

Announcements

We remember. Today, the Episcopal Church celebrates **All Saints' Day**. As part of our All Saints' Day celebration at St. Mary's, we remember those among us who have died, especially within the past year. We also celebrate a special **choral service of Holy Eucharist** at our 11 a.m. service, which is accompanied by an ensemble of strings and woodwinds and guest organist Bruce Stevens. Also at the 11 a.m. service:

- ❖ **St. Mary's Choir** again joins the opening procession in the new vestments that were given in honor of Rector John Miller. John has been a long-time advocate of the Choir and has encouraged the Choir to be visibly present in our services in recognition of its integral role in our Episcopal liturgy.
- ❖ Children age 3-grade 2 delight us with their annual **Procession of Saints** following the Welcome and Announcements and assist with the collection of the weekly offering and annual giving pledge cards.



Today is Annual Giving Pledge Sunday. In recent weeks, as part of our annual giving pledge drive, you have heard from parishioners Scott Barton, Jane duFrane, Brantley Holmes, and Rich Lundvall about **what St. Mary's means** to them. We hope that they have inspired you to reflect prayerfully on what St. Mary's means to you and will respond generously with an **annual giving pledge for 2016**. Each pledge makes a **real difference** in the life of St. Mary's and all who are touched by this wonderful church through worship, classes, meals, pastoral care, and outreach that extends from our doorstep to the surrounding communities and beyond. From baptisms through confirmations and marriages, to burials and everything in between, **St. Mary's is here** for you and many others.



Go Set a Watchman. **Henry Massie**, whose teaching series on Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* captivated St. Mary's parishioners and guests several years ago, returns to St. Mary's to consider *Mockingbird's* controversial precursor *Go Set a Watchman*. Join us for three **Wednesdays in November at 7 p.m.**, beginning this Wednesday, November 4 in the New Parish Hall. If you wish to use child care, please contact Emily Rowell Brown by this evening at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org.



A very special weekend. Next Friday, November 6 through Sunday, November 8, St. Mary's is delighted to welcome Brother David Vryhof of the **Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE)**.

- ❖ **Friday, November 6, 6-8 p.m.** Br. David will be with us for supper and a brief introduction to the relationship of Jesus and his disciples as it is presented in the Gospel of John, and use it as a model for how we might grow in intimacy with God.
- ❖ **Saturday, November 7, 9 a.m.-noon**, Br. David will lead a retreat on "**Finding God in All Things: The Role of Prayer in Making Life Choices.**" Lunch will follow.
- ❖ **Suggested contributions** are \$8 for Friday evening, \$20 for Saturday, or \$25 for both. The general public is invited to both sessions. Please let us know if you plan to attend by contacting Lori Smiley in the parish office at 804-784-5678 or at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org.
- ❖ On Sunday, Br. David will join us for the **Parish Breakfast**, lead the **Adult Forum**, and preach at the **9 a.m. and 11 a.m. service**.
- ❖ *We would love your help with the brothers' visit. Please contact Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org.*
- ❖ Find out even more about the brothers, their life, and their ministries at www.ssje.org.



Stay Tuned. Next Sunday, November 8, the **St. Mary's Children's Choir** debuts at the 11 a.m. service.

Reaching out. Outreach within St. Mary's, the surrounding community, and beyond is a testament to the vibrant life of our parish. Upcoming outreach opportunities with some of our outreach partners include:

- ❖ **Thanksgiving meals** to families served by **Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services**: Small Saints and Junior Youth Group (St. Mary's children in kindergarten through grade 5) have decorated bags to fill with food for a Thanksgiving meal for a family who might otherwise not have one. If you haven't already done so, please pick up a bag with a list of food needs as you leave this morning's service and return it to St. Mary's by **next Sunday, November 8**.
- ❖ **Christmas giving** to families served by the **Goochland Christmas Mother and Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services**: Small Saints and Junior Youth Group (St. Mary's children in kindergarten through grade 5) will decorate ornaments with suggestions for Christmas presents for children who might otherwise not receive any, as well as other household items needed. The ornaments will hang on the Giving Tree in the New Parish Hall. Please plan to take an ornament, and return presents by **Sunday, December 13**.
- ❖ American Red Cross **Blood drive**: St. Mary's parishioners (age 16 and up) have the opportunity to donate blood at St. Mary's from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Sunday, December 13**. Every two seconds, someone needs blood, and Red Cross is the supplier of blood and blood products to all major hospitals in the Richmond area. One of our own St. Mary's parishioners currently receives multiple transfusions as he fights childhood leukemia. Please stay tuned for more information and plan to donate on December 13.
- ❖ Quarters for **CARITAS**: CARITAS offers basic housing, necessities, food, and support to people who have lost their homes through a network of partner congregations, including St. Mary's. We will host CARITAS January 30-February 6, and we will provide **clean laundry** for our guest each day. Please donate quarters for the laundry in the "**Quarters for CARITAS**" jar in the Café between the kitchen and the New Parish Hall.
- ❖ Thank you!



Let's talk about the Bible. Opportunities for Bible study this week at St. Mary's include:

- ❖ the **Rector's Bible Study** meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. to ponder the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday;
- ❖ Associate Rector Weezie Blanchard's class on Thursdays, November 5 and 12 at 10:30 a.m. considers the Letter of Paul to the **Ephesians**.
- ❖ Both groups gather in the Education Building Library. For more information, contact John Miller at jmiller@stmarysgoochland.org or Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org.



We've got it in the bag. We love having children with us in the services! Children are welcome to help themselves to The Sunday Paper Junior, a lectionary-inspired comic strip (at the back of Little St. Mary's) and a clipboard and worship bag filled with a few activities to enjoy (in the chests at the back of New St. Mary's). Please remember to return the supplies at the end of the service so we have them available every Sunday.