



Giving Thanks, Planting Seeds

by *The Rev. Charlie Barton+, Rector*



It has been a long-standing tradition at St. James to Bless the Hunt on Thanksgiving Day. But it is useful to look backwards and see how this event has evolved over time. Part of that introspection will lead us to a

deeper understanding of how all that we do is improved when it is grounded in what we profess to believe. A decade ago the Blessing of the Hunt was a day on which two mostly separate groups gathered like tribes at a border. There was pageantry on the surface but insufficient relationship among those gathered to enable much more.

But the hillside and the pony ring were like fallow fields just waiting for something to be planted. First the parish decided to become more hospitable and to make an invitation to worship explicit and more personal. When we did so we came to understand that members of the Hunt had previously been reluctant to come because they would have to leave immediately after receiving communion in order to be ready in the ring when it was time for the Blessing. This conversation enabled us to assure them that we understood,

would not think them rude or irreverent, and would rather receive communion together than not have them by our sides at the rail. Next, we agreed that including the crowd on the hillside as something more than observers would be good. First, we added the Lord's Prayer so that worship was extended from the church to the hillside. Then we, the Hunt and the Church, invited the crowd to make an offering for the benefit of those in need in the wider community. Members of the Hunt passed the hat, and the parish deposited the total then wrote a check to the Food Bank or another agreed upon ministry.

Next we looked for more ways to extend the opportunities for worship, service and fellowship.



We began to celebrate Rogation Sunday together last year. On that day in May we mixed together cupfuls of earth from our gardens and farms in one wheelbarrow, blessed it then sent everyone home with a cup of the mixed earth. It was an iconic act. We share a love for creation. We share a desire to be of service to those in need. We are discovering the benefits of a deeper relationship

as we mix the people of these two communities together in one place.

For over a year the next step has been gestating. Over the past month a committee comprised of members of the church and members of the Hunt have been meeting to plan the final details of the next opportunity for service and fellowship.

After you have witnessed the Blessing of the Hunt this Thanksgiving, go into Macdonald Hall for a preview. **From 4 pm to 6 pm on November 30, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, a benefit Art Show and Sale, "Portrait of a Tradition", will take place there.** Over 30 original oil paintings will trace the Parish/Hunt narrative from entering the church and worshipping together to the view of riders leaving the ring for the fields and farms of Monkton. Your 25-dollar donation will cover the costs of the event, which is hosted by both the church and the Hunt. The artist, **Sam Robinson**, (whose work appears in this newsletter) has agreed that 50% of the proceeds from the art sales will go into the "Christ's Work in the World" portion of the St. James Mustard Seed Funds.



See how hospitality has taken root and branches out? Look at what two communities working as one can do. We have the opportunity to live more fully this Thanksgiving into the admonition found in Psalm 96, "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." Is it not beautiful to see relationships deepen,

the church filled with more people giving thanks, and to know that even as we attend a visual feast we are looking to provide for the needs of others?

Happy giving of thanks, your brother in Christ,
Charlie+



PLEDGE CARDS have been mailed and we anxiously await their return. Please talk with **Erik Moran**, Chair of the Stewardship Community if you

have any questions. We would like cards returned **before Thanksgiving** so we can complete our budget process. There are extra pledge cards available on the Stewardship bulletin board.

READ AND CHAT: meets the **third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm from September to May.** The

selection for the **November 18** meeting is *What the Dead Know*



by Laura Lippman. Ms. Lippman lives in Baltimore and writes crime novels set in the area. This book is about a woman with no I.D. who flees a car accident in Maryland. Subtle clues are dropped at the end of each chapter until all the half-truths and deceptions are played out.

Rosemary Rittler

Dear Parishioners,

My first trip (August) to Monkton was near perfect in every way. The drive itself was like entering a wonderland - beautiful, green, fragrant, and fresh.

I thoroughly enjoyed the food, the company and the conversation. Even the weather was perfect.

Thanks to all of you for having St. Mary's, and thanks for having me (and daughter, Ruth). God Bless.

