

# St. James' E-pistle

## August 2, 2013

### Pulpit Notes

Dear Friends at St. James':

My wealthy grandmother used to tell me how "they preach about the lilies of the field . . . and then pass the plate." And yet I have heard of churches where when the plate is passed hungry people are invited to take something out! The churches I have known have been pretty generous, even if they don't go that far, and well we should be. Our purpose is to share and reinforce Jesus' concern for the Kingdom of God. People who share this concern will always find that God pays for what God orders!

The Gospel reading for this coming Sunday is the parable of the rich fool. Grandma was no fool, but I'll bet that life in heaven has taught her a thing or two.

Best to learn it here.

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 1<sup>st</sup>, we warmly welcome Fr. Michael Shafer.

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### **The News of the Diocese**

**Please consider becoming a Hurricane Sandy Recovery Volunteer.** Staten Island's recovery team's goal is to restore 40 houses by the end of December. Volunteers are needed to accomplish this.

In addition, please keep all of our brothers and sisters who are recovering from Sandy and other natural and man-made disasters in your prayers. Just because the news is not reporting it doesn't mean that our neighbors are not continuing to struggle with a disaster's aftermath. Recovery time can take years before a "new normal" occurs.

Please check out **Episcopal Relief and Development's** new website. Their web address is [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org) Lots of interesting programs are going on as Episcopal Relief and Development works on our behalf to extend our hands into the wider community bringing hope to our neighbors throughout the world.

**The Election of a Bishop Suffragan:** On Saturday, December 7th, our Diocese will elect its next Bishop Suffragan.

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, Wappinger's 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](mailto:abullard@dioceseny.org).



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**Graveyard Tours.** The next meeting of the Graveyard Tours Planning Committee will be on August 4, at 11:15.

Tickets will be going on sale on the tours website at <http://stjameshistoricgraveyardtours.com> starting August 1!

If you're on Facebook, check out our new Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesHistoricGraveyardTours>.

**Vacation Bible School:** As you know, the previously scheduled Vacation Bible School program has been postponed. As soon as there is a confirmed new date, we will let everyone know.

**Piano Recital on August 7<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel.** Join us for an evening of classical music performed on piano by Joseph Martin, Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at our historic chapel. Mr. Martin is a graduate student in Collaborative Piano from the Manhattan School of Music, and head organist, cantor and music director at Our Lady of Mercy RC Church in Forest Hills, NY. He is an accomplished solo pianist, accompanist and chamber musician, seeking to build a following in the Hudson Valley. To showcase his versatility, he will play and sing any song a prospective audience member wants, if they email him at [jmpianostudio@gmail.com](mailto:jmpianostudio@gmail.com) before the day of the concert! This concert is FREE and refreshments will be served.

**Community Garden:** Please see recent photographs of our community garden on this and the following two pages. Anyone is more than welcomed to come and visit and see for themselves how this wonderful Community Garden has evolved in just our second year.





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***Please keep the following people in your prayers:***

Janet Arms, Ruth Blanding, 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, Richard Secor, 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: Cliff Wells, David Wardel, Patty Drake and Christian Schroeder  
Acolytes: August 4: Chris Santos  
August 11: Eden Ciferri  
Altar Guild: August 4: Team Number III  
August 11: Team Number I  
8 a.m. Readers: August 4: Debbie Belding and Sue DeLorenzo  
August 11: Angela Henry and Gary Glancey



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10 a.m. Readers: August 4: Wilma Tully/Nancy Montero  
August 11: Wendy Urban-Mead/Sophie Ciferri  
Ushers: August 4: Nancy Montero and Anna Marie Pitcher  
August 11: Kathie Champion and Mary Gabel  
Pledge Clerks: August 4: Deb and Doug Belding  
August 11: Janet Bright and Joanne Lown  
Coffee Hour Hosts: August 4: No Coffee Hour until September  
August 11: No Coffee Hour until September

### **This Week's Lectionary**

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalm 49:1-11

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21