



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2017

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 a welcome card.** We invite you to join us on future **Sundays at 10 a.m.** for Eucharist or Morning Prayer, on **Wednesdays for Noonday Prayer at 12 p.m.** in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary's, 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 is available to you for prayer and reflection. Flip the page over to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary's.

Nursery

Our nursery is available for **infants through 4-year-olds** from 9:45 a.m. until 11:15 a.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

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

11 a.m. Lemonade and Cookies, *New Parish Hall and Terrace*

Do you receive email from us?

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

A WEEKLY REFLECTION

"Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered." -**Proverbs 11:25**

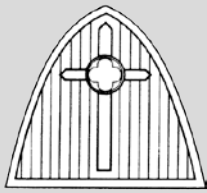
Searching... that is where I found myself about six months ago. Newly retired, parents deceased, and a grown daughter who was no longer a dependent, I felt I was lacking purpose. And there was a strong spiritual void. I had not attended church regularly in years. Frank and I visited other churches but they just did not feel like home. We came to St. Mary's when my daughter was small. Now, I want something more than what I knew at St. Mary's in the past because my life journey is different. With all the staff changes happening, I wondered if I could start over at St. Mary's and not feel like a "newcomer." I was hoping to feel refreshed in some way. I started with something small by answering the appeal for occasional help with office duties after Lori retired.

It is said that the more you give, the more you receive and boy is that true! Every Thursday I arrive to the serene setting of St. Mary's. Next time you come to church, really look around. Notice how the buildings surround the grave sites in comfort. Take in the beautiful blues inside surrounded by the natural greens outside followed by the many white archways as they reach for the sky. It feeds my soul every week. There are many tributes to tradition here as well as an emphasis on the future. In May, I saw the kids from the preschool playing on the patio in front of the statue of baby Mary - a perfect and seamless blend of old and new.

The spiritual and operational teams we have are truly wonderful. From all walks of life, they work well together and ENJOY each other. It is so comforting for me to volunteer in that environment. I have enjoyed getting to know each one of them better! It was heart-warming to see how they all supported the children during Vacation Bible School in July. Everyone took the time to be there in the mornings to help the kids feel welcome, appreciated, and an important part of the church.

I feel that the team's enjoyment of and commitment to each other translates to how they interact with us as a congregation. They take care of our church facility and foster our experiences with God. They do it with compassion, dedication, and caring. Because of them and this place...my search is over. Thanks be to God.

Fran Jones



**ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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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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Clarence Dixon, *Assistant Sexton*
Robert G. Hetherington, *Priest Associate*
Mike Koschak, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
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Amelia McDaniel, *Director of Children's Ministries*
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Andrew Y. Moore, *Associate Rector*
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Paul Pace, *Sexton*
Matt Rawls, *Director of Youth Ministries*
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Deedi Trabosh, *Accountant*
Cassie Vestal, *Nursery Assistant*
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

OUTREACH GRANT RECIPIENT HIGHLIGHT

St. Mary's Outreach Committee and Vestry are excited to announce that **Peter Paul Development Center (PPDC)** is one of this year's St. Mary's outreach grant recipients. Peter Paul's mission is to support the residents of the East End and educate its students, equipping them to serve as positive contributors to their family, community, and society. The **\$5,280 grant** supports PPDC's youth program which encompasses **the After School Learning Program and the Summer Promise**. If you would like to learn more, Peter Paul coordinates **Lunch & Learn tours** once per month on the **fourth Thursday from 12-1:30 p.m.** They would love to have St. Mary's parishioners join a tour! **To find out more about PPDC**, other outreach partners, the grant application process, and more, contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org.

SAVE THE DATE – BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Join us **Sunday, September 3 for the final 10 a.m. summer service** of the year. Students and teachers are invited to **bring their back-to-school bags** and new teenage drivers are invited to **bring their car keys** for a special blessing during the service.

CONFIRMATION CLASS STARTS SEPTEMBER 10

Any student in 8th grade (or above) is invited to join us in the St. Mary's confirmation process, which runs throughout the 2017-2018 school year. Spread out over 24 classes, we will learn about the history of our faith, as well as the history of the Episcopal Church and of St. Mary's, and we will learn what it means to have the opportunity to say "Yes! Amen!" to the gift of Baptism. For more information, please email Matt Rawls. mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

This Week at St. Mary's

- Monday, August 21**
Pastoral Care Team 3, 10 a.m., *Rector's Study*
Tuesday, August 22
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*
Vestry Meeting, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Wednesday, August 23
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Saturday, August 26
A.A., 10 a.m., *Education Building Classroom*
Sunday, August 27, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer Rite One, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Lemonade, 11 a.m., *New Parish Hall and Terrace*
Monday, August 28
Pastoral Care Team 4, 9 a.m., *Rector's Study*