



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 30, 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.

Sermons available

Find past sermons available on St. Mary's website at 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

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

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

10 a.m. Adult Forum: 'How do I DO Theology?', *New Parish Hall*

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

Jesus asks us to take care of those in need. Sounds like a big job! So what am I called to do?

Is it giving someone a big bear hug? Every Sunday morning, I look forward to a big hug from my friend Seward Gray. His positive attitude and warm hugs get me through the coming week.

Is it being *present* and listening to someone who is overwhelmed with life's challenges? Is it praying someone through a difficult crisis when they don't even know you are praying for them? Are these small tasks what we are being called to do?

One of the perks of being a member of St. Mary's faith community is being able to do all these things for others as needed. It also means that same community will be there to nurture and protect us when life happens. When my husband Gordon faced some medical challenges, having our entire faith community praying certainly gave us the strength we needed. Knowing there are all those clouds of witnesses lifting up our prayers got us through.

In turn, serving on the Pastoral Care Team has given me an opportunity to reach out to members of St. Mary's. It may be a bag of delicious pecans or a meal you can pop in the oven when things get crazy; a birthday card from the parish just when we think nobody remembers. I was especially touched to receive my St. Mary's birthday card and read the special prayer enclosed.

All these small tasks carried out by our community add up quickly. They are what makes a visitor know that St. Mary's is special. They can feel the positive energy and love that welcomes each of us. We have a beautiful facility, wonderful music, and challenging messages, but it is so much more. It is the sum total of all the gifts God has given each of us brought together as one Body of Christ.

Now is the time when we are called to do an inventory of our gifts and talents. Spend some time in prayer counting your blessings, giving thanks and discerning what you are going to give back to God.

The gift of time is precious and St. Mary's needs all of our gifts - hugs, teaching Sunday School, making meals, singing in the choir, or being an acolyte.

What is the Holy Spirit calling each of us to do?

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.

PRAYING AND WORKING FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Next Sunday, St. Mary's is excited to welcome the Rev. Ben Campbell, an Episcopal priest and author of *Richmond's Unhealed History*. Ben came to Richmond in 1970 and has lived in Church Hill since that time. He has ministered to three Episcopal churches and served as Communications Director and subsequently Program Director of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. He directed two non-profit corporations—the Richmond Urban Institute, and Home Base, Incorporated, a neighborhood-based low-income housing corporation. In 1987, he became Pastoral Director of Richmond Hill, an ecumenical Christian community and retreat center on Church Hill in Richmond. **Now, he is retired but still engaged in promoting and teaching spiritual guidance, Christian healing prayer, and social justice engagement.**

On Sunday, October 7 and Sunday, October 21 at 10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall, he will lead a two-part forum titled **"Praying and Working for the Kingdom of God."** The Rev. Ben Campbell is a dynamic and engaging speaker, so please come out to hear him **inspire a conversation for us about the ways that God's coming Kingdom of peace and justice and mercy is already among us** as followers of Jesus in our words and through deeds.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

The **men's spiritual practice group** meets weekly **continuing this Tuesday, October 3 at 7:30 a.m.** in the Old Parish Hall. Led by Bob Hetherington, the gathering is an opportunity to deepen faith and is open to men of all ages.

The third and final part to David May's three-part series entitled, **'How do I DO Theology?'** concludes this morning **at 10 a.m. in the New Parish Hall**. This last part focuses on ethics and moral decision-making. Please join us for a lively conversation and learning! Can't get there right at 10 a.m.? Don't worry! **Just grab a cup of coffee and come on in!**

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 on the website. Turn in your pledge cards by mail or by placing in the offertory **by November 18**. You can also pledge online at stmarysgoochland.org/pledge, email Mike Koschak at mkoschak@stmarysgoochland.org or call (804) 784-5678. Thank you!

PASTORAL CARE

St. Mary's would like to be **prepared for any emergencies that may occur on the campus**. We currently have one wheelchair but are looking for further donations. **Please look around your home** to see if you have a **spare walking cane, walker, stretcher, or crutches**. **If you are willing to donate**, please contact Elizabeth Baker at (804) 784-5678 or ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org.

WORSHIP

Blessing of the Animals is next week on Sunday, October 7 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, hermit crabs, chickens, lizards, birds, stuffed animals, etc...) to the Church Yard 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.

