



THE ANNUNCIATION

Pentecost Sunday

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

May 15, 2016

A Weekly Reflection

Becoming a Sunday school teacher has been one of the best things I have ever done. I was asked probably eight years ago to teach middle and high school kids at our old church. I had no experience, but I knew I wanted to do something good and felt honored to be asked. I fell in love with it and have been teaching since. This year was my second year teaching the 3rd- 5th grade Sunday school class at St. Mary's, and I will teach next year and the year after. It is absolutely one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. My family and I have gained so much more than I have given.

Teaching Sunday school helps reinforce my commitment to church. We all have things that we are committed to: our families, our friends, our work our children's activities, our volunteer service. And all of those are so important. But one of the most important things I feel we can do for ourselves and for our children is to be committed to church. In this day and time when there are so many outside forces trying to pull us away from God, being at church most Sundays, if not every Sunday, keeps us and our children closer to God, which is where I want to be.

Being a Sunday school teacher requires me to be at church at 10:00 every Sunday. This is not always easy. And there are Sundays where I have to "talk it up", not just to our children but to myself as well. But I do it because it is good, and fulfilling and warming. Getting to know the children of St. Mary's; showing them that I value them and feeling them value me, teaching and learning about God's love together is a blessing. And I am not alone. Most of the Sunday school teachers at St. Mary's came back to teach again this year. They have felt the blessing too!

It makes me so thankful to be a part of such a wonderful Parish.

Brantley Holmes
Chair, Children's Ministries Committee
Vestry Member
3rd – 5th Grade Sunday School Teacher

Would you like to write for us? Contact Emily Rowell Brown at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org to learn more.

Nursery

We have nursery available for infants through 4 year olds during both the 9:00 and 11:00 services as well as during the 10:00 Education Hour. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Our nursery leader, Meg Zehmer, will be happy to help you get your child settled into the nursery.

Worship bags

We provide worship bags that contain a coloring page based on the Gospel reading of the day. It also has a wonderful parent-focused message on the back to help you talk about the day's reading with your child. Worship bags are located in wood bins near the entrances to the church.

Sermons available

Find past sermons available in hard copy in the narthex of New St. Mary's, or visit stmarysgoochland.org/sermons to hear audio and download print versions.

Connect with us

We would love to learn more about you! If you are a visitor, please pick up a **welcome packet** from one of our ushers.

Do you receive email from us? Sign up at stmarysgoochland.org/communications to receive St. Mary's weather updates and news.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One, *Little St. Mary's*
10 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*
No Adult Forum today
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two, *New St. Mary's*
12 p.m. Pentecost Picnic, *New Parish Hall and Terrace*
4 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, *Education Building*

WELCOME! Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary's, or your 401st, we're glad that you're with us. Please feel free to introduce yourself to an usher or a clergy member and consider filling out an information form. We invite you to join us on future **Sundays** at 9 or 11 a.m. for Eucharist and Morning Prayer, on Wednesdays for **Noonday** or **Evening Prayer** at 12 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary's, for a **class** or **Bible study**, or for many of our other **fellowship** and **outreach** offerings. **Little St. Mary's** is also **open every day** between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and available to you for prayer and reflection. See the back page to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary's.

ADULTS

Are you a Dover? The Dover Parish Community Group, fondly known as the Dovers (and formerly known as PAC), are adults in their **20's, 30's, and 40's** who are interested in engaging in life at St. Mary's and with each other. Recent activities include gathering at Licking Hole Creek Brewery and sponsoring today's Pentecost Picnic. Come find out more at the next meeting this **Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.** in the New Parish Hall.

When you fall down, how do you rise strong? Join Associate Rector Emily Rowell Brown and Director of Youth Ministries Matt Rawls this **June 4-5** for a special workshop at Roslyn Retreat Center, "**Rising Strong for Young Adults.**" Based on the research of **Brené Brown** and grounded in the Christian tradition, this workshop is about **showing up as our deepest selves**. In it we will delve into our individual stories, especially those of struggle, and learn to let go of who we think we ought to be so that we might be who we are. The cost is \$25, and the registration deadline is May 20. Learn more at standrewsoregonhill.org/risingstrong and contact Emily at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org if you would like to attend.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Me? Teach Sunday School? YES, you! Brantley Holmes has beautifully explained what being a Sunday School teacher can mean for an individual and a family in the reflection in this Annunciation. Do you think you might like to share the story of our faith with our younger members? Would you like to help with programming that impacts our children, but would like to do something other than teach Sunday School? We need lots of hands to guide our children. If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities to work with our Children's Ministries program, please contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

Amazing things happen right here at home. This summer the youth are invited to participate in a **local, home-grown mission trip**. This is open to anyone grades 6-12. We will spend **Thursday, June 23 and Friday, June 24** volunteering at **Shalom Farms** and then at the **soup kitchen** at Grace and Holy Trinity. Additionally, on Thursday night we will gather back at St. Mary's for food, games and fellowship! Please email Matt Rawls for more information at mrawks@stmarysgoochland.org.

