



SAINT JAMES' IN THE CITY

ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL

EVER ANCIENT | EVER NEW

THE FIRST 100 YEARS



First Service in Spanish

History isn't just something that happens in the past. It's happening right now. On Saturday, January 29, 2011, the first service conducted entirely in Spanish took place at Saint James'. It was a funeral mass for Ceferina Marrero Jorge de Sicilia, the mother of parishioner Sixto Sicilia Marrero. The family's heritage is Cuban and their native language is Spanish.

"During the entire Mass there was a sense of lightness, a sense of calm and beauty," said Sixto. "The fact that the Service was in Spanish and everyone was welcome to receive communion made a great impact on my Cuban family and friends," said Sixto. "So many people came up to me after the service to say, 'it felt so right.' My mother had a great heart and deeply believed in love and inclusion. Saint James' gave her the funeral service that honored those beliefs."

Throughout its history Saint James' Church has constantly endeavored to be of service to its community. Many Latinos live around the church. Last year Father Paul and the members of the office staff began to take weekly classes in Spanish to enable them better connect with the church's neighbors and this year they conducted the first service in entirely in Spanish.

