



THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 24, 2019

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. Adult Forum: Mark Biddle, *Parish Hall*

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

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

Noon Cookies and Coffee, *Café and 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

This was nowhere on my radar screen! But like the recent weather forecasts, my radar screen hasn't been particularly accurate. Who knew that I would be called back to serve at St. Mary's at such an exciting time in her life?

When David's call to be the next Rector of St. Mary's was announced last spring, I remember feeling such joy for him and for this parish. I couldn't wait to return to St. Mary's as a parishioner and witness for myself how his energy, vision, and healing spirit would transform St. Mary's future. Bob's steady, pastoral presence has already been helping to do that; and now I can't wait to join them in shaping that future.

Over the past three and half years, I have tried to find a new church "home"; but it didn't happen. It's not that there aren't enough Episcopal churches in Richmond, but that there aren't enough with the spirit of sharing, care, and love that had nurtured me for so long here. In ways of which you might not even be aware, you all formed me as the priest I have become; and I will always be grateful for that.

I, too, am grateful for the sendoff in June 2015 that honored and blessed my work here. I hope I'm not that proverbial penny that keeps showing up! If I am, just dust me off and put me in the collection plate! But please don't let that be the only thing you put in there!

In many ways, I feel as if I'm coming home again. Everything looks the same, but many things have changed so that it doesn't feel quite the same. It feels better. I've noticed that people of all ages want to be here. They want to worship together, break bread together, and be engaged in all areas of the life of this parish - and with gratitude for how St. Mary's is making a difference in their lives. The "home" that I am coming back to is vibrant in ways I have not seen here before. There is light everywhere I look - the light of the Holy Spirit. Thank you for your welcoming light in calling me back home!

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:15-16)

Eleanor Wellford

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.

WELCOME ELEANOR WELLFORD TO THE TEAM!

A special announcement went out to the Parish on Wednesday, February 20 via email. Rector David May announced that **Eleanor Wellford will join the St. Mary's staff to be, as Bob Hetherington is, Priest Associate**. With the support of the Vestry, Eleanor will take responsibility with David for Adult Christian Formation as well as to share in the pastoral and liturgical life of our parish family. **Eleanor begins on Tuesday, March 5 and will serve beside David at the 12 p.m. Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 6.**

David wrote, "As it so happens, when I was rector of St. Andrew's, Oregon Hill, [Eleanor] served with me in a **ministry intern position for over a year before she was ordained in 2007**. I remember that time at St. Andrew's with Eleanor as one of the happiest in my life in the Church. **So, what a surprise it was for me to find her here in the choir loft when I arrived last July!** We reconnected over lunches and long conversations about our lives. Without either of us quite knowing it, God must've joined us in these conversations because after our own prayers and then discussions I had with our wonderful Vestry during the winter months, it became clear to all of us that God was calling Eleanor to join us..." **Let us welcome Eleanor "home" with open arms!**

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND ADULT EDUCATION

Mark Biddle is back with us to wrap up his two-part series called, "Is the Old Testament really legalistic?" Mark is a Russell T. Cherry Professor of Old Testament at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA. St. Mary's welcomes him as our **guest speaker in Adult Forum at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall this morning.**

Men's Spiritual Practice continues this Tuesday, February 26 at 7:30 a.m. Bob Hetherington invites men of all ages to participate in a spiritual practice. This offering is a **one-hour time of silence, reflection, sharing, and prayer** that focuses on the Gospel reading for the following Sunday.

Lectionary Bible Study continues this week. Everyone is welcome! Each Bible study session is led by University of Richmond Professor Frank Eakin and focuses on the Lectionary readings assigned for the following Sunday. The next gathering is this **Wednesday, February 27 at 10 a.m. in the Library.**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The March 2019 schedule is now available for Acolytes. St. Mary's hopes you will volunteer for a Sunday service in the New Year. Please sign up via Sign Up Genius or email Emily Bruch at ebruch@stmarysgoochland.org.

Time to sign up for the High School Youth Mission Trip this summer! Rising 9th graders and current high school students are headed to Appalachia to help with home improvement in the coal mining communities there from **July 28 - August 3!** Registration is now open for the trip and **due by Friday, March 1.** Please email Emily Bruch at ebruch@stmarysgoochland.org with any questions and for more information.

Youth Laser Tag and a Lock In is this Saturday! ALL Youth are invited to play Laser Tag at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 2 for a big, group battle! Then Middle School youth will be picked up at 8 p.m. And the High School students will head back to St. Mary's for a Lock-In! The Lock In will last until 11 a.m. after Sunday School on Sunday, March 3. **Please email Emily Bruch at ebruch@stmarysgoochland.org if you are attending.**

Parents of rising 6th graders and current 6th and 7th graders are invited to come learn about this **summer's middle school mission trip**. The trip is for rising 6th - 8th graders and is **July 12-17**. It's an **overnight trip to the Shenandoah Valley** where they will get to experience many different forms of mission work in the local communities. **Please attend the Informational Meeting on Sunday, March 10 in the Library at 10 a.m.** to learn more.