Are you coming? Vacation Bible School will be held on **July 11-15, 2016** from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Mark your calendars for a great week of fun and learning for St. Mary's children ages 3 – 5th grade. We will be exploring **feeding stories** from Scripture and learning more about the **Eucharist**. Registration will be available soon. Interested in volunteering to help with the week? Please contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

FELLOWSHIP

A Pentecost Picnic. Join us for hot dogs, chips, fruit, and birthday cake (since Pentecost is the birthday of the church, after all!) **following the 11 a.m. service.** **The Dovers** are serving as our cooks and helping us kick off the warm weather months with a picnic on the terrace and in the New Parish Hall.

The Last Supper. Well, not *that* last supper, but please join us for our last parish supper until October on **Wednesday, May 18** from **5:30-7 p.m.** There will be activities and games for children and youth from 6:15-7 p.m., so bring the entire family! Suggested contribution is **\$8/person** or **\$25/family**. We now accept credit cards.

Is there anything better than a cool glass of lemonade in the summer? Note that beginning June 5, the first Sundays of each summer month are **Lemonade on the Lawn Sundays!** After the 10 a.m. service, enjoy conversation and a cold beverage on the terrace with St. Mary's friends.

STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's Church makes a difference in people's lives every day. People of all ages come here to worship, learn, and serve. They leave here comforted and inspired to serve in the wider world. All of it is made possible by people who make a sustaining financial gift. **Annual pledges strengthen our ministries and ensure that St. Mary's remains a source of hope and encouragement for people in Goochland, the metropolitan Richmond area, and beyond.** If you haven't already done so, please consider making a financial pledge for 2016. Every gift, large or small, makes a difference. You can pledge online at stmarysgoochland.org/pledge, email Gina Alexander at galexander@stmarysgoochland.org, or call 784-5678. **It's SO easy to do and it feels SO good to do it!**

WORSHIP

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place! Celebrate the annual Bishop's visit and the newest members of St. Mary's next Sunday, May 22, when Bishop Shannon Johnston joins us **in New St. Mary's for Holy Baptism at 9 a.m.** and the **Rite of Confirmation at 11 a.m.** A **reception** in honor of Bishop Shannon and the confirmands will follow the 11 a.m. service.

We can't do it without you...Altar Guild and chalice bearer trainings are coming up. New and old **Altar Guild** members (and those who are simply want to find out more) are invited to training *this Tuesday, May 17 at 4 p.m.* We will meet in the New Parish Hall before heading to the sacristy. ❖Current **chalice bearers** and those interested in participating in this ministry are invited to a **training session on Thursday, June 2 at 5:30 p.m.** in New St. Mary's. **RSVP** and direct questions to Emily Rowell Brown at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org.

Summer schedule—Update! Our summer Sunday service schedule begins on **May 29** and continues through **September 4**. We will hold one service at **10 a.m.** in **New St. Mary's**, and the beloved Morning Prayer service will return. Each month, on the **first, third, and fifth Sundays**, we will celebrate **Holy Eucharist**, and on the **second and fourth Sundays**, we will hold a **Morning Prayer** service followed by an optional opportunity to receive Holy Communion. **We will suspend our Wednesday Evening Prayer service at 5:45 p.m. for the summer months beginning the first week of June.** Wednesday Noonday Prayer at noon will continue.

WHERE IS GOD CALLING ST. MARY'S?

UPDATE: For more than six weeks, hundreds of **St. Mary's parishioners, staff, and clergy** have met with and listened to each other as we prayerfully **discern** "Where is God calling St. Mary's?" We have now entered a new phase, and Chair Tim O'Shea has begun compiling a report to the Vestry based on the findings of the committees focused on five areas of our common life (Fellowship, Outreach, Spiritual Formation and Education, Stewardship, and Worship), as well as the results of numerous informal conversations and correspondence. The Vestry will make recommendations to the parish based on Tim's report, all of which will be shared with the parish. Meanwhile, we continue to prayerfully consider **where God is calling us to be** as a beacon of God's kingdom in the world, with an emphasis on **listening to one another.** *If you would still like to make your voice heard*, please contact Tim and/or one of the following committee members. To find out more, go to www.stmarysgoochland.org/discernment/.

