

THE ANNUNCIATION

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2019

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, usher, or a clergy member, and **consider filling out a welcome card**. We invite you to join us on future **Sundays at 10 a.m.** for Eucharist or Morning Prayer, on **Wednesdays for Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing at 12 p.m.** in beautiful and quaint Little St. Mary's, or for many of our other fellowship and outreach offerings. **Little St. Mary's** is also **open Monday through Friday** between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and available to you for prayer and reflection. Flip the page over to get a sense of what we have going on around St. Mary's.

Nursery

Our nursery is available for **infants through 4-year-olds** from 9:45 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. The nursery is located in the Preschool and Sunday School Building. Nursery Director Meg Zehmer and 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. Worship bags are 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 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

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, *New St. Mary's*

11 a.m. Lemonade and Cookies, *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

Originally, this reflection was to offer a word of encouragement for us all to sing out in church. But maybe I don't need to. Last Sunday, we did sing out! Even with the ancient and probably not the best-known hymn of the Church, 'I bind unto myself today'. It didn't seem to matter. We all sang out – for seven verses!

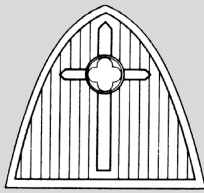
I've made a small 'thing' about encouraging us to sing out. I found a piece in a church newsletter from years ago that speaks to why I think congregational singing is important in the Episcopal tradition. I thought I'd share a portion of it with you:

"We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalianless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! Many Episcopalians are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Episcopalians to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other. I do believe this, people: Episcopalians, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad."

When we sing together, 'we promise that we will not forsake each other'. What a beautiful thought. When we sing out together, we are saying, 'don't worry, you're not on your own, I'm joining in too, I won't leave you hanging'. Isn't that what we hope Christian community is like? Doesn't our world need a little more of that same spirit?

So, let's sing out together, especially raising our voices in praise for the One who has promised to never forsake us either.

David May



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.stmarysgoochland.org

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

CLERGY, STAFF, AND VESTRY

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Tyrell Wilkins, *Assistant Sexton*
Meg Zehmer, *Nursery Director*
Susan Rawls, *Director of St. Mary's Episcopal School*

Vestry Members:

Karen Huennekens, *Senior Warden*
Scott Stephens, *Junior Warden*
Joe Cheely, *Treasurer*
Patsy Simril, *Register*
Harry Baldwin, **Christy Gurkin**, **Anne McCoy**,
Kim O'Shea, **Doug Pera**, **Ann Ramsey**, **Seth Schaeffer**, **Danny Williams**, and **Russell Wyatt**.

ST. MARY'S CHURCHYARD

St. Mary's churchyard is a beautiful gift that is offered to active St. Mary's parishioners and their immediate families. After a generation of St. Mary's pricing staying at the same level, **the price of a plot will be increased to \$3,000 on September 15, 2019.** Until then, plots may be purchased at the current level. This is a means through which we can ensure the continuing care of our sacred grounds through which we see a sign of God's Church in heaven and earth. Please visit **St. Mary's website to learn more about what St. Mary's offers and guidelines** for use of the churchyard. **If you would like to purchase a plot**, please contact Elizabeth Baker at (804) 784-5678 or **via email at ebaker@stmarysgoochland.org**.

COLLECTING BEACH TOWELS FOR PPDC

We will be collecting **new beach towels for the children of Peter Paul Development Center** as they start their **summer swim lessons**. We will collect them **beginning today until Friday, June 28**. They will be delivered on Friday, June 28. The **goal is to collect 100 beach towels** for all the participants. Please contact Amelia McDaniel at amcdaniel@stmarysgoochland.org if you have any questions.

ST. MARY'S CAR STICKERS

St. Mary's stickers for your car are BACK! Pick up one at the Parish Office or in the back of New St. Mary's today. They are **completely FREE** so grab one up for each family member's car!

This Week at St. Mary's

Monday, June 24 – Friday, June 28

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., *Parish Hall*
VBS On-the-Go, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., *Education Building*

Sunday, June 23

Morning Prayer, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Lemonade and Cookies, 11 a.m., *Café and Parish Hall*

Tuesday, June 25

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

Wednesday, June 26

Pastoral Care Team 4, 9 a.m., *Parish Office*
Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Saturday, June 29

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

Sunday, June 30

Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Lemonade and Cookies, 11 a.m., *Café and Parish Hall*

Coming Up

Tuesday, July 2

Staff Meeting, 10 a.m., *Rector's Office*

Thursday, July 4 – Friday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Sunday, July 7

Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Lemonade and Cake, 11 a.m., *Café and Parish Hall*