

# St. John's Episcopal Church



## St. John's Eagle

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 24, 2019

*"Have you not known, have you not heard  
those who wait for the Lord shall mount  
up with wings like eagles."*

*Isaiah 40:28,31*

### St. John's Episcopal Church

113 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
334-262-1937  
Fax: 334-262-1931

**Rector:**  
Robert C. Wisniewski, Jr.

**Associate Rector:**  
Jamie Osborne

**Priest Associate**  
Deonna D. Neal

**Staff:**  
Libby Poole  
Financial Administrator  
Fay Worriow  
Parish Secretary  
Anne Tippett  
Assistant to the Rector

**Christian Formation**  
Sarah Collier  
Director of Children's Christian  
Formation  
Joleen George  
Director of Youth Ministries

**Music:**  
Joel Gregory  
Organist and Choirmaster

**Maintenance:**  
Mike Jarrell, Superintendent  
Myron Smoke  
Faye Mitchell

**Vestry of St. John's:**  
Bill Eskridge Sr. Warden  
Jimmy McLemore, Jr. Warden

### Class of 2020

Dick Arrington  
Georgia Holmes  
Austin Huffaker  
Alice Longshore  
Jean Smyth  
Bob Young

### Class of 2021

Virginia Banister  
Richard Bradford  
Kathryn Dailey  
Mike Jenkins  
Jimmy McLemore  
Stephanie Norrell  
Todd Westhauser

### Class of 2022

John Carter  
Will Gunter  
Katie Keller  
Mary-Nelms Parsons  
Nick Prillaman  
Radney Ramsey  
Emily Wise

**Treasurer**  
Helen Wells

**Clerk of the Vestry**  
Anne Tippett

## SECURITY

When our children were 10 and 6, we sat them down and told them our family was moving to Montgomery. They both immediately broke into tears. Meg said, "We can't move. Everybody is expecting me at school." Rob's concerns were more basic. "Are we going to be able to eat there?" he asked, apparently wondering if we were headed to some wild frontier. Their security was threatened and they were scared. Even Mary Ward and I were a bit uneasy with the move. Taking on a new church is risky business. But all of us look back on what resulted from our move and are so grateful.

When I was a freshman in college, my parents moved to New Orleans, from a normal kind of four-bedroom-house-in-the-suburbs-life, to the French Quarter of all places. Dad's company had transferred him there and it felt like my home had disappeared. I was embarking on my own life adventure but I assumed my home base would always be there for me. A few years later, my father left his job and started a new venture of his own. I remember wondering if he had lost his mind. Their finances took a hit and Mom went to work for the first time in my life. My parents were in their early fifties and were basically starting over.

At that time in my life, I was all about risk and adventure. Stepping out into the unknown was quite exciting. All the possibilities lay ahead and that represented hope and fulfillment to me. But I was stunned at my parents' decision. Risk and adventure, I thought, was for people in their twenties not their fifties. In my mind, things were supposed to calm down and be steady after one reached a certain age.

I've gone through a lot of changes in life, as we all have. There may have been more change in my life after the age of fifty than before. Or maybe I've just continued to be surprised that changes keep on coming. Isn't life supposed to calm down and stay the same at some point?

My expectations may be for life to calm down eventually but my experience is the opposite. Changes continue. Some of them I have yearned for and prayed for and now am getting to live into. Many more of the changes have been thrust upon me. When I have most wanted life to be steady, whatever rug I have been standing on has been sent jerked out from underneath me and I have been sent reeling.

Every change life has given me has ended up for the best. I, and others in my life, have made mistakes and even those have turned out okay. Life has repeatedly pulled the rug out from underneath me, and the upheaval has led to growth and deeper faith in my life and the lives of the people I care about.

Jesus brought a lot of change into the world. Folks resisted that and wanted things to continue the way they had grown used to. Jesus was a pretty wise rug-puller-outer. And we know Jesus didn't do that just to watch people suffer. Jesus pulls rugs out from underneath our feet for a purpose, to reveal a greater security in life than that which we have come to grab onto.

Our earthly journey is full of letting go of things that represent security to us but which have no ultimate value. We are called to love in life but sometimes, instead of loving, we cling. The risen Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene and the first thing he says to her is, "Do not cling to me." Mary wants things to go back to the way they were. But Jesus is to ascend so that even better things can come about.

