

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & EDUCATION

Spiritual formation and education are an ever-increasing and dynamic aspect of our life at St. Mary's. From young children to adults of all ages, we seek to offer a number of opportunities to listen, discuss, wrestle, and grow in spiritual wisdom and knowledge.

Sharing God's love with children is important and special in the spiritual formation of our children. Children's Ministries, led by director Amelia McDaniel, includes a dedicated team of over 15 teachers. They share the story of our faith with our children from age 3 through grade 5 each week in Sunday School. In addition, they provide materials to enhance those children's experience of worship. We also work closely with St. Mary's Episcopal School, our resident preschool, including regular chapel services and family and parent offerings.

*Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory
both now and forever!*

2 PETER 3:18

The opportunity to begin to engage and develop young peoples' maturing faith is a vital ministry. Youth Ministries, led by director Matt Rawls, serves youth in grades 6 through 12 through Sunday School, confirmation class, youth group gatherings, service projects and mission trips. Since hiring a dedicated full-time staff person, the youth participation has increased tremendously. The youth ministry at St. Mary's is growing, vibrant and dynamic. It is a safe space where the young people of St. Mary's can find community and deepen their faith, and it is a place where they can, and do, invite their friends from outside the church.

Adults participate in offerings ranging from Bible studies, classes, forums, book studies, speakers, and special offerings like Quiet Days, days at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts with rector Weezie Blanchard, and retreats at the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. While some offerings stay constant, new groups, new leaders and new topics give elasticity to the available experience.

Opportunities to Learn & Engage

Adults

Sunday Forums
Wednesday Bible Study
Book Studies
Quiet Days and Retreats
Seasonal Classes
Speakers

Youth

Sunday School
Confirmation
Middle/High School Youth Groups
High School Mentoring
High School Mission Planning

Children

Sunday School
Vacation Bible School
Children's Lessons & Carols
Children's Stations of the Cross

