



THE ANNUNCIATION

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

May 8, 2016

A Weekly Reflection

Bishop Shannon will be with us at the 9 and 11 a.m. services on May 22. Below is a brief excerpt from his Pastoral Address at this year's 221st Diocesan Annual Council:

...I've said many times before that in our Anglican Tradition, our commitment is to each other in Christ, not to each other's opinions. More than that, I say that disagreement can actually be a fruitful dynamic in Christian fellowship and governance; it can be a crucial part of how faithful discernment and the deepest community happen.

To me, the acceptance – the celebration – of this quality may be the very specific gift – the Godly charism – that our Anglicanism has for this world that is so deeply and variably divided, indeed polarized. Knowing how to disagree and still be totally committed to one another and to the greater good of all is the proverbial "balm in Gilead."

Our Anglicanism, at its best and most authentic – focused on the Gospel of Jesus – has so much to teach our politics and relationships. This is something that is so desperately and achingly longed-for in every culture and society. I believe that by virtue of being Episcopalians – people of the both/and – we are called, indeed expected, by God to be reconcilers. Or, to put it another way, we are called to witness to how all people can become and remain "connected in the Kingdom..."

Reprinted from The Diocese of Virginia website

The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston
Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia
sjohnston@thediocese.net

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*
9:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast, *New Parish Hall, New Parish Hall*
10 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*
10:10 a.m. Adult Forum, *New Parish Hall*
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two, *New St. Mary's*

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.

WHERE IS GOD CALLING ST. MARY'S?

Over the past six weeks, hundreds of **St. Mary's parishioners, staff, and clergy** have been engaged in the process of **discerning**, "Where is God calling St. Mary's?" Led by Chair Tim O'Shea and Chaplain Bob Hetherington and focused on five areas of our common life (Fellowship, Outreach, Spiritual Formation and Education, Stewardship, and Worship), we have prayerfully considered where St. Mary's is now and **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**, we have met in committees, Adult Forums, and other venues such as monthly Parish Breakfasts and Suppers and Seniors lunches. We have also engaged in numerous informal conversations and correspondence. All parishioners have been invited to participate by contacting Tim and/or by contacting committee members individually. To find out more, go to www.stmarysgoochland.org/discernment/.

We are now in the process of prayerfully compiling what we have discerned, and *it is not too late to make your voice heard*. Please contact **Tim O'Shea** in person or at discernment@stmarysgoochland.org and/or **any of the following committee members**:

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.

ADULTS

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 if you would like to attend.

The best things in life are coffee and friends. One of the greatest gifts of a church is the **Christian community** that we create together. Making newcomers and long-timers alike feel welcome and included happens both during and outside of worship. If you would like to be involved in the conversation about **hospitality at St. Mary's**, and particularly how we might encourage **fellowship after the Sunday services** (over good coffee of course!), please contact Emily Rowell Brown at ebrown@stmarysgoochland.org.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

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

The best breakfast. It's our final parish breakfast until the fall! Join us this morning from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the New Parish Hall for a delicious hot breakfast, made even better with the addition of St. Mary's **legendary cinnamon rolls!** Suggested contribution is **\$6/person or \$20/family**. RSVP to Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org. Over coffee and a scrumptious meal prepared by members of the St. Mary's Fellowship Committee, continue the conversation about the Discernment Process.

Special Speaker's Luncheon. Enjoy lunch and conversation with St. Mary's friends this Wednesday, May 11 at 12 p.m., sponsored by the seniors of St. Mary's. Parishioner Tim O'Shea will give us a "**full scale**" **Discernment talk** with all five Committees represented: Peggy Talman from Worship, Mary Lou Bean and Owen Conway from Spiritual Formation and Education, Kristie Inge from Fellowship, Marshall Bowden from Outreach, and Jane duFrane and Wally Stettinius from Stewardship. It promises to be a learning experience all around! Please RSVP to Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org. Suggested contribution is \$5.

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, we hope you will 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

Summer schedule. 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 partake in reserved sacrament. Be sure especially to note the first Sundays of each summer month are **Lemonade on the Lawn Sundays!** After the service, enjoy conversation and a cold beverage on the terrace with St. Mary's friends.

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 8, Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Building* (age 3-grade 2) and *Education Building* (grades 3-8)

Adult Forum: Discernment Process, 10:10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Monday, May 9

Pastoral Care Team 2, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Tuesday, May 10

Staff Meeting, 1:30 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, May 11

Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Education Building Library*

Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Seniors Lunch and Program, 12 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Discernment Stewardship Committee, 4 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Children's Choir Rehearsal, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Evening Prayer, 5:45 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Thursday, May 12

Outreach Committee, 9:00 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

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

Saturday, May 14

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

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*

Coming Up

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*

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*

ismiley@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

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

St. Mary's Episcopal Church ❖ 12291 River Road ❖ Richmond, Virginia

stmarysgoochland.org ❖ 804-784-5678