



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)
October 9, 2016

A Weekly Reflection

How can I ever forget crawling amongst the angels, sheep, and shepherds desperately searching for the missing baby Jesus during the Children's Christmas pageant?! But that is only one of the fond memories I've shared with St. Mary's over the past 30 years.

St. Mary's has been a part of numerous memories for me and my family from witnessing the beauty of the baptisms of my children to the joy of watching our friends' children begin their lives as married couples. From the unmitigated sorrow of burying dear friends to the overwhelming love and support of clergy and parishioners during my father's death. I also cannot forget the experience of leading (along with my good friend Marshall Bowden) the strategic planning process, the friendships formed during small group Bible studies, and the humbling experience of sitting on Vestry. And I've received such delight seeing the passion and commitment of our church that was reiterated during the discernment process. My spiritual journey has taken many twists and turns, but St. Mary's has always been there for me and my family.

When my family and I were asked to prayerfully consider an increase in our annual pledge, we remembered what St. Mary's has given us and *pledged joyfully*. As you prayerfully discern, I hope that you, too, will remember the impact that St. Mary's has had on your families' memories and pledge accordingly. I am so excited and committed to the future of our church!

In faith,
Tracey Ragsdale

Nursery

We have nursery available for **infants through 4-year-olds** from 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. 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 Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org to learn more.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

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

10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Education, *Sunday School, Education Building, and New Parish Hall*

10 a.m. Confirmation Class, *Education Building*

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

Noon Cookies and Coffee, *Café and New Parish Hall*

6 p.m. High School Youth Group, *Education Building*

Do you receive email from us?

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

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238 | (804) 784-5678 |
www.stmarysgoochland.org

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 a greeter, 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.

DAILY OFFICES

The Book of Common Prayer guides and informs our worship, not just on Sundays, but every day of the week. The first services in the Prayer Book are the "**Daily Offices**," which tell us that they are planned for daily use. The Daily Offices **include Morning, Noonday, and Evening Prayer**, and daily devotions for individuals and families. The Daily Offices **can take place wherever we are: in church, at home, or anywhere else.**

At St. Mary's, we customarily have **morning prayer at the 11 a.m. service on the second and fourth Sundays** of most months, Noonday Prayer at noon on Wednesdays, and Evening Prayer at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays during Advent and Lent.

Another notable aspect of the Daily Offices is **that the officiant can be clergy or lay.** We are delighted that Robin Lind is serving as the officiant at Morning Prayer at 11 a.m. this morning. **If you are interested in officiating** one of our daily offices at St. Mary's, please contact Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org. Meanwhile, **don't be afraid to try these services wherever you are!**

STEWARDSHIP

Annual Giving Campaign is in full swing! If you haven't **picked up a pledge card or a Narrative Budget** they are available at the back of the church or by the bulletin board in the Café. **If you have any questions**, there is a "Pledging Frequently Asked Questions" information sheet by the bulletin board and on the website. Each week, the Annunciation will feature a reflection from a member about how they "**Walk in Love**" at St. Mary's. If you'd like to **share your story** email Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org. Turn in your pledge cards by mail or by placing in the offertory **by November 13**. You can also pledge online at stmarysgoochland.org/pledge, email Gina Alexander at galexander@stmarysgoochland.org or call 784-5678. Thank you!

WORSHIP

Sing in the morning, sing in the evening, sing all the day long. The St. Mary's Choir, under the direction of organist and choirmaster Dwight Graham, will sing a service of **Choral Evensong on Sunday, October 16, at 5:30 p.m.** Based on the BCP's Evening Prayer, this beloved service of simple elegance **offers a time to come together for reflection, prayer and music** in the beauty of New St. Mary's at day's end. Choral Evensong will include readings, hymns, and prayers, both sung and spoken, with music by Tallis, Harris, Radcliffe, and Herbert Howells' Gloucester setting of the canticles, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittus. **We hope you will join us** as the shadows lengthen and the busy world is hushed.

All Saints' Day will be celebrated here on Sunday, November 6. Each year we include a reading of all those who have died within the life of our parish and those who have been included in our communal prayer. **If you have a loved one who you would like to include in this list** for All Saints' Day, please contact Lori Smiley at lsmiley@stmarysgoochland.org.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

All Saints' Day procession: Please mark your calendars for **Sunday November, 6** when we celebrate All Saints' Day. As part of the St. Mary's tradition **the children will be a part of the service.** In the weeks before All Saints' Day the children will be learning about the lives of some of the saints. **This is such a special day in the life of the church** and we hope that there will be many children who will be able to participate.

