

THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 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*

9:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast, *New Parish Hall*

10 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class, *Sunday School and Education Buildings*

10 a.m. Adult Forum: "Beyond Bridges", *New Parish Hall*

10 a.m. *Rising Strong* Book Study, *Library*

11 a.m. Morning Prayer Rite One, *New St. Mary's*

Noon Cookies and Lemonade, *Terrace*

Do you receive email from us?

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

A WEEKLY REFLECTION

"The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving." — Albert Einstein

I have the honor of sharing a few thoughts on why St Mary's holds such a special place in my life and the life of my family. As I was considering church options a few years ago, I landed at St. Mary's due the influence and suggestion of my wife, Jane. It did not take me long to determine that St Mary's was a good fit for me and what I needed from a church family. The warm and welcoming environment was immediately evident and my comfort within the church continued to grow as I met more parishioners, became more involved, and was able to spend time with the leadership of the church.

Additionally, I felt there was a feeling of acceptance and understanding of various points of view. I knew then, and it is only more relevant now, the ability to openly discuss one's views in a loving environment is often missing in today's institutions. At St. Mary's I feel that I can have a view and while not everyone agrees with it, there is a respect and openness to hearing a different viewpoint.

While all the characteristics mentioned above still apply, I have also developed an appreciation for the value that St. Mary's provides to my family. I feel that I have grown in my relationship with God but also have seen my family's growth as well. Jane, Gray, and Lucie have all invested time and energy into their relationship with St. Mary's, and have benefited in ways too many to explain. The children's program has created a buzz and excitement that is palpable when you walk in on Sundays. Jane has been incredibly impactful in so many areas of the church but she would tell you that she has been the beneficiary of her activities at St. Mary's.

The value of St. Mary's to me and my family has been too great to measure in terms of monetary value. However, I understand the need to do everything that I can to help by investing my time, talent, and treasure to ensure the continued growth of programs and energetic staff, and maintain the fantastic physical facility that we all enjoy. We need your help during this pledge season.

Doug Pera

See more at stmarysgoochland.org

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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS THIS AFTERNOON

Blessing of the Animals is this afternoon at 3 p.m.! We are not saying it will make your animals better or more well-behaved...but it can't hurt. Bring your animals (**dogs, cats, horses, goats, chickens, lizards, birds, stuffed animals, etc...**) to the Churchyard in front of New St. Mary's to be blessed. Stay for treats -- for yourselves and your animals -- on the Terrace afterward (in case of rain, we'll gather in New St. Mary's for the blessing and the New Parish Hall for treats). Please be sure to secure your pet safely, on a leash or in a proper carrying case.

"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 discuss the works** during the Parish Breakfast this morning, and **will lead tours of the exhibit on Thursday, October 26 at 10 a.m. and during the Adult Forum on Sunday, October 29. 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.

STEWARDSHIP

Annual Giving Campaign is in full swing! If you haven't **picked up a pledge card** or a **Narrative Budget** they 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. Each week, the Annunciation will feature a reflection from a member about how their **"Gift Opens the Way"** at St. Mary's. If you'd like to **share your story,** email Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org. Turn in your pledge cards by mail or by placing 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!

St. Mary's children are invited to participate in stewardship as well! **Beginning this morning at the 11:00 a.m. service,** children are invited to **come forward and place their offering in plates** held by children ushers at the front of the church. They may choose to bring forward a **"My Offering this Week"** card which allows them to write or draw about a way they shared their time or talent or an act of kindness during the week along with **their monetary offering** or just by itself. **Learning about stewardship is a lifelong process.** Our hope is that this new tradition will help them understand **how all they do and give can be an offering to God.**

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Join Tracy Harvey on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in October continuing this morning in the Library as she leads a **book study using Brené Brown's book *Rising Strong*** and audio book *Rising Strong as a Spiritual Practice*. Brown offers an in-depth **exploration of this critical and often-misunderstood aspect of wholehearted living.** No matter how you access the sacred one thing is clear: **Rising strong after falling is a spiritual practice** that brings a sense of perspective, meaning, and purpose to our lives.

Faith and Film series: Join Andrew Moore on **Wednesday evenings in October at 6:30 p.m.** for a movie and discussion. **This Wednesday we will watch *A Man for All Seasons*.** This **Oscar-winning film from 1966** tells the story of Sir Thomas More, a devout Catholic and man of conscience who clashes with King Henry VIII when the king seeks an annulment from the Pope. It addresses questions of how we balance our faith and our civic lives, which are still as relevant as ever. Join us as we watch this classic film and discuss how it sheds light on our lives today. Popcorn will be provided.

