

St. James' E-pistle

July 12, 2013

Pulpit Notes

Dear Friends at St. James':

Fr. Hunt reminded us this past Sunday that when our Lord Jesus commissions us to represent His ministry, as he once did in the sending out of seventy disciples, we can do great things -- but not in our own strength. We the Church will do great things because and only because God has planned to empower us to do them.

So, what has God planned for us? I can guess two kinds of things: First, enough business as usual to keep us sane enough to (second) entertain and attempt God's new challenges! This will be the theme of this coming Sunday's sermon on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Michael

For pastoral concerns while Fr. Chuck is on sabbatical, please contact Deacon David or Deacon Gail. This week, and until Fr. Chuck returns on September 1st, we warmly welcome Fr. Michael Shafer.

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The News of the Diocese

Our Neighbors on Staten Island Need Assistance: In order for the goal of restoring forty houses by the end of 2013 can be accomplished, volunteers are needed - for a day, or two or for a week.

Volunteers need to be skilled or semi-skilled in the areas of putting up dry wall, taping, installing insulation and painting. We are working on putting together a workshop to aid in building up individual skill levels.

If you are interested in volunteering, please speak with me. Maybe some of your friends would like to join you in forming a work party.

Thank you for considering becoming a Hurricane Sandy Recovery Volunteer. Please keep all of our brothers and sisters who are recovering from Sandy and other natural disasters in your prayers.

Deacon Gail

The Episcopal Diocese of New York has called for the election of a Bishop Suffragan for our Diocese. The resolution to call for this special election was set in motion at our November - 2012 Diocesan Convention. The Committee that oversees the process began accepting applications on May 6th. The timeline for announcing the names of the nominees is October 7th. There will be walkabouts the week of November 18th with a Special Convention to elect our next Bishop Suffragan on Saturday, December 7th at the Cathedral.

Please keep all who are involved in the process in your prayers. "Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of all who shall choose a Bishop Suffragan for our Diocese, and all who offer themselves as candidates, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

2013 Training for Eucharistic Visitors & Eucharistic Ministers: Two training sessions have been scheduled for lay people chosen to serve as Eucharistic Visitors and Eucharistic Ministers. Both one day sessions will be given on a Saturday from 9:45 am to 2:30 pm, with lunch included. The fee for each participant is \$15.00, and scholarships will be available.

Training will be hosted on September 21, 2013 at Zion, Wappingers Falls and at Christ Church of Ramapo, Suffern on October 5, 2013. If you wish to register, or have any questions about the training, please contact Arlene Bullard at abullard@dioceseny.org.

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The News of the Church

Summer Hiatus for Coffee Hour: Please note that there will be no coffee hour during July and August.

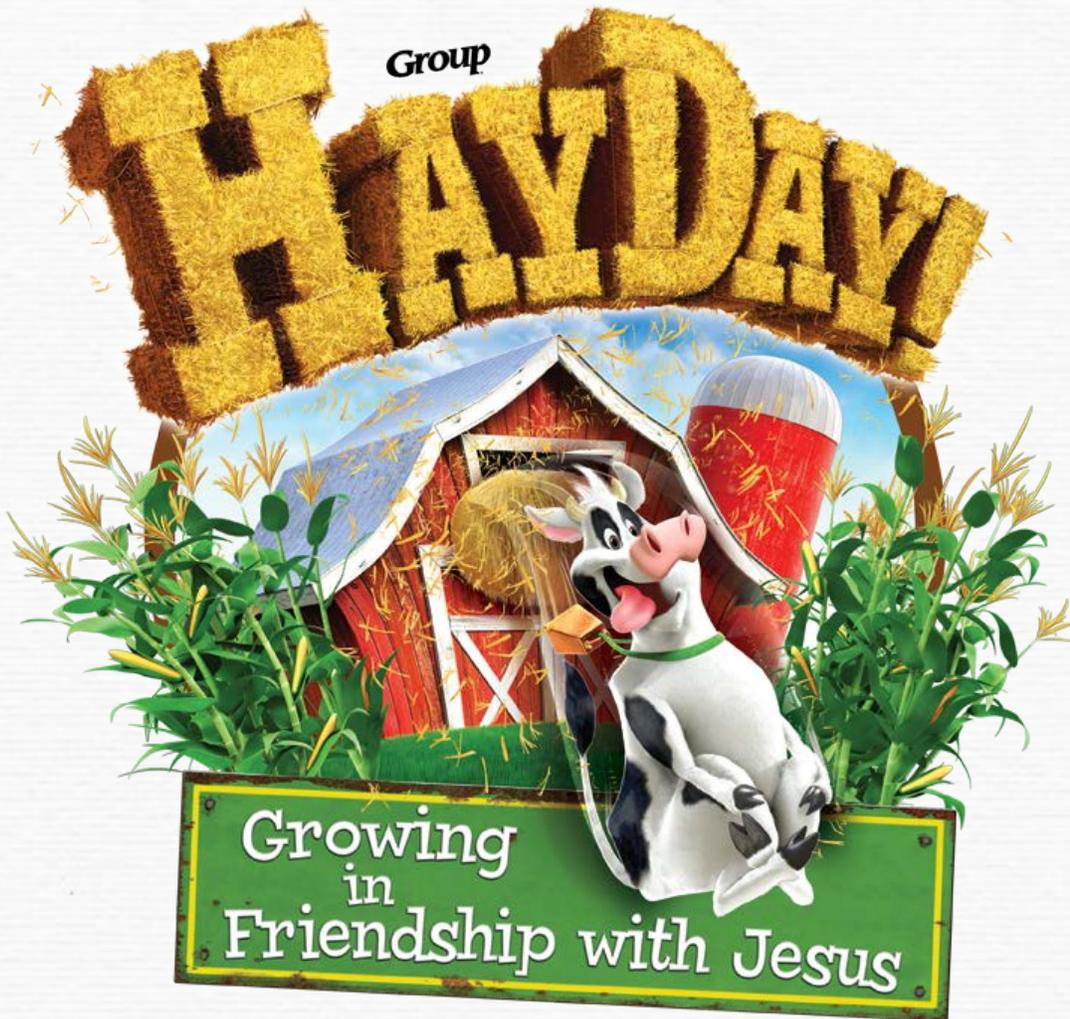
St. James' Prayer Group - Ready to Help You Start: For the past several months, a dedicated and faithful group of eight have been meeting bi-weekly to pray. Led by Pat Keefe, they have prayed for each other, for the congregation and for larger needs. Prayer is our link with God, and to pray together makes the community stronger. The prayer group wants to let you know that it is a beautiful and life-giving experience. They have found that eight is as large as the group ought to be - any bigger lessens the intimacy - but they are willing to share their encouragement with any who might be interested in starting a new prayer group.

