



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

March 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

Morning Prayer Rite II | Year C



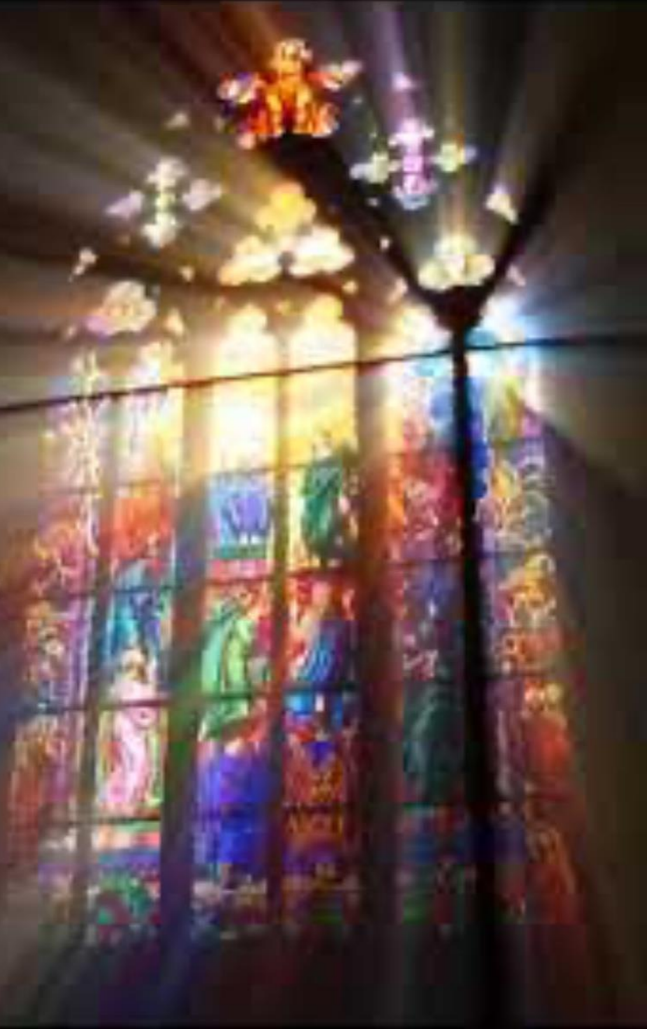
St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

We welcome you to St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, *the church on the way*, with open arms and open hearts.

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

Prelude Hymn | 448 (1982 Hymnal)

O love, how deep,
how broad, how high,
how passing thought
and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God,
should take
our mortal form
for mortals' sake.



WELCOME

Officiant:

The Rev. Canon Dr. Fred Vergara

Voice of the People:

Carlton Mitchell



Opening Hymn | On Eagle's Wings

The snare of the
fowler will never
capture you,
And famine will bring
you no fear;



Opening Sentences

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

Joel 2:13



The Confession of Sin

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

The Confession of Sin

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.

The Confession of Sin

Officiant

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.

The Invitatory

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

continued

The Invitatory

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.



Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 | Wendy Riley

¹ He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

² He shall say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,

continued

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 | Wendy Riley

¹⁰ There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.

¹² They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

continued

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 | Wendy Riley

¹³ You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

¹⁴ Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

continued

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 | Wendy Riley

¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

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 Old Testament | Ilanye Longjohn

A reading from Deuteronomy, Chapter 26, verses 1 to 11.

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your

continued

The Old Testament | Ilanye Longjohn

God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors;

continued

The Old Testament | Ilanye Longjohn

the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God.

continued

The Old Testament | Ilanye Longjohn

Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Canticle 14 | A Song of Penitence

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

continued

Canticle 14 | A Song of Penitence

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *

long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *

you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord,

you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *

that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *

and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

continued

Canticle 14 | A Song of Penitence

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *

and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore, I make this prayer to you: *

Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, *

nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *

and in me you will show forth your goodness.

continued

Canticle 14 | A Song of Penitence

Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy, *

and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *

and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.



The Epistle | Hyacinth Hutchinson

A reading from the Letter to the Romans, Chapter 10, verses 8b to 13.

