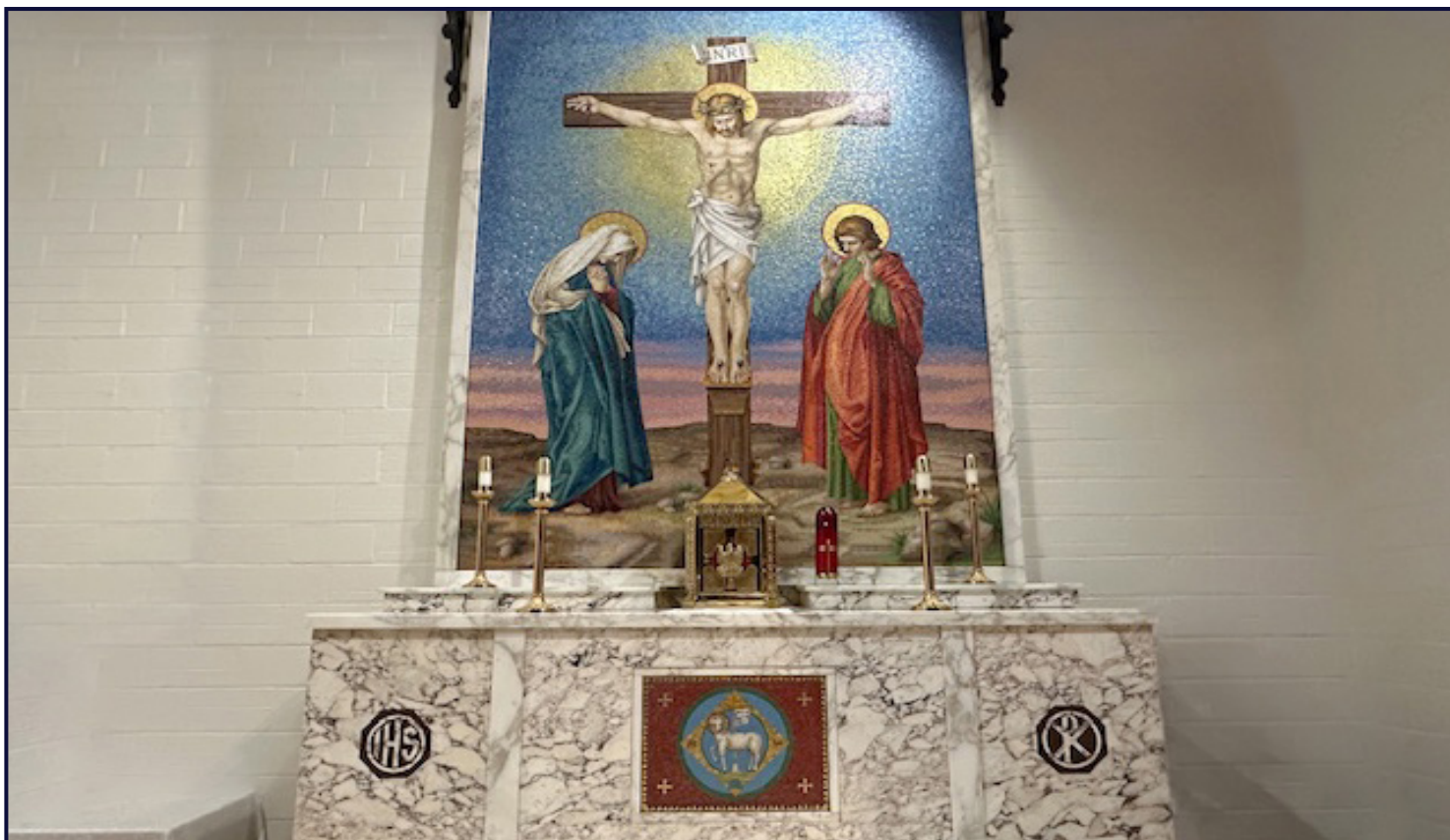




St. Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church

202 South Broad Street, Suffolk, Virginia 23434

Office: (757) 539-5732 • Fax: (757) 538-0103

Email: office@stmarysuffolk.org • Website: www.stmarysuffolk.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday: Closed



Father Rogelio Largoza, *Pastor* / Emergency: (757) 925-0583 / Email: pastor@stmarysuffolk.org
Kim Holmes, *Administrative Assistant* / Office: Email: office@stmarysuffolk.org

Mass Times:

Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. (The 10:00 a.m. Mass is livestreamed)

Monthly on third Thursday of month, 1:00 p.m., at Lake Prince Woods

Reconciliation:

Saturday, 3:30 p.m. or by appointment

Sacrament of the Sick:

Sacrament of the Sick is offered on the 4th weekend of the month at all Masses.

