



# THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 9, 2018**

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## 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](http://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.

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*Would you like to write for us? Contact Ashley Cameron at [acameron@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org)*

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## 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 Classrooms and Education Building*

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

**Noon** Cookies and Coffee, *New Parish Hall*

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*Do you receive email from us?*

Visit [stmarysgoochland.org/communications](http://stmarysgoochland.org/communications) to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

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## A WEEKLY REFLECTION

Whenever I think about Advent, my mind first goes to the traditions that surround the holidays. I think first about winter break and how I put the stress and assignments related to school on pause. I also think about the family reunions and being able to see the relatives that I may not have seen since last Christmas. I think about the great dinners that go along with the family gatherings and the gift swaps between me and my cousins. I think about the magic of the Christmas Eve Service and how awesome the kids are in their performance. Of course, the joy of Christmas morning is ever-present in my head, and especially so when Christmas lights start going up.

The tradition of Advent is what makes the Christmas season so special to everybody for so many different reasons. They are each able to find in their memories the joy of past Christmases and the excitement about what will unfold this Advent. There is always some stress associated with visiting family and rushing to find gifts; however, Christmas music can work wonders. Each year, Advent fills people with joy because they can relive memories through their traditions. New traditions are formed each year and will provide events to look forward to when the next year's winter arrives. The Advent traditions that bring people together are what allows people to enjoy the significance of Jesus's birth and the joy associated with it. The traditions are what pull us back to the ones we love and let us fully enjoy Advent and appreciate what the birth of Christ really means. I'm excited for this Advent and for what it signifies to me, like family and the start of a new year where I will be able to continue to see Christ in my life.

*Addison Hagan*

**WELCOME!** Whether it is your first Sunday at St. Mary's, or your 401<sup>st</sup>, 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.

### **THERAPY DOGS AT SENIORS LUNCH THIS TUESDAY!**

**Did you know that therapy dogs and cats can lift spirits**, lessen depression, lower blood pressure, and much more through regular interaction? For the next Seniors Lunch, **St. Mary's welcomes Eva Cross, Volunteer Coordinator and three teams of dogs and handlers from the Center for Human-Animal Interaction**. The Center is a non-profit organization affiliated with VCU Health that is "**dedicated to improved health and well-being through interaction with companion animals.**" Seniors (well, adults of all ages) are invited to this unique and memorable program this Tuesday, December 11 at 12 p.m. in the New Parish Hall. A delicious homemade lunch will be served for a **suggested donation of \$5 per person**, and please call the church office, (804) 784-5678 to RSVP.

### **SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION**

The **men's spiritual practice group** meets weekly **continuing Tuesday, December 11 and 18 at 7:30 a.m.** in the Old Parish Hall. Led by Bob Hetherington, it is an opportunity to deepen faith and is open to men of all ages. **Please note there will be no practice on Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1;** will resume on Tuesday, January 8.

**Conversations about the liturgy often get derailed** by reducing it to a question of 'high church' and 'low church'. **What makes for good liturgy is a more basic question** about the worshipping life of people and is a good one to ask. **Please come join David May next Sunday, December 16** in the New Parish Hall for a lively conversation about what makes for good liturgy, whether 'high' or 'low'!

**Advent is a time to be quiet and still** while we wait for the coming of Jesus Christ. During this season, **Mary Lou Bean and Sydna Street are bringing back the *Be Still* ministry**. Join them for three weeks of practice of stilling our bodies, minds, and spirits during this typically busy time in our lives. **Beginning this Tuesday, December 4 at 10 a.m.** in the Education Building, **join them for a 1 hour yoga** session for all levels and ages followed by contemplative prayer. 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](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org).

### **FELLOWSHIP**

**December's Parish Breakfast is this morning!** Join us for a delicious meal for all ages. Serving begins at 9:30 a.m. in the New Parish Hall but 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:** cheese grits, scrambled eggs, sweet and savory ham biscuits, sausage, and fruit.

### **ALTAR GUILD**

**Order Poinsettias to remember your loved ones** this Christmas. Please send your **donation of \$30** for each Memorial to: **St. Mary's Church, 12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238**. Checks may be made payable to "St. Mary's Altar Guild." Please **include with your check a note indicating whom your donation** is made in memory or honor of. **For further information** or any questions, please contact Elizabeth Baker via **email** at [ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org) or call (804) 784-5678.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Christmas Eve service is one of our most beloved traditions at St. Mary's. The Children's Lessons and Carols is held on Christmas Eve, Monday December 24 at 4 p.m. Please come at 3:30 p.m. for costuming. This year we will follow the retelling of the story of Christmas with a Holy Eucharist. There will be several stations for communion as we do for Easter. Again this year, a **Birthday Party for Jesus will follow the service** in the New Parish Hall. There will be mini cupcakes for all! **Please sign up your child to participate to ensure that we have enough costumes.** Contact Amelia McDaniel at [amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org). And don't forget **music rehearsal continues Sundays, December 9, 16, and 23** during Sunday School classes.

