice will come to us like a shower, *
like spring rains that water the earth.



Gospel Hymn | 541 (1982 Hymnal)

Come, Labor On

Jeremy J. Bankson



MorningStar

The Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 25, verses 14 to 30.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.

continued

The Gospel

But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

continued

The Gospel

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground.'

continued

The Gospel

Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

continued

The Gospel

As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Lector The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.



Sermon | The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara

THANKSGIVING: A CALL TO PRAYER, PRAISE, AND WORSHIP



The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

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 and ever. Amen.

The Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

continued

The Suffrages

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.



Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Brothers and sisters, in love let us encourage one another and build each other up. Let us pray saying, “Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy.”

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, you have destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ; strengthen your Church to confidently share your gospel throughout the world.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;

Have mercy.

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, have mercy on all who are shown contempt and scorn: Hear the cries of the needy and lift up the downtrodden and lowly.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;

Have mercy.

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, you rule the day and the night: Bless and sustain the works of your hands. Restore your creation.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;

Have mercy.

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, you are enthroned in the heavens: may we trust not our won schemes but lift up our eyes to you. Lead and guide our city and its leaders in all justice and truth.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;
Have mercy.

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, you are a merciful God: hear the prayers of those who cry out to you for help. Be present with the suffering in their waking and their sleeping.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;
Have mercy.

continued

Prayers of the People | Camyllle Haughton

Lord God, your Son Jesus died for us that we might dwell in your light forever: give to the dying and the dead the hope of salvation.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord;
Have mercy.

continued

Concluding Collect

Holy and Merciful God, open your ears to our call; listen to the cries of our hearts. Accept our prayers and answer them according to your good and perfect will. In the name of Jesus, the Lord of glory, we pray.
Amen.



Prayers for the Community

We pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries and ask God to bless them.

✝ The Jones family gives thanks and praise to the Almighty in thanksgiving for Shirley & Percival who celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on November 18th. May God continue to bless their union. Given with love by their children, Shona and grandson Cole, Pietra, and Jessica & Phillip.

Prayers for Birthdays/Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand, Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most Gracious God, look with favor upon these your servants as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of Your grace and blessing, that they may continue to cherish each other and continue to grow in love and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Travelers

Heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation and whose presence we find everywhere: Preserve those who travel, especially (N); surround them with your loving care, protect them from any danger, and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers from the Congregation

We continue to pray for the people of the world recovering from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and fire;

We pray for Palestine in the wake of the siege on Gaza, we pray for compassion and mercy; we pray the thousands who have died; for those made homeless; for the thirsty and hungry; we pray for those who mourn and those who have been held hostage; we pray for the voice of God to be heard.

We pray for the ongoing war in Ukraine, and the genocides in Congo, Sudan, and Tigray.

Prayer for the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family;; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer for Peace

O God of all justice and peace we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths—Jews, Muslims, and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honor as your children for, to all of us, you are our Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Archbishop Hosam Naoum, The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

Prayers from the Congregation

We pray The Rev. Kassinda Ellis and her family upon the passing of her father, Randolph Ellis. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.

Prayers from the Congregation

Olidia Gordon asks us to continue to pray for healing for her sister, Silvia Thomas-Jay—for God to guide the doctors and staff who care for her.

Ilanye Longjohn asks for continuous prayer for her cousin-in-law Femi who is in a coma from a stroke, as well as her 12 year old grandniece who is battling lymphoma. May God comfort and strengthen these families.

Prayer List

Janelle Adams
Keisha Alexander
Daphne Aguero
Michael Anguria
Anne Archer
Melissa Arrington-
Hubbard
Audrey Arthurs
Sonia Barton
Natalie Bridges

Edris Bryan
Alison Brown-
Cunningham
Agatha Dobson
Rose Carrott
Nishah Charania
Lorna Charles
Marina Chester
Dossie Chin
Sade Curtis

Hyacinth Danne
Daisha Dove & family
Peggy DuRante
John Ellis
Marshall Ellis
Ruth Ervin
Yolanda Evans-Humber
Daniela Folkes
Nicola Forbes-Martin
Fitzroy Gabbidon

Prayer List

Michelle Golphin

Claudette Grant

Leighton Grant

Azikiwea Green

Desmond Green

Dorrell Holness

James Hunter

Natalie Hunt-Laviscount

Edson Jack

Norma Jarrett

Afua Johnson

Harold Jones

Noel Joseph

Julene Karney

Marlon Kerr

Anwar Khan & family

Noel Kong

Charles Kozakiewicz

John Lake

Eric Lewis

Anthony Liggins

Marcia London

Natasha Lovejoy

Barbara Llewellyn

Dorothy Malcolm

Sr. Sheila Marie

Cessarine McKay

Rosalind Meriku

Freddie Mitchell, Jr.,

La Verne Mitchell

Crystal Nurse

Kathleen Nurse-Lewis

Prayer List

Norma & Larie Mays

Daphne Parris & Family

Desiree Pierce

Eulalee Phinn

Greta Piscascio

Verely Powerful

Leonard Richards, Sr.

