



# THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**Second Sunday in Lent**

**March 12, 2017**

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## Nursery

Our nursery is available for **infants through 4-year-olds** from 8:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Nursery Director 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 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](http://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.

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*Would you like to write for us? Contact Ashley Cameron at [acameron@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org) to learn more.*

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## 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 Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*  
Adult Forum: What is CEEP? *New Parish Hall*  
*The Gifts of Imperfection* Book Study, *Library*  
**11 a.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite Two, *New St. Mary's*  
**Noon** Cookies and Coffee, *Café and New Parish Hall*  
**6 p.m.** High School Youth Group

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*Do you receive email from us?*

Visit [stmarysgoochland.org/communications](http://stmarysgoochland.org/communications) to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

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## A WEEKLY REFLECTION

It is not easy to always and unflinchingly answer God's call in the work we do for the Kingdom. We are flawed humans, after all. At times, a busy life can feel like water churning all about you, or perhaps that same water is quiet and still and you are totally at peace in your faith journey.

Water is a powerful bearer of meaning. While rafting on the James River one day, the water was high due to recent rain, and rapids ranged up to 3's and 4's, providing a pretty exciting ride. The guide deftly moved us through challenging waters and also described some of the dams along the river.

One type is called a low-head dam, and one, Boshers Dam, is located at the foot of the Roslyn Conference Center. A low-head dam goes all the way across a river and is designed so water flows smoothly over the top, rather than around or through designed openings. They are usually not very high and look quite innocent given the calm pooling action behind them and the glossy flow of water over the lip. The flow of the water in such a smooth manner, especially when the current is strong, causes a curling, continuous circular motion called a hydraulic. The "boil" is the area where the water hits bottom and continues to resurface from the "hydraulic" and isn't flowing upstream or downstream. A person caught in the recirculating "hydraulic" portion of the dam's waters can often become a drowning victim.

As with a tremendous life question, in order to escape the dam's hydraulic, you cannot struggle at the surface level of the decision, you must go deep in order to find interior solidity in order to ground yourself and push out safely and let the current carry you away. Going deep is the path to salvation.

How we bear witness to the world in our actions and in our words is how we say "yes" to God's call in living a truly Christian life. The reassurance that God is with us makes it easy to be strong even when navigating the waters of our lives is not easy. The surface of the water may be calm and serene, but with unforeseen dangers like hydraulics and the "boil" that must be addressed, we must be vigilant about what we can control and accepting of those things which we cannot, and by trusting that God will be with us.

*Mike Kerr*

**WELCOME!** Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary's, or your 401<sup>st</sup>, 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.

### WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

There are many invitations throughout Lent for you to **enrich your faith life here at St. Mary's**. These offerings take place throughout the week, but **Wednesday has by far the most opportunities**. Read more below about how you and your family can **take a mid-week break for self-examination, discernment, and collective spiritual renewal**.

#### Worship Opportunities:

- ❖ **Noonday Prayer every Wednesday throughout the year** is led by clergy and parishioners of St. Mary's at **12 p.m. in Little St. Mary's**.
- ❖ **Evening Prayer every Wednesday in March** (March 15, 22, and 29) is led by clergy and parishioners of St. Mary's at **5:30 p.m. in Little St. Mary's**. Join us for a brief reflective service before Lenten Supper.
- ❖ **Stations of the Cross is Wednesday, April 5 at 5 p.m.** This shadow play, performed by the Children's Choir and the youth of St. Mary's, is a beautiful production and a moving meditation on the crucifixion of Christ. **Rehearsals for Stations of the Cross are every Wednesday in March** (March 15, 22, and 29) at **5 p.m.**

#### Fellowship Opportunity:

- ❖ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** Gather for a simple supper every Wednesday throughout Lent (March 15, 22, 29, and April 5). **Serving begins at 5:45 p.m.** and is followed by programs for our children and youth at 6:15 p.m. and our Lenten Speakers Series at 6:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$8/person and \$22/family.