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 our Sunday School stories? **Join Andrew Moore on October 15 as we kick off the series with Chapter 3, "The Ancestor of a Multitude"** where we'll reacquaint ourselves with Abraham, the father of three great faith traditions. Read the chapter in preparation or just come and join us for lively conversation. Pick up a copy of *The Path* for \$15 in the Café.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

8th Grade Youth Group is back from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for fun, fellowship, food (snacks), and faith development today! This group is open to all 8th graders, and friends are always welcome. For more information, please contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

The **PYM Senior High Shrine Mont Retreat** is coming up the first weekend in November! **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 Monday, October 23.** For more information, please contact Matt Rawls at mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org.

PARISH LIFE

A delicious **Parish Breakfast for all ages is being served this morning** beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the New Parish Hall. **Suggested donation of \$4/person**, maximum of \$15/family.

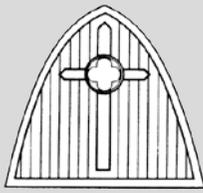
Due to popular demand we are **expanding Downtown Coffee Hour to the West End!** Before you head into the office, join your St. Mary's friends and community for casual conversation, a cup of coffee, and a prayer to start your day at **ShoreDog Cafe** (435 North Ridge Road) from **8 a.m. to 9 a.m. this Thursday, October 13.** Come for the full hour or just drop in and say hello! Help us create new spaces for building community and fellowship.

Seniors (well, adults of all ages) meet on the second Tuesday of the month! Join us for lunch in the New Parish Hall this **Tuesday, October 10 at 12 p.m.** For more than 100 years, the Valentine Richmond History Center has collected, maintained, and disseminated "the complete story of Richmond, Virginia." This month's speakers are the **Director of The Valentine Museum, Bill Martin**, and St. Mary's Parishioner and Board Chair of The Valentine Museum, **Marjorie Grier**. Bill and Marjorie will present on "how do we retain relevancy in these changing times?" **Suggested donation is \$5 and all ages are welcome! Please RSVP to Elizabeth Baker at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org or (804)-784-5678.**

MUSIC

Join us for a **service of Choral Evensong on Sunday, October 15 at 5:00 p.m.** in New St. Mary's. The Adult Choir will offer music as part of this **contemplative service of readings, prayer, and song.** Repertoire includes the "St. Paul's" Magnificat and Nunc dimittis by Herbert Howells, Preces and Responses by Thomas Tallis, and music by Felix Mendelssohn and Mark Templeton.

It's not too late to join the children's choir! It is a great way for kids to develop their musical abilities and contribute to worship. **Open to kids ages 5 years through 5th grade**, the children's choir rehearses on **Wednesday evenings in the Choir Suite at 5 p.m.** Upcoming performances include All Saints' Sunday (November 5), Children's Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve. For more information, contact Adam Bailey at abailey1017@gmail.com.



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*
wblanchard@stmarysgoochland.org
Ashley Cameron, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*
acameron@stmarysgoochland.org
Clarence Dixon, *Assistant Sexton*
Robert G. Hetherington, *Priest Associate*
Mike Koschak, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
mkoschak@stmarysgoochland.org
Amelia McDaniel, *Director of Children's Ministries*
amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org
Andrew Y. Moore, *Associate Rector*
amoore@stmarysgoochland.org
Paul Pace, *Sexton*
Matt Rawls, *Director of Youth Ministries*
mrawls@stmarysgoochland.org
Ryan Tibbetts, *Director of Music*
rtibbetts@stmarysgoochland.org
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 8, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 Classrooms and Education Building*
Adult Forum, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*
Rising Strong Book Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Terrace, Café, and New Parish Hall*
Blessing of the Animals, 3 p.m., *Terrace*
8th Grade Youth Group, 4:30 p.m., *Education Building*

Monday, October 9

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

Tuesday, October 10

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Seniors Lunch, 12 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*
Pastoral Care Teams Reception, 5 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Wednesday, October 11

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
St. Clare's Needlepoint Guild, 10 a.m., *Dover Lounge*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Children's Choir, 5 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Faith & Film: *A Man for All Seasons*, 6:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Thursday, October 12

Outreach Committee, 8 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
West End Coffee Hour, 8 a.m., *ShoreDog Café*
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m., *Choir Suite*
Women's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 p.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Saturday, October 14

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

Sunday, October 15, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 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*
6th & 7th Grade Youth Group, 4:30 p.m., *Education Building*
Choral Evensong, 5 p.m., *New St. Mary's*
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m., *Education Building*

Coming Up

Wednesday, October 18

St. Peter's Bible Study and Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m., *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*
Parish Supper, 5:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*
Faith & Film: *Inside Out*, 6:30 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

Thursday, October 19

Downtown Coffee Hour, 8 a.m., *Pop's Market*
Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 a.m., *Library*