Fellowship: Chair: Kristie Inge, Andy Howlett, Katie Howlett, Margaret Lundvall, Caroline Moomaw, Duane Ragsdale, Frances White, Vestry representative: Bruin Richardson, clergy/staff representative: Emily Rowell Brown; **Outreach:** Chair: Marshall Bowden, Wallace Inge, Richard Lundvall, Margaret Mickel, Liz Rider, Jen Wilkins, Vestry representatives: Tracey Ragsdale and Charmaine Trice, clergy/staff representative: Bob Hetherington; **Spiritual Formation and Education:** Co-Chairs: Mary Lou Bean and Owen Conway, Chris Cotropia, Betty Johannessen, Cabell Jones, Doug Monroe, Sydna Street, Marilynn Ware, Angelique Wilhelm, Dan Williams, Vestry representative: Brantley Holmes, clergy/staff representatives: Amelia McDaniel and Matt Rawls; **Stewardship:** Co-Chairs: Jane duFrane and Wally Stettinius, Mercer Ferguson, Eddie Goode, Wallace Inge, Tracey Ragsdale, Jane Spilman, Ben Weimer, Vestry representative: Fay Lohr, clergy/staff representative: Weezie Blanchard; **Worship:** Chair: Peggy Talman, Rebecca Johnson, Ben Lewis, Robin Lind, Burke McCormick, Susie Patton, Martha Rhodes, Sue Thompson, Kemper Wharton, Russell Wyatt, Vestry representative: Betsy Rawles, clergy/staff representatives: Weezie Blanchard, Dwight Graham.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Accepting 2016-2017 applications. St. Mary's Episcopal School is currently accepting applications for children ages 2-6 for two day, three day, four day, five day and Junior Kindergarten programs. St. Mary's members (or their referrals) will receive \$250 off tuition. We offer a play-based curriculum, small intimate class sizes, and a fabulous outdoor classroom. Please call us at 784-2049 for more information and to set up your personal tour. Visit us on the web at www.saintmarysschool.net.

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, May 15, Pentecost Sunday

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Building* (age 3-
grade 2) and *Education Building* (grades 3-8)
Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New*
St. Mary's
Pentecost Picnic, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall and Terrace*
Middle School Youth Group, 4 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, May 16

Pastoral Care Team 3, 10 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Tuesday, May 17

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Altar Guild Training, 4 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Dover Parish Community Group, 6:30 p.m., *New Parish*
Hall

Wednesday, May 18

Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Education Building Library*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Discernment Steering Committee, 4:30 p.m., *Education*
Building Library
Children's Choir Rehearsal, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Parish Supper, 5:30-6:45 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Evening Prayer, 5:45 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Middle School Youth Group, 6:15 p.m., *Education*
Building

Thursday, May 19

Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Saturday, May 21

A.A., 10 a.m., *Education Building Classroom*

Sunday, May 22, Trinity Sunday, Bishop's Visitation

Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 9 a.m., *New*
St. Mary's
Confirmation and Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New*
St. Mary's
Bishop's Reception, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall and*
Terrace

Coming Up

Sunday, May 29, Second Sunday after Pentecost

Summer Schedule begins

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Monday, May 30

Church office closed for Memorial Day

CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY

Melissa Alicea, *Nursery Assistant*

Gersain Agudelo, *Assistant Sexton*

Gina Alexander, *Parish Administrator*
galexander@stmarysgoochland.org

Adam Bailey, *Children's Choir Director*

Louise Browner Blanchard, *Interim Rector*
wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org

Emily Rowell Brown, *Associate Rector*
ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org

Tammy Click, *Accountant*

W. Dwight Graham, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Robert G. Hetherington, *Priest Associate*

Amelia McDaniel, *Director of Children's Ministries*
amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org

Paul Pace, *Sexton*

Matt Rawls, *Director of Youth Ministries*
mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org

Lori Smiley, *Assistant to the Clergy*
lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org

Meg Zehmer, *Nursery Director*

Susan Rawls, *Director of St. Mary's Episcopal School*

Vestry Members:

Al Rider, *Senior Warden*

Jane duFrane, *Junior Warden*

Bill Gooch, *Treasurer*

Charmaine Trice, *Register*

Scott Barton, Steve Guza, Brantley Holmes, Fay Lohr,

Tracey Ragsdale, Betsy Rawles, Bruin Richardson,

David Rose, and Tom Slater

Coming Soon

Saturday, June 4-Sunday, June 5

Rising Strong Young Adult Conference, *Roslyn Retreat*
Center

Sunday, June 5

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Lemonade on the Lawn, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall and*
Terrace

See more at stmarysgoochland.org/events