

THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 21, 2017

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 and Cassie Vestal 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. They also have 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 card** from one of our ushers or in the back of a pew.

Would you like to write for us? Contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org to learn more.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist Rite Two,
New St. Mary's
10 a.m. Sunday School, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Confirmation,
New St. Mary's
Noon Bishop's Reception, *Café and New Parish Hall*
3 p.m. Middle 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.*

A WEEKLY REFLECTION

God is one of the hardest concepts I have ever tried to understand. To know that something greater, beyond comprehension, is responsible for everything you know. If you had asked me nine months ago who God was or if I believed he was real, I would have probably just stood there, unable to begin to comprehend God or his capabilities. I was always scared to confront the fact that I did not understand God. I was scared I would get judged or people simply wouldn't understand. As soon as I started confirmation class, I knew I was on the right path to find my answer.

At first, the thought of waking up at 8 a.m. on a Sunday morning every week did not please me. As soon as the first class started and the doughnuts rolled in, I was proved wrong. I began to look forward to confirmation class every week. Some weeks it was the best thing that happened during the week. Matt Rawls and I bonded quickly and he taught me new concepts that I never knew were possible to learn. Not only did he teach me about God, but also about myself. It is the best gift I have ever received.

Some of the best and worst times of my life occurred during middle school. One of the most challenging things was that I lost myself. I acted differently than the person I wanted to be, and it took me awhile to find myself again. Losing myself was not ideal. Nevertheless, I think that it was meant to happen because now I am the best version of myself. Connecting with God and being more a part of the church helped me find my beliefs and trust in others. Although I have never been overtly religious, I have always considered myself to be deeply spiritual. Confirmation class showed me the bridge between religion and spirituality.

God to me is the wind that brushes against your hair on a beautiful sunny day. God to me is the snowflake that falls perfectly on the tip of your tongue. God to me is having a true and heartfelt laugh with your family and friends. God to me is someone who wants to make the world a beautiful place. The world is sometimes a mess, and sometimes a tragically beautiful thing, but no matter what, God is there to help you through anything. God is the best friend you can have.

*Anne Claiborne Rhodes,
An 8th grader at St. Catherine's School is being confirmed this morning at the 11 a.m. service.*

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 and New St. Mary's** are 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.

ST. MARY'S WELCOMES THE RT. REV. EDWIN F. "TED" GULICK

Today, we welcome the Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick, Assistant Bishop, at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services as he baptizes and confirms those who are committing and confirming their faith. All are **welcome at the festive reception** following the 11 a.m. service.

Bishop Gulick returned to his native Virginia to **become the assistant bishop on January 1, 2011** after serving as diocesan bishop of the **Diocese of Kentucky from 1994-2010**. From 1965 to 1970 Bishop Gulick worked at Shrine Mont camps, first as a counselor-in-training, then cabin counselor, and finally as assistant director of St. George's camps. **Shrine Mont Camps continue to be a priority of his ministry** as bishop. By giving to the offertory plate this morning, the funds go toward Bishop Gulick's discretionary fund through which he **supports Shrine Mont camp scholarships**. The Diocese of Virginia believes nobody should be denied the chance to attend camp due to financial restraints. Please give generously this morning.

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Deadline extended - today is the last Sunday to update your photo for St. Mary's directory! We'd love for you to be a part of this project. This morning **please gather in the Dover Lounge from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** No need to formally sign-up, it will only take a few minutes! If you have questions, please contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org.

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

Are you looking for ways to be **more involved in Sunday worship?** Lay Eucharistic Ministers are a vital part of our worship together. Those who are already serving as Lay Eucharistic Ministers and those interested in becoming one are invited to attend a training with Weezie Blanchard on **Wednesday, May 24 at 5:30 p.m. in New St. Mary's**. For more information or questions, please contact Weezie Blanchard at wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org.

WORSHIP

Summer schedule begins next Sunday, May 28. Until September, St. Mary's will worship at **10 a.m. in New St. Mary's**. Please note Noonday Prayer on Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Little St. Mary's continues throughout the summer.

