



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18)

September 4, 2016

A Weekly Reflection

Last Sunday, the St. Mary's Youth Group closed out the summer with a trip to Busch Gardens. All twenty of us had a great time. The exciting roller coasters, perfect weather and great company made for a fitting end to summer.

But the trip wasn't just to celebrate (or mourn) the end of summer. It was also a kick-off for the fall. And we have a lot to look forward to. The St. Mary's youth group is dynamic, exciting and growing. We have regular meetings, trips to Shrine Mont, and mission trips next summer to look forward to. In a few weeks we will begin a new confirmation class for 8th grade students and restart Sunday school.

I love the seasons, and the rhythm they give to life. Summer is the season for travelling and relaxing. Fall is the season for returning and focusing. It's a time for fresh starts, whether the start of a new school year or the new start of church programs. As the humidity departs and the leaves begin to change, we have the opportunity to restart things with vigor and energy.

Like the youth group, the St. Mary's community is dynamic and exciting. As fall approaches, decide to try something new this season, whether it's a new book, a new Bible study, or a new spiritual discipline. It is the season for new starts and new excitement.

Matt Rawls
Director of Youth Ministries

Nursery

We have nursery available for **infants through 4-year-olds** during the 10 a.m. service. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Our nursery leader, Meg Zehmer, and Melissa Alicea 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.

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

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II with Blessing of the Backpacks, *New St. Mary's*

11 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn, *Terrace*

Do you receive email from us?

Visit stmarysgoochland.org/communications to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

See more at stmarysgoochland.org

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 10 a.m. for Eucharist and Morning Prayer, on Wednesdays for **Noonday Prayer** at 12 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** Monday through Friday 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.

NEXT SUNDAY WE KICK OFF THE FALL!

Next week we return to **our regular schedule** on **Sunday, September 11**. We'll have Holy Eucharist Rite One at 9 a.m. in Little St. Mary's and Morning Prayer Rite One, followed by optional Holy Communion, at 11 a.m. in New St. Mary's. In between the two services, find out about the many opportunities to participate in the vibrant life of St. Mary's at our Kickoff Sunday **Open House**. Here you can learn about how to become involved with **the Fellowship Committee, the Dovers, the Seniors, the Children's Ministry Committee, the Youth Ministries Committee, Prayer Shawl, Buildings and Grounds, Choir, St. Mary's Episcopal School, Pastoral Care Teams, Altar Guild, Wednesday Bible Study, CARITAS, the Children's Choir, and worship**. Children and youth will have the opportunity to meet their teachers for the year in preparation for the beginning of classes on the following Sunday. After the 11 a.m. service, we'll celebrate the new year with a **parish picnic**.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Back to School Prayers – Have you seen the **updated blackboard** in the **Café**? Please stop by and **write your prayer** or prayers for the teachers and students who are getting ready to head back to school in the coming days.

Sunday School and Youth Group will be starting again soon! Beginning **September 18**, there are many offerings starting back up for the youth of St. Mary's. We have **Sunday School, Confirmation**, and regular **Youth Group** meetings. For more information, please contact our Director of Youth Ministries, Matt Rawls, at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

ADULTS

Get more out of each week's sermon. Did you know that from September through May we hold a Bible study that looks at the upcoming Sunday's assigned lectionary readings? Esteemed University of Richmond Professor Frank Eakin leads a class each **Wednesday** at **10 a.m.** in the Library, and meetings will resume on **September 14**. Feel free to come once or every week, whether you know the Bible inside and out or are beginning to dip your toes into the text. All voices enrich the discussion!