Barbara Golden, St. Mary's, Wallbrook

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

Articles for the St James **December** newsletter are due **Saturday, Nov. 15**. Collating and Folding Day will be **Thursday, Nov. 20**. You may call me at 410-440-0473 or e-mail me at avila@pbworld.com. Call or email Susan in the Office at 410-771-4466,



church@saintjames.org if you have time to help with collating. *The Newsletter editing room wishes you a fantastic Fall Season. Marco Avila*



BAPTISMS – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2. We celebrate Baptisms on the Sunday closest to All Saints Day. Please speak to a member of the clergy if you have a child to be baptized, or if you are an adult who would like to be baptized. Baptismal preparation will be on **Saturday, November 1 at 11:00am** in the church for parents AND godparents or sponsors.

Saint Nicholas’ Project:

Hi everyone, this year our Sunday School Children will be working on making gift bags for the Club (elementary to middle school age) and the Ark (preschool age). The children will decorate the bags and stuff them with toiletries and small gifts. We are calling it the *Saint Nicholas’ Project*. We are asking our parishioners to donate hotel toiletries, tooth brushes, hair ties, small soaps, travel size bath soap, travel size tooth paste, etc. There is a box for donations across from the Sunday School office. Thank you again for your continued support. Please contact me with any inquiries. *Karen Underwood*

Confirmation Before and After:

Bring family and friends to our Advent Wreath Making on **November 30th**. We’ll be meeting in the Activity Rooms from 4:00 – 6:00pm. See back page for details.

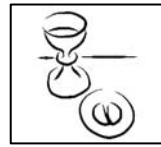


Sunday School News:

Have you heard about our new curriculum in 3rd –4th grade Sunday School? *Hands-On Bible* uses many fun activities and props to teach truths from the Bible. In addition to our regular teachers, Beth Plunkett and Nancy Pappas, we have many extra people helping with the class, including Godly Play teachers Annette Fries and Carol Haislip, and Susan Robinson who will lead the children in a fun scrapbooking activity.

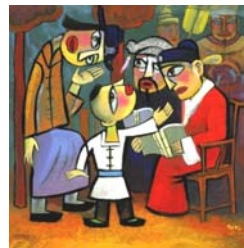
We always need extra help in Sunday School. Because this is a large class, we need extra help after the first of the year. **Please contact Kelly Francis if you can help.**

It will give you an opportunity to see inside the workings of Sunday School each week.



Children’s Eucharist is November 9 at 10:15am. We meet in the Susan Tucker Moore room and share a story and lead the children through communion. Val Smalkin has added her marvelous music this year, and we are having a great time! Come join us!

YOUTH MINISTRY –Be sure to put some of the following events on your calendar and check out the Youth pages on the web site for the most up-to-date information.



BLENDER (5th-7th grades)

- 11/2 Blender Lesson
- 11/9 Blender Lesson
- 11/15 (Sat.) Blender Outing – RSVP by 11/13
- 11/16 Blender Worship (10:15a)
- 11/23 Blender EVENT!!
- 11/30 Wreath Making (4:00pm)

8:9 (8th and 9th Grades)



- 11/23 8:9 Event #2 (10:15am)

Youth Bible Study (10th-12th Grades)

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

- 11/2 Woodworking (9:00 am)
- 11/9 Bible Study (9:00 am)
- 11/16 Woodworking (9:00 am)
- 11/23 Bible Study - Pumpkin Fest (9:00am)
- 11/30 Bible Study (9:00 am)

PILGRIMAGES AND TRIPS 2009 & 2010



Oberammergau and the Splendors of Eastern Europe

**Tour Dates: June 30 – July 10, 2010
Reservations Due in 2009**

Join us on a tour of Prague, Budapest, Vienna and Munich as we travel to the Passion Play at Oberammergau. In keeping with their 377-year-old promise, the villagers of Oberammergau present their Passion Play depicting the last week of the life of Christ. The play's presentation can be traced to 1633 when the Black Plague swept Europe. The people of Oberammergau took a solemn oath: If God spared them they would present a daylong play depicting the death and resurrection of Christ. To this day they have kept their promise and every ten years they perform their passion play with the same love and devotion they have shown for over 370 years. **Brochures are available during coffee hour or in Loree+'s office.** Book early!



