

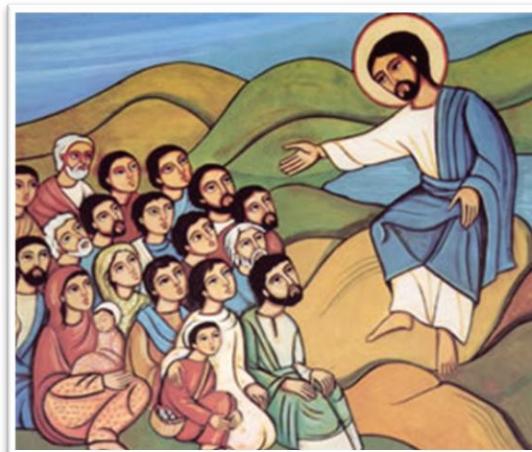
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 1, 2026

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832
Phone: (301) 774-6999 | Website: www.stjec.org

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

Welcome to St. John's Church

We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.

If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.

If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.



Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children are welcome at all services

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

The Nursery is open from 8am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9am	<i>Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>

COME JOIN US

TODAY

- Annual Meeting @ 9am
- Newcomer's Coffee Hour @ 12pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- Neuro-Spicy Meeting @ 1:30pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- St. John's School International Festival

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm
- Pancake Breakfast

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- OFFICE CLOSED – Presidents Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- Ash Wednesday Services @ 12pm | 5:30pm | 7pm
- Ashes for You @ 4-5pm

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM

Prelude

The people stand.

10:30AM

Hymn #593

Lord, make us servants of your peace

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on prayer att. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman a division of Cassell, Ltd. Music: *Dickinson College*, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979) Copyright ©1962, Theodore Presser Co. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

8AM

Gloria

BCP pg. 356

Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to his people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

10:30AM

S280 Glory to God in the highest

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. 6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Micah 6:1-8

Lector A reading from the prophet Micah.

Hear what the LORD says:
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.
Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab
devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
 who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
 who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
 he does no evil to his friend; *
 he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
 but he honors those who fear the LORD.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Lector A reading from Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are

not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

VF #100

Be a shepherd for my flock

Refrain C G F C

Be a shep - herd for my flock. Feed them rich - ly on my word.

1 With a mo - ther's ten - der love, care for all who need to hear
 2 To the blind-ed bring my light, to the wea - ry my rest,
 3 Take my mes - sage to the world. Keep the sto - ries ev - er new.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:1-12)

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy Stockbridge

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

People Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

People Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

People We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

People We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

People Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

People Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
especially, **Nancy, Betty, Patrick, Jessica, Stephanie, Cynie,
Sara, Aurora, Katie, Carole, Ivy, Steve, Celeste, and Mary**, and
those in our hearts and known to God.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

People Give to the departed, especially Lu Soukup, eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

People We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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 peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

Anthem: Peace to You

Pearsall

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP pg. 367

The people stand.

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

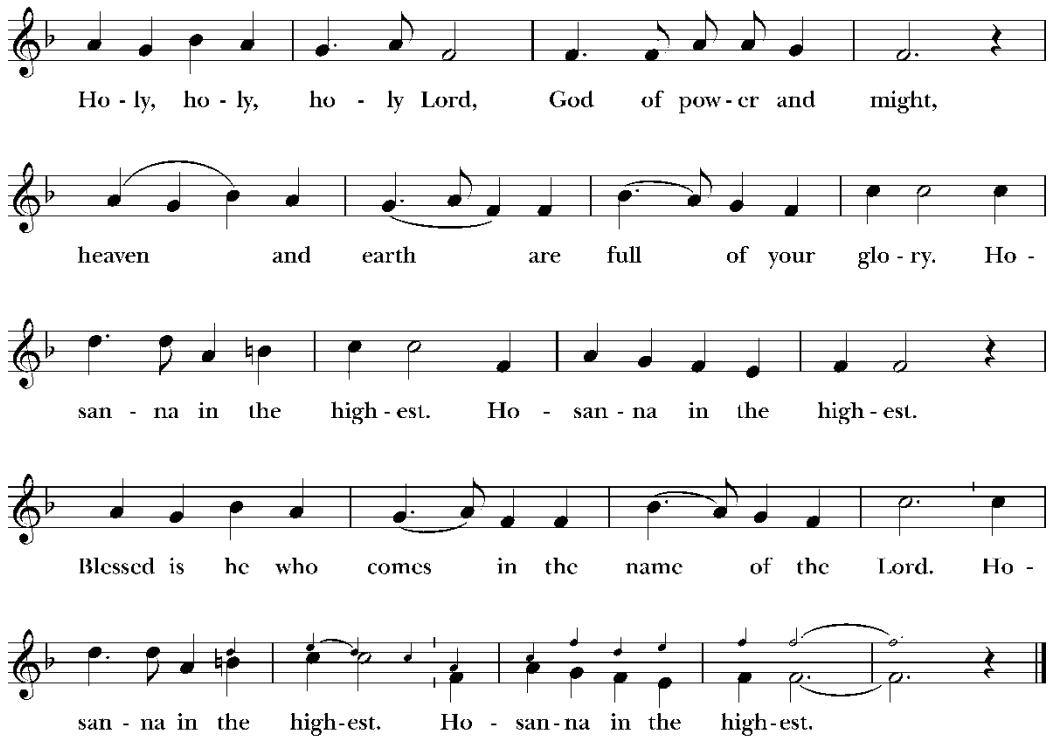
8AM

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

10:30AM

Sanctus 125

Richard Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

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.

