



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 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 Eucharist Rite One, *Little St. Mary's*
10 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*
10 a.m. Adult Forum: Stewardship Kickoff, *New Parish Hall*
11 a.m. Morning Prayer Rite One, *New St. Mary's*
Noon Cookies and Lemonade, *Terrace*
12:15 p.m. Greeter Training, *New St. Mary's*

Do you receive email from us?

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

A WEEKLY REFLECTION

We are excited that you are a part of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in this time of growth and vibrancy! As we embark on a new church year together, a continued sense of appreciation for our past and a new enthusiasm for our future invite all of us to open the next chapters of St. Mary's story in our life in Christ.

Our theme for the 2018 Annual Giving Campaign is "**A Gift Opens the Way.**" After meeting this summer, the Stewardship Committee decided to expand on the Diocese of Virginia's 2018 Theme "To you All Hearts Are Open." These are words you hear at the beginning of almost every worship service when the Clergy prays, "Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid..." Here at St. Mary's, we are not only opening our hearts but unlocking our future - and your gifts are the key.

Each time we come to church, grab our nametags, settle into our pews, move from hymnal to prayer book to bulletin, it's sometimes easy to miss this important call to worship.... and into our relationship and story with God. This year we invite each person who enters our doors or drives by our beautiful campus to consider how your gifts of time, talent, and treasure open the way for each of us to deepen our relationships with God and build a community of faith.

This fall we are telling the story of how all our gifts have a profound impact within our Parish, in our local community, and around the globe with written and video reflections.

As you hear these stories, we ask you to consider through prayer and conversations with God how you and your family are being called to open your heart and share your gifts with St. Mary's and its mission. Join us as we reflect on how to strengthen our vision and enhance our vibrant mission through stewardship. We are excited about connecting with each of you, and we are excited about this year at St. Mary's!

*With open hearts full of gratitude for your presence at St. Mary's,
Jane duFrane & Fay Lohr*

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, an usher, or one of our clergy, and **consider filling out a welcome card**. 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.

"BEYOND BRIDGES" ART EXHIBITION

From October 1-November 12, St. Mary's will host "Beyond Bridges," a traveling exhibition featuring **21 works of premier Christian, Muslim, and Jewish contemporary artists**. The exhibition is organized by CARAVAN, a peacebuilding arts nonprofit led by The Reverend Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler. As it says on the organization's website, "It is more critical than ever that '**creative bridges of dialogue**' be built enabling us to walk across to meet our neighbor on the other side...The ultimate objective of the exhibition is for it to serve as an 'encounter point,' **encouraging and enabling new relationships to be made across religions and cultures.**"

We invite all St. Mary's parishioners and community members to come hear **Paul-Gordon preach next Sunday, October 1 at the 9 and 11 a.m. services** and join him during **Adult Forum at 10 a.m. for a discussion** of his new book, *In Search of a Prophet: A Spiritual Journey with Kahlil Gibran* (pick up a copy in the Café). During adult forum, he will take listeners on a fascinating journey through the all-embracing spirituality of Kahlil Gibran, the early 20th century Lebanese-American poet, artist, and mystic. Paul-Gordon explores how Kahlil Gibran, a supreme East-West figure, can be a much-needed guide in the midst of today's global challenges related to peace, harmony, and building bridges between the creeds of the Middle East and West.

In addition to the event on October 1, **St. Mary's invites individuals and groups to tour the exhibition Monday-Friday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.** To schedule a weekday visit, contact Elizabeth Baker at (804)784-5678, or ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Join us in Adult Forum this morning at 10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall to kickoff our **Stewardship Annual Giving Campaign, "A Gift Opens the Way"**. Members of the Stewardship Committee will share how we can all open our hearts by giving our time, talent, and treasure to grow opportunities and missions at St. Mary's and out in the world. Please come to learn about **St. Mary's 2018 goals, what your pledge supports, and how to pledge**.

Women of all ages are invited to join parishioner Brantley Holmes for a **six-week women's spiritual practice on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. continuing Thursday, September 28**. This new opportunity is a 45-minute Bible study centered around that week's lectionary readings. The practice ends with a peaceful service of **Compline in Little St. Mary's at 8:15 p.m.**

The **men's spiritual practice group** meets weekly at **7:30 a.m.** in the Old Parish Hall. **Continuing this Tuesday, September 19 through Tuesday, October 10**, this gathering is an opportunity to deepen faith and is open to men of all ages.

Faith and Film series: Where do we see our lives reflected in film? How can we understand our faith through the lens of popular culture? Join Andrew Moore on **Wednesday evenings in October at 6:30 p.m.** for a movie and discussion. This fall we'll be watching *Hacksaw Ridge* on October 4, *A Man for All Seasons* on October 11, *Inside Out* on October 18, and *Groundhog Day* on October 25. Feel free to bring your dinner to enjoy during the film. Popcorn will be provided.

