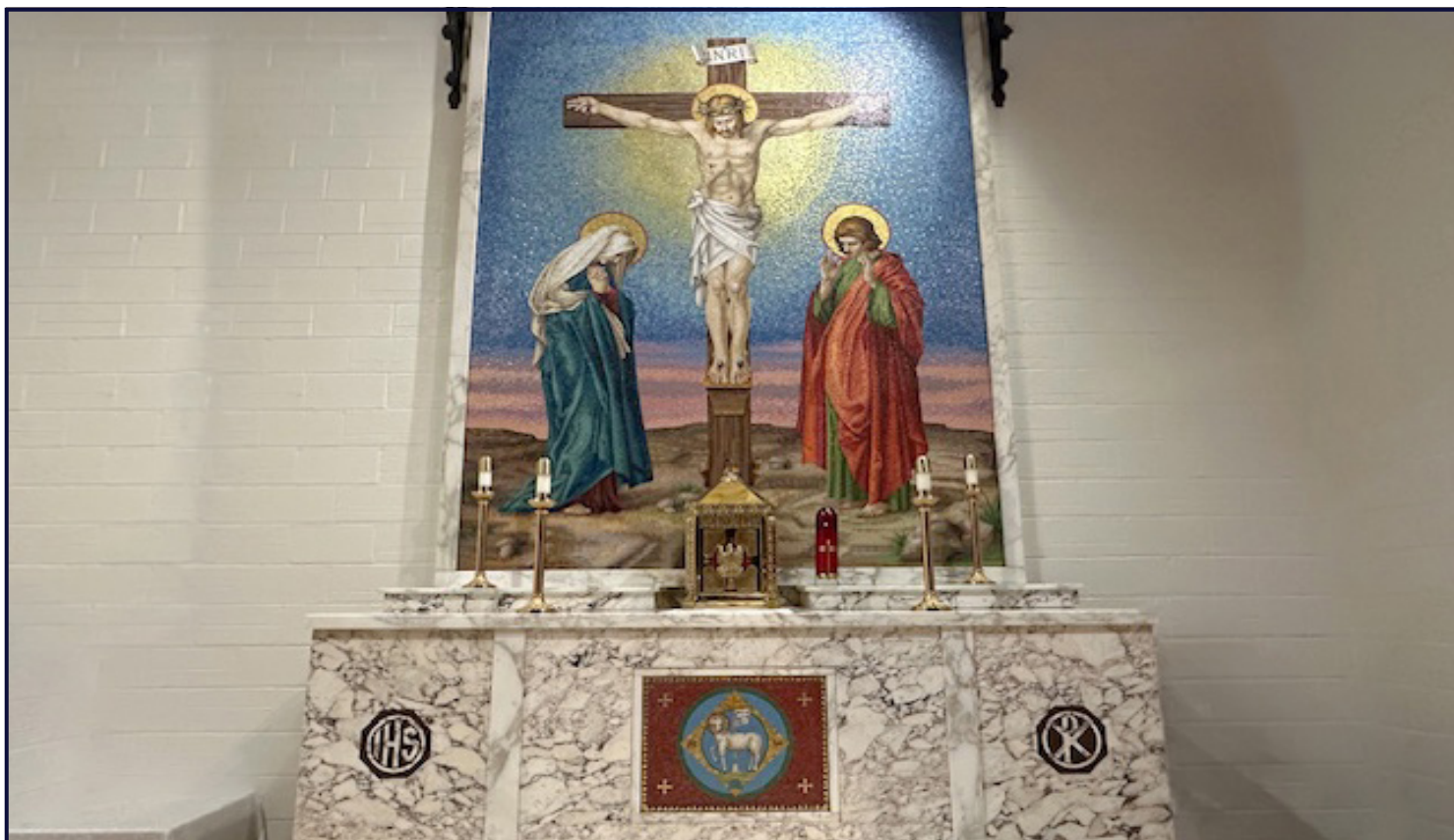




St. Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church

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 11**

5:00 p.m. In Memory of Bob Taylor,
requested by Shirley Taylor
In Memory of Alberta and Bob Slattery,
requested by Aggie Dowd

