

# Greetings from the Chapel of St. James the Fisherman Wellfleet, MA

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[www.stjameschapelwellfleet.org](http://www.stjameschapelwellfleet.org)

July 15, 2021

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## This Week's Preacher at 9:30 AM

**The Venerable Calhoun "Callie" Walpole**  
Archdeacon, Diocese of South Carolina  
Vicar and Subdean, Grace Church Cathedral,  
Charleston, South Carolina

A native of John's Island, South Carolina, Callie is a graduate of the School of Theology at the University of the South-Sewanee, and Clemson University. She currently serves on the board of Voorhees College, and served as executive producer of the play Truth in Cold Blood, on the murder of Bishop William Alexander Guerry. For the last five years she has co-facilitated a weekly book study with both Episcopalians and members of AME churches in Charleston and has hosted frequent okra soup suppers in efforts to promote unity across racial and denominational divides. She enjoys gardening, kayaking, reading, writing, and history.



## **This Week's Patio Conversation at 8:30 a.m.**

"We take a backward glance today in order to gain fresh strength and courage for the future, and the great work to which God has called us."

-William Alexander Guerry,

Bishop of South Carolina, martyred in 1928 by one of his priests over his inclusive stance on race.

Callie will discuss this event and its aftermath as well as recent (since 2015 and the Emanuel AME massacre) ongoing efforts in South Carolina to reconcile our past in order to bring healing and justice across racial lines—from book studies to diversity and justice commissions to okra soup suppers, etc.

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## **The Right Reverend Morgan Porteus (1917-2019) Remembered by Mac Gatch**

On Saturday morning at eleven, his family, friends, and the Chapel congregation will bid a pandemic-delayed "adieu" to our beloved Morgan Porteus, who died in December 2019 in his one-hundred-and-third year.

Born in Hartford, Morgan served the Diocese of Connecticut as rector in Cheshire for twenty-seven years and then successively as suffragan, coadjutor and diocesan bishop. He was only the eleventh bishop of the oldest diocese in the Episcopal Church, and his tenure was shorter than many of his predecessors when he retired to the Cape in 1981. For many years he served Massachusetts as an assisting bishop. Deep though his roots were in the Nutmeg State, he was an adopted son of Cape Cod as a vacationer and as a full-time retiree.

When the Chapel of St James the Fisherman was being built, he expressed doubts

that a modernist structure would be appropriate. James Pike, then dean of the cathedral in New York City and the founding spirit of the Chapel, painstakingly explained the rationale of the building, and Porteus, instantly converted, became a lifelong devotee of the Chapel, its worship, and its people. Before his retirement, he became a priest-in-charge of the Chapel, presiding here during his vacations. He revitalized the worship of the Chapel, serving with me and later also with Jack Smith. There were lively meetings during the summer and in Hartford in the winter to plan the form and schedule of worship and a roster of preachers. He continued to serve for a number of years after his retirement and remained a faithful member into his last summer.

He was a gifted preacher: conversational in manner, always carefully prepared, reading from manuscript. A favorite theme was the practice of liturgy: he thought most preachers performed the liturgy mindlessly. (He had served as a member of the church's liturgical commission during the drafting of the present Prayer Book.) And he reminisced about the early years in the life of St James the Fisherman. There were always calls for copies of his sermons, which were transcribed by a cranky but wonderfully accurate typist, who also prepared the bulletins from Morgan's spidery handwritten drafts—a considerable feat in the days of the typewriter. In conversation, he told stories from his rich experience—yarns so perfect that they seemed rehearsed, though I don't recall that he ever repeated himself.

Morgan had rich passions beyond (but supportive of) his priestly profession. A boy chorister in Hartford, he was a life-long lover of music. He loved the Cape as a place of infinitely varied beauty and serenity. He loved to fish and could tell a lively fish-tale. He favored gin martinis. Above all he loved gardening. In his Truro home he tended the grounds in summer and nurtured a window greenhouse through the winter. In his last years in Wellfleet, he found a onetime rock-and-roller, Settie Dixon, with whom he created a garden that surrounded his house and rolled, gloriously, downhill to the old railroad right of way.

Morgan is no longer with us, but the Chapel will forever be the richer for his life

among us. And his ashes will be near us in the columbarium, resting in well-earned peace.



Morgan's garden

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## Porteus Memorial Service Details

When: Saturday, July 17th  
11:00 AM. (Singers rehearsal 10:00 AM)

Parking: **If you are able, please park in the lot behind the post office** and walk up the path. Look for the steps and the episcopal church flag in the southwest

corner. We want to reserve the church parking lot for those who need closer access.

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## **Tracey's Sermons**

Here's a link to Tracey's sermon from June 27th:

<https://www.traceylind.com/blog/2021/7/2/4fnm04eumkbeizjk2uz0djc4hxslsy>

And here's the one from last week, July 11th:

<https://www.traceylind.com/blog/2021/7/15/we-are-called-to-be-brave-in-our-resistance>

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## **Feast of St. James the Fisherman Sunday, July 25th**

Join us for a special Sunday morning service including prayers for the life of this Chapel community, our annual reading of the Necrology of the Chapel -- remembering parishioners who have gone before us to celebrate on a different shore and in a brighter light -- plus a festive social hour of oysters and champagne!

If you would like to volunteer to help read the necrology, contact Darcy Hackert at: [dkhackert@gmail.com](mailto:dkhackert@gmail.com)

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## **Notice of Annual Meeting**

Our annual meeting will be held Sunday, August 8th after the 9:30 church service. Having had no annual meeting last year, we are looking to elect a passel of new vestry members (for varying term lengths) in a few weeks. **If you are**

interested in serving on the vestry and/or for more information, contact Ingrid Jacobson, chair of the nominating committee at: [ingrid@ingridjacobson.com](mailto:ingrid@ingridjacobson.com).

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## Events Calendar

**July 17:** Memorial Service for Morgan Porteus. 11 am  
Singers 10 am

**July 25:** Feast of St. James the Fisherman 9:30 AM

**July 29:** Joint Picnic with St Mary of the Harbor, Mayo Beach 5 pm

**August 8:** Annual meeting after church

**August 7:** Oyster Tasting Party at the home of Richard Thaler 5 pm

**August 17:** Altar Guild Luncheon at the home of Harriet Blanchard at noon

**September 1:** End-of-season Cocktail Party at Martha Wilson's home 5 pm

--Thank you to Patricia Penza and Martha Wilson



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Stairs from post office parking lot, minus the flag



The Chapel of  
**St. James the Fisherman**

The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, Priest-in-Charge  
Ingrid Jacobson, Seminarian  
James Arthur Smith & Gay Goslin Smith, Musicians

*The Chapel of St. James the Fisherman relies on the generous support of members and friends. Please [click here to make a donation](#) and support the ministry of the Chapel.*

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