

THE ANNUNCIATION

visit www.stmarysgoochland.org



Youth Cooking Class recently learned to make breakfast casseroles and even cooked five extras for Pastoral Care purposes!

Welcome!

Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church - we are so glad that you are here! Since the 1870's, God has gathered a beloved community of Jesus to worship and serve here, where all are welcomed. We are committed to provide a holy place for worship, Christian Formation for all ages that is compelling and life-giving, opportunities to reach out in love for those in need, and an enthusiastic hope that all who call St. Mary's their spiritual home can participate in every area of our common life in Christ. The spirit of St. Mary's is grounded in a deep sense of gratitude for God's goodness and love. We give thanks for you and for your life, and we are grateful to God for the opportunity to welcome you!



“Put on the whole armor of *light!*”

The brand-new Church Year begins today in

just about the darkest time of the year. These days, many of us get up in the dark and come home from work or school in the dark. Light seems especially precious this time of the year, and I'll take whatever I can get – the little light on the coffee-maker in the dark early morning, the warm light coming from a neighbor's window when I get home, the candle we light to make dinner a little cheerier. When so much of the day is dark, I think of how the very first gift of creation came when God said, “let there be light!” And there was. Thank

you, God.

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent urges God to give us grace to ‘put on the armor of light’. The word ‘armor’ suggests that we will be using light as a kind of protection from the harm that the darkness threatens. I like this image a lot. Light may not be enough to ward off physical threats, but it is sufficient to push back the dark enough to find your way and even be enough to help others find their way too.

This past week I attended a diocesan gathering of clergy new to the diocese and new to their parishes. We spent time talking about Christian Formation and how what that really means is that our churches are places where we hope people can

Weekly reflection continues...

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's

10 a.m. Advent Wreath-Making in Parish Hall

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist in New St. Mary's

12 p.m. Cake and Coffee in the Cafe

Weekly reflection continued...

become disciples of Jesus. Disciples of Jesus are people who learn from Jesus to live like him and act like him and sound like him. Which led me to think about people I know (that includes both the living and the dead) in whom I have seen Jesus. They are people whose lives have shown what it looks like to pray like Jesus, how to give like him, how to proclaim Good News like him, how to forgive like him, and how to show compassion like him. And how their lives bring light into the world. God knows how much we need that.

As this new Church Year begins, it might be worth thinking about the people in your life who have shown you something of the light of Jesus in the way they live and act and sound; and how you saw the love and light, the compassion and forgiveness and healing, and the justice and mercy of Jesus. And to give thanks that their light has shown you the way to bring light into the darkness too, like Jesus. Give us grace, O Lord, to put on the armor of light, to be the light of Jesus in this world.

David May



Ministry Highlight

Do you ever wonder ‘What do I do to serve as an usher, or a lector, or the litanist (who leads the prayers of the people during worship)?’ Well first, please know that we are anxious for as many of us as possible to participate in the worshipping life of St. Mary’s as feel called! Please just call the church office (784-5678) and say, ‘I would like to serve as an usher, or lector, or litanist – or all three! We’ll take it from there and arrange for some simple training, get you scheduled, and that’s it!



Outreach Opportunity

The Giving Tree is up in the Dover Lounge! St. Mary’s offers the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for families through Goochland Christmas Mother, CrossOver Healthcare Ministry, and Peter Paul Development Center. Please grab an ornament or two with the gift needs on them. Please return gifts by Sunday, December 8. If you are unable to take an ornament, you are welcomed to place a monetary donation in the box by the Giving Tree to help purchase gifts.



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

12.08.19 | 4 P.M. | 12291 RIVER ROAD



The Annunciation | December 1, 2019 | First Sunday of Advent

Would you like to write for us?
Contact Ashley Cameron at
acameron@stmarysgoochland.org
to learn more.

HOLIDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Monday, December 2, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The holiday season brings on powerful memories and emotions, and it can be a particularly painful time for those who have lost a child. If you have experienced this loss, or know someone who has, we want you to know about a special service to be held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, on Monday, December 2, at 7 p.m., and co-sponsored by St. Mary's. The Holiday Memorial Service offers an opportunity to for families to remember the child they lost, whether your child died 30 years ago, or three weeks ago; whether as an adult, a teenager, a child or an infant; from illness, accident, violence, suicide, or other cause. This service is open to all.

"BECOMING ST. MARY'S" EXHIBIT

Sunday, December 8, 5:30 p.m., Dover Lounge

Have you ever wondered about those numbered graves in the churchyard? Or how St. Mary's came to be? Our new exhibit, "Becoming St. Mary's," opens on the evening of Sunday, December 8 after Advent Lessons and Carols. Elizabeth Starling has gathered fun facts, historical information, and heartfelt remembrances that bring the story of St. Mary's alive. We hope you'll take time to browse the exhibition, which will be on display in the Dover Lounge for the next few months.

LUNCH & LEARN WITH BOB HETHERINGTON

Tuesday, December 10, 12 p.m., Parish Hall

St. Mary's seniors (well, adults of all ages) are invited to a delicious lunch and engaging program at 12 p.m. in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, November 12. We will welcome St. Mary's The Rev. Canon Bob Hetherington. He'll discuss, "What are the necessary requirements of adequately fulfilling the role of 'caregiver' of a family member or a dear friend who is in dire need of support?" Please RSVP to the church office, (804) 784-5678.

