

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, fletchedpaul@gmail.com
Haiti: Paul Fletcher, fletchedpaul@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, October 3
5:00 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's

Sunday, October 4
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. In Honor of JoAnn and Paul Farabaugh's 50th Wedding Anniversary
In Memory of Mitchell Andrew Culp, requested by Moira Devlin Culp

Tuesday, October 6
6:30 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 7
10:00 a.m. For the Conversion of Sinners

Thursday, October 8
6:30 a.m. For the Clergy
10:00 a.m. In Memory of John Dowd, requested by Aggie Dowd

Friday, October 9
10:00 a.m. In Memory of Carlos Almonte, requested by Lucia Ulloa

Papal Intention for October:
For the mental health ministry, that it may be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

PLEASE NOTE:
Weekday Mass will resume on Tuesday, October 6.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

In Memory of Sue Von Rump, as requested by Dave Von Rump

PLEASE PRAY:

For our ill or shut-in parish family members:

Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, Erwin David, Kathy Hansinger, 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, Joshua Graf, Joyce Jankielsztajn, Jesse Morgan, Devin Pisani, Chris Rosado, and Rafael Soriano.

Current Notices

Please note: There will be no Adoration in October.

EXCITING NEWS FOR PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES:

Mike Bibbo and Rob Quinn spent a recent weekend constructing our new "Quiet Room" and Confessional, which you will see at the back of church. It is a job very well done, and we give enthusiastic and sincere thanks to both Mike and Rob. And now let's celebrate that parents finally have a place to take their little ones in addition to the Social Hall.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

We are thrilled to welcome back all of our students, catechists, and families for another wonderful year of growing together in faith, community, and friendship. If your family is already attending, thank you for your energy and dedication to making our weekly sessions so vibrant. For those who may have missed our kick-off weeks, it is not too late to join our community. For more information, please contact Whitney Lothamer at cre@stmarysuffolk.org.

Please Note: At the beginning of the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass, all children ages 3 through 1st Grade are invited to follow the catechist to the Social Hall for their own special reading of the Gospel. They will rejoin their families in church during the Offertory.

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Middle School students, Grades 6-8, will be meeting on the same night as Youth Group – that is, on alternate Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. For questions about Middle School classes, contact Whitney Lothamer at cre@suffolkva.us.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Classes for Youth Group typically meet every other Saturday. The full schedule can be found at stmarysuffolk.org. For questions regarding the Youth Group, contact Jordan Graf at youth@stmarysuffolk.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The **Tuesday morning** class continues a 20-week study of "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom." ***Please note:*** On Tuesday, October 6th, we will return to the 11:15 a.m. start time.

The **Tuesday evening** class continues a study of St. Paul's Letters to the Romans. 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 either study at any time (even if you didn't sign up beforehand)!*** *Materials for the studies will be provided.*



COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP:

Coffee and Donuts Fellowship will be held on October 4th, sponsored by Aland, Edlyne Diaz and family, and on October 18th, sponsored by Pamela Garcia.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE:

In honor of the 250th anniversary of our nation, Bishop Knestout invites the faithful of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond to join a pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on October 24, 2026, to entrust our country to the maternal care of Our Lady, Patroness of the Americas. For more information on this historic event and to register, please visit the Diocesan Office for Evangelization at https://evangelizerichmond.org/events/diocesan-pilgrimage-2/.

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.

HAITIAN DINNER FUNDRAISER:

Join the Haiti Committee for delicious Haitian cuisine and fellowship on October 24th at 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. Tickets are for Dine-in Only and are $15.00 for adults and $8.00 for children 12 and under. Purchase tickets from any Haiti Committee member and help to support our twinning parish.

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.

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.

Ongoing Events

EUCHARISTIC 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 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 the 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 the 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

A grateful heart sees beauty everywhere.
It values every lesson, cherishes every blessing,
And finds joy even in the smallest moments of life.

MEDITATION:

Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones. (Matthew 21:36)

As we consider today's Gospel, we might be struck by the extravagant patience of the landowner. He carefully prepares a vineyard and leases it to tenants to cultivate the crops. But at harvest time, the tenants refuse to give him the produce. The first servants he sends to collect the crops are beaten and killed. A second wave of servants are treated the same way. And finally, when the landowner sends his son, the tenants kill him in an attempt to seize the vineyard for themselves! What more could he have done?

The landowner's actions certainly don't seem like the best way to run a business. But they do help us understand the loving perseverance of our heavenly Father. He holds nothing back in his attempts to bring His people back to Himself. His love is relentless!

We can see this relentless love again in today's first reading. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah, God depicts Israel as a "vineyard" (5:7). He speaks about tenderly cultivating and preparing the land so that his people could produce a bountiful "crop" of righteousness (5:2). And when they produced only "wild grapes," He sent Isaiah to call them back to Him. Then, over time, He sent Jeremiah and Ezekiel and more and more prophets to speak His word to them. No matter what happened, the Lord never gave up on them.

God never gives up on us, either. He cares for us even when we ignore him, even when we reject him, even when we are not fruitful. He is always extending mercy to us and giving us another chance. So welcome Him in today. Let His love sweep you off your feet. Let it inspire you to respond with faith and trust to His invitation to return.

"Lord, help me to love You and bear fruit for You and Your kingdom."
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Celebrating Life's Treasured Memories

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
New members welcome

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