#### Spiritual Formation Opportunities for Children, Youth, and Adults:

- ❖ **Children's Program follows Lenten Supper at 6:15 p.m.** Evenings together begin on the playground and continue with a friendly competition of **Action Bible Guess It** with fun prizes each week. This is a fun way to learn about the stories that lead up to Easter.
- ❖ **Following the Lenten Supper, youth** (grades 6-12) are invited for a **time of fun and fellowship** in the Education Building from 6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Lenten Speaker Series begins at 6:30 p.m. and focuses on Christian Community** beginning right here at St. Mary's and then looking outward into the larger Metropolitan Richmond area, the Diocese, and the wider Anglican Communion. Featured speakers include parishioners **Robin Lind**, **Seth Schaeffer**, and **Sydna Street**, **the Rev. Andrew Terry** of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in the East End, **the Rev. Joel Blunk** of Richmond Hill on Church Hill, and **Buck Blanchard**, Director of Mission and Outreach for the Diocese of Virginia and Staff Officer for Global Mission Development for The Episcopal Church.

## FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

A delicious breakfast for all ages is served this morning **beginning at 9:30 a.m.** Service is rolling, so come anytime between **9:30 and 10:30 a.m.** Fortify yourself and your family for Adult Education, Confirmation, and Sunday School! **There is a suggested donation of \$4/person and maximum of \$15/family.** While you enjoy your breakfast, beginning at 10:15 a.m., Weezie Blanchard, Ashley Cameron, Jane duFrane, and Karen Huennekens will **facilitate roundtable discussions about their experiences at the recent CEEP (Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes) Conference.**

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Tonight, the **High School Youth Group** will meet to **begin planning and preparing for their trip to South Dakota** this summer. We hope that as many team members as possible can attend but all high school students are welcome! Whether you're going on the trip or not, **feel free to come and take part in deciding what St. Mary's will be doing.** We'll meet from **6-7 p.m. in the Education building. Please bring \$5 for pizza.** Please email Matt Rawls at [mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org) with any questions.

Last year, St. Mary's introduced a **shadow play of the Stations of the Cross.** Performed by St. Mary's youth and the Children's Choir, this beautiful production was a moving meditation on the crucifixion of Christ. This year, Stations of the Cross will be on **Wednesday, April 5 at 5 p.m. Rehearsals** leading up to the performance will take place **each Wednesday night from 5 - 5:45 p.m. beginning Wednesday, March 15.** There will be a dress rehearsal on Tuesday, April 4. Participation is open to all youth (6th grade and up), with a limited number of spots available for older children (3rd-5th grades). To participate or get more information, please email Matt Rawls at [mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org).

## ADULT EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

**What is CEEP?** The mission of the **Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes** is to "**celebrate, inspire, and equip its member parishes and seminaries for effective leadership, stewardship, and transformation in the Church and in the world.**" On February 23-25, Weezie Blanchard, Ashley Cameron, Jane duFrane, and Karen Huennekens attended the annual CEEP Conference in Washington, D.C. Through plenary speakers, workshops, lunches, and networking, attendees gained practical information on stewardship, communication, and church leadership, while also being challenged not to shy away from open conversations about society's current climate and how that effects the Church. Join Weezie, Ashley, Jane, and Karen **during Parish Breakfast in the New Parish Hall at 10:15 a.m.** this Sunday for **round table discussions about why they went to the conference, what its value is to St. Mary's, and what each of them found compelling.**

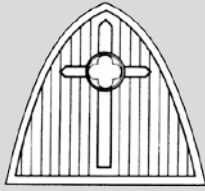
*The Gifts of Imperfection.* **Each Sunday in March at 10 a.m. in the Library,** parishioner **Tracy Harvey leads a Lenten study** of *The Gifts of Imperfection* by best-selling author Brené Brown. Brown says, "We cultivate love when we allow our most vulnerable and powerful selves to be deeply seen and known, and when we honor the spiritual connection that grows from that offering with trust, respect, kindness and affection."