FAITH & FILM IS BACK IN DECEMBER

Wednesday, December 11, 5 p.m., Dover Lounge

The next installment of our Faith and Film series is Wednesday, December 11 from 5-8 p.m. in the Dover Lounge. We will show "Joyeux Noël," an epic war drama film based on the Christmas truce of December 1914. The film involves power struggles, as well as religious, ideological, and economic differences that ultimately lead to a moment of peace. It's sure to inspire an interesting discussion. Please call the church office to RSVP to ensure enough food for all attending!

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES THIS CHRISTMAS

Order a Poinsettia Memorial

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 in memory or honor of whom your donation is made. For further information or any questions, please contact Elizabeth Starling via email at estarling@stmarysgoochland.org or call (804) 784-5678.

SUNDAYS AT ST. MARY'S

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Little St. Mary's

10 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer in New St. Mary's*

*We have first, third, and fifth Sunday Holy Eucharist at both services. Second and fourth Sundays will have Morning Prayer, except during Advent, Lent and Easter.

NURSERY

Nursery is offered for infants - 3 year olds every Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. As a part of nursery time, the toddlers will hear a Bible story, sing, and play games.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is offered for children 4 years old - 12th grade at 10 a.m. Each week the children and youth deepen their understanding and connection to our shared story of faith.

ADULT FORUM

Adult Forum gathers every Sunday in the Parish Hall during the 10 o'clock hour. All adults are welcome! Forums range from guest speakers to panel discussions to hearing from St. Mary's clergy.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

During the 11 a.m. service, children (ages 4 years old - 5th grade) are invited to come forward during the Gospel hymn and go to the Block Room together. There, they hear the Gospel story, talk about it, and sing together. They return to the service during the Peace.

OCCURRING WEEKLY

MEN'S SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Office

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library

HOLY EUCHARIST WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Wednesdays at 12 p.m. in Little St. Mary's

NEW BEGINNINGS

Saturdays at 10 a.m. in the Education Building (open A.A. meeting)

*Events are subject to change. Please visit www.stmarysgoochland.org for updates.

Do you receive email from us?

Visit stmarysgoochland.org/communications to sign up for weekly updates and news from us.

The Annunciation | December 1, 2019 | First Sunday of Advent





This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, December 1

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Advent Wreath-Making, 10 a.m., *Parish Hall*
Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cake and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café*

Tuesday, December 3

Men's Spiritual Practice, 7:30 a.m., *Parish Office*
Fellowship Committee, 9 a.m., *Parish Office*
Staff Meeting, 10 a.m., *Rector's Office*

Wednesday, December 4

Lectionary Bible Study, 10 a.m., *Library*
Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing, 12 p.m., *Little St. Mary's*

Thursday, December 5

Centering Prayer Practice, 11 a.m., *Narthex of New St. Mary's*

Friday, December 6

Pastoral Care Team 1, 10 a.m., *Library*

Saturday, December 7

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

Sunday, December 8

Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Parish Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., *Parish Hall*
Sunday School, 10 a.m., *Classrooms and Education Building*
Youth Service, 11 a.m., *Little St. Mary's*
Holy Eucharist, 11 a.m., *New St. Mary's*
Cookies and Coffee, 12 p.m., *Café*
Advent Lessons and Carols, 4 p.m., *New St. Mary's*
Reception, 5:30 p.m., *Parish Hall*



Contact Us

New Here? Be sure to fill out a welcome card located in the pews and in the narthex. Place it in the offering plate or bring it to an usher or clergy to learn more about the life and ministry of St. Mary's.

Need to Reach Someone? Please call the Church Office at (804) 784-5678. Or visit www.stmarysgoochland.org/staff to find contact information.

Want to Learn More? Please visit St. Mary's website for the most up to date information: www.stmarysgoochland.org

A PART OF OUR STORY...



St. Clare's Guild is the Needlepoint Ministry at St. Mary's. This past summer, the group stitched this beautiful Nativity scene that will be on display in New St. Mary's throughout the season of Advent.



facebook.com/St.MarysGoochland



[@StMarysGoochland](https://instagram.com/StMarysGoochland)

CLERGY AND STAFF

Gersain Agudelo, *Assistant Sexton*
Emily Bruch, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Ashley Cameron, *Director of Communications and Parish Life*
Carl Hayslett, *Executive Director, Church Operations*
Robert G. Hetherington, *Priest Associate*
David H. May, *Rector*
Amelia McDaniel, *Lay Associate for Christian Formation*
Paul Pace, *Sexton*

Elizabeth Starling, *Administrator*
Ryan Tibbetts, *Director of Music*
Deedi Trabosh, *Accountant*
Cassie Vestal, *Nursery Assistant*
Eleanor Wellford, *Priest Associate*
Tyrell Wilkins, *Assistant Sexton*
Meg Zehmer, *Nursery Director*
Susan Rawls, *Director of St. Mary's Episcopal School*

VESTRY

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



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

12291 River Road | Richmond, VA 23238 | (804) 784-5678 | www.stmarysgoochland.org