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am with them. On **Friday, September 16**, at **6 p.m. (ish)** the **Dovers** (adults in their 20's, 30's, and 40's in actuality or spirit) will gather for a fun, **informal Fall Social** at the church. We will enjoy time on the beautiful terrace. Please bring a snack or sweet to share, and we will enjoy BYOB refreshments. We are also investigating our ability to provide **childcare** for this gathering, but to plan, **contact Philip Tickle** at philiptickle@gmail.com if you would like to use this resource. Anyone who would like to learn more about the Dover community is welcome.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

One last lemonade. We love **Lemonade on the Lawn** Sundays, and **this Sunday** is our last until next summer. Come out on the Terrace following **this year's final 10 a.m. summer service** for lemonade, refreshments, and treats. We appreciate the time and energy that **Jane Fawley** has dedicated to organizing these festive summer gatherings.

Celebrate good times! We know that some of the best fellowship happens over food. Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- ❖ Beginning the **first Sunday of October**, we will **celebrate birthdays and anniversaries following the 11 a.m. service**. Join us for **cake** to accompany the coffee and wish fellow parishioners a happy birthday or anniversary.
- ❖ **Parish Breakfasts and Parish Suppers resume in October!** These meals are fun and delicious for all ages. Parish Breakfasts are on the **second Sundays** of each month **beginning at 9:30 a.m.**, and Parish Suppers are on the **third Wednesdays** of the month from 5:30-7 p.m. **If you would like to help cook or serve, please contact Joan Wilkins at jwilkins738@me.com.**

WORSHIP

Consider the lilies, how they grow. A special thanks to **Sue and Tad Thompson** for providing the altar flowers last Sunday. For years, they have graciously allowed the **Altar Guild** to come into the beautiful cutting garden at **Tuckahoe Plantation**, and pick flowers for the St. Mary's altar arrangements. We are grateful to enjoy some of their garden's bounty!

Clothed with righteousness. Chalice bearers **Linda Hendricks, Fay Lohr, Sydna Street, and Joan Wilkins** gave some of their time last Sunday to sort through and launder our Lay Eucharistic Minister vestments. The cassocks and surplices are now in tip top shape for the fall thanks to their efforts.

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear People of St. Mary's,

This is a bittersweet announcement. Emily Rowell Brown, our Associate Rector, has accepted a call to serve as Vicar of St. John the Baptist, Ivy. At this point in her life, especially as she and Dan hope to adopt and/or foster children in the near future, Emily is excited about serving a small congregation whose needs are more flexible than St. Mary's. That does not in any way diminish her love for St. Mary's or her appreciation for the time that she has been here. She has agreed to stay with us through September to help us get through this hectic time of year.

To say that I am sad is an understatement. Emily has been a wonderful addition to St. Mary's from the moment she arrived. She is an excellent preacher, teacher, and worship leader, and she has jumpstarted our communication and hospitality ministries in invaluable ways during this time of transition. Her sensitive, warm presence is a comfort to people of all ages, and she has an outstanding future in whatever she undertakes. We wish her Godspeed.

We have begun the process of searching for a new Associate Rector and will keep you all informed.

While I expect that you are as disappointed as I am, I know that we all look forward to a bright future for Emily – and for St. Mary's.

Faithfully,
Weezie Blanchard

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, September 4, 16th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18)

Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Blessing of the Backpacks, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Lemonade on the Lawn, 11 a.m., *Terrace*

Tuesday, September 6

Fellowship Committee, 9 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, September 7

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

Thursday, September 8

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

Saturday, September 10

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

Sunday, September 11, 17th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19)

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

Kickoff Sunday Celebration and Open House, 10 a.m.,
New Parish Hall

Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Parish Picnic, noon, *New Parish Hall and Patio*

Coming Up

Friday, September 16

Dovers Fall Social, 6ish p.m., *Terrace*

Sunday, September 18, 18th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 20)

Instructed Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Coming Soon

Sunday, October 2, 20th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22)

Choir Appreciation, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Blessing of the Animals, 3 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Sunday, October 16, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Choral Evensong, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Sunday, October 23, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)

St. Mary's Episcopal School Sunday

CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY

Gersain Agudelo, *Assistant Sexton*

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

Melissa Alicea, *Nursery Assistant*

Adam Bailey, *Children's Choir Director*

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

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

Ashley Cameron, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*
acameron@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