



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 the Parish Office 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: Jorge & 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, fletcherdpaul@gmail.com

Haiti: Paul Fletcher, fletcherdpaul@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, July 18**

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

Sunday, July 19

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. In Memory of Frank A. Koch,
requested by John and Julia Koch
In Memory of Colette Kingsepp,
requested by Aggie Dowd

Tuesday, July 21,

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

10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 22

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

Thursday, July 23

6:30 a.m. For the Clergy

10:00 a.m.

Friday, July 24

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.*

ALTAR FLOWERS:

In Honor of the Parishioners of St. Mary's, Anonymous

PLEASE PRAY:*For our ill or shut-in parish family members:*

Ali Anderson, Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, David Erwin, Kathy
Hansinger, Donald Hartman, Margie Hayden, Kim Katula, Kathy
Mallet, Helen Neal, Ron Pyle, Jim Ross, 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 August 7th and 8th.**

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP:**

Coffee and Donuts Fellowship will be held
on July 26, sponsored by Matt Streeter and
family.

BROWN BAG BINGO IS BACK!

The Women's Club invites you to an evening of fellowship, prizes,
and laughs at Brown Bag Bingo on Friday, July 24th at 7:00 p.m.
Play for a chance to win! Refreshments will be provided. Doors
open at 6:45 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS:

Hey, Middle Schoolers! Join us for a day of Epic
Fun! Epic is a one-day high energy event for middle
school youth that builds community and friendships
and encourages zeal for the Catholic faith.

When: August 8, 2026

Where: Powhattan, VA

Time: 11:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Registration: \$55.00. Transportation will be provided.

The sign-up sheet is in the vestibule, or you may contact Whitney at
cre@stmarysuffolk.org.

**RESPECT LIFE:**

Please don't forget that **Summer Nights Out** at Cazadores
Restaurant will continue on August 14-15. Mention St. Mary's
between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. and 10% of your bill will be donated to
St. Mary's Respect Life Committee.

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.

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
Geraldyn Bryne through the Parish Office.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The **Tuesday morning** class will resume on Tuesday, August 11th with 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.

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 continue to 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 at fletcherdpaul@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: 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 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**

Never give up because life gets difficult.

Every challenge teaches something valuable.

Keep moving forward with courage and faith.

Your strength grows through every obstacle.

And better days are always ahead.

MEDITATION:

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed. (Matthew 13:31)

In his parables, Jesus often made use of familiar, everyday objects to capture His listeners' imagination and help them see God's work from a new perspective. In today's Gospel, He uses a tiny mustard seed to illustrate the surprising nature of God's kingdom. "It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches'" (Matthew 13:32). Great things, Jesus is saying, can come from small beginnings.

We see this principle play out in the history of the Church. From their hiding place in the Upper Room, Jesus' disciples took the message of His Resurrection to the whole world. Through the power of the Spirit and the preaching of those first apostles, the Church grew—and continues to grow—in phenomenal ways.

Sometimes, though, God's work may have such tiny, unimpressive beginnings and grow so slowly that we barely notice it. This tends to be true in our spiritual lives, too. That kind of growth is often hidden, like the yeast that the woman put into "three measures" of flour (Matthew 13:33). We may not see dramatic signs of Christian maturity in ourselves or our loved ones right away. On the contrary, it can be easy to spot the "weeds" in our lives and our world that seem to take root and grow so quickly. And that can be discouraging!

That's why Jesus encourages us to remember the mustard seed. He wants us to trust in the goodness of the seed of faith He has placed within us and in His Church. He wants us to keep looking for the green shoots of His kingdom. And He wants us to keep asking for the grace to nurture their growth in ourselves and the people around us.

So don't worry! God's work often starts off small and slow. He is faithful, and His seed will bear fruit!

"Lord Jesus, thank You that Your grace is always at work. Help me to see it." (Reprinted with permission from *Word Among Us*.)



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for refreshments

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