

Welcome to St. James!

Our Church is an Anglican Parish which stands in the unbroken continuity of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our faith is based on the Word of God and on the seven Ecumenical Councils of the Undivided Church. All who have been baptized in the Name of the Trinity and confirmed or intend to be confirmed by a bishop in Apostolic Succession are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If unable to receive Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing from the priest. To indicate your desire to receive a blessing, please fold your arms over your chest. May the peace of the Lord be always with you!



**Anglican Province of America
Diocese of the Eastern United States**

The Most Rev. Walter H. Grundorf, Presiding and Diocesan Bishop
The Very Rev. Gordon Anderson, Dean
Rev. Fr. Kevin Sweeney, Vicar

St. James Parish Staff

Organist: Liana Harbour Lay Reader/Acolyte: Richard Hicks

Parish Vestry

Babs Zuhowski-Sr. Warden Larry Arnold-Jr. Warden Richard Hicks-Treasurer
Ken Larson-Secretary Brad Newbill Lou Patnode

Service Times:

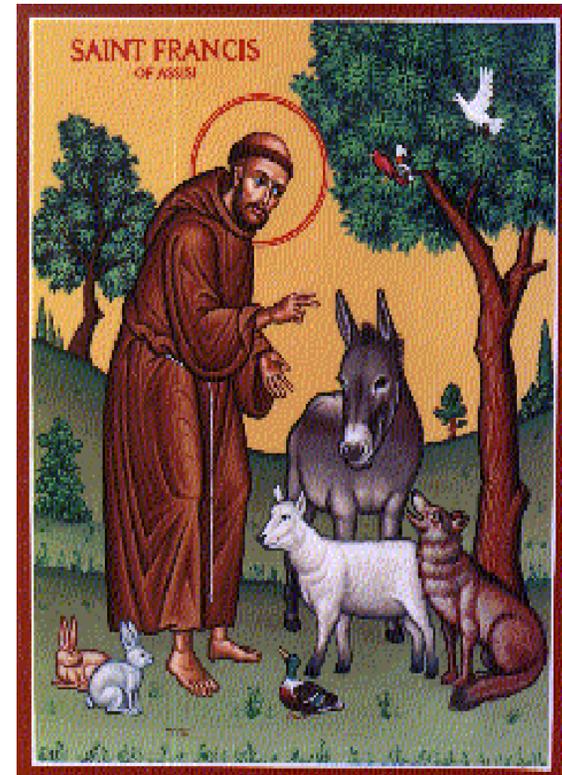
Sunday- Holy Communion: 10:00 AM
Wednesday- Evening Prayer: 6:00PM

6124 Abingdon Glebe Lane Gloucester, VA 23061
804-824-9552
info.stjamesgloucester.org

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

ANGLICAN PROVINCE OF AMERICA

AT THE HISTORIC ABINGDON GLEBE
GLOUCESTER, VIRGINIA



THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

10:00 A.M.

OCTOBER 7, 2017

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Blessing of the Animals

October 1, 2017

We value and honor our pets and wish to convey this special blessing on them.

Old Testament reading: Genesis 1

Homily

Priest: The Lord Be with You.

Response: *And with thy Spirit.*

Priest: Let us pray. O Heavenly Father, who hast filled the world with beauty; Open, we beseech thee, our eyes to behold thy gracious hand in all thy words; that rejoicing in thy whole creation, we may learn to serve thee with gladness; for the sake of him by whom all things were made, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Almighty Father, we give praise and thanks to thee for thy animal kingdom. Grant that we may always serve as faithful stewards of thy bounty, and never abuse our rightful authority over our fellow creatures. Help us to appreciate the wondrous power of life, the inspiring beauty of thy marvelous creatures, and to recognize the mutual interdependence of all thy creatures. Thou hast given our animal brethren to us for examples of thy grace and providence, for helpers, for food, for clothing, for mutual protection, for convenience, and for companionship. Let us be a blessing to them, even as they are a blessing to us.

Priest: The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord.

Response: *And thou givest them their meat in due season.*

Priest: Are these animals brought this day to be blessed?

Response: *That is our desire.*

The Blessing of the Animals

Priest: Bless, O Lord, this _____,

named _____, with your continual care,

and give your grace to those who love and care for

this thy creature. Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Response: *And with thy spirit.*

Priest: Depart in peace.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

The Blessing

Priest: The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.