Join Tracey Harvey on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in October in the Library as she leads a **book study using Brené Brown's book *Rising Strong***, and her audio book *Rising Strong as a Spiritual Practice*. Brown offers an in-depth exploration of this critical and oft-misunderstood aspect of wholehearted living. Here she defines spirituality as something not reliant on religion, theology, or dogma - rather, it is a belief in our interconnectedness and in a loving force greater than ourselves. Whether you access the sacred through traditional worship, solitary meditation, communion with nature, or creative pursuits, one thing is clear: **Rising strong after falling is a spiritual practice** that brings a sense of perspective, meaning, and purpose to our lives.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Calling all St. Mary's children and youth! Did you know **September is Hunger Action Month**? Will you join in? The **food pantry at Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services is running low**. For the next two Sundays, September 24 and October 1, all children and youth are **encouraged to bring any of the following items**: canned meats, canned beans/fruits/vegetables, canned soups, peanut butter, spaghetti or pasta, dry beans, rice, cereal, oatmeal. Items should be dropped off at any Sunday School classroom or placed in a collection basket in the narthex of New St. Mary's.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Ministry Architects listening sessions over the past two days. We hope you can join the Ministry Architects team **today at 3 p.m. in the New Parish Hall** as they present their report. It will include what they've heard about the youth programs – including assets, challenges, and how we compare to youth ministries around the country – and where it seems that God might be taking us next.

8th Grade Youth Group starts today! This group will meet the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Today we will gather at **4:30 p.m. in the Education Building**. We will play games, plan out the year ahead of us, and eat pizza! **Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of pizza**. For more information, please contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

PARISH LIFE

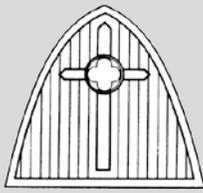
Current **Altar Guild members** and those interested in joining are **invited to a fall brunch**. Please join rector Weezie Blanchard and Altar Guild co-chairs Betty Rinehardt, Joanie Robins, and Sue Thompson on **Saturday, September 30 at 8:30 a.m.** as they present a refresher course on Altar Guild procedures followed by a delicious brunch. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Baker at (804) 784-5678 or ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org.

HOSPITALITY

Ushers are an important part of welcoming people to worship at St. Mary's. They **greet people, pass out bulletins, collect the offering**, and ensure that communion moves smoothly. We are especially **in need of new ushers for the 11 a.m. service**. The group is divided into teams - one team per week. The group aims for the usher teams to have enough members so no one ushers every month, unless of course one wants to! We encourage **all current ushers and those interested in becoming one to attend training on Wednesday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m.** in New St. Mary's. Join us after the training for fellowship, wine, and cheese.

As we welcome newcomers and visitors, **don't forget to wear your nametag!** Find your nametag in the narthexes of Little and New St. Mary's hanging on blue ribbons. If you do not have a nametag, please contact Elizabeth Baker at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org or **add your name to the list in the back of New St. Mary's** to have one made for you. We thank you all for helping us get to know one another and making St. Mary's a warm, welcoming place.

Are you looking for an easy way to make a big impact here at St. Mary's? Want to learn more about how to make St. Mary's as hospitable as possible? **Join Andrew Moore for a Greeter information and training session today at 12:15 p.m. in New St. Mary's**. Whether you have served as a Greeter previously or are just curious about what this simple but critical ministry involves we'd love to have you join us to learn more. Help us welcome and incorporate everyone into the thriving life of St. Mary's. Contact Andrew Moore at amoore@stmarysgoochland.org with any questions you might have.



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

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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

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, September 24, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*
Adult Forum: Stewardship Kickoff, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
Greeter Training, 12:15 p.m., *New St. Mary's*
Ministry Architects Report, 3 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
8th Grade Youth Group, 4:30 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, September 25

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

Tuesday, September 26

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*
Vestry, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, September 27

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Children's Choir, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Usher Training, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*
The Divine Dance Book Study with Andrew Moore, 6:30 p.m., *Library*

Thursday, September 28

The Divine Dance Book Study with Weezie Blanchard, 10 a.m., *Library*
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Women's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Saturday, September 30

Altar Guild Training and Fall Brunch, *New St. Mary's and New Parish Hall*
A.A., 10 a.m., *Education Building Classroom*

Sunday, October 1, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School and Confirmation Class, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*
Adult Forum: The Rev. Paul-Gordan Chandler, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Reception with Paul-Gordan Chandler, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*

Coming Up

Tuesday, October 3

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

Wednesday, October 4

St. Peter's Bible Study and Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m., *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*
Faith & Film, 6:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Sunday, October 8

Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*
Blessing of the Animals, 3 p.m., *Terrace*