

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 16**

5:00 p.m. In Memory of Betty Dempsey,
requested by RoseAnne Hoover
In Honor of the Peter Schmidt Family,
requested by Aggie Dowd

Sunday, May 17

8:00 a.m. In Memory of Ian Glennon,
requested by the Sweet Family
10:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's

Tuesday, May 19

6:30 a.m. In Reparation for the Sins against Life,
Charity, and Chastity
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 20

10:00 a.m. In Memory of Eileen Kennedy,
requested by RoseAnne Hoover

Thursday, May 21

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

Friday, May 22

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

*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.*

**COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP:**

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

WEEKDAY MASS NEEDS:

St. Mary's is in need of substitute sacristans, servers, and readers at the 10:00 a.m. weekday Mass, who will cover these ministries when the current ministers are ill or on vacation. Training will be provided. Please contact Aggie Dowd, 603-475-1874 or ags7171@gmail.com.

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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The Tuesday morning class is studying "**Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.**" This 10-week study is a personal and fresh look at Jesus – who He is and what He is really like. 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.

Signups 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.

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 Parishioners of St. Mary's, anonymous

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.**

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.

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.

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: Meets 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

St. Mary's Music Ministry is open to all parishioners age 16 and older. Biweekly 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:

*Strength doesn't come from what you can do.
It comes from overcoming the things
You once thought you couldn't do.*

MEDITATION:

Ephesians 1:17-23

May ... God ... give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. (Ephesians 1:17)

Today, on The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we ponder Jesus' victory over death and the grave. We lift our hearts to imagine Jesus as He "mounts his throne amid shouts of joy," and takes His seat at His Father's right hand in glory. (Psalm 47:6) And what better way to lift up our hearts than by recalling the truths proclaimed in today's first reading!

Jesus is seated at God's right hand "in the heavens." (Ephesians 1:20) The right hand has traditionally been a position of royal power and influence. *Jesus, You rule over the universe from Your throne of divine glory!*

He is "far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion." (1:21) There is nothing or no one more powerful than Jesus. He is over everyone and everything. *Lord, nothing surpasses You; You have the final word!*

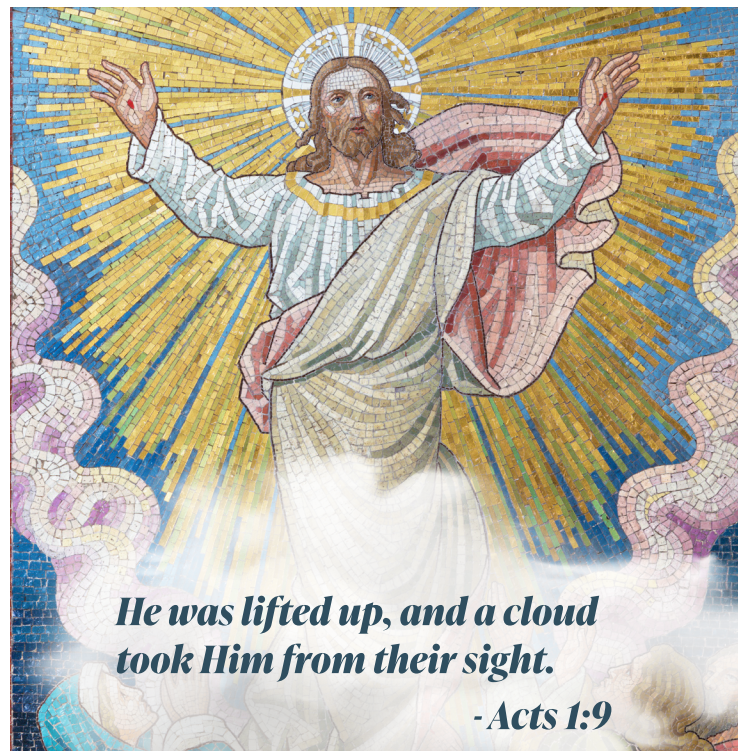
All things have been placed "beneath his feet." (1:22) Everything—even sin and death—has been subjected to Him. *Jesus, You have defeated every power that stands against You. And You have made us sharers in that victory!*

He has been given to the Church as "head over all things." (1:22) He is the supreme authority over all believers. *Jesus, You uphold, confirm, and defend Your Church at all times! It's Your power that keeps us going!*

He "fills all things in every way." (1:23) His presence fills every part of the universe. He is never absent from us. *Jesus, You are forever present to us throughout all space and time!*

What do we do with this glorious knowledge? We can imitate The Disciples, who stood gazing at the heavens as they saw Jesus lifted up. (Acts 1:11) And we can follow His command in today's Gospel: "Go ... and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19) *Jesus, help me to see your ascended glory. May it move me to proclaim you to the world!*

(Reprinted with permission from *Word Among Us*)



*He was lifted up, and a cloud
took Him from their sight.*

- Acts 1:9



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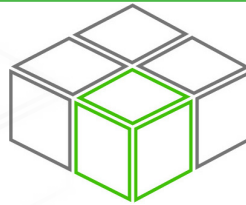
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