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."

continued

The Epistle | Hyacinth Hutchinson

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

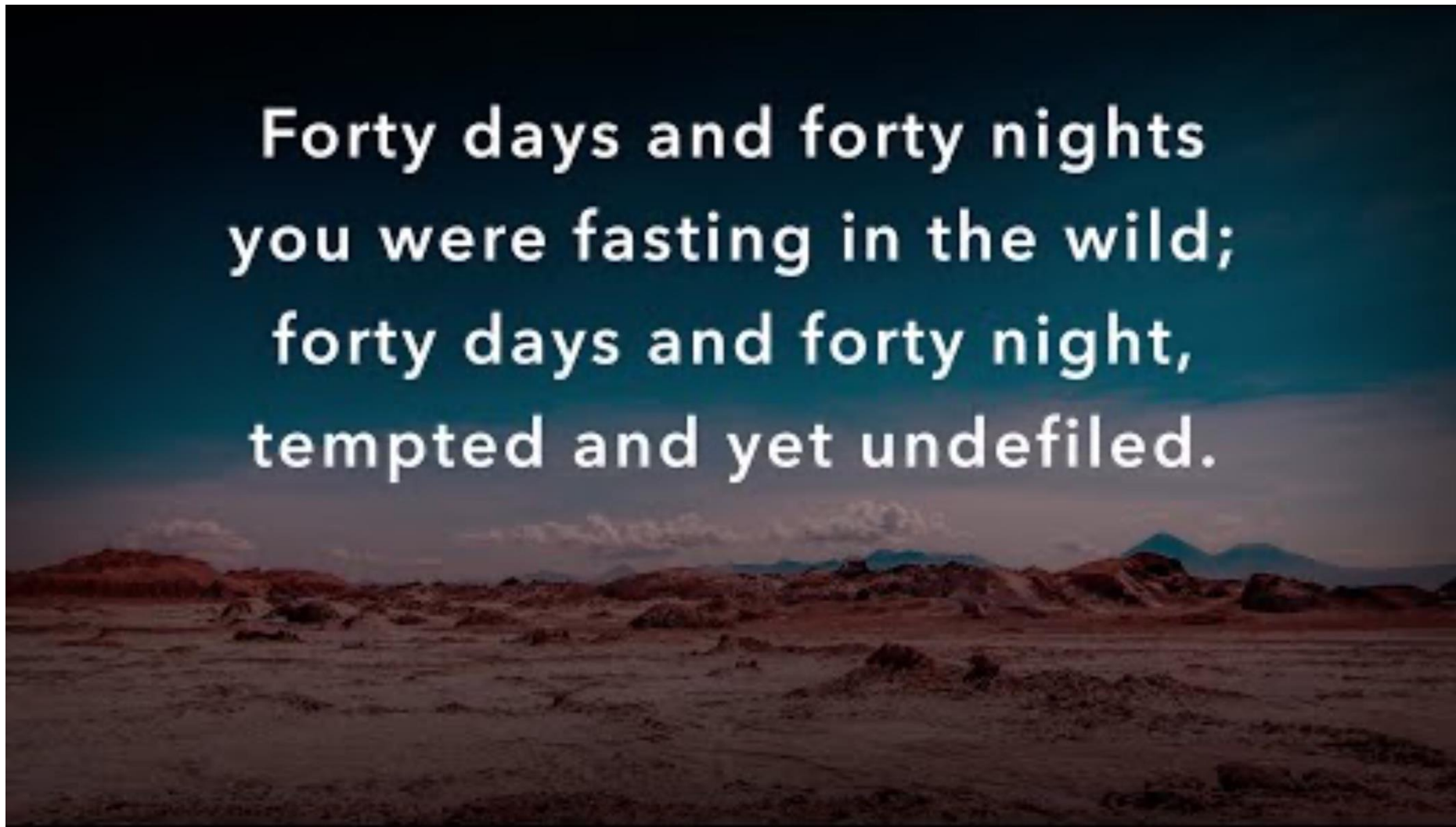
Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Gospel Hymn | 217 (1982 Hymnal)

Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty night,
tempted and yet undefiled.



The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, Chapter 4, verses 1 to 13.

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

continued

The Gospel

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

continued

The Gospel

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Lector The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**





Sermon | The Temptations of Money, Fame, and Power
The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara

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. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name forever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

continued

The Suffrages

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.



Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Our Parish

Almighty God, hear our prayer for this our parish family at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church of Queens Village. Strengthen the faithful, revive the inactive, restore the penitent and inspire us for mission. Grant to us all things necessary for our common life, provide for our ministries and bring us to unity of heart and mind, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Our generous God hears us when we pray; therefore, let us
pray, "Hear us, O God; save us, O God."

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

You know your Church, O God. You know that because of fear and greed, we are slow to offer the first fruits of our hearts. Forgive us and come quickly to help us.

Hear us, O God;

Save us, O God.

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

You know the hearts of mortals, O God. You know that we are prone to hatred and division. Yet you make no distinctions, but only love. Help us to be more like you. Forgive us and come quickly to help us.

Hear us, O God;
Save us, O God.

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

You know we are quick to exploit your creation, O God. You know we take the blessings of this life for granted. Forgive us and come quickly to help us.

Hear us, O God;

Save us, O God.

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

You know our temptations, O God. You know we are not as strong as we think we are. Give us your strength. Forgive us and come quickly to help us.

Hear us, O God;
Save us, O God.

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

You know our weaknesses, O God. You know we struggle in our pain; we suffer and experience trouble. Come quickly to help us.

Hear us, O God;

Save us, O God.

continued

Prayers of the People | Shirley Jones

In you, O God, do we put our trust. We entrust to you our dead because you alone are our refuge and salvation. You alone are mighty to save.

Hear us, O God;

Save us, O God.

continued

Concluding Collect

Show your goodness, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Look past our selfish desires and remember your own faithfulness. In your great compassion, consider our petitions and in your mercy do in our lives that which is truly good. We pray in the name of your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit, reigns One God, now and forever. **Amen.**



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; 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 affected by natural disasters.

We pray for a renewed ceasefire in Gaza, and occupied Palestine. We pray for the ongoing wars in Ukraine and Congo; the genocides in Palestine, Sudan, and the Congo; we pray for the people of the world affected by political violence and civil unrest.

We pray for the souls of the massacred, for the hungry and thirsty, for the homeless, and the imprisoned. We pray for activists protesting injustice worldwide and fighting for liberation.

We pray for the political leaders of the United States; we pray that the rule of law endures, and for leadership with sense, honesty, compassion, and mercy.

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.

Prayers from the Congregation

We pray for the people of St. Lucia, which celebrated 46 years of independence on Saturday February 22, 2025. May God continue to bless and guide the people and leadership of the country.

Prayer List

Adlai C.

Afua J.

Agatha D.

Alfreda

Alison B.

Anthony V.

Audia W.

Avril S.

Barbara L.

Beverly W.

Cessarine M.

Chandra R.

Christine

Clarence S.

Claudette G.

Cory T.

Crystal N.

Cynthia M.

Daisha D.

Daphne A.

David T.

David W.

Delores

Deborah S.

Desmond G.

Desmond S.

Doreen R.

Dorette H.

Dorothy M.

Eda D.

Edris B.

Fitzburt D.

Francine B.

Prayer List

George U.

Georgia D.

Harold J.

Hyacinth D.

Ivy J.

James H.

Jean G.

John L.

Joy S.

Judy

Julene K.

Kathleen N.

Keisha A.

Larry M.

Leighton G.

Leonard R.

Lois T.

Lorraine

Madeline

Marcia L.

Marcia

Maria A.

Marie

Marlon K.

Mary M.

Maureen T.

Melissa A.

Michael A.

Monica

Myrna & Eugene C.

Natalie B.

Nichola & Family

Nishah C.

Prayer List

Noel J.

Noel K.

Norma J.

Norma M.

Pat W.

Pat Z.

Percival C.

Peter T.

Renaë

Rosa S.

Rosalind M.

Rosalind P.

Rose C.

Rosemary C.

Rupert W.

Sade C.

Sheila S.

Simone

Sr. Sheila

Sowande

Teron

Timmy K.

Verely P.

