

Alleluia!
HE IS RISEN



Easter
2026

St. Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church

202 South Broad Street, Suffolk, VA 23434
757-539-5732 · www.stmarysuffolk.org

MASS INTENTIONS:**Saturday, May 9**

5:00 p.m. In Memory of Amanda Legrand,
requested by Frank and Kathy Legrand

Sunday, May 10

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 a.m. In Memory of the Deceased Spring Family
Members, requested by Jenny Spring
In Honor of the Patrick Dowd Family,
requested by Aggie Dowd

Tuesday, May 12

6:30 a.m. For the Conversion of Sinners
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 13

10:00 a.m. In Reparation for Sins against Life, Charity,
and Chastity

Thursday, May 14

6:30 a.m. For the Clergy
10:00 a.m.

Friday, May 15

10:00 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory

*Mass is the most powerful prayer on earth. Pray for your
loved ones in a special way united to the Eucharist.*

*Contact the Parish Office at 757-539-5732 to request a
Mass for your special intention.*

PLEASE NOTE:

The Feast Day of the Ascension of Our Lord will be celebrated on Sunday, May 17th (not on Thursday, May 14th as noted erroneously on some calendars).

ALTAR FLOWERS:

In Honor of the Mothers of St. Mary's, requested by the Women's Club

PLEASE PRAY:

For our ill or shut-in parish family members:

Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, Peg Cicirelli, Kathy Hansinger, Donald Hartman, Margie Hayden, Kim Katula, Kathy Mallet, Ron Pyle, Mary Stevens.

For those serving in the military:

Flora Dontsap, Rafael Soriano, Joshua Graf, Chris Rosado, Devin Pisani, and Joyce Jankielsztajn.

Current Notices

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament next month
will be on June 5th and 6th.**

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH:

The Parish Life Committee is hosting a Mother's Day Brunch this Sunday, May 10th, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers of St. Mary's!

COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP:

Coffee and Donuts Fellowship will be held on May 17th, sponsored by Barbara Barton, and on May 31, the sponsors will be Johanna and Hugo Rodriguez.

CROWNING OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER:

The annual May Crowning of Mary as the Mother of Jesus and Queen of Heaven, will take place at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 10. The month of May is dedicated to Mary, who was given to us by Jesus to be our spiritual mother, and the crowning ceremony is a fitting tribute to her role in salvation history. She is the model of faith and trust who continues to intercede for us with her Son. *Hail Mary, full of grace!*

HOLY LAND CRAFT SALE:

The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem are Olive Wood Artisans who emigrated to the United States from the Holy Land. They will be at St. Mary's on Mother's Day (May 10) to offer for sale their hand-carved olive wood religious items during the Parish Life Mother's Day Brunch.

Please take a moment after Mass to visit their display and consider purchasing a hand-crafted item for yourself or as a meaningful gift. Your purchase directly supports these families and helps sustain Christian presence in the land of Jesus' birth, where many are struggling due to conflict and limited economic opportunities. Your support makes a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ in The Holy Land.

WOMEN'S CLUB:

The Women's Club would like to thank our parishioners, the neighbors and friends of our parishioners, and the neighbors of St. Mary's for donating and buying items to make our Rummage Sale a success. We are very grateful to you for your support.

ALTAR SERVERS:

St. Mary's is in need of altar servers. Training will be provided and the schedule is flexible. Interested youth must have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Good standing adults are required to be Virtus-trained before attending training. For more information, please contact Johanna Arocho at 757-287-6852 or j8arocho@gmail.com.

HAITI STUDENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM:

The current school year has ended and the children of Mt. Carmel School in Dosele, Haiti, send their deep gratitude to those who supported our Haiti Student Sponsorship Program. As we begin the new sponsorship year of 2026-2027, the Haiti Committee once again seeks your support. A \$100.00 donation funds one Haitian student for one year. Your generosity is greatly needed because last year we helped only 95 students, whereas the year before we helped 167 students. Currently there are 200 students, so please be generous. Make out your check to St. Mary's with the notation "Haiti Student Sponsorship."

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION
OF ADULTS (OCIA):**

Interested in becoming a Catholic?

Curious about what the Church teaches?

OCIA is ideal for:

- Anyone who has never been baptized.
- Anyone moving from other Christian traditions into the Catholic Church.
- Any baptized Catholic seeking full initiation into the Sacraments.
- Catholics who have been away from the Church and would like to rediscover their Catholic faith.

It is not too late to join the OCIA classes. We welcome anyone to join at any time. Classes are held every other Thursday in the Social Hall, beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact GERALYN BRYNE through the Parish Office.

