



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 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 Nursery Assistant 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 Youth Fellowship, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*
10 a.m. Adult Forum: *The Path*, *New Parish Hall*
10 a.m. *Rising Strong* Book Study, *Library*
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

Marilyn and I returned to Richmond in 2012, after a 13 year absence, to be close to family. We purchased a home in Randolph Square where we joyfully hear St. Mary's bells every hour, and since we were Episcopalians, it seemed right that we should visit St. Mary's. We were attracted by the history of Little St. Mary's, the simplistic beauty of New St. Mary's, and the peaceful serenity of the church grounds. It's been the last two years that we became active members. For me, the men's spiritual practice with Bob is one of the most meaningful hours of my week. I also attend the lectionary Bible study led by Frank Eakin, which is an enlightening and thoughtful discussion of each Sunday's Bible readings. Marilyn joined the altar guild and enjoyed several of Weezie's tours at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Together, we participated in book studies and CARITAS, enjoyed Choral Evensongs and Lessons and Carols at Christmas and, most recently, Faith & Film with Andrew. Through all of this we've met many wonderful people. We were looking for a church home, and we found one at St. Mary's.

Thinking about this reflection made me realize how significant St. Mary's has become to us in a short time. Several years ago, Weezie led a book study of *Being Christian* by Rowan Williams. In my favorite chapter titled "Eucharist", Williams writes "...when we gather as God's guest at God's table, the Church becomes what it is meant to be - a community of strangers who have become guests together and are listening together to the invitation of God." So, in my prayers during Holy Communion each Sunday, I thank God for his invitation and his welcome and I thank Him for St. Mary's Church.

Writing this also made me realize how much all of us have to celebrate. St. Mary's has undergone a significant amount of change over the last few years and has remained a strong and vibrant church. We learned last week that there will be more change in the coming months. As Al Rider stated so well in his letter "...it is our sense of humility, love of place, simplicity, tradition, community, and willingness to embrace change that has guided us...Over time there are changing faces in the pews and at the Altar, but we remain the same place. And it is a good place." St. Mary's offers each of us a "good place" to grow spiritually and strengthen our faith.

St. Mary's is indeed a good and special place. Let us all commit to St. Mary's future with our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Bill Huffman

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.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We are halfway through the Annual Giving Campaign! Our annual giving campaign is the time to renew your relationships, revive your faith, and help us to continue to grow our parish's opportunities and missions through your time, talent, and treasure. As of Wednesday, October 25, **over 150 households have pledged totaling \$496,709**. Please **help us reach our goal of \$1,055,000!** If you haven't picked up a pledge card or a Narrative Budget, both are available at the back of the church, or by the bulletin board in the Café. If you have any questions, there is a "Pledging Frequently Asked Questions" information sheet by the bulletin board and on the website. Turn in your pledge cards **by mail or by placing them in the offertory by November 13**. You can also **pledge online at stmarysgoochland.org/pledge**, email Mike Koschak at mkoschak@stmarysgoochland.org, or call (804) 784-5678. **Thank you for your generosity!**

"BEYOND BRIDGES" EXHIBIT

Until November 12, **St. Mary's is honored to 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. **Rector Weezie Blanchard will lead a tour of the exhibit during the Adult Forum on Sunday, November 5. 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

As we continue to explore how we at St. Mary's tell our story, a series of Adult Forums this fall will go back to the bedrock of our faith. **Using the book *The Path*, we'll delve into the earliest stories from the Old Testament**. What have we forgotten from Sunday School? How can a nuanced understanding inform our faith journeys? **Join Andrew Moore this morning for "Joseph had a Dream"** as we look at the stories of Jacob, the trickster, and Joseph, the dreamer. Read chapter 4 of *The Path* in preparation or just join us for lively conversation. **Pick up a copy of *The Path* for \$15 in the Café.**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Calling all seamstresses or really just anyone with a sewing machine! It may be a little early to start thinking about Christmas, but we are **working on sprucing up some of our Christmas Lessons and Carols costumes**. Also, we would love to add some characters to our menagerie. If you are willing to pull out your sewing machine to help us construct some simple tunics and costumes this fall, **please call Amelia McDaniel** at (804) 784-5678 or email at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

All Saints' Day procession: Please mark your calendars for next **Sunday, November 5** when we celebrate All Saints' Day. As part of the **St. Mary's tradition the children will be a part of the service**. In the weeks before All Saints' Day, the **children have been learning about the lives of some of the saints**. This is such a special day in the life of the

church, and we hope that there will be many children who will be able to participate. Please contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org for more information.