Bob Hetherington **invites men of all ages** to participate in a Lenten discipline on **Tuesday mornings through April 4 at 7:30 a.m.** in the Old Parish Hall. This five-week offering is a one-hour time of silence, reflection, sharing and prayer that focuses on the Gospel reading for the following Sunday.

**The Bible: What is it, how was it given to us, and how should we read it?** **Women of all ages are invited** to join parishioner **Brantley Holmes on Thursdays in March at 7:15 p.m. in the Library** to explore how we can read the Bible as part of everyday life and listen to what God is saying. Each session combines a simple prayer, Bible reflection, an article by a modern writer, and time for questions and reflections.

## WORSHIP

**Choral Evensong on Sunday, March 19 at 5:30 p.m.** in New St. Mary's. Following in the footsteps of the successful spring and fall Evensongs, and last year's Lessons and Carols, St. Mary's Choir will bless us with beautiful music during this season of Lent.



**ST. MARY'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238  
(804) 784-5678  
[www.stmarysgoochland.org](http://www.stmarysgoochland.org)

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

**CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY**

**Gersain Agudelo**, *Assistant Sexton*  
**Elizabeth Baker**, *Administrative Assistant*  
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**Adam Bailey**, *Children's Choir Director*  
**Louise Browner Blanchard**, *Rector*  
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**Ashley Cameron**, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*  
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**W. Dwight Graham**, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
**Robert G. Hetherington**, *Priest Associate*  
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**Matt Rawls**, *Director of Youth Ministries*  
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**Deedi Trabosh**, *Interim Accountant*  
**Meg Zehmer**, *Nursery Director*  
**Susan Rawls**, *Director of St. Mary's Episcopal School*

**Vestry Members:**

**Al Rider**, *Senior Warden*  
**Tracey Ragsdale**, *Junior Warden*  
**Joe Cheely**, *Treasurer*  
**Charmaine Trice**, *Register*  
**Karen Huennekens, Fay Lohr, Kim O'Shea,**  
**Doug Pera, Betsy Rawles, Bruin Richardson,**  
**David Rose, Tom Slater, and Russell Wyatt**

**This Week at St. Mary's**

**Sunday, March 12, Second Sunday in Lent, Daylight Saving Time**

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*  
Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*  
Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m., *Sunday School and Education Buildings*  
Adult Forum: What is CEEP? 10:15 a.m., *New Parish Hall*  
*The Gifts of Imperfection* Book Study, 10 a.m., *Library*  
Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*  
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*  
High School Youth Group, 6 p.m., *Education Building*

**Monday, March 13**

Pastoral Care Team 2, 5 p.m., *Rector's Study*

**Tuesday, March 14**

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

**Wednesday, March 15**

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*  
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*  
Children's Choir and Stations of the Cross Rehearsal, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*  
Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*  
Lenten Supper and Program, 5:45 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

**Thursday, March 16**

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 a.m., *Library*  
Women's Bible Study, 7:15 p.m., *Library*  
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

**Saturday, March 17**

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

**Sunday, March 19, Third Sunday in Lent**

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*  
Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m., *Sunday School and Education Buildings*  
Adult Forum: Essentials of Prayer, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*  
*The Gifts of Imperfection* Book Study, 10 a.m., *Library*  
Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*  
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*  
CARITAS Committee, 12:15 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*  
Middle School Youth Group, 4:30 p.m., *Education Building*  
Choral Evensong, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

**Coming Up**

**Tuesday, March 21**

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

**Wednesday, March 22**

Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*  
Lenten Supper and Program, 5:45 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

**Thursday, March 23**

Women's Bible Study, 7:15 p.m., *Library*

**Sunday, March 26, Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Adult Forum: Essentials of Being Christian Overview, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*  
*The Gifts of Imperfection* Book Study, 10 a.m., *Library*  
Quito Mission Information Meeting, 12:15 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*