

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



### MY STORY OF DISCIPLESHIP

by Isabelle Hobbs  
Saint James Parishioner



Hi! My name is Isabelle Hobbs. I am 14 years old and have been a member of St. James since my family moved to Elizabethtown in 2004. I was homeschooled through the eighth grade and now I am a freshman at E-town High School.

Even though I was not a student at St. James School, I tried to stay active in parish life by doing things like singing in the choir, taking Communion to the nursing home with my mom, altar serving, and attending youth group. I sang in the Cherub Choir from Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and then moved on to sing in the girls choir in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I was also a “helper” for the Cherub Choir from 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade.

I began altar serving in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and it is something that I still enjoy doing. It is truly an honor to be able to serve the Lord in such a special way during the great Sacrifice of the Mass, and I now have two younger siblings following in my footsteps. In the past few months, I have also started lecturing, which is a completely new, but very neat way for me to be able to serve the Church. It allows me to speak God’s Word to the people and hopefully help to bring them closer to Him.

Volunteering over the past 3 summers with Vacation Bible School at St. James has been another very fun way that I have been able to give back to the Church. It allows me to get to know some of the younger members of the parish and have fun interacting with and building relationships with them.

My family has been involved with Religious Education and Family Faith Formation for the past couple of years. I helped my dad to prepare the second-graders in last year’s R.E. class for First Reconciliation and First Communion. It was extremely eye-opening to be able to get down on a 7-year-old’s level and to talk with them about God and hear what they think about our beautiful Catholic Faith.

Finally, last year, I began preparing to be Confirmed, which has required me completing many service projects. This has especially led me to being very involved in my community by not only participating in parish activities, but by doing things such as volunteering at Feeding America and the St. Vincent de Paul store, working 5K races in town, and making dinner for family or friends when they are experiencing hardship. Doing this has helped me to realize the true beauty in serving others and expecting nothing in return. I am now waiting in great anticipation for the day when I will be confirmed!

Overall, stewardship has played a major role in my life. It has definitely influenced the way I live, including how I spend my time and how I think about and serve others. I hope to continue living my life as a steward, serving God so that I can come to know, love, and serve Him better by giving of my time, talent, and treasure.

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***This is my discipleship story. What is your story?*** We would love for you to share your stories with the parish. Please submit your discipleship stories to Jennifer Moran in the parish office. You may either email them to [jmoran@stjames-etown.org](mailto:jmoran@stjames-etown.org) or drop off in the office. By sharing your story, you are allowing us to share it broadly with our parish community. Thank you in advance for providing us all the inspiration we need to be better disciples each and every day.