

THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Second Sunday After Epiphany

January 15, 2017

Nursery

Our nursery is 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. Nursery Director Meg Zehmer and Nursery Assistant 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 in the front of Little St. Mary's and in the wood bins near the entrances to New St. Mary's.

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*

10 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and Adult Education, *Sunday School and Education Buildings and New Parish Hall*

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

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

Do you receive email from us?

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

A WEEKLY REFLECTION

As we move through the Epiphany season, the emphasis is on God's revelation from the baptism of Jesus by John in the river Jordan – "this is my son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased" – to the transfiguration, Jesus on the mountain top talking with Moses and Elijah, a moment of high faith for the disciples. The question is: how does God reveal himself to us?

As we move through Epiphany and into Lent, our Sunday morning Adult Forums, we will focus on the fundamentals of faith in the Episcopal Church – sources of revelation for us: Bible, baptism, Eucharist, and prayer.

The Bible, particularly the story of Jesus, is the source of our revelation. When we look at Jesus we see the model of what it means to be a full human being. Jesus lived a generous life. He gave and gave and never counted the cost. Finally, he gave his life away. God gave his life back in the event called resurrection – God's exclamation point on a life well lived.

Baptism is our initiation into the life of Christian faith. We are marked as Christ's own forever. How do we live into our baptism? There are privileges and responsibilities associated with baptism. God made each one of us unique and special. How do we use our gifts and talents to strengthen the local church and to make a difference in the world?

Eucharist is our ongoing participation in the life of faith. We are nurtured by the Body and Blood of Christ to do important work to further God's Kingdom of peace and justice. We are connected to a past which goes all the way back to the last supper and we look forward to the heavenly banquet where everyone has a place at the table. The Eucharist is a corporate spiritual practice which gives balance and perspective to our busy lives.

Prayer is our connection to God. Praise, thanksgiving, oblation, confession, intercession, and petition are all forms of prayer, which give our lives spiritual depth and perspective. The more time we spend in prayer, the stronger our connection to God becomes.

All four aspects of the spiritual life are not unique to The Episcopal Church, but the way they fit together gives Episcopalians a unique way of walking in the footsteps of Jesus. I hope many of you will join our Adult Forum sessions to have your faith strengthened. Who knows what new revelation God might have in store for you this Epiphany season.

The Rev. Canon Robert G. Hetherington

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 9 a.m. for Eucharist or at 11 a.m. for Eucharist or 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.

ANNUAL MEETING

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** of St. Mary's Church, Dover Parish, will convene at **10 a.m. on Sunday, January 29, 2017** beginning with an abbreviated Morning Prayer service. At that time, the people of St. Mary's Church will elect four new members of the Vestry and hear reports from the Finance Committee, the Rector, the Senior Warden, and other leaders of the congregation.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE INVOLVED

There are many opportunities to participate in the vibrant life of St. Mary's, especially on Sunday mornings. Read more below about each ministry and how to become involved:

- ❖ **Acolytes:** minister as crucifers, Gospel bearers, and communion assistants and helpers; anyone 6th grade or older is invited to participate in our liturgy as an acolyte; contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org
- ❖ **Altar Guild:** prepare the altar and sanctuary for all services; contact co-chairs Betty Rinehardt at ewbr6@aol.com, Joanie Robins at j.robins@comcast.net, or Sue Thompson at sue.tuckahoe@gmail.com
- ❖ **Greeters and Ushers:** make a special effort to ensure that all who come to St. Mary's feel welcome! To learn more about how to welcome churchgoers before and after the 9 and 11 a.m. services, contact Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org and/or Betsy Rawles at betsy.rawles@gmail.com.
Note: usher training for ushers and those who are interested in being ushers takes place next Sunday, January 22 at 10 a.m. in New St. Mary's.
- ❖ **Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lay Eucharistic Visitors:** to assist the clergy in preparing for and serving communion during services, contact Cabell Blair at cblair@williamsmullen.com. To train to serve communion to parishioners who cannot attend services, contact Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org.
- ❖ **Prayer Leaders and Readers:** to read the lectionary readings or to be a prayer leader, contact Betsy Rawles at betsy.rawles@gmail.com.

CARITAS

St. Mary's Church is part of a community-wide coalition of faith communities, **who take turns providing emergency shelter for a week at a time** for homeless men, women, and children in our area. **This year, our week is February 4-11**, and our guests will be families. **Volunteers are needed** to set-up prior to arrival, tear down at the end of the week, pack lunches, and prepare and serve dinner each night. **Sign-up boards for volunteers, as well as food and supply donations, are located in the Dover Lounge.** For further information, or any questions, please contact Jan Betts at mfbjensen@verizon.net or Seth Schaeffer at sethschaeffer@gmail.com.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Rescheduled for Sunday, January 29 - High School Youth Group at the Escape Room (7025 Three Chopt Road, Richmond, VA 23226). Cost is \$20 per person (but please don't ever let price stop you from participating!). For more information, please email Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

Is your child interested in volunteer and service opportunities this summer? Matt Rawls will share details and answer questions about youth summer mission opportunities at an **informational meeting on Sunday, January 22** at

