

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 2

5:00 p.m. In Memory of Joe Questore,
requested by Ann Questore
In Honor of the Matthew Dowd Family,
requested by Aggie Dowd

Sunday, May 3

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 a.m. In Memory of Mitchell Andrew Culp,
requested by Moira Devlin Culp

Tuesday, May 5

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

Wednesday, May 6

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

Thursday, May 7

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

Friday, May 8

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 9757-539-5732 to request a
Mass for your special intention.*

CROWNING OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER:

The annual May Crowning of Mary as the Mother of Jesus and Queen of Heaven, will take place at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 10. The month of May is dedicated to Mary, who was given to us by Jesus to be our spiritual mother, and the crowning ceremony is a fitting tribute to her role in salvation history. She is the model of faith and trust who continues to intercede for us with her Son. *Hail Mary, full of grace!*

YOUTH GROUP:

The final Youth Group class will be held on Saturday, May 2, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. **All** High School students are welcome to join! Dinner will be provided. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jordan Graf at youth@stmarysuffolk.org.

ANNUAL YOUTH DINNER:

The Annual Youth Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. following Mass in the Social Hall. Join our youth for a game of *The Price is Right* and enjoy Tacos for dinner. Tickets can be purchased from any Youth Group member following weekend Masses.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SEMINAR:

St. Mary's Knight of Columbus Council 7363 is sponsoring a seminar this week on May 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. The seminar is entitled, "How You Can Align Your Finances With Your Faith." This instructive event on personal finances is open to the parish, and everyone is warmly invited to attend. There will be wine tasting and appetizers, so come, learn, and socialize! Please RSVP to Patrick Kahoe at pkahoe@outlook.com by May 5th.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

In Honor of Sue Von Rump, requested by Dave Von Rump

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**

COFFEE AND DONUTS FELLOWSHIP:

Coffee and Donuts Fellowship will be held on May 3rd, sponsored by Wilfredo, Marisela Medina, and Family. The sponsor for May 17 is Barbara Barton, and on May 31, the sponsors will be Johanna and Hugo Rodriguez.

CELEBRATION OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Eight children will be receiving their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3rd at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. They are as follows: Denver Augustin, Christian Brown, Samuel Diaz, Liam Rojo, Mia Rosado, Francesco Smith, Kasen Viar, and Atticus Whitley. Our parish is praying for all of you.

HOLY LAND CRAFT SALE:

The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem are Olive Wood Artisans who emigrated to the United States from the Holy Land. They will be at St. Mary's on Mother's Day (May 10) to offer for sale their hand-carved olive wood religious items during the Parish Life Mother's Day Brunch. Please take a moment after Mass to visit their display and consider purchasing a hand-crafted item for yourself or as a meaningful gift. Your purchase directly supports these families and helps sustain Christian presence in the land of Jesus' birth, where many are struggling due to conflict and limited economic opportunities. Your support makes a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ in The Holy Land.

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."

You're Invited! Meet & Greet with Hope 4 Life May 17th after Mass

Learn what Hope 4 Life Offers

- ✓ Free Pregnancy Tests
- ✓ Baby Supplies
- ✓ Mobile Ultrasounds
- ✓ Counseling

Learn how you can help

- ✓ Increase awareness in your community
- ✓ Volunteer / Share resources



Join us on Sunday, May 17th

- ✓ Fellowship Sunday after 10AM Mass
- ✓ Parish Social Hall

Questions? Contact respectlife.stmarys@gmail.com
or Whitney Lothamer or any Respect Life Committee
Member

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.

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 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:

FORMED® 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:
*Life is an incredible journey.
 Learn from the past,
 look forward to the future,
 be grateful for today.
 No one is promised tomorrow,
 so try to live every moment to the fullest.*

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 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 aged 16 and older. Bi-weekly 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 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

MEDITATION:

... so that where I am you also may be. (John 14:3)

The time had come. Jesus was about to leave His disciples to endure the passion of the Cross. He knew that His imminent departure, as well as the path that lay before Him, would be upsetting to them. So He reassured them: this would not be a permanent separation. In fact, He was preparing a place for them in His Father's house and would "come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be" (John 14:3).

And He was true to His word! After His Crucifixion, the disciples did indeed see Jesus, risen from the dead and victorious over sin. And after His ascension, His Spirit did come to them to console and guide them as they traveled far and wide to preach the good news. And now, they have taken up eternal residence in one of the many glorious dwelling places that Jesus has prepared for them. Jesus' words "Where I am you also may be" (John 14:3) can be reassuring for us as well. He promises to be with each of us always. He dwells in us through Baptism. He comes to us under the appearance of bread and wine in the Eucharist. He is with us through His Holy Spirit. And He is preparing a dwelling place for us, too, in His Father's house.

This is the good news: Jesus is always present to you—both now and forever in eternity. Whatever trials you may experience, you never have to feel alone or abandoned. You can call on Him for His guidance, His wisdom, and His mercy at any moment of the day or night.

So "do not let your hearts be troubled" (John 14:1). The One who died and rose for you will never let you go. Even when you can't sense His presence, know that He is with you. He is interceding for you with the Father. Even now, He is preparing a dwelling place for you, a place so wonderful that it's beyond anything you could ever imagine!

"Jesus, I praise you for your constant presence in my life!" (Printed with permission from *Word Among Us*)



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Women's Club

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7:00pm – Social Hall

Doors open at 6:30
for refreshments

<https://smwcsuffolk.weebly.com>

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Meetings:

1st & 3rd Monday at 7:00 P.M.
Fr. Tommy Nee Social Hall
Contact a Brother Knight for More
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