RESPECT LIFE:

The Respect Life Committee will host Hope for Life, a sidewalk counseling group, on Sunday, May 17 after Mass and Sunday Fellowship. The group will describe their work and how to get involved. The event is open to all parishioners. If you have any questions, please reach out to Respect Life Chair Whitney Lothamer at: RespectLife.StMarys@gmail.com.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The Tuesday morning class is studying “**Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,**” (started April 14th). This 10-week study is a personal and fresh look at Jesus – who He is and what He is really like. It is an encounter with Christ that will inspire you. Classes meet in the Social Hall at 11:15 a.m. (after Mass and the Rosary).

The **Tuesday evening** class is continuing their study of “What Do We Really Know About Angels?” This class meets in the Social Hall at 6:30 p.m.

The **Sunday evening** class is continuing their study of The Catechism in a Year by Ascension Press. These classes meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Sign-ups are available online or in the vestibule. You are welcome to join any study at any time (even if you didn’t sign up beforehand)! Materials for all the studies will be provided.

Ongoing Events

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Adoration begins after Mass on the First Friday of each month and ends on the following Saturday after Benediction at 9:30 a.m.

PLEASE JOIN US TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY:

Weekdays, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Weekends on: Saturdays at 4:20 p.m.

Sundays at 7:20 and 9:20 a.m.

SALVATION ARMY PARISH OUTREACH:

Please donate pantry items and place them in the bin in the vestibule as often as possible. Much help is needed. Contact Paul Fletcher for questions, fletcherpaul@gmail.com.

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St. Mary’s has gifted all parishioners with a free subscription to the many resources of the Augustine Institute’s FORMED website. Simply go to www.stmarysuffolk.org and push the Formed link under St. Mary’s name in the parish listings. You will then have access to hundreds of videos, Bible studies, movies, programs, children’s content, books, etc.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

St. Mary’s Music Ministry is open to all parishioners aged 16 and older. Bi-weekly practice is on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays beginning at 6:00 p.m. for *Schola*, 6:30 p.m. for *Traditional Choir*. *Schola* is a small vocal ensemble familiar with Latin Chant. This ensemble sings at the Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass. The Traditional Choir sings at the Saturday 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) Mass and at the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass. For more information about participating in the Music Ministry, contact Julie Francis, at 757-539-5732 or cre@stmarysuffolk.org.

Meetings

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Bible Studies take place on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday mornings at 11:15 a.m., and Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP: Alternate Sundays

FINANCE COUNCIL: Meets on 4th Sunday of the month at 11:15 a.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Meet on 1st and 3rd Monday at 7:00 p.m.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All parishioners are invited to attend.

RESPECT LIFE: Meets on 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

WOMEN’S CLUB: Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except June, July, and August) at 6:30 p.m.

MEDITATION:

Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. (John 14:21)

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus gave His disciples two clear commandments. First, after having washed their feet, He told them to “wash one another’s feet” (John 13:14). Then He commanded them, “Love one another” (13:34). Now, in today’s Gospel, He says that whoever observes these commands to wash feet and show love is “the one who loves” Him (14:21).

What a surprising combination! We can be so used to labeling, categorizing, and compartmentalizing aspects of our lives: our work life, our home life, our spiritual life, and the like. But Jesus is telling us that two seemingly unrelated areas belong together and depend on each other: loving Him and loving one another. We can’t love Him, He says, if we are not caring for the people around us. To say that we love the Lord while we are holding someone in contempt or harboring hatred against someone is to miss the point of His Gospel message. It’s to miss the point of His cross.

This is a challenging message, but it’s also good news. The idea of loving Jesus—the eternal Son of God who dwells in unapproachable glory—can seem overwhelming. How can we who are sinners ever love such a being? But Jesus assures us that it’s easier than we might think: “Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine,” He says, “you did for me” (Matthew 25:40). Every time we show love, mercy, compassion, or generosity to someone, we are showing it to Jesus. No act or gesture is too small. Jesus receives it as if it were given directly to Him. Because, in a very real sense, it is!

Do you want to observe Jesus’ commandments? And do you want to love Him more fully? The answer may be as close as the person sitting across the dinner table from you or the person down the street who needs a helping hand. “Jesus, help me to love You *more deeply by loving others more faithfully.*” (Printed with Permission from *Word Among Us*)

FATHER’S CORNER:

When our time on earth is over,

Money and material things won’t matter.

But the love, time, and kindness we gave to others,

Will shine on and live forever.



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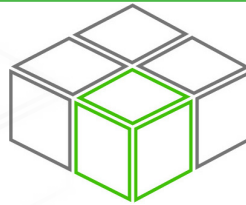
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St. Mary's
Women's Club

Meets 3rd Wed. (Sept.-May)

7:00pm – Social Hall

Doors open at 6:30
for refreshments

<https://smwcsuffolk.weebly.com>

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