



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, 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, September 12**5:00 p.m. In Memory of Amanda Legrand,
requested by Kathy and Frank Legrand**Sunday, September 13**8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 a.m.**Papal Intention for September:** For the care of water; for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.**Please note: Weekend Masses will be offered as usual during Fr. Ongen's vacation, but there will be no weekday Masses from September 1 through October 2nd. 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.***PLEASE PRAY:***For our ill or shut-in parish family members:*

Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, Erwin David, 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:Registration for Kindergarten through Grade 12, and for the Sacraments of First Communion, First Penance and Confirmation 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.**YOUTH MINISTRY:**

All High School teens, Grades 9 through 12, are encouraged to join Youth Ministry. Join us for our Kickoff event on Saturday, September 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

There will be games, food, and fun! 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.**MIDDLE SCHOOL:**Middle School students, Grades 6-8, will be meeting on the same night as Youth Group – alternate Saturdays – and are encouraged to attend the Youth Ministry's Kickoff event on Saturday, September 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. For questions about Middle School classes, contact Whitney Lothamer at cre@suffolkva.us.**ADULT FAITH FORMATION:**The **Tuesday morning** class continues a 20-week study of "Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom." **Please note:** During September, the Tuesday morning Bible Study will begin at 10 a.m. and on Tuesday, October 6th will return to the 11:15 a.m. start time.The **Tuesday evening** class will begin a study of St. Paul's Letters to the Romans on September 15th. 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 all the studies will be provided.**CATHOLIC DAY AT BUSCH GARDENS:**Join others from the Richmond Diocese on Saturday, October 3rd, for Catholic Day at Busch Gardens. The day will consist of fun, fellowship, an optional catered dinner, and a Sunday Vigil Mass. For more information or to register, go to: evangelizerichmond.org/events/virginia-catholic-day-at-busch-gardens-5/.**COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP:**

Coffee and Donut Fellowship will be held on September 20, sponsored by Andrew and Kara Graf and their family.

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



Ladies of St. Mary's

Join us as we kick off the beginning of a new year at the Women's Club with a Tea Party on Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

You're invited to wear your fascinator or hat and bring a favorite tea cup to use (not required, but it sure would add to the fun!). **Hope to see you there!**

MUSIC MINISTRY:

St. Mary's Music Ministry is open to all parishioners aged 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 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. The Traditional Choir sings at the Saturday 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) Mass and at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. For more information about participating in the Music Ministry, contact: Julie Francis, at 757-539-5732 or cre@stmarysuffolk.org.

FATHER'S CORNER

When life seems unfair:

It feels okay to wonder why

Some are born with comfort,

While others must fight for what they need.

But poverty is not a sign that God has forgotten you.

And wealth is not proof of greater worth.

Your beginning may be hard,

but it does not define your value,

Or how your story ends.

MEDITATION:

Remember your last days, set enmity aside. (Sirach 28:6)

You've probably heard it said that no one on their deathbed wishes that they had spent more time at work. No, they wish for more time with their loved ones or one more chance to reconcile with an estranged friend. So considering Sirach's sobering words from today's first reading, do you think that anyone on their deathbed would wish they had held just a few more grudges? Or that they had just one more chance to prove themselves right or someone else wrong? Of course not!

That's why this reading resonates with us: remember your last days; turn from enmity, anger, and faultfinding. Knowing that God has forgiven us should move us to be more forgiving toward one another. But when we refuse to show mercy, when we hold onto anger or vengeance, we are closing our eyes to the mercy God has shown us. The truth is, compared to the heavenly glory that God offers us, our grudges and resentments can appear as quite petty. So let's not nourish them. Let's not hang onto unforgiveness.

Sirach's warning may remind you of what the master in today's Gospel parable tells his unforgiving servant: "Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" (Matthew 18:33). Jesus instructs us to mirror God's mercy and forgive one another not just seven times but "seventy-seven times" (18:22). In other words, without limit.

These are strong words. But if they make you feel discouraged, know that Jesus stands ready to give you the strength to forgive. He can release you from habits of resentment. He is offering you a life free from the negativity that brings you down. So turn to him today, and ask for his grace to open your heart in compassion. Receive his mercy, and go and show it to the people around you.

"Jesus, help me to forgive my brothers and sisters from the heart!"
(Reprinted with permission from *Word Among Us*.)



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7:00pm – Social Hall

**Doors open at 6:30
for refreshments**

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