



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, fletcherpaul@gmail.com

Haiti: Paul Fletcher, fletcherpaul@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, August 15th:**

5:00 p.m. In Memory of Amanda Legrand,
requested by Frank & Kathy Legrand
For the Intentions of the Dowd Family,
requested by Aggie Dowd
In Memory of Joe Questore,
requested by Ann Questore

Sunday, August 16th:

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 18th:

6:30 a.m. For Souls in Purgatory
10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 19th:

10:00 a.m. For the Repose of the Soul of Patrick McCarrier
requested by Patrick and Colleen McCarrier

Thursday, August 20th:

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

Friday, August 21st:

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

*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, David Erwin, 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.**

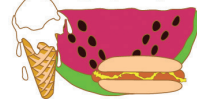
HAITI STUDENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM:

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.

As of July 13th, 2026, we only have 58 sponsors for 114 students, so we need your help. A \$100.00 donation funds one Haitian student for one year. Make out your check to St. Mary's with the notation "Haiti Student Sponsorship." Updated information and photos from Fr. Evenson are on the St. Mary's Haiti Page.

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.

PICNIC**ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC:**

Come join us on Sunday, August 23rd, for our Annual Mass and Picnic in the Park. Mass will start at 11:00 a.m., followed immediately by the Picnic at Noon. The event will take place at Sleepy Hole Park as usual. Please bring family and friends. All are welcome!

Please note: There will be no 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. Mass on the day of the Picnic.

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION:

Registration for Kindergarten through Grade 8, and for the classes for the Sacrament of First Communion and First Penance 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.

CATECHISTS NEEDED:

Help our Children Encounter Jesus! St. Mary's is seeking Catechists for the upcoming year, September 2026 through May 2027. Classes for Grades PK-5 will be on Sundays from 11:15 a.m. to 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.

SALVATION ARMY OUTREACH MINISTRY:

On Thursday, July 23rd, volunteers from St. Mary's prepared and served meals to 60 people at the Salvation Army Food Kitchen.

St. Mary's parishioners also donated 247.9 lbs. to the Salvation Army Food Bank. Please continue to donate pantry items and place them in the bin in the vestibule as often as possible. Continuing help is needed. Contact Paul Fletcher with questions at fletcherdpaul@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.

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.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

The **Tuesday morning** class began 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.

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.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

St. Mary's Music Ministry is open to all parishioners ages 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.

PROTECT VIRGINIA 2026



Catholic Diocese
OF Richmond

ProtectVirginia2026.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 Mondays 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.



FATHER'S CORNER

*Sometimes you need to stop overthinking and let go of doubts.
Trusting that life is quietly aligning things for you,
stay patient, keep faith.
And believe that everything will work out in the right time.*

MEDITATION:

Great is your faith! (Matthew 15:28)

Only once in Matthew's Gospel did Jesus characterize someone as having *great faith*. It wasn't Peter, who professed Jesus as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). Nor was it Joseph, who obeyed an angel and took Mary as his wife (1:24). No, Jesus reserved this term for an unnamed gentile woman who wouldn't take no for an answer.

Jesus was in the territory of Tyre and Sidon when he met this woman. These cities, located south of modern-day Beirut, Lebanon, were the foremost Mediterranean seaports at the time. Evidently, the news of Jesus' miracles had traveled far beyond the borders of Israel, because this Canaanite mother was determined to approach Jesus personally on behalf of her tormented daughter.

This mother's strong faith stands in stark contrast to the inflexibility of the scribes and Pharisees. They had interrogated Jesus and His disciples about the fact that they didn't wash their hands before eating (Matthew 15:2). They had standards that Jesus had to meet before they would believe.

Conversely, the Canaanite woman was eager to believe. She was hoping that Jesus would be accommodating toward her despite her religious status. Even when He initially rebuked her, she persisted. Rather than being offended, she remained open. She believed He had the power and the willingness to work a miracle. As a result, she, a Gentile, experienced His love and power: her daughter "was healed from that hour" (Matthew 15:28).

This woman's trust endeared her to Jesus—and to readers of Matthew's Gospel ever since. Just as Jesus commended her faith, He welcomes all of us when we come to Him with humble faith. He wants to shower His healing and "mercy upon all" (Romans 11:32). So if you hesitate to bring your needs to Jesus—or to return to the sacraments after time away—let this mother's faith strengthen yours! "*Jesus, I believe in you!*"

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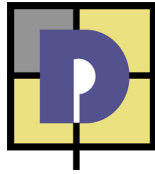
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for refreshments**

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