Please contact Pat Keefe if you would like to learn more about what a prayer group does or how you can start your own.

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Vacation Bible School:



Weekend VBS

July 19-21

7/19: Evening, 6:00 to 8:30

7/20: Morning, 10:30 to 1:00

7/21: 10:00 Service. Celebration following in the Parish Hall

Invite your grandchildren, cousins, neighbors, and friends to a weekend of "Growing in Friendship with Jesus". Register at church or call the parish office at 845-229-2820.

Hope to see you there for an "udderly" good time!

We are looking for props: wheelbarrow, hoes, rakes, hay bales, scarecrows. (Bring them on Sunday 7/14 if possible.)

*****There will be a rehearsal following the 10:00 service 7/14 for all crews.**

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How to help--Vacation Bible School: Are you wondering what you can do to help with Vacation Bible School? We know that many of you are unable to be there to help, and we understand. We have made some adjustments this year. The first obvious one is that we are going to try out a weekend version instead of a full week. We also have decided not to charge attendees this year. We figured that it has always been so reasonable for a full week that it was hard to charge the same for a weekend. Plus, we know that it may make it easier for some families throughout the community to attend. The only thing we will charge for is t-shirts as a keepsake for attendees. Therefore, we are accepting donations to "sponsor a child for some farm fun". There will be envelopes available at church this Sunday if you are interested, or you can call the office. Anything you can contribute would greatly help us in our mission of "Growing in Friendship with Jesus". And of course, we can always use your prayers to help us through the journey. Thank you.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Janet Arms, Ruth Blanding, Ken Briggs, Kurt Burkhardt, Michael Day, Jane Gagliardoto, Jack Gordy, Harold Hall, Jolanda Heijenbrok, Brooke Helton, Rev. Don Hoger, Barbara Knakal, Rosemary Leuken, Andrew Mendelson, Rev. Tim Millard, Joan Oetjen, Clifford Plass, Gerald Plass, Deborah Porach, Don Renten, John Robinson, James Sheeky, Naomi Sleight, Debbie Stone, Gloria Veach, Candace Vincent, Cassidy Way and Cliff Wells.

Schedules

A Note about Schedules: The names you see below are those listed on their respective schedules. There are often times when, due to sickness or travel, substitutes are asked to fill in or trade positions. This will probably NOT be reflected in the lists below—so, if there is an inconsistency between what you see here and what you see on Sunday, that is alright.

Birthdays:	Kenneth Tompkins, Sophia Mungo, Brooke Schroeder, Elizabeth Handman, Judy Douglass, Nancy Montero and Eden Ciferri
Acolytes:	July 14: Charlie Urban-Mead July 21: Laurel Ardini
Altar Guild:	July 14: Team Number II July 21: Team Number II
8 a.m. Readers:	July 14: Angela Henry and Paul Littlefield July 21: Debbie Belding and Grant Ferris
10 a.m. Readers:	July 14: Patty Caswell/Justin Bohlmann

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Ushers:	July 21: Russell Urban-Mead/Judy Douglass July 14: Dean Caswell and Austin Horne
Pledge Clerks:	July 21: Saira Shahani and Pat Keefe July 14: Janet Bright and Joanne Lown
Coffee Hour Hosts:	July 21: Tanya Hall and Anna Marie Pitcher July 14: No Coffee Hour until September July 21: No Coffee Hour until September

This Week's Lectionary

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalm 25:1-9

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37