Chandra Robinson

Shelly Robinson

Shelly Rutherford

Sheila Samms

Elizabeth Rawlins

Doreen Russell-Hanna

Joy Sanders

Desmond St. Louis

Gloria Scudder

Rosa Segovia

Orinthia Stewart

Clarence Simms

Walter Simpson

Patsy Stephenson

Maureen Tai

Peter Tavalacci

Lois Tinsley

George Upshaw

Marilyn Warwell

Ancil Whittle

Beverly Williams

Mary McWilliams

Christopher Wright

Rupert Wright

Pat Wynter

Pat Zephyrine

Prayer List

You may speak aloud the names of those for whom you would like to pray.



Prayer for Healing

God of all power and wisdom, by the might of Your command, drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity; grant to your servants, especially N, your healing touch so that his/her weakness may vanish and his/her strength renewed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



The Peace | Prayer for Peace

Let all around us be love



An Invitation to Support Our Ministry

When you are blessed by our ministry, we invite you to donate.



To support us, please visit our website at www.stjosephqv.org/donate or scan this QR code by opening the camera on your cell phone, scanning this image, and clicking on the yellow link that pops up.



Offertory Prayer

Creator God, you made the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. You have blessed us with your abundant, abiding love so that we may be inspired to live generously. From your plentiful gifts, we give you our own first fruits, the gathering of our time, talent, and treasure. May they be a blessing to the world. **Amen.**



The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

continued

The General Thanksgiving

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.



The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

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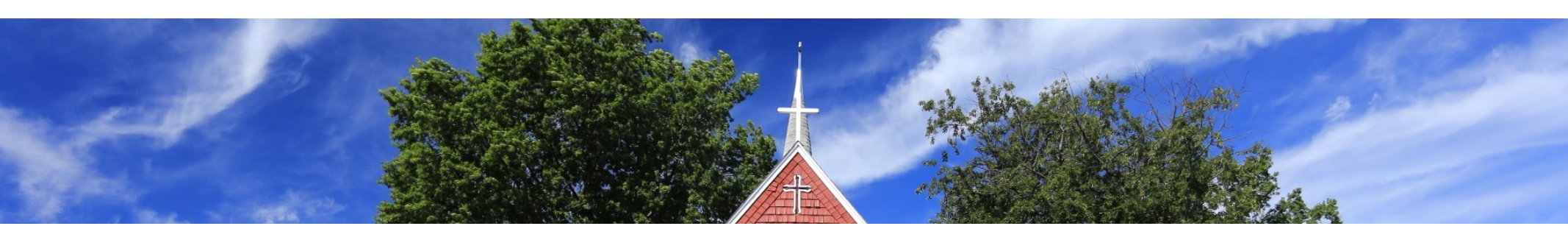
Closing Hymn | LEV 65



Bless The Lord

by Andraé Crouch

Announcements

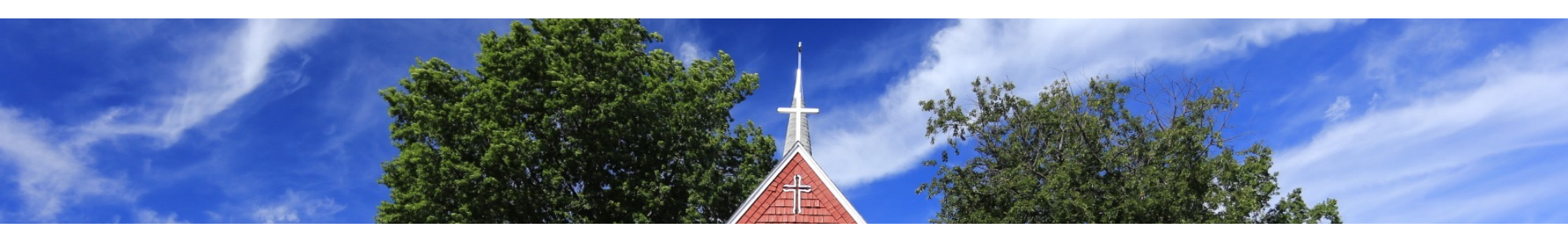


BULLETIN NOTICES

All notices for the Bulletin for next week's bulletin should be sent to the church office no later than tomorrow (Monday 20th by 12 noon) because of the shortened work week.