Life is temporary. And that is good. It's scary. It's threatening. We keep expecting it to calm down. But life is temporary. It's a work in progress. Tomorrow is going to be different than today. Through the risky adventure, we come to see what is eternal—the great love God has for us and all creation.

Yours faithfully,  
**Robert C. Wisniewski, Jr.**

**THE LESSONS:**

Genesis 45:3-11, 15  
 Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42  
 1 Cor. 15:35-38, 42-50  
 Luke 6:17-26

**THE COLLECT:**

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Ghost and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Flowers on the Altar this Sunday are to the glory of God and in memory of:**

Mary Oliver McLemore  
 Andrew Jackson McLemore  
 Thomas Oliver McLemore  
 Martha Thigpen McLemore  
 William Henry McLemore  
 Joy McGlynn McLemore  
 Andrew Jackson McLemore, Jr.

**MINISTERS SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

**ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:**

Joel Gregory

**ACOLYTES:** S. C. Hughes, M. Kinney, J. Selman, W. Norrell, S. Miller, M. Selman, B. Weshouser, L. S. Strickler

**LAY EUCHARIST MINISTERS:** C. Moore, W. Hamlett, W. Haynes, D. Holmes

**LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:**

K. Keller, C. Wackerman

**VESTRY: 7:30** J. Smyth

**10:30** J. McLemore, B. Young, V. Banister, M. N. Parsons

**ALTAR GUILD:** K. Funk, M. Shaw

**PASTORAL CARE:** C. Seibels, F. Tyson, M. A. Selman, A. Hamner, S. Harris

**FLOWER DELIVERY:** M. Carter, V. Wilkerson, W. Gunter

**Flowers by the St. John's Flower Guild**

## CONFIRMATION – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 5:30 PM

Bishop Sloan will be with us Wednesday night, April 10, to confirm and receive those who wish officially to become Episcopalians. The Youth Confirmation class is spending the entire year preparing and interested adults are invited to participate in a Sunday morning class during Lent. If you wish to be Confirmed or Received, please contact Robert Wisnewski to discuss details (robert@stjohnsmontgomery.org or 334-312-0347).

## INQUIRERS' CLASS – SUNDAYS IN LENT

All those who wish to learn more about the Episcopal Church are invited to attend the Inquirers' Classes held on the Sundays in Lent, March 10 – April 14, at 9:15, led by the Rector. The class is open to newer parishioners and those who have been here for a long time too. Subjects will include: Distinguishing Features of the Episcopal Church; Church History; Holy Scriptures; the Book of Common Prayer; the Sacraments, and plenty of opportunity for questions. You need not register for the classes but if you wish to be confirmed by the Bishop on April 10 at 5:30 pm, please contact Robert Wisnewski (robert@stjohnsmontgomery.org).

## TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

St. John's Prayer Group meets every Tuesday at 8:30. If you are interested in participating please contact Nancy Bradford at 334-546-8964 or Betty Beale at 334-328-0748.

## 2019 DIOCESAN ULTREYA

Our 2019 Diocesan Ultreya will gather at Camp McDowell while our newest pilgrims walk their Cursillo at #216. Ultreya will begin Saturday morning and end at Sunday's Clausura. Registration is open! See registration form in this edition of the Vivencia OR register online: [www.alabamacursillo.org/events](http://www.alabamacursillo.org/events). Mark your calendar and bring the family (kids 5+ activities included!). Ultreya! Questions? Contact J.R. Marshall, [cursillo.ultreya@gmail.com](mailto:cursillo.ultreya@gmail.com)

## JOY AND CONCERN

**Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:** Katharine Walter, Valerie Lee, Kathleen Bradford, Sarah Stone, Florence Jordan, Christopher Marshall, Sunshine Huff, Karen Jarrell, Francis Beaulieu, Jim Thomas, Eddie McDowell, Joe McGough, Cynthia Hill.

