



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018

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 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 are in the front of Little St. Mary's and in the wood bins near the entrances to New St. Mary's.

Rector Search Committee

The Rector Search Committee (Chair Tracey Ragsdale, Brantley Holmes, Andy Howlett, Michelle Lewis, Kim O'Shea, Nancy Reed, Bruin Richardson, Al Rider, Susie Salsitz, Carrie Schaeffer, Armistead Talman, Joan Wilkins, and Russell Wyatt) invites you to share comments, concerns, recommendations and questions. Please email stms.rectorsearch@gmail.com.

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

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One, *Little St. Mary's*

10 a.m. Adult Forum: *The Path*, *New Parish Hall*

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

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

12 p.m. 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

Love does not exist unless it is given away. In the Christian faith, God gave God's love away by creating the Incarnation – which turned out to be the person of Jesus. And Jesus' love for humanity was given away when he offered himself up to death. God gave us Jesus, and Jesus gave us his life – all done with a love that was given away. And in both cases, the love continues.

Easter is the witness that love is stronger than death.

That is sometimes hard to believe, and difficult to embrace. It certainly was for Peter, who had a rather famous conversation as recorded in John's Gospel. Three times the risen Christ asks Peter, "Peter, do you love me?" (John 21:16). Three times Peter answers that he indeed does love Jesus. And three times, the risen Christ asks Peter to "feed my sheep." Pass the love on, because it doesn't exist unless it is given away.

On this Easter Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection, which is the gift of a divine love that cannot be shut down by death. Or by fear or anger or disappointment or grief. This enormous gift of love has been given to us.

We can't keep love to ourselves or live with the illusion that we own it – or try and build a protective barrier around it. Instead, we are challenged to pass love on. To our family, our church, our neighborhood – to pass it on somewhere. Not just once, but as a regular practice. Otherwise, it doesn't really exist.

Easter is not just a holiday we are invited to observe, but an extraordinary event of love that begs our witness – and our action.

*The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith,
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark
Originally posted on "The Bishop's Blog:
Signs of God's Grace" on March 29, 2018*

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.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY IN APRIL!

A new women's book study begins in April! St. Mary's second annual winter women's book study on *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber was a great success! Moving forward, the group is trying a **once-a-month book club**. **Women of all ages are invited to join** and discuss *Everything Happens for a Reason and other Lies I Have Loved* by Kate Bowler on **Thursday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m.** (location TBA). Pick up a copy in the café for \$20 or order a copy online. For questions or more information, contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org. **Frank and funny, dark and wise**, Bowler pulls the reader deeply into her life in an account she populates affectionately with a colorful, often hilarious retinue of friends, mega-church preachers, relatives, and doctors. *Everything Happens for a Reason* tells her story, **offering up her irreverent, hard-won observations** on dying and the ways it has taught her to live.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Men's spiritual practice meets **this Tuesday, April 17 at 7:30 a.m.** and continues until Tuesday, May 15. **Men of all ages are invited to join Bob Hetherington for one hour** to deepen your faith in the Old Parish Hall.

Several years ago, St. Mary's offered a **Centering Prayer ministry, *Be Still***. This year, as our season of Lent comes to a close, **Mary Lou Bean and Sydna Street are following up with a return of the *Be Still* ministry**. Join them for six weeks of **practice of stilling our bodies, minds, and spirits**. It will be a time to rejoice, reflect, and act upon the Easter message with all of our hearts! Continuing this Tuesday, April 17 and continuing **on Tuesdays, April 24, and May 1, 8, and 15, at 10 a.m.** in the Education Building begin with a **1-hour yoga session for all levels and ages** followed by a 20 minute contemplative time of quiet and stillness. **All you need to bring is a mat or bath towel** and an open heart and mind. For more information, contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org. Also, **pick up a copy of *Sacred Breath: Forty Days of Centering Prayer*** in the Café for \$15. It's a wonderful resource for Contemplative Prayer. Use it as a guide in the class or us it as a reference wherever you practice.

As the program year comes to an end, our **Adult Forum series on *The Path*** will wrap-up. Continuing for six weeks, we'll delve into the earliest stories from the Old Testament including the stories of King David, Daniel, Solomon, and Esther. **Join Andrew Moore this morning at 10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall and on Sundays, April 22, 29, and May, 6, 13, and 20** as we look at the stories we learned in Sunday School. Pick up a copy of *The Path* for \$15 in the Café.

"It's actually our ability to embrace imperfection that will help us teach our children to have the courage to be authentic, the compassion to love themselves and others, and the sense of connection that gives true purpose and meaning to life," -Brene Brown. Please **join Tracy Harvey for a conversation** based on the audio book *The Gifts of Imperfect Parenting* by Brene Brown. Parenting is definitely a place where we have a hard time accepting our own imperfections and those of our children. **Come chat with other parents**. You aren't the only one who finds this hard!!! Copies are available in the Café.