The service of **Morning Prayer Rite One**, a beloved tradition at St. Mary's, **returns Sunday, June 25** and each second and fourth Sunday of the month at **10 a.m. in New St. Mary's**. Holy Eucharist Rite Two at 10 a.m. in New St. Mary's is celebrated on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Middle School youth group meets tonight from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for fellowship, Bible study, games, and pizza! Please gather in the pool table room on the second floor of the Education Building. Wear a bathing suit because we're going to be busting out some water-based games. Please bring \$5 for pizza. For more information, please email Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

Vacation Bible School registration is due today! Grab a registration form from the backpack in the Dover Lounge and fill it out this morning. During the week, July 10-14, we gather for a fun week of "camping out" and learning about how no matter where we are, Jesus is with us. VBS is open to all children ages 3 to rising 5th grade. Rising 6th-Senior High School students are invited to volunteer. We also need lots of adult volunteers to make the week run smoothly. Please contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org for more information.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

Save the date for a parish brunch in honor of Dwight Graham on Sunday, June 11 at 11 a.m. St. Mary's will host a parish-wide breakfast in celebration of organist and choirmaster Dwight Graham. We will be serving the cinnamon rolls that are Dwight's favorite. Though rehearsals have prevented him from attending parish breakfasts, choir members have been hand-delivering the cinnamon rolls for years!

OUTREACH

St. Mary's parishioners are invited to participate in St. Peter's Bible study and volunteer at their food distribution. On Wednesday, June 7 at 8:30 a.m., meet at St. Peter's ready to read that week's Gospel, reflect with community members, unload the truck from the food bank, and prepare grocery bags. Please come for an hour or two, whichever works best with your schedule. St. Mary's and St. Peter's share similar stories because of their long histories as mission churches, and both parishes are now in a time of growth and transition. We look forward to building relationships and supporting them in their mission and ministry. Please contact Ashley Cameron at (804) 784-5678 or acameron@stmarysgoochland.org to RSVP and, for those who are interested, to carpool.

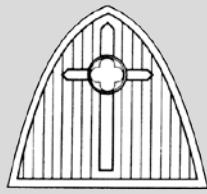
HAPPENING IN RICHMOND

The annual Region 12 Ascension Day service will be held in the Bishop's Chapel at Roslyn Retreat Center, 8727 River Road, Richmond, VA on Thursday, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. The Very Rev. Shirley Smith Graham will serve as the guest preacher, and the Rev. Emily Dunevant will serve as celebrant. This is a lovely service in the beautiful Bishop's Chapel, which overlooks the James River, and everyone is invited to attend.

You are invited to a special service of Holy Eucharist on Tuesday, May 30 at 4:30 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church (8787 River Road). The Episcopal Preaching Foundation will celebrate its 30th anniversary with the Most Reverend Michael Bruce Curry, 27th Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, who will preach about the Jesus Movement. The Right Reverend Shannon S. Johnston will preside. Nursery care is available and a reception will follow the service.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the Fellowship Committee (chair Joan Wilkins and Committee members and helpers Dede and Hobie Andrews, Jane Fawley, Ralph Fisher, Bill Gooch, Cathy Keiger, Michelle Lewis, Fay Lohr, Kay Lowe, Sarah and Bruin Richardson, Stuart Roberts, Susie Salsitz, and Lurline Wagner) for the time and talent that went into this year's parish breakfasts and parish suppers. They were a great success and brought parishioners together for engaging conversations and delicious food. Also, a big thanks to chef Ralph Fisher and sous chef Fay Lohr for this year's senior lunches. We look forward to many more fellowship events to come!



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
Elizabeth Baker, Administrative Assistant
ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org
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
Mike Koschak, Interim Executive Director, Church Operations
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Paul Pace, Sexton
Matt Rawls, Director of Youth Ministries
mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org
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, May 21, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Holy Baptism, 9 a.m., *New St. Mary's Church*
Photo Directory, 10 a.m., *Dover Lounge*
Last Day of Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School and Education Buildings*

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

Bishop's Reception, 12:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Middle School Youth Group, 3 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, May 22

Pastoral Care Team 4, 9 a.m., *Rector's Study*

Tuesday, May 23

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*

Wednesday, May 24

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*

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

Lay Eucharistic Minister Training, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Thursday, May 25

Finance Committee, 8 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Saturday, May 27

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

Sunday, May 28, Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*

Coming Up

Monday, May 29

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 30

Vestry Meeting, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, June 7

St. Peter's Bible Study and Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m., *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*

Sunday, June 11, First Sunday of Pentecost: Trinity Sunday

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*

Parish Brunch in Honor of Dwight Graham, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

CONNECT WITH US!

- ❖ **New to St. Mary's?** First time or returning visitor? Please help us get to know you by filling out a **welcome card** found in the back of every pew.
- ❖ **Need a nametag?** Please sign up for one in the back of the church or make a temporary one. If you already have one, **please remember to wear it** to help make St. Mary's a warm, welcoming place.
- ❖ **Are you following us on Instagram?** We love sharing fun facts, behind the scenes, and our beautiful campus. Make sure to follow us @stmarysgoochland
- ❖ **Do you like our Facebook page?** You can find recent sermons, reflections, pictures from events, and more by liking us at facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland