



Welcome to St. James' in the City!

We're happy to have you with us this morning. We hope you find our parish to be a place of welcome and invitation. After the service, come to coffee hour in the Parish Hall across the courtyard.

A Holy Pilgrimage

Have you ever found yourself planning a vacation, or some kind of journey or trip, with a certain set of expectations, only to return with experiences and images you never imagined? Well, that happened to me.



Lauren at the Mt. of Olives with view of Old Jerusalem. The gold-domed building is the Dome of the Rock, a Muslim temple, in the same location as the Temple in Jesus' time.

For the past two weeks, I've been a pilgrim in the Holy Land. I had expected to return refreshed and spiritually renewed after visiting all the sites we read and heard from the Bible. What actually happened was a whirlwind of trips and treks that took me to places that, at first, were confusing and disorienting, with 30 other pilgrims who were having the same experience. We'd get up early dawn, have a quick breakfast, then pile onto our bus to go to all the different places listed in our itineraries. There was so much to see and learn about, but by the end of the trip, most of us had gotten our directional bearings and things began to come together.

One of the first misconceptions I had was geographical. For instance, I had always thought of the Jordan river as a wide expanse with generous sand bars and large rocks, where people gathered to be baptized. Instead we were led to a place that was quiet, marshy and muddy. We renewed our baptismal vows and sang "At the River".



Another surprise was the city of Nazareth, which I believed to be a flat and dusty little town. Not so! Nazareth is atop a collection of hills with amazing vistas and sounds of church bells and chanting Imams. We learned that in Jesus' time Nazareth had only a population of about 450 people (hence the "little town" impression). We visited the churches that mark various points of importance in Mary's and Joseph's lives, and made our way to the Sea of Galilee and Jericho, among many other sites.

All that said, I returned neither refreshed nor spiritually renewed, but instead I am filled with many seeds of images and information that will sprout and grow throughout the year. Last Sunday in church I listened to the Gospel of Mark, "As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, ..." hey, I was *there*, and *it happened*. Wow.

Blessings, Lauren Azeltine, Parish Administrator

Stewardship Corner

PLEDGES TO-DATE: 109

TARGET: 200

We want everyone to know exactly where we are with our stewardship campaign. Transparency is important! Knowledge is strength and, we hope, action!

You will recall, we are aiming for \$800,000 in pledges to truly thrive and we are nearly a quarter of the way there. So far, 109 pledgers have come forward and pledged a total of \$386,793.54.

Last year, we had 177 pledgers, and this year we believe we can have 200 pledgers. We are depending on you!!

Pledge cards are in your pews.

Thank You

To the volunteers who came to help prepare and serve the Thanksgiving meal for the Soup Kitchen this past Friday. The extra day off for many people affords them the time to give back to those individuals (many who are homeless) who rely on the sustenance of the Soup Kitchen meal.



Support Christmas Flowers and Music

Please support the Christmas Flowers and Music program this year! Your financial support fully funds the beautiful poinsettias and greenery, and the instrumental ensemble for Christmas Eve.

Donation forms are included in your bulletins today. You are welcome to dedicate your donation to loved ones; these dedications will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

International Book Group—Today

After the 10:30 service, in the Conference Room.

The group is currently re-act A Time To Plant by Kyle Kramer. As always, we invite you to join the book group. Please email us at medicaldiplomat@aol.com for further information.

Please Continue to Wear a Name Tag

As Rev. Kate continues to learn all our names, please continue to use the labels in the Narthex. It's also a great way to learn each other's names as we grow together here at St. James'.

Blanket Donations Accepted

As the cold season arrives donations of clean blankets are always valuable to our outreach guests. For the next few weeks there will be a box in the Parish Hall to leave your donations. Your generosity is always appreciated.

CALENDAR

Sunday *Christ the King* 25 November

Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Church	8:00AM
Sunday School	Sunday School Rm	10:30AM
<i>Childcare available for children 4 and under.</i>		
Solemn Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Church	10:30AM
Book Group	Conf Rm	12:00 NOON
Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Church	12:15PM
<i>Korean Language</i>		

Tuesday 27 November

Food Pantry Prep <i>(volunteers welcome)</i>	Street Lvl	8:00AM
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Thursday 29 November

Food Pantry Distribution <i>(volunteers welcome)</i>	Street Lvl	8:00AM
Centering Prayer	Chapel	9:15AM

Friday 30 November

Diocesan Convention	Ontario Convention Ctr	
Soup Kitchen Prep	Parish Hall	3:00PM
Soup Kitchen Meal	Parish Hall	5:00PM
Soup Kitchen Evening Prayer	Chapel	5:45PM

Saturday 1 December

Diocesan Convention	Ontario Convention Ctr
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Sunday 2 December

Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Church	8:00AM
Sunday School	Sunday School Rm	10:30AM
<i>Childcare available for children 4 and under.</i>		
Solemn Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Church	10:30AM
Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Church	12:15PM
<i>Korean Language</i>		

Save the Date

Lessons & Carols	Church	December 9
<i>(Please note time) 7:30PM</i>		
Annual Meeting	Parish Hall	January 27, 2019
Installation of the Rev. Dr. Kate Cress		February 2, 2019
<i>Bishop John Taylor, Officiant</i>		11:00AM

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Rita Oriji, in celebration of her birthday.

Please support the Altar Flowers ministry!

It is a wonderful way to honor your loved ones, beautify our Altar, and ensure we have flowers every week.

Please consider signing up for a Sunday. The sign-up calendar is located in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation: \$150.

Thank you for your generosity.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

We are eager every week to have coffee hour covered by a host.

Hosting coffee hour is a wonderful way to support St. James', and we need your help. Please choose a weekend to sign up on the calendar located in the Parish Hall, and plan to bring some sweets and/or savories for all to enjoy.

Thank you for your generosity.

ST. JAMES' PRAYER LIST

Supporting Our Brothers and Sisters with Prayer

We ask you to hold the following friends and parishioners of Saint James' close to your heart and in your prayers: the Rev. Charles Sacquety, Helen Nelson, Eric Nelson, Shirley Perez, Ogechi Ogbunamiri, Freddie Wright, Kisun Kim, Angelica Cob-Baehler, Margaret Pasley, Susan Walker, Russell Walker, Thomas Ahn, and Harold Ahaiwe.

ST. JAMES' IN THE CITY CONTACTS

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OUR COFFEE THIS MORNING

Comes to us courtesy of LAMIL COFFEE
1636 Silver Lake Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90026.
(323) 663-4441. <https://lamillcoffee.com>