LENT AT ST. MARY'S

The season of Lent is nearly upon us. During Lent, we join with Christians all over the world in preparing for the great mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, the mighty work through which God reconciles all things to himself in Christ. From the earliest beginnings of the Church, Christians have set aside this period of time to prepare for Easter. **The forty days of Lent** (roughly a 'tithe' of our time each year) **are given as a time of intentionally making ourselves available to the work of the Spirit in each of our lives.** We will **provide a number of resources for prayer, for learning, for growing, for preparing.** You will be learning much more about these resources over these next two weeks.

To make a good beginning for Lent, please plan to take time to **attend one of the Ash Wednesday services** on Wednesday, March 6. The services are at **12 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. in New St. Mary's.** The Ash Wednesday liturgy includes the imposition of ashes (which is optional) and the Holy Eucharist. Please join your sisters and brothers at St. Mary's along with Christians throughout the world in making 'a right beginning' for a holy Lent.

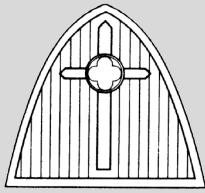
We need your help! Please **bring your palm crosses from this past Palm Sunday** or even further back if you've got them! **We'll burn all of our old palm crosses at our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** (Tuesday March 5) to use for ashes for Ash Wednesday the next day. You can bring the with you to church and leave them in the Narthex in the basket with the sign for old palm crosses or bring them by the church office during weekdays. Thank you!

Lenten Soup suppers begin **on Wednesday, March 13 at 5:30 p.m. Join your St. Mary's family for a simple supper** every Wednesday throughout Lent until April 10. Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. with a **speaker for adults** and a **children and youth program following at 6:15 p.m.** Suggested donation is \$8 per person and \$22 per family.

A new ministry at St. Mary's focuses on aging as something we all have in common and can be as challenging as it is rewarding. It will offer a variety of program through the year, but its first offering is a **Lenten forum series at 10 a.m.** on Sundays led by **Dr. Vic Maloy** and titled, **"The Wonder of Years."** **All ages are invited because we are all aging.**

ARE YOU NEW? OR A RETURNING VISITOR? 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 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.
- ❖ **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**
- ❖ **Do you know St. Mary's has a YouTube channel?** You can watch past adult forums, Vacation Bible School videos, and more by subscribing at **youtube.com/user/StMarysGoochland**



ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.stmarysgoochland.org

| Growing in Faith |
| Building Community |
| Giving Joyfully |

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Vestry Members:
Tracey Ragsdale, *Senior Warden*
Russell Wyatt, *Junior Warden*
Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*
Patsy Simril, *Register*
Harry Baldwin, **Christy Gurkin**, **Karen Huennekens**, **Fay Lohr**, **Anne McCoy**, **Kim O'Shea**, **Doug Pera**, **Ann Ramsey**, **Al Rider**, **Tom Slater**, **Seth Schaeffer**, **Scott Stephens**, and **Danny Williams**.

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, February 24

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Adult Forum: Mark Biddle, 10 a.m., *Parish Hall*
Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Sunday School Classrooms and Education Building*
Morning Prayer Rite One, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café and Parish Hall*
Lay Eucharistic Minister Training, 12 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Tuesday, February 26

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Parish Office*
Staff Meeting, 2 p.m., *Rector's Office*
Vestry, 5 p.m., *Parish Hall*

Wednesday, February 27

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

Thursday, February 28

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

Friday, March 1

Pastoral Care Team 1, 10 a.m., *Parish Office*

Saturday, March 2

A.A., 10 a.m., *Education Building Classroom*
ALL Youth Laser Tag, 5:30 p.m.
High School Lock-In, 8 p.m., *Education Building*

Sunday, March 3

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Adult Forum: "What Makes Lent Holy?", 10 a.m., *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*
Cake and Coffee, 10 a.m., *Café and Parish Hall*

Coming Up

Tuesday, March 5

5:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, *Parish Hall*

Wednesday, March 6, Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist, 12 p.m., *New St. Mary's*
Holy Eucharist, 5:30 p.m., *New St. Mary's*

Sunday, March 10, First Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist Rite One, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *Parish Hall*
Youth Mission Trip Informational Meeting, 10 a.m., *Library*
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*

Wednesday, March 13

Holy Eucharist, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Lenten Supper and Speaker Series, 5:30 p.m., *Parish Hall*