Baptism:

Contact Whitney Lothamer at cre@stmarysuffolk.org to register for the parent Baptismal preparation class.

Marriage:

Contact the Parish Office six months prior to the wedding to learn about Engaged Encounter or Pre-Marital classes.

Religious Education:

Whitney Lothamer, cre@stmarysuffolk.org

Youth Ministry:

Jordan Graf, youth@stmarysuffolk.org

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Geralyn Bryne, Contact Parish Office.

Adult Faith Formation:

Jordan Graf, youth@stmarysuffolk.org

Church Ministries

(Contact the Parish Office if not otherwise noted):

Altar Servers: Johanna Arocho, j8arocho@gmail.com

Extraordinary Ministers: Dave Von Rump, dvonrump@aol.com

Lectors: Dave Von Rump, dvonrump@aol.com

Liturgical Music Director: Julie Francis

Liturgy Committee: Andrew Graf

Pastoral Care: Tillie Rivenbark, 757-934-1803

Sacristans: Andrew Graf

Additional Ministries:

Altar Flowers: Sandy Nance, 757-373-9928

Buildings and Grounds: Mike Bibbo, fs7363@vakofc.org

Communications:

Bulletin: Shirley Schneider, smofp.bulletin@gmail.com

Website: Mike Bibbo, fs7363@vakofc.org

Community Liaison: Paul Fletcher, fletcherpaul@gmail.com

Haiti: Paul Fletcher, fletcherpaul@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus: Patrick Kahoe, Contact Parish Office.

Parish Council Chair: JoAnn Farabaugh, Contact Parish Office

Parish Life: Lauren Kahoe, 540-408-8801

Elaine Reyes, Contact Parish Office

Respect Life:

Whitney Lothamer, 937-654-8398

Women's Club:

Cathy Van Wassen, Contact Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS**Saturday, August 22**

5:00 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary

Sunday, August 23

8:00 a.m. CANCELLED

10:00 a.m. CANCELLED

11:00 a.m. Mass at Sleepy Hole Park

Tuesday, August 25

6:30 a.m. In Reparation for the Sins against Life, Charity, and Chastity

10:00 a.m.

Wednesday August 26

10:00 a.m. For the Repose of the Soul of
Patrick McCarrier
requested by the McCarrier Family

Thursday, August 27

6:30 a.m. For the Clergy

10:00 a.m.

Friday, August 28

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 PRAY:

For our ill or shut-in parish family members:

Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, David Erwin, Kathy Hansinger, Donald Hartman, Margie Hayden, John Lee, Kathy Mallet, Helen Neal, Ron Pyle, Jim Ross, Mary Stevens, Romer Stone, Joe Wenzler.

For those serving in the military:

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

Current Notices

Please note: There will be no Adoration in September or October.

WEEKDAY MASS CANCELLATIONS:

Because Fr. Ongen will be on vacation in the Philippines, there will be no Weekday Mass from Tuesday, September 1st through Friday, October 2nd. Weekday Mass will resume the regular schedule on Tuesday, October 6th.

**ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC:**

Come join us on Sunday, August 23rd, for our Annual Mass and Picnic in the Park. Mass will start at 11:00 a.m., followed immediately by the Picnic at Noon. The event will take place at Sleepy Hole Park as usual. Please bring family and friends. All are welcome!

Please note: There will be no 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. Mass on the day of the Picnic.