Join Us on a Trip to the Orphanage in Honduras April 25 through May 2, 2009

We are organizing a team of 6 to 12 people to go and visit El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza (The Home of Love and Hope). You are invited to join in. What a great thing to do with children or grandchildren! The trip will be from Saturday to Saturday. We will stay in the guest houses at El Hogar so the only major expense will be airfare of about \$500.

As you know, last year we put in a safe drinking water system at the orphanage, which has dropped the incidence of dysentery from 2 – 3 per week to 2 – 3 per year. This year, the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and we are putting in a hot water system by which we should knock out the threat of typhoid and give the children their first hot showers – ever!

Going to El Hogar is a life-changing experience. Eleven people from St. James have already gone and four have signed up for this trip. Give yourself and a loved one the gift of a lifetime with the children at El Hogar. **For more information, talk to Michael Curley or e-mail him at mc@icef.getf.org.**



The Center for Spiritual Development at Saint James, Monkton

Poetry of Creation

God of unchangeable power,
When you fashioned the world
The morning stars sang together
And the host of heaven shouted for joy;
open our eyes to the wonders of creation.

The Center for Spiritual Development has installed a pilgrimage around the Pathway of Peace entitled "Pilgrimage into the Poetry of Creation." The artwork in the shrines is meant for contemplation and pondering the "wonders" of what God has done and is doing in the world around us. I-pod meditations that illuminate these art pieces can be downloaded or rented from the church office. As I write this we are experiencing a beautiful Indian summer, which invites us to remain outdoors a little longer. Walk the Pathway of Peace with or without I-pod meditations and let yourselves be moved to awe and wonder. *Debra Barton*

December 13, 2008 8:30 – 2:00 pm

"Listen to Winter" Advent Quiet Day at St. James. Please register with the Church Office.

Philip Newell Event-February 27-28, 2009

Evening Program on Celtic Spirituality with Book Signing and Saturday Morning Celtic Labyrinth Walk.

Alaska Pilgrimage: "Into the Wildness of God" August 1-8, 2009. We are partnering with a retreat center in Halibut Cove to do a pilgrimage into the frontier. Kayaking, Hiking, Glacier watching and quiet prayers and liturgy; a different way to adventure into the 49th state.

See Debra Barton for details.



Your Academy is Grateful

It is the beginning of November, getting closer to the holidays, and the current school year is looking good. We now give thanks for the wonderful participating students and the determined and willing teachers at SJA.

However, we must not forget the parents who carpool daily. We must also give thanks for anyone involved with the church/school community and the unique gifts they share with Saint James. I hope I got everybody... and if I didn't, we give thanks for everybody!

Now that that's settled, the new students and teachers are finally getting accustomed to the normal Saint James Academy school day while students and teachers who have been at our school for longer continue to show their devotion to learning and teaching like they have always done before. School sports teams like field hockey and soccer are playing their hardest whenever they have the chance. Big famous sports teams outside of Saint James like the Ravens are serving as inspiration to athletes both after school and at recess. For example, the eighth graders have created their own football teams at recess to compete in a series of games much like pro football from preseason to the Super Bowl. Kids are drafted onto a team and will play as hard as they can before teachers ring the bell. Participating players can be traded or kept depending on what the team chooses to do. Stay tuned for the season's results. There is a lot going on at SJA! *Daniel Lynne – SJA 8th Grader*

It is a busy time of year. We are in the midst of parent teacher conferences, sport schedules, and interim grades. The collaborative spirit is energizing as our halls are alive with learning. Sometimes it is so busy it is hard to stop, look, and listen to our many gifts. So here is my list of St. James' blessings:

- My advisory, which brightens every afternoon with their exuberance
- My new courses: Public Speaking (7th)

& Latin (8th)

- Recess – Imagine being employed to look at our view & engage children
- Volunteers, who enrich the St. James curriculum
- My colleagues, who keep me laughing
- Our church & priests, who have guided me through some difficult losses

There's a lot to be thankful for!