High School Youth Group: Tonight, yes tonight! **All students in 9th-12th grade** are invited to join us from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for youth group in the Education Building. Matt Rawls and Sydna Street will be leading a gathering of food, fun, fellowship...and **YOGA!** Wear comfortable clothes and prepare to have fun. For more information, please contact Matt at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org

High School Shrine Mont Weekend, PYM, Friday, November 4 - Sunday, November 6, Shrine Mont: Are you a 9th-12th grader who wants to join youth from around the Diocese for fun and fellowship? It's an awesome retreat organized by a group of high school students from around Virginia. Contact Matt Rawls for event information and registration forms at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org

ADULT EDUCATION AND MORE

A spiritual practice for men. Bob Hetherington will lead a spiritual practice in the parish hall of little St. Mary's at **beginning at 7:30 a.m.** for one hour on **Tuesday, October 25.** The focus will be on the Gospel reading for the coming Sunday. It will be a time of **silence, reflection, sharing and prayer.** The program will continue for five Tuesday mornings. This spiritual practice is an opportunity to deepen faith and is **open to men of all ages.**

"Life is not something that happens to you. You take what you have been given and you get to shape it, form it, steer it, make it into something...It's all part of being here," Rob Bell, *How to Be Here*. **Come join Matt Rawls** on Wednesday, October 26, November 2 and 9 at 5:30 p.m. **to discuss Rob Bell's book, *How to be Here*.** Bell is a leading voice in contemporary conversations about modern spirituality and practice. These discussions are in preparation for **Rob Bell's visit to St. Stephen's on Monday, November 14.** For more information contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

Parents are invited to **explore the common conundrum of how to parent.** *Blessing of the Skinned Knee* book study continues this week on **Thursday, October 13 at 11:00 in the Library.** Don't worry if you were not able to come last week, please feel free to join in. We have extra copies of the book on hand if you need one. For more information, email Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

Are you crazy? Our exploration of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's book *Crazy Christians* which challenges us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, **begins today in the Adult Forum at 10:10 a.m.** Can't make it to Adult Forum? Read *Crazy Christians* anyway and start the conversation among yourselves! **Copies of *Crazy Christians* are available in the church office** in the Old Parish Hall and in the Dover Lounge in the New Parish Hall. **Suggested donation is \$15.**

FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP

Consider joining us for the Seniors' Lunch. Don't let the name deter you. You don't have to be a senior to join - **everyone is welcome!** It will be in the New Parish Hall **this Wednesday, October 12 at noon.** The minimum donation for **lunch is \$5.** This month Wayne Dementi, a member of St. Mary's, will be our speaker and discuss publishing.

Parish Suppers are the Third Wednesday of each month! These meals are fun and delicious for all ages. They restart next week on **October 19 at 5:30 p.m.** As we feed one another at St. Mary's, we can give back and feed those in the wider community. At each Parish Breakfast and Parish Supper, we will **collect take-home snacks for Peter Paul Development Center.** If you would like to help cook or serve, please contact Carrie Schaeffer at saintmarysfellowship@gmail.com.

Save the Date! On **November 16 at 5:30 p.m.** St. Mary's will host a reception and a service of **Celebration of New Ministry** in honor of Weezie Blanchard becoming St. Mary's new Rector. Stay tuned for more details.

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, October 9, 21st Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*
Sunday School and Adult Education, 10 a.m., *Sunday
School Buildings and New Parish Hall*
Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies & Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
High School Youth Group, 6 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, October 10

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

Tuesday, October 11

Moovin' & Groovin' Music Class, 9:10 a.m., *St. Mary's
Episcopal School*

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

Stewardship Committee, 4 p.m., *Library*

Wednesday, October 12

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

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

Seniors Lunch, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

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

Thursday, October 13

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

Parent Book Study, *Blessing of the Skinned Knee*, 11 a.m.,
Library

St. Mary's Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Saturday, October 8

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

Sunday, October 16, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 24)

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School and Adult Education, 10 a.m., *Sunday
School Buildings and New Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Children's Ministry Committee, 12:30 p.m., *Old Parish
Hall*

Youth Ministry Committee, 12:30 p.m., *Library*

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

Coming Up

Monday, October 17 – Wednesday, October 19

Fall Clergy Retreat, *Shrine Mont*

Coming Soon

Wednesday, October 19

Parish Supper, 5:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

All Youth Group, 6:15 p.m., *Education Building*

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to **the Stewardship Committee (co-chairs, Jane duFrane, Fay Lohr, Tom Slater, and Committee members, Andrew Blair, Mark Deutsch, Karen Huennekens, Doug Monroe, Doug Pera, Tracey Ragsdale, Al Rider, Charmaine Trice, Kemper Wharton)** for the time and commitment that went into revising this year's Annual Campaign. It would not have happened without your pledge and dedication. We are excited for the future of St. Mary's!

CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY

Gersain Agudelo, *Assistant Sexton*

Gina Alexander, *Parish Administrator*
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Melissa Alicea, *Nursery Assistant*

Adam Bailey, *Children's Choir Director*

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Tammy Click, *Accountant*

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Robert G. Hetherington, *Priest Associate*

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Matt Rawls, *Director of Youth Ministries*
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Lori Smiley, *Assistant to the Clergy*
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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**