Save the date for the ALL Youth Christmas Party on Sunday, December 16 at 4:30 p.m. in the Education Building. Middle and High School students will gather for a pizza party and white elephant gift exchange. Please bring a \$15 gift and \$10 for pizza.

This year to help you celebrate Advent we have two different tools for you to use at home. **Advent in a Mason Jar** is a resource that has tags to pull out from the jar daily (or whenever you can)! There are tags with prayers for each week of Advent, conversation starters, ways to connect, and ways to get moving. **The other resource is a small daily Advent calendar** with prayers and ideas to help share the season with your family and others. **Also, check out the table in the Café area for daily devotionals, books for sale, and more!**

## OUTREACH

**GoochlandCares Clothes Closet drive continues this morning!** Throughout Advent, St. Mary's is collecting clean, gently used or new items for infants, children, teenagers, and adults. Collection boxes are located in the New Parish Hall. A list of needed items can be found on the table in the Café area. **Please bring them in by next Sunday, December 16.** For further information or if you have questions, contact Ashley Cameron at [acameron@stmarysgoochland.org](mailto:acameron@stmarysgoochland.org).

## VESTRY NOMINATIONS

Each year at our Annual Parish Meeting on the last Sunday in January, **four members of the Vestry complete their three-year terms of ministry on the 12-member Vestry, and four new Vestry members are elected.** At St. Mary's, the Vestry Nominating Committee, which is appointed by the Vestry and includes the four outgoing Vestry members (Fay Lohr, Tracey Ragsdale, Al Rider and Tom Slater) and, this year, two at-large members (Michelle Lewis and Carrie Schaeffer) meets to prayerfully consider and propose qualified nominees. **Parishioners who are 'qualified' and eligible to stand for election are "adult (16 years of age or older) confirmed communicants in good standing".** Likewise, those who are eligible to offer to vote in a vestry election are also adult confirmed communicants in good standing. This year's annual meeting will take place on January 27, 2019. **If you would like to nominate someone,** please pray about it first and then contact Michelle Lewis at [michelledlewis315@gmail.com](mailto:michelledlewis315@gmail.com).

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES



### CHRISTMAS EVE, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

**4:00 p.m.** Children's Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist in New St. Mary's

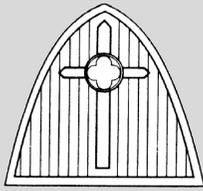
**7:00 p.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite Two in New St. Mary's, *Choral Prelude begins at 6:30 p.m.*

**11:00 p.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite One in Little St. Mary's



### CHRISTMAS DAY, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

**10:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite Two in Little St. Mary's



**ST. MARY'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12291 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238

(804) 784-5678

[www.stmarysgoochland.org](http://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

**Duke Fowler**, *Sexton*

**Robert G. Hetherington**, *Priest Associate*

**Mike Koschak**, *Executive Director, Church Operations*

mkoschak@stmarysgoochland.org

**David H. May**, *Rector*

dmay@stmarysgoochland.org

**Amelia McDaniel**, *Director of Children's Ministries*

amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org

**Paul Pace**, *Sexton*

**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**, *Registrar*

**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, December 9, The Second Sunday of Advent**

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

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

SMES Bake Sale, 9:30 a.m., *Café and Dover Lounge*

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, 10 a.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*

**Tuesday, December 11**

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

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

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

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

**Wednesday, December 12**

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*

Noonday Prayer, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

**Thursday, December 13**

Outreach Committee, 8 a.m., *Old Parish Hall*

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

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

**Saturday, December 15**

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

**Sunday, December 16, The Third Sunday of Advent**

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

Adult Forum: What Makes Good Liturgy?, 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, 10 a.m., *Café and New Parish Hall*

Youth Group Christmas Party, 4:30 p.m., *Education Building*

**Coming Up**

**Tuesday, December 18**

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

Vestry, 5 p.m., *New Parish Hall*

**Wednesday, December 19**

Parish Supper, 5 p.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.
- ❖ **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**