Bayly Buck – Assistant Head

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPE AND CAFE



DON'T BUY ANY CHRISTMAS GIFTS THIS YEAR...until you've been to the Annual Christmas Shoppe and

Café here on **Friday, November 7th from 10 to 7 and Saturday, November 8th from 10 to 5.** There will be 47 vendors – 15 new! Unique gift ideas, jewelry, antiques and original art work for everyone on your list. And don't forget to join us for lunch or dinner from a fabulous menu featuring all your favorites. A \$3 donation is all that is asked for admission.

Giving Thanks - Sharing the Harvest

"All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above; Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love."



One way we give thanks is to give back some of the harvest...to God and to His people. Every year, the Altar Guild decorates the church for the Thanksgiving morning

service with fresh fruits and vegetables, representing the bountiful harvest. After the service, the food will be taken to the Hereford Food Bank to be distributed to the needy in our own community. **You can help by bringing fresh fruits and/or vegetables to the church between Sunday morning, November 23, and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27.** Please leave your gifts on the bench in the Narthex or in the baskets in the Sacristy. Thank you! *The Altar Guild*

Altar Guild
 Sally Pearce
 Gwen Burkhardt
 Betsy Ensor
 Holly Gilmore
 Millicent Jordan



Ushers
 Michael Meyd
 Steward Russell
 Craig Wacker
 Mike Huntley

8:00	Welcome	Reader	L.E.M.	Offering	Prayers	Server
First	Sandy Gallup	Henry Baker	Anne Bricker Sandy Gallup	Sandy Gallup Henry Baker	Henry Baker	Cindy Eaton
Second	Jodi/Rick Florence	Anne Bricker	Debra Barton John Beever	Henry Baker Jodi/Rick Florence	Pam Balcerak	Martha Reeve
Third	John Beever	John Beever	Joe Chadwick John Beever	Henry Baker John Beever	Joe Chadwick	Alan Wright
Fourth	John Beever	Margaret Bryant	Cindy Eaton Joe Chadwick	Henry Baker John Beever	Margaret Bryant	Erica Callaham
Fifth	Jodi/Rick Florence	Pam Balcerak	Anne Bricker John Beever	Henry Baker Jodi/Rick Florence	Joe Chadwick	Cindy Eaton

9:00	Music	Liturgist	Acolytes	Lector	Prayers	Oblations	Chalichists
Nov. 2	No Choirs	Emerick	Babcock	Fitzhugh	Holt	Lashof	Baldwin Eastman
Nov. 9	Guest	Fitzhugh	Linsenmeyer	Lynne, D.	Lynne, M.	Morans	Lynne
Nov. 16	Youth & Instrumental	Holt	Fitzhugh	O'Toole, F.	Baldwin	Babcock	Morans
Nov. 23	Seraph	Lynne, M.	Moran	Baldwin	Lynne, D.	Emerick	Baldwin Eastman
Nov. 30 1 Advent	None	O'Toole, F.	Moncure	Lynne, M.	Babcock	Baldwin	Lynne Howard

10:15	Acolytes	Chalichists	First Less.	Second Less.	Prayers
Nov. 2 Baptisms	A. Miller O. Todd P. Todd	Lyndy Eddy Matt Rogers	Debbie Kissinger	Larry Hofmeister	Miles Baxter
Nov. 9	M. Curley E. Curley A. Fries	Michael Curley Pat Newman	Kathy Durkee	Mike Miller	Philip Norman
Nov. 16	G. Fries P. Elmore P. Elmore	Matt Rogers Chris Wooten	Priscilla Sherman	Art Sherman	Fred Smalkin
Nov. 23	A. Miller O. Todd P. Todd	Guy Hook Betty Wilson	Yvonne Hook	Mary Ann Clarendon	Bayly Buck
Nov. 27 Thanksgiving	Volunteers	Lyndy Eddy A volunteer	Orsia Young	Doreen Passaniti	Miles Baxter
Nov. 30 1 Advent	K. Rogers B. Heidelberg L. Heidelberg	Volunteers	Bill Bowen	Kathy Durkee	Philip Norman