**We pray for one who has died:** Jim Hodgson. Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Johnny Smith, Mary Linger, George West, Sandra Cauthon, Randy Rushton, Phil Dotts, Paul Hackett, Doris Thornton, Tommy Oliver, Ruth Jones, Karen & Angelo Pacheco, Acra Hackney Samuels, Margaret (Marty) Hackney, Ed Sellers, Tom Broadhurst, Ricky Hatfield, Willie Fred Gamble, Monica Powell, Chase Pickett, Al Perkins, Debbie Steindorff, Betty Harper, Jennifer Pruitt, Pam Litel, Aaron Hines, Catherine Riddell, Hugh Lee Earnest, Daphne Oliver, Dawn Damato, Dottie Campbell, Scott Bradford, Mary Steindorff, Jack Mitchell, Margaret Carlson, Paula Hamm Roberts, Kim Barnhart, Lavada Spears Person, Charles Colvin, Cookie Zibilich, Charlie Smith, Clemmon Barlow, Chuck Holley, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Masha Kloberg, Andy Silverman.

*Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care.*

## Mary and Martha Guild Meeting Thursday, February 28th

at the home of

Virginia Bannister  
1330 Primrose Lane  
5:30-7:00

Jamie Osborne is our guest speaker.

### HOLY COMFORTER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Food Pantry at the Church of the Holy Comforter has sent out a plea for items to refill their shelves. The recent shut down of the government meant more people in need of food items. The most needed items are:

- quarts of shelf-stable milk
- large cans of Chef Boyardee (any of their canned pasta will be greatly appreciated)
- canned meat (ham, chicken, beef chunks)
- large jars of Peanut Butter.

Please bring items to the Education Building and place on the table in the office area.

## HOLY CROSS SPRING PLANT SALE!

Hanging Baskets  
Trays of Bedding Plants  
And so much more!

Look for the order forms for the plant sale in the  
**Parish House**

and in the church office. Orders due by **February 27**

**Pick up Orders of Soup Sunday, February 24 after 10:30 Service**

*We still have a few soups to sell! First come, first served, cash & carry!*

*Shashy's  
White Bean Soup!  
On sale this Sunday*

Lemon Chicken  
Mike's Beef & Vegetable  
Mulligatawny  
Black Bean  
\$12.00 per quart/\$7.00 per pint

Shrimp Gumbo with Andouille Sausage  
\$20.00 per quart/\$11.00 per pint



**Thank you for your support of Holy Cross School!**

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

#### SUNDAY, Feb 24

7:30 am Holy Eucharist  
8:15 am Breakfast in the Parish House  
9:15 am Christian Formation for all ages  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist  
4:20 pm Children's Choir  
5:00 pm Jr. & Sr. EYC

#### MONDAY, Feb 25

12 Noon Clergy Led Bible Study in the Small Dining Room  
6:00 pm Men's Group in the Library

#### TUESDAY, Feb 26

7:00 am Holy Eucharist  
8:30 am Prayer Group

#### WEDNESDAY, Feb 27

11:30 am Centering Prayer  
3:30 pm Coffee @ Café Louisa  
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist

#### THURSDAY, Feb 28

12:05 pm Holy Unction and Holy Eucharist  
6:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

### St. John's Faithfulness

Required Weekly

\$35,331.16

Received Sunday

\$20,489.70

Required to Date

\$247,318.12

Received to Date

\$239,912.53

#### Building Fund Debt

\$70,000

#### Outstanding Building Pledges

\$100,527

St. John's Episcopal Church  
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The Eagle is available on the  
internet at  
[www.stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://www.stjohnsmontgomery.org)

## WEDNESDAYS IN LENT 2019 GUEST PREACHERS/TEACHERS

**Noonday Prayers and Sermon at 12:05, followed by Luncheon  
Teaching at 6:30 pm after Eucharist at 5:30 and Supper at 6:00**

**March 13** – The Rev. Bonnie Perry, Rector of All Saints', Chicago  
**March 20** – The Rev. Bentley Manning, Rector of Incarnation, Highlands NC  
**March 27** – The Rev. Abi Moon, Associate Rector of St. John's, Tallahassee  
**April 3** – The Rev. Tommie Watkins, Rector of St. Andrew's, Birmingham  
**April 10** – The Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan, Bishop of Alabama

***Confirmation for Adults and Youth – April 10 at 5:30 pm***

### LUNCHEON SERVERS NEEDED

Have you been wondering what you can do to help during the Wednesday Lenten Series?  
We need waitresses for the luncheon after the service. Please email **Jane Barganier**  
[perdidobjb@charter.net](mailto:perdidobjb@charter.net) to volunteer.