10 a.m. in the Library. If you have any questions, or for further information, contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

ADULT EDUCATION

Where are we going in 2017? Join us for a Q&A with the Rector today at 10:15 a.m. in the New Parish Hall. Why is there an adult education hour at 10 a.m.? Who is joining St. Mary's staff? What volunteers are needed during this time of transition? How can I get more involved at St. Mary's? **Join Weezie Blanchard to hear the answers to these questions and more and to discuss what's ahead for St. Mary's in 2017.**

The current five-week session of **men's spiritual practice group continues this Tuesday, January 17 through Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30 a.m. in the Old Parish Hall.** Led by Bob Hetherington, the gathering is an opportunity to deepen faith and **is open to men of all ages.**

The **weekly Lectionary Bible Study** led by parishioner and University of Richmond Professor Frank Eakin meets each Wednesday **at 10 a.m. in the Library.** Each Bible study session focuses on the Lectionary readings assigned for the succeeding Sunday. **Anyone who is interested is invited** to attend and participate in this vibrant discussion.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

Seniors meet on the third Wednesday this month! Age doesn't matter! Join parishioners for lunch in the New Parish Hall on **Wednesday, January 18 at 12:15 p.m.** (after Noonday Prayer in Little St. Mary's). The guest speaker this month is parishioner and Virginia Historical Society president emeritus Charlie Bryan who will talk about his journey with Parkinson's. Suggested donation is \$5. Please RSVP through the link on the website or call Ashley Cameron at (804) 784-5678.

Monthly Parish Supper. Take a moment to pause from your busy week, and break bread with fellow St. Mary's parishioners **on Wednesday, January 18.** Serving starts **at 5:30 p.m.** Please RSVP through the link on the website or call Ashley Cameron at (804) 784-5678.

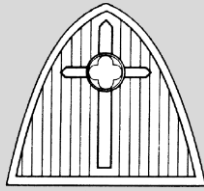
Save the date! Parish Administrator **Gina Alexander** is retiring on January 31 after serving St. Mary's for 22 years. We will celebrate her ministry following the Annual Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 29.**

ACTS OF FAITH FESTIVAL

St. Mary's is delighted to **partner with Second Presbyterian and other faith communities to sponsor the unique Acts of Faith Festival to the Richmond community.** In a recent Richmond Times-Dispatch article, Tony Farrell wrote, "Richmond theater community's 13th annual Acts of Faith Festival - known as one of the largest faith-based theater festivals in the U.S. - will once more use live theater and post-show "talkback" discussions to examine the fundamentals of faith in action: personal courage, self-awareness, and the willingness to take chances in our precious, fleeting lives." **For the schedule and latest information on the 2017 Acts of Faith Festival, visit www.theactsoffaith.org.**

WELCOME, ANDREW MOORE!

The Rev. Weezie Blanchard is pleased to announce that **The Rev. Andrew Y. Moore will join the staff of St. Mary's as Associate Rector beginning February 14.** Andrew has served as Curate at Christ Church in Greenwich, Connecticut since 2015, where **his ministry has focused on helping parishioners engage more deeply in mission, their own spirituality, and in the life of the parish.** At St. Mary's, Andrew will work closely with Weezie and Bob Hetherington as he continues his work in those and all other areas. **"Andrew brings many gifts to St. Mary's. He is a 'people person' and a talented preacher and teacher whose experience in the Episcopal Church and beyond will serve us well,"** says **Weezie.** Parishioners and staff members who met with Andrew when he visited St. Mary's in December focused especially on how well Andrew and his gifts and experience meet the needs of St. Mary's. An Indiana native, Andrew is a graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University. Prior to attending Berkeley, he served as Director of Youth & Family Ministry at Calvary Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee. **We are delighted to welcome Andrew to St. Mary's.**



ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238
(804) 784-5678

www.stmarysgoochland.org

| Growing in Faith |
| Building Community |
| Giving Joyfully |

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

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

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

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, January 15, Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and Adult Education, 10 a.m., *Sunday School and Education Buildings and New Parish Hall*
Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
Children's Ministries Committee, 12:15 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 17

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*

Wednesday, January 18

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Children's Choir, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Seniors Lunch, 12:15 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Parish Supper, 5:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Thursday, January 19

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 a.m., *Library*
Tea, 3 p.m., *Westminster Canterbury*
Present Over Perfect Book Study, 7 p.m., *Library*
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*
CARITAS Committee, 7:30 p.m., *Dover Lounge*

Saturday, January 21

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

Sunday, January 22, Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School, Confirmation Class, and Adult Education, 10 a.m., *Sunday School and Education Buildings and New Parish Hall*
Usher training, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's Narthex*
Youth Mission Informational Meeting, 10 a.m., *Library*
Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
Middle School Youth Group

Coming Up

Thursday, January 26 – Saturday, January 28

Diocese of Virginia Annual Convention, *Reston, VA*

Sunday, January 29, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Annual Congregational Meeting, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Reception in honor of Gina Alexander, 11:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Coming Soon

Saturday, February 4 – Saturday, February 12

CARITAS, *New Parish Hall*