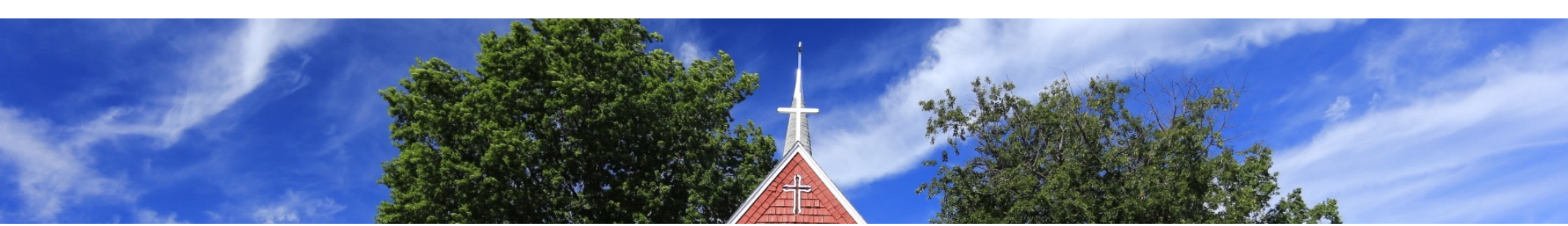
NOVEMBER 26 | FAMILY SUNDAY (CHRIST THE KING)

The Byfield and Samms families will be readers and will process on Family Sunday at the 11 AM service.



DECEMBER 2 | 12 PM

A memorial service for Mr. Errol Byfield will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at Dabar Bethlehem Cathedral, 218-38 98th Avenue, Queens Village, NY. The service starts at 12 noon followed by a luncheon launching the Errol Carlton Byfield Memorial Scholarship Foundation.



DECEMBER 8 | FUNERAL FOR RANDOLPH ELLIS

The funeral services for Randolph Ellis are as follows:

Visitation is on Friday, December 8 at 4 PM at Carl C. Burnett Funeral Home at 456 S Franklin Street, Hempstead, NY

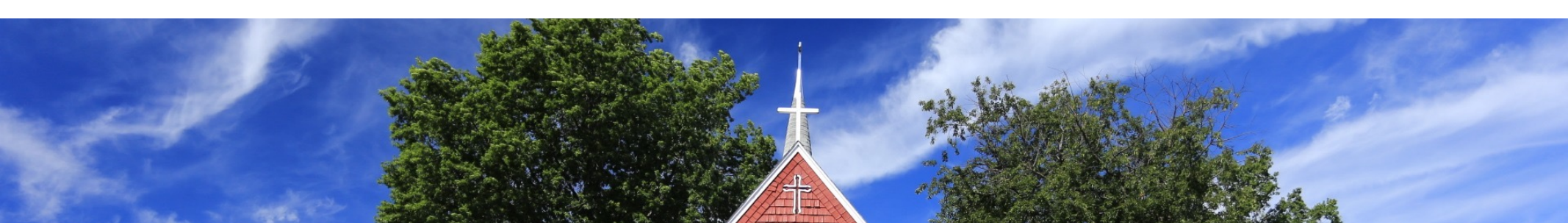
Funeral Service is on Saturday, December 9 at 10 AM at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City followed by a Committal Service at Pinelawn Memorial Park and Arboretum in Farmingdale, NY.



DECEMBER 8 | RECTOR'S WINTER BALL

Tickets are \$160/Adult and \$80/Child for the Annual Rector's Winter Ball. All monies and a final headcount are due on Monday, December 4. A prize will be given to the person who sells the most tickets.

The honorees are Carol Carrington, Weina Jones, Wyatt Jones-Johnson, David Joseph, Nichola Walker and Eden Brown. Please support them by placing congratulatory messages in the Keepsake Journal—the deadline for submissions is Wednesday!



DECEMBER 9 | ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

St. Joseph's Tree Lighting will take place on the Rectory Lawn from 5 PM to 7 PM

DECEMBER 24 | CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & EUCHARIST

St. Joseph's Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 24 at 11 AM service. A Koinonia Meal will be sponsored by Fr. Fred and all celebrating December birthdays.

Prayers for the Sick

If you would like to place someone on the sick list for special prayers, please call the Church Office or email admin@stjosephqv.org
Please remember to remove your loved one from the sick list once they have recovered or if they have passed. Thank you

UTO

UNITED THANK OFFERING

NOTICE

THE GOOD THINGS THAT HAPPEN EACH DAY

GIVE

THANKS TO GOD FOR YOUR BLESSINGS

MAKE

AN OFFERING FOR EACH BLESSING

BLESS

YOUR BLESSING BECOMES A BLESSING FOR OTHERS

100% of all funds given to UTO are granted the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church.

To learn more visit: www.episcopalchurch.org/uto

UNITED THANK OFFERING

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

To give, you may offer UTO as part of a second collection. Please be sure to note UTO in the memo on your electronic donation or your check. Thank you.



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

Worship with us in-person
on Sundays at 11 AM
St. Thomas' Episcopal
Church, Bellerose, NY



End of Announcements



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara, Interim Priest-in-Charge

www.stjosephqv.org

admin@stjosephqv.org

99-10 217th Lane

Queens Village, NY 11429

Phone: 718.464.8913, ext. 2

Fax: 718.464.2366

Email: admin@stjosephqv.org

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