Are you asking, **how do I designate a gift of flowers for the altar?** Would you like to **offer the altar flowers in thanksgiving for someone or something special**, a celebration of life or as a memorial remembrance for someone who has died? Pick a specific Sunday and service, 9 a.m. or 11 a.m., and for whom or what you would like to offer the flowers. Next, **please contact Elizabeth Baker at (804) 784-5678 or ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org**. **Then provide a gift of \$50 for Little St. Mary's altar and \$75 for New St. Mary's altar.** You can make a check payable to *St. Mary's Episcopal Church* and write 'altar flowers' in the memo line. (If this cost presents a hardship, please feel free to be in touch with David May or Bob Hetherington.)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Today kicks off Lego Sundays! This morning the third and fourth grade Sunday School class meets in the block room to use our new **Lego building center!** Sunday School will use Legos throughout the year for kids to recreate Bible stories they have heard.

This year, St. Mary's 4 year-olds through 5th graders are participating in the Annual Giving Campaign in their own way! We are presenting the concept of stewardship using the wonderful children's book, **How Full is Your Bucket?** Stewardship is an **expression of saying 'thank you' to God through what we do in our lives.** This book outlines a great way to talk with kids about how their actions and deeds can impact others. You can pick up a copy in Café area. **Kids are also invited to fill out the cards found in the children's worship bags that say, "This week I was a bucket filler..."** They can write or illustrate a way they helped "fill someone's bucket" through their actions during the week. They can present this at the offertory to the children's ushers as their offering for the week.

We need two children to collect the children's offering each week. During the offertory hymn, they stand in the front of the church while the children come forward to bring up their offering. Both of these roles during the service are a great way for **families and children to participate.** Please consider **signing up your children to usher** to help at an upcoming 11 a.m. service by emailing Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org.

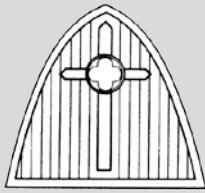
HURRICANE RELIEF

In the wake of Hurricane Florence, **the Diocese of East Carolina set up a resource page on their website (<http://www.ecdio.org/hurricane-florence-relief-recovery-how-to-help.html>)**. It states, "We know that many are eager to help the people of our diocese as we begin the process of picking up the pieces and serving our communities. **In the initial phases of relief, the most efficient way to assist us is to donate money.** If you are searching for ways to help right now, monetary donations are what we need." You can donate directly to the Diocese through their website. **Or please send a check to "St. Mary's Episcopal Church" with "hurricane relief" written in the memo line.** We will hold onto the donations and send one lump sum of direct support once needs are made clearer.

FELLOWSHIP

Seniors (well, adults of all ages) meet on the second Tuesday of the month! Join parishioners of all ages for lunch in the New Parish Hall on Tuesday, October 9 at 12 p.m. This month's speaker is **Executive Director of the Richmond Symphony, David J. L. Fisk. Suggested donation is \$5**

Save the date for St. Mary's first delicious **Parish Breakfast for all ages of the program year! It is served on Sunday, October 14** beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the New Parish Hall. Service is rolling so come anytime between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. **Suggested donation of \$4/person**, maximum of \$15/family. **Menu includes:** ham, scrambled eggs, cheese grits, "St. Mary's" cinnamon rolls, biscuits, and fresh fruit.



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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Adam Bailey, *Children's Choir Director*
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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:
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, September 30

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*
Adult Forum: "Doing Theology" Part 3, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*

Tuesday, October 2

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Fellowship Committee, 9 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Study*

Wednesday, October 3

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Thursday, October 4

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

Friday, October 5

Pastoral Care Team 1, 10 a.m., *Rector's Study*

Saturday, October 6

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

Sunday, October 7

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: Praying and Working for the Kingdom of God, 10 a.m., *New Parish Hall*

Holy Eucharist Rite Two, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cake and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*
Blessing of the Animals, 3 p.m., *Terrace*

Coming Up

Tuesday, October 9

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

Sunday, October 14

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

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.
- ❖ **Need a nametag?** Please **sign up for one** in the back of the church or make a temporary one. If you already have one, **please remember to wear it** to help make St. Mary's a warm, welcoming place.
- ❖ **Are you following us on Instagram?** We love sharing fun facts, behind the scenes, and our beautiful campus. Make sure to **follow us @stmarysgoochland**
- ❖ **Do you like our Facebook page?** You can find recent sermons, reflections, information about upcoming events, pictures from events, and more by liking us at **facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland**