

ST. JAMES' CHURCH



St. James' Parish

5757 Solomons Island Rd.,

Lothian, Maryland 20711

Phone: 410-867-2838

www.stjameslothian.com

The Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lenow, Rector

Services

St. James' Church

Sundays, 10 a.m., Eucharist with Choir

St. Mark's Chapel

Sundays, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist



ST. MARK'S CHAPEL

Welcome

to

St. James' Parish

Established 1692



St. James' Church, Lothian

St. Mark's Chapel, Deale

St. James' Parish from 1692

In 1692, St. James' Parish, Old Herring Creeke, was officially established when the Maryland Assembly, acting on orders of Sir Lionel Copely, Royal Governor of Maryland, enacted the Act of Establishment. That Act divided the Province of Maryland into 30 Anglican Parishes. However, there were people worshiping in the area before that time. The exact location of that church is unknown.

Three years later, in 1695, the vestry ordered a church built on the present site. The Rev. Henry Hall was the first rector, remaining at St. James' until his death in 1722.

When the old church became inadequate in 1763, the vestry ordered that a new church be built. It was finished in 1765 and continues today to serve its congregation. The vestry room and bell tower were added later, and stained glass replaced most of the old, clear glass windows. But the nave and its double aisles, pew doors, inscribed tablets, and the hand-plastered concave, acoustically sensitive ceiling are basically the same as they were when the worshiping colonists preached, knelt and sang there.

In 1698, St. James' Parish opened the first parochial lending library of the American parishes of the Church of England. It was founded by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Bray, who donated 118 books for the library that year.

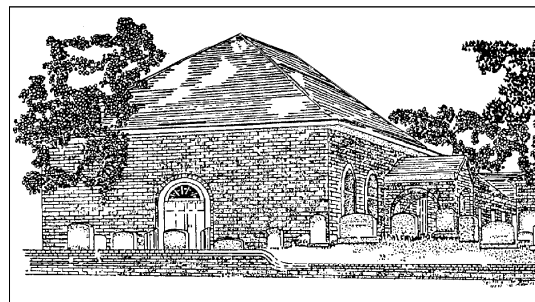
In 1792, the seventh rector of St. James', the Rev. Thomas John Claggett, resigned to become the first Bishop of Maryland — the first Episcopal Bishop to be consecrated on American soil.

The church itself is surrounded by old gravestones, one dating back to 1665, described as the oldest dated tombstone in Maryland. Several of the silver Eucharistic service pieces dating back to the early 1700's are still in use.

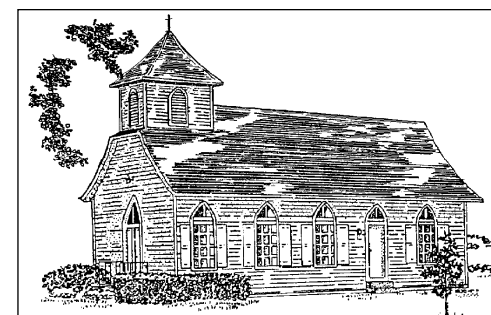
The parish also founded several chapels: St. Mark's Chapel at Friendship, consecrated in 1850 and sold in 1915; The Chapel of St. James the Less in Owensville in 1853 (now Christ Church, West River); St. James' Chapel in Tracey's Landing in 1876, and St. Mark's Chapel, built in 1924.

Today, St. James' Church and St. Mark's Chapel are quietly but joyously serving the communities around them. Our 32nd Rector, the Rev. William H.C. Ticknor, the fourth great-grandson of Bishop Claggett, began his ministry here in 1973, and retired after 45 years of service to the Parish. Our 33rd Rector, the Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lenow began his ministry here in 2021.

Our Lord asks us to love one another as He loves us. We ask only the opportunity to welcome, serve and love



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