Willacy & Maxfield family

Prayer List

You may speak aloud the first 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 your healing touch so that their weakness may vanish and their 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 | The Lord Bless You and Keep You



The Lord Bless You and Keep You

PERFORMED BY THE HOUR OF POWER CHOIR

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 or send payment via Zelle to treasurer@stjosephqv.org



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

Bow down before the Lord.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The 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 70



Announcements



St. Joseph's Announcements

- March 9 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- March 15 Memorial Mass for Clarice Ellis at 10:30 AM
- March 16 Patronal Festival | 11 AM Sung High Mass with Chanting
- March 30 Women's Day | Altar Guild Installation
- April 6 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- April 13 Palm Sunday
- April 17 Maundy Thursday | joint 7 PM service with St. Thomas
- April 18 Good Friday
- April 19 Easter Vigil | 7 PM at St. Thomas
- April 20 Easter Sunday | Egg Hunt at St. Thomas



St. Joseph's Announcements

- Apr. 27 155 Anniversary 11 AM Mass & Banquet | Sand Castle
- May 4 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- June 8 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- July 8 Vestry Meeting | Zoom
- August 5 Vestry Meeting | Zoom
- Sept. 7 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- October 5 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- Nov. 9 Vestry Meeting | Hybrid
- Nov. 14/15 Diocesan Convention
- Dec. 9 Vestry Meeting | Zoom



St. Joseph's Announcements

MEMORIAL FOR CLARICE ELLIS | MARCH 15, 2025

The Memorial Mass for Clarice Ellis will be held as follows:

Saturday, March 15, 2025 | 10:30 AM

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

6 Commonwealth Blvd., Bellerose NY

A repast will be held immediately following the service.



St. Joseph's Announcements

CHRISTIAN PARENTING & CAREGIVING INITIATIVE | MARCH 22, 2025

St. Joseph's Cohort on Christian Parenting and Caregiver Initiative will hold a session from 10:30 AM to 11:05 AM at Forest Presbyterian Church of Jamaica located at 89-60 164th Street, Jamaica, NY 11432

ACOLYTE REHEARSAL

A reminder that Acolyte rehearsals will be held on every first and third Sunday after the 11 AM service. Please contact Nichola Walker with questions.



St. Joseph's Announcements

WOMEN'S DAY | MARCH 30, 2025

Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations

We will be honoring the Altar Guild, past and present members, and installing new members into the ministry. The Altar Guild honorees are as follows:

Virginia Alexander (deceased)

Daphne Parris (deceased)

Ivy Johnson

Conceta Francis

Beryl Thompson

Daisy Medley(deceased)

Verna Carter(deceased)

Julie Small-Gibson

Schandles McKeithen-Daniels



St. Joseph's Announcements

CONGREGATION RIDESHARE

A Rideshare Group is being organized for parishioners who would like to attend Sunday or Wednesday Services, but need a ride to get there. If you need a ride, or would be willing to provide a ride, please contact Pearl Nurse at 347-282-7400.



Brotherhood

of
St. Andrew

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Queens Assembly of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew will be awarding three (3) scholarships to students of the Episcopal/Anglican church who will be freshmen entering an accredited two or four year college program in the Fall of 2025. There will be three (3) awards in the amounts of \$1500, \$1200, and \$1000 respectively. Please see Garfield DaCosta or Justin Sinclair for more information and for an application.

155TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

April 27th at 12 PM | Sand Castle

The honorees for the 155th Anniversary Banquet are:

The Rev. Canon Lloyd Anthony, Angela Brown, Eda Dyce, La Verne & Carlton Mitchell, Jean Providence, Robert Saunders, and Rebekah Severe.

Recipients of the Bishop's Cross:

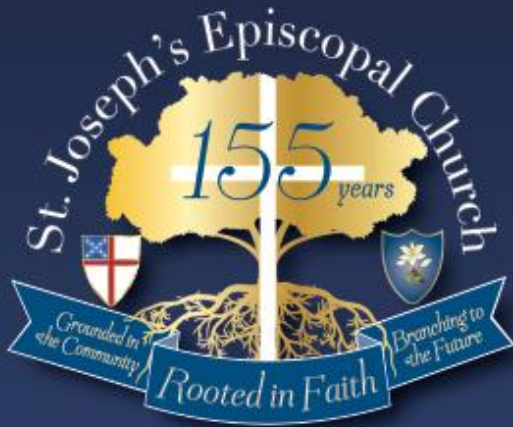
Hyacinth Hutchinson, Percival Jones, Schandles McKeithen-Daniels, Garfield DaCosta, Norma Byfield, Ruth Siegmann, Robert Saunders, and Sandra Simpson



155TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

April 27th at 12 PM | Sand Castle

Tickets will be available soon at \$155/adult and \$75/child; payment plans are available. Please contact Roxanne, Norma, Cynthia, or Sandra for more information on journal ads—by March 26th



*End of
Announcements*



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

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

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