FELLOWSHIP

Parish Supper is served this Wednesday, April 18! Join us for a **family-friendly meal** beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the New Parish Hall. Service is rolling so come at anytime! **Suggested donation is \$8 per person or \$25 per family. All ages are welcome!** Please RSVP to Elizabeth Baker at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org or (804)-784-5678.

WORSHIP

Our next Choral Evensong will be next Sunday, **April 22 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.**

Save the date for Children and Youth Sunday! Help us show our appreciation for our amazing children and youth members who will be leading a majority of the worship service **on Sunday, May 6 at 11 a.m.** We will recognize the 5th graders and graduating seniors **as well as the committee members and Sunday School teachers** who are vital to our programming and ministries. For more information or questions, please contact **Amelia McDaniel** at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Vacation Bible School registration is now available! Come gather for a fun week "on the farm" and learn about how no matter where we are, Jesus is with us. The week, July 9-12, is **open to all children ages 3 to rising 3rd grade.** Rising 6th grade-Senior High School **students are invited to volunteer.** We also **need lots of adult volunteers** to make the week run smoothly. Fill out **your registration form** and **return to St. Mary's by May 20.** Please contact **Amelia McDaniel** at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org for more information.

What about the 4th and 5th graders' Vacation Bible School, you ask? Our older children are invited to a VERY SPECIAL week of learning! St. Mary's presents 2018 **On-the-Go Camp from August 6-10.** This is a new experience for our kids at St. Mary's. Catherine Ashman, a St. Mary's member and 5th grade teacher, will be **leading our kids around Richmond.** They will be on the **hunt for the different ways people are serving others** around the city and the many places that people are at work to make Richmond a better place.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

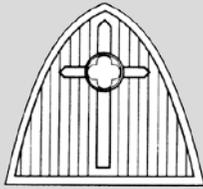
It's almost time for St. Mary's Episcopal School's **Annual Spring Carnival!** **Gather your friends and family after the 11 a.m. service next Sunday, April 22** and join in on the fun of bounce houses, kid-friendly carnival games, face painting, and more! **Entry is \$10 per child at the door or \$8 in advance by Thursday, April 19.** Submit cash or check, made payable to "St. Mary's Episcopal School," **to the school office.**

OUTREACH

Come out and volunteer for the day with **Rebuilding Together Richmond on Saturday, April 28.** Each year, teams of volunteers spread across the Metropolitan Richmond Area **to improve the safety and health of homes of low-income homeowners** (mostly elderly) and revitalize communities. **Band together with fellow St. Mary's parishioners** in partnership with St. John's Episcopal Church parishioners. **Come for the whole day or for a few hours. Skilled workers, unskilled workers, children, and youth** are all welcome! Please contact Ashley Cameron at acameron@stmarysgoochland.org for more information or questions.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Exciting things continue to happen at St. Mary's, and the wheels keep turning, but we are in need of assistance. During this time of transition, **St. Mary's staff could use support from parishioner volunteers.** Roles include answering the phone, proofreading and stuffing bulletins, and creating nametags. **We'd love for you to take any shift of one, two, or three hours during office hours,** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please contact Elizabeth Baker at (804) 784-5678 or ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org.



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*

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*

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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:

Tracey Ragsdale, *Senior Warden*

Russell Wyatt, *Junior Warden*

Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*

Patsy Simril, *Register*

Karen Huennekens, **Fay Lohr**, **Anne McCoy**,

Kim O'Shea, **Doug Pera**, **Al Rider**, **Tom Slater**,

Seth Schaeffer and **Scott Stephens**

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, April 15

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Adult Forum: *The Path*, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

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

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

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

Monday, April 16

Pastoral Care Team 3, 10 a.m., *Rector's Study*

Tuesday, April 17

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Be Still Ministry, 10 a.m., *Education Building*

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

Wednesday, April 18

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*

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

Thursday, April 19

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10 a.m., *Library*

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

Saturday, April 21

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

Sunday, April 22

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Adult Forum: *The Path*, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

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

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

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

St. Mary's Episcopal School Spring Carnival, 12 p.m., *Churchyard*

Choral Evensong, 5 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Coming Up

Tuesday, April 24

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

Be Still Ministry, 10 a.m., *Education Building*

Saturday, April 28

Rebuilding Together Richmond

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.
- ❖ **Are you receiving St. Mary's emails?** Stay up to date with weekly emails about upcoming events and opportunities and receive reflections **directly to your inbox** go to stmarysgoochland.org to sign-up.