Sunday, July 12

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 a.m. In Memory of Dennis McCutcheon,
requested by John and Julia Koch

Tuesday, July 14

6:30 a.m. For the Conversion of Sinners
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 15

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

Thursday, July 16

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

Friday, July 17

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.*

ALTAR FLOWERS:

In Memory of Bob Taylor, requested by Shirley Taylor

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

Ali Anderson, Jay Annas, Mary Barnes, Kathy Hansinger, Donald Hartman, Margie Hayden, Kim Katula, Kathy Mallet, Helen Neal, Ron Pyle, Jim Ross, and 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 12, sponsored by Patrick and Lauren Kahoe, and on July 26, sponsored by Matt Streeter and family.

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.

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 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.

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 j8archo@gmail.com.

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.

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 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.

**FATHER'S CORNER****The Line**

*As I stood in the line, I couldn't help but wonder
how many people were ahead of me.*

*Was it ten, twenty, or a hundred?
I strained my neck to see the front,
but the line vanished into the fog.*

*A gentle voice beside me spoke,
"You can't see the end, can you?"*

*I turned to a kind-eyed stranger. "No," I replied.
"I have no idea how long I'll wait."*

*The stranger smiled. "That's the beauty of it.
We don't know when our time will come.
But we can choose how we wait."*

*As we chatted, I realized that the line was a metaphor
for life itself. We can't skip forward or leave;
we can only make the most of our wait.*

*I looked around and saw people staring at
their phones, missing the world around them.
I saw others anxious, worried about the wait.*

*But the stranger and I decided to make our wait count.
We shared stories, laughed, and exchanged numbers.
We promised to stay in touch and support each other.*

*As I continued waiting, I applied the stranger's wisdom
to my life. I prioritized what mattered,
cherished loved ones and spread kindness.*

*One day, I realized that the line wasn't just about waiting;
it was about living. Every moment counted, and every
interaction was an opportunity to make a difference.*

*When my time finally came, I felt prepared. I had lived
without regrets, and my heart was full.*

*As I stepped forward, the stranger's smile appeared in
my mind. I knew that no matter where life took me next,
I would carry the lessons of the line with me.*

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.

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.

MEDITATION:

*My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)*



When it rains in Germany, many parents tell their children, "You're not made of sugar!" It is a humorous way of encouraging them to go outside in spite of the bad weather. In other countries, people say, "At least the crops are happy!" As today's first reading suggests, rain and snow help to make soil "fertile and fruitful," and everything that grows from the earth benefits as well (Isaiah 55:10). In that passage, God compares the effect that the rain and snow have on the soil with the work that His word has on our lives: it "shall do my will" and "[achieve] the end for which I sent it" (55:11).

The Israelites who first heard this prophecy would have heard God's reassurance that they would truly be brought back from exile and restored to their homeland. As we hear this word today, we can also receive God's assurance that His word in Scripture can have a good effect on our lives and lead us to our true home.

As water touches soil, it softens the ground and enables seeds to sprout and roots to deepen. So, too, God's word softens our hearts. Where we might harbor prideful or bitter thoughts, His word opens our eyes to the depth of His love and enables us to let go of those attitudes that hold us back.

Similarly, snow adds to the soil a layer of protection from the extreme cold. And as it melts, it provides a gentle, deep watering for the earth. Likewise, God's word protects us, even in the most impossible or difficult circumstances, and it establishes us in the truth that He is faithful and trustworthy. Most of all, as it penetrates the deepest places of our heart, His word accomplishes what it set out to do. So ponder God's word today and every day. Welcome it as the earth welcomes the rain and the snow! *"Lord, may Your word nourish and transform me today!"*

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