NEW SOFTWARE FOR PARISH REGISTRATION:

The Diocese of Richmond has transitioned Parish Family Registration from ParishSoft to Camino Life. Please register at Camino Life to either become a member of St. Mary's parish or to access your family information. Go to the St. Mary of the Presentation website at stmarysuffolk.org to join Camino Life today.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

Registration for Kindergarten through Grade 8, and for the classes for the Sacrament of First Communion and First Penance began on August 1st. Sign up online or in the Parish Office with our new Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE) Whitney Lothamer. If you have any questions, email cre@stmarysuffolk.org, or call 757-539-5732.

CATECHISTS NEEDED:

Help our children encounter Jesus! St. Mary's is seeking Catechists for the upcoming year – September 2026 through May 2027. Classes for Grades PK-5 will be on Sundays from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Middle School classes will meet on Saturdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., immediately after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. For more information, contact Whitney Lothamer at 757-539-5732 or cre@stmarysuffolk.org.

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. **As of July 13th, 2026, we only have 58 sponsors for 114 students, so we need your help.** A \$100.00 donation funds one Haitian student for one year. Make out your check to St. Mary's with the notation "Haiti Student Sponsorship." Updated information and photos from Fr. Evenson are on the St. Mary's Haiti Page.

SALVATION ARMY OUTREACH MINISTRY:

On Thursday, July 23rd volunteers from St. Mary's prepared and served meals to 60 people at the Salvation Army Food Kitchen. St. Mary's parishioners also donated 247.9 lbs. to the Salvation Army Food Bank. Please continue to donate pantry items and place them in the bin in the vestibule as often as possible. Continuing help is needed. Contact Paul Fletcher for questions at fletcherdpaul@gmail.com.

SCAM ALERT!

No priest, parish staff member, or volunteer will **ever** contact you by email or text to ask you to purchase a gift card. Do **NOT** respond to these emails or texts; simply delete them and report them as scam. For more information on these scams, please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

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. Adults in good standing are required to be Virtus trained before attending training. For more information, please contact Johanna Arocho at 757-287-6852 or j8arocho@gmail.com.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The **Tuesday morning** class has begun a 20-week study on "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom." Classes meet at 11:15 a.m. (after Mass and the Rosary) in the Social Hall.

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.

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.

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.

FORMED.ORG:

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.

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 Mondays 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 (September through May) at 6:30 p.m.

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.

FATHER'S CORNER

*Sometimes you need to stop overthinking
and let go of doubts.*

*Trusting that life is quietly aligning things for you,
stay patient, keep faith.*

*And believe that everything will work out
at the right time.*

MEDITATION:

*I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder.
(Isaiah 22:22)*

You might wonder why today's reading from Isaiah is paired with today's Gospel recounting Peter's profession of Jesus as the Christ. It's because Isaiah's story of Eliakim becoming master of the palace in Jerusalem can help us understand the role that Jesus gave to Peter.

In ancient Israel, the "master of the palace" was the most important assistant to the king. Similar to a prime minister, he could rule the country in the king's absence. He had the keys to the palace, so he had the authority and ability to open and close doors that gave access to the king (Isaiah 22:22). He was also charged with playing the role of a "father" to the people of Jerusalem, protecting and guiding and leading them in the name of the king (22:21).

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives Peter the "keys to the kingdom of heaven" and makes him the "rock" upon which He would build His Church (Matthew 16:19, 18). By using the image of the keys, Jesus is making Peter the "master of the palace" in the Kingdom of God. As holder of the keys to the kingdom, Peter would have the authority to bind and loose—to open and close. As head of the apostles, he also would be, like Eliakim, a father to the Church—its firm foundation, leader, and guide. That's why we often call his successor, the pope, the "Holy Father"!

Jesus didn't leave us alone—as a Church or individually. He provided for the entire Church not only when He poured out the Holy Spirit on us but also when He made Peter and his successors the "rock." The pope is the keeper of the teachings of the Church and a minister of God's grace and mercy. He is also our father in faith, our guide, and our example. But most of all, he is a reflection of God's own fatherly care for us, His children.

"Father, thank you for providing for your Church—and me—through Peter and his successors." (Reprinted with permission from *Word Among Us*.)

PROTECT VIRGINIA 2026

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SEPT. 18 THRU NOV. 3



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**St. Mary's
Women's Club**
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7:00pm – Social Hall
Doors open at 6:30
for refreshments

<https://smwcsuffolk.weebly.com>
New members welcome

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