The **PYM Senior High Shrine Mont Retreat** is next weekend! **November 3-5, all high school students are invited to head up to the Shrine Mont Retreat Center.** The weekend retreat is put on by the Parish Youth Ministry Committee - a group of 9th-12th grade students from around the diocese. The **cost is \$200 per student** (\$150 fee + \$50 for transportation/chaperones). **The deadline to sign up is this Wednesday, November 1.** For more information, please contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

PARISH LIFE

Church Directory photos! One last opportunity to come and get a picture taken of you, you and your spouse, or you and your family before the directory is published in November. Please help us update our records! Come by the **Dover Lounge this morning between the 9 and 11 a.m. services or after the 11 a.m. service.** No need to formally sign-up - it will only take a few minutes! If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org.

We are remembering the Saints. Wednesday, November 1, All Saints' Day, and the following Sunday, November 5 are days when **we remember particularly St. Mary's parishioners** and others who are close to them who have died in the past year. If you would like to **be sure that we remember someone** on those days, please contact **Elizabeth Baker** at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org or call (804) 784-5678.

We invite you to give altar flowers in honor of or in memory of a family member, friend, or someone special. Not only can you make a gift of poinsettias at Christmas or lilies at Easter, **you can remember your loved ones with a flower memorial on any Sunday.** Please contact Elizabeth Baker via email at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org or call the church office at (804) 784-5678 to make a gift (**contributions start at \$50**) or to learn more. Checks may be made payable to *St. Mary's Altar Guild*.

Join Weezie, Senior Warden Al Rider, and Junior Warden Tracey Ragsdale in the Adult Forum on Sunday, November 12 at 10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall to ask questions and **learn more about this transition.** Copies of the full letters from the Rector and Senior Warden are available in the back of the church and the front office. In the meantime, **please feel free to call or email** Weezie at (804) 784-5678 or wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org or Al at arider3@gmail.com or (804) 784-4388.

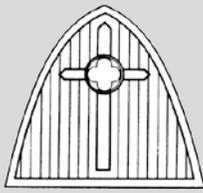
OUTREACH

Ecuador mission trip commissioning is this morning. St. Mary's adults will embark on a mission trip this **Wednesday, November 1 through Wednesday, November 8 to Quito, Ecuador.** For one week, they will **develop relationships with Emaus Episcopal Church** in Quito while completing child wellness check-ups and small service projects alongside the community. This morning we commission this trip and its participants. **Please pray for Ashley Cameron, Chris Ritrievi, Linda Rose, Karen Stephens, and Kitty Williams** as they prepare for this important opportunity to share God's love and represent St. Mary's in the wider church.

The Outreach Gala Committee is looking for volunteers! St. Mary's is hosting its first ever **Outreach Gala on Friday, April 13, 2018.** The event will honor Isabel Souder Correll to benefit the mission and outreach programs of St. Mary's. Currently, a steering committee is hard at work planning the event. However, **the committee is in need of volunteers** - many hands makes light work! **If you love event planning, decorating, finding auction items, or simply want to lend a hand in any way,** please contact Claire Gilman at claire.matt@comcast.net or Jen Wilkins at jwilkins@collegiate-va.org.

RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Many thanks to all of those who agreed to serve on the Search Committee for St. Mary's next Rector. The committee includes the Wardens, **Al Rider and Tracey Ragsdale, Vestry members, Kim O'Shea and Russell Wyatt, and parishioners, Brantley Holmes, Andy Howlett, Michelle Lewis, Nancy Reed, Susie Salsitz, and Carrie Schaeffer.** Please keep this group in your prayers as they continue this important work. Feel free to share your ideas, concerns, or questions with any member of the committee.



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*
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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*
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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, October 29, Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School and Youth Fellowship, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*
Adult Forum: *The Path*, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*
Rising Strong 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*

Tuesday, October 31

Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*
Vestry, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, November 1, All Saints' Day

Ecuador Mission Team Departs
St. Peter's Bible Study and Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m., *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*
Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Children's Choir, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Thursday, November 2

Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*

Friday, November 3 – Sunday, November 5

PYM Senior High Weekend, *Shrine Mont Retreat Center*

Saturday, October 28

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

Sunday, November 5, All Saints' Sunday

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*
"Beyond Bridges" Exhibit Tour, 10 a.m., *Dover Lounge*
Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Holy Baptism, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
Children's Ministry Committee, 12:30 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Coming Up

Wednesday, November 8

Ecuador Mission Team Returns

Thursday, November 9

West End Coffee Hour, 8 a.m., *ShoreDog Café*
Outreach Committee, 8 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Sunday, November 12, Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *New Parish Hall*
Adult Forum: Q&A with the Rector and Wardens, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Tuesday, November 14

Seniors Lunch, 12 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Wednesday, November 15

Parish Supper, 5:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*