ST JAMES CHURCH						
YEAR TO DATE FINANCES THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2008						
						ANNUAL
INCOME				ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET
PLATE AND PLEDGES				\$377,027	\$361,309	\$526,117
INVESTMENT				10,492	16,119	21,900
CHAPLAINCY/DIOCESE REIMB				30,903	31,741	40,366
TRANSFER FROM REPAIR FUND				0	53,000	53,000
SPECIAL CURRENT OPERATIONS				0	52,551	105,100
ENDOWMENT & OTHER				28,969	31,745	42,224
TOTAL				447,391	546,465	788,707
EXPENSES						
COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS				307,647	304,376	405,645
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT				162,526	162,740	194,913
OFFICE				30,731	35,778	45,124
OUTREACH & COMM SERVICE				64,763	65,597	86,998
PASTORAL CONCERNS				507	1,098	1,200
WORSHIP				23,310	21,674	34,777
EDUCATION AND YOUTH				4,863	10,893	15,650
EVANGELISM & MEMBERSHIP				1,378	3,598	4,400
TOTAL				595,725	605,754	788,707
OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)				(148,334)	(59,289)	
NON-BUDGETED INCOME (EXP)				(2,288)	0	
NET REVENUE (EXPENSE)				(\$150,622)	(\$59,289)	
ASSETS						
CASH				\$188,207		
RECEIVABLES				251,053		
HOUSE, TENNIS CT & BLDG.IMPR.				564,181		
TOTAL ASSETS				\$1,003,441		
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS						
LIABILITIES						
DUE TO OTHER FUNDS				\$18,414		
PLEDGES RECEIVED IN ADVANCE				600		
TRANSFER FROM ENDOWMENT FUND				180,000		
TOTAL LIABILITIES				199,014		
FUNDS						
REPAIR				90,180		
RESTRICTED				319,083		
UNRESTRICTED				545,786		
CURRENT NET REVENUE (EXP)				(150,622)		
TOTAL FUNDS				804,427		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				\$1,003,441		

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Monkton, MD 21111-2112

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Email: The Rev. Charlie Barton, Rector, cbarton@saintjames.org
The Rev. Loree Penner, Associate Rector, lpenner@saintjames.org
The Rev. Arthur Callaham, Curate, acallaham@saintjames.org
Ms. Marie Fields, Parish Administrator, admin@saintjames.org
Ms. Susan Robinson, Parish Secretary, church@saintjames.org



Thanksgiving Day Eucharist 10:00am
followed by
The Blessing of the Hunt
All are welcome



Thanksgiving Day at St. Peter Claver Church, Baltimore
The Social Ministry Community spends Thanksgiving Day preparing and serving Thanksgiving dinner as well as picking up elderly people from city areas and transporting them to the feast. Monkton families who have participated have been surprised by how blessed they felt in doing this ministry. Please contact David Babcock, if you plan to help that day. davidbb@comcast.net

<http://www.saintjames.org>

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30
4:00 – 6:00 pm
All are welcome to an
Intergenerational ADVENT
WREATH-MAKING & SOUP
SUPPER in the Activity
Rooms, Academy



\$20 covers cost of materials. Please RSVP by
Friday, November 21, with a check to St.
James Church. Bring soup in a crock-pot since
we won't have access to the kitchen.



The Elkridge Harford
Hunt invites you to
“Portraits of a
Tradition”
The paintings of
Sam Robinson

Sunday, November 30,
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Macdonald Hall.
Donation \$25