Padre nuestro,
que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu Nombre;
venga a nosotros tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
no nos dejes caer en la tentación,
y líbranos del mal. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: WLP #866

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people are seated.

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both kinds, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. For health reasons, we do not instinct (dip) the bread. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.

Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn #437

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by;
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from the age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the the great - ness of the Lord.

in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.
 his holy Name— the Lord, the Mighty One.
 the hungry fed, the humble lift-ed high.
 to children's children and for ever more!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*. Copyright © 1962 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Birmingham*, from *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. *Songs of Praise*, 1925.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at accounting@stjec.org.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email pastoralcare@stjec.org

Nancy Soukup
Betty, Patrick & Jessica Blackburn
Stephanie Sidella
Cynie Eisler
Sara R.
Aurora
Katie Fairbanks
Carole
Ivy Choe-Branstetter
Steve Ruff
Celeste McGee
Mary Persinger

If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: pastoralcare@stjec.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NEWCOMER'S COFFEE HOUR**

New to St. John's? Please join our clergy and vestry for a Newcomers' Coffee Hour on Sunday, February 1st at 12pm in the Parish Hall. This is a time to meet one another, get to know our clergy and vestry members, and receive an official welcome into the St. John's community.



Annual
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Enjoy a breakfast of pancakes from
8:30 to 10:15am and 11am to 12:30pm

*made and served by the Youth of St. John's

- **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Enjoy a breakfast of pancakes on Sunday, February 15th from 8:30 to 10:15am and at 11am to 112:30pm in the Parish Hall at the Annual Pancake Breakfast.

- **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Confirmation is open to anyone 8th grade or older. Parents of youth are encouraged to attend this first meeting to get information as well as the full schedule. Classes meet twice a month and start Sunday, February 8th at 2pm in the Meeting Room.

- **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lent is a time for spiritual reflection and renewal—a season to take inventory of our hearts and clear away whatever hinders our relationship with Jesus Christ and our service to Him.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, February 18th @ 12 Noon; 5:30pm & 7:30pm

ASHES FOR YOU ~ Prayer and the imposition of ashes

Wednesday, February 18th 4-5pm

in the circle drive at the entrance of St. John's Church.

- **EVENING PRAYER & Soup Supper**

Mark your Lenten journey and share fellowship with a simple meal of soup and bread followed by the beautiful service of Evening Prayer - Wednesday evenings during Lent (February 25-March 25) at 6:30pm for soup and bread followed by Evening Prayer at 7:30pm.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Chicken (in foil packets) | Jelly Taco Kits | Vienna Sausages | White Rice (1lb bag) | Cake Frosting.

The Food Pantry Ministry needs people to stock the Pantry on Saturdays. Please see Friday's Bell Tower to sign up through SIGN-UP GENIUS. Interested in the ministry? Speak with Mary McQueen or Julie Metcalf.

- **YEAR END STATEMENTS**

2025 Year End statements are available to view and print online. To view and print, sign in to your profile through the ONLINE DIRECTORY. Go to GIVING HISTORY. The Giving History shows YTD donations. Click the “View More” link. This will take you to an Overview of the account. Click on the Detail tab, change the date to 2025 in the drop-down menu, and click on View and Print Statement. Year End Statements are mailed out by REQUEST only.



St. John's Church and School follow Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) announcements regarding inclement weather. Monday through Friday, if MCPS is closed or delayed, the church office is likewise closed or delayed. On Sunday for inclement weather, an all-parish email will be sent by 6:30am concerning any service cancellation.

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

Diocese of Washington

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, *Archbishop of Canterbury*

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

STAFF

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen, *Rector*

rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*

associate@stjec.org

The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*

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Tammy Turner, *Parish Administrator*

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Cambria Van de Vaarst, *Minister of Music*

music@stjec.org

Africanpalms@stjec.org

Joe Powers, *Interim Head of School*

Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026 - *Formation*

Bill Fleming, 2026 - *Sr. Warden*

Mary Kerr, 2026 - *Pastoral Care*

Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*

Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 - *Stewardship*

Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*

Becca Roberson, 2027 - *Jr. Warden, Outreach*

Becky Hast, 2028 - *STJES*

Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - *Worship*

Rob Schellhase, 2028 - *Parish Life*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

(301) 774-6999 - [Welcome@stjec.org](mailto>Welcome@stjec.org)

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~