

Time to Start Again



Thanks be to God, it is Spring! However, don't get too excited. As we all know, here in Maine the spring thaw is a slow, tedious and protracted process. It will actually get warm sometime in June. The same will be true of our regathering from one year of pandemic restrictions. This will also be a slow process, but, just like Spring, we know clearly where it is headed. We just need to be patient.

Saint Mary's will open our doors again to everyone on April 11. At that time, we will return to the protocols and schedule that we used in the Autumn. Our Sunday schedule will be 8, 9:30 and 10:30 AM. Our 9:30 gathering will be a very simple Family Eucharist in the Auditorium. As for procedures, sign-in when you enter the Sanctuary, clean your hands, wear a mask, maintain 6 feet of distance from those not in your household, clean your seat when you enter, and please stay home if you are not feeling well. Our primary Eucharist on the Lord's Day (10:30 AM) will continue to be livestreamed, so those who are unwell or who are not yet ready to gather can still participate in our worship.

A new addition will be the group singing of one hymn at the end of the liturgy. Many of our choir members and regular parishioners have been vaccinated, and group singing is an extremely important part of our heritage, one that has been dearly missed by many. Everyone in attendance will be given the option of staying to sing the hymn or else departing early to avoid this. This is intended to be a compromise position while we wait for more restrictions to be lifted.

How can you help in our regathering process? If you have not already done so, please sign up to receive your COVID-19 vaccine. It is important to all of us that as many people as possible are vaccinated. Even if you yourself are skeptical, consider this to be one small act of love toward your neighbors. The sooner a majority is vaccinated and immunized, the sooner we can put this particular coronavirus behind us.

Just like the earth beneath our feet, Saint Mary's will slowly thaw out from a year of restrictions. God willing, by September life will begin to resemble what we knew before. God help us all to have just a little more patience with the slow process!

Nathan W. Ferrell +



Alleluia! Christ has Risen! Celebrate the journey to Resurrection!

Holy Week & Pascha 2021 at Saint Mary's

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28

9:30: OUTDOORS Blessing of the Palms and Procession
 10 - 12: Those not attending in person may pick up Palms and Hot Cross buns
 10:30: The Passion Eucharist – limited in-person or on [Facebook live](#)

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

12 Noon: Holy Week Prayers in the Fr. James Chapel [on Facebook live](#)

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

11:00 Diocesan Virtual Prayer Service led by Bishop Brown, on the [Dio YouTube channel](#)

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Noon: Maundy Thursday Eucharist – [on Facebook live](#)

6:00: INTERACTIVE Agapé meal - on ZOOM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Noon: Good Fridays Prayers - [on Facebook live](#)

6:00: Good Friday Liturgy – limited in-person or [on Facebook live](#)

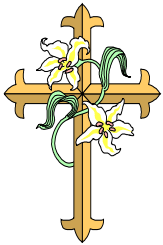
HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

9AM - 2PM: Holy Saturday Blood Drive in the Auditorium

Noon: Holy Saturday Prayers – [on Facebook live](#)

THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION: PASCHA: EASTER DAY, APRIL 4

9:30: OUTDOORS Mini-Celebration & Easter Egg Hunt
 8:00 & 10:30: Joyful Easter Eucharist – 10:30 limited in-person [or online](#)



Maundy Thursday AGAPE SUPPER at 6 PM

Interactive and virtual on ZOOM

Come together to experience our Agape Supper while remaining in the safety and comfort of your home. This year our Maundy Thursday tradition will take place on ZOOM with all of the prayers and readings that accompany the meal.

This Supper kicks off the Triduum – the Three Days – that ends on Resurrection Sunday. This is the pinnacle of our remembrance of Christ and his Passover – the Pascha – from death into life. This is why the meal includes some aspects of a traditional Passover, although it is not intended to replicate a Seder meal. It is an adaptation to help us remember the Last Supper, and it includes the following food items:

Chicken rice soup (this is the night when Jesus said to Peter, “before the rooster crows three times, you will deny me”)

Dried fruits and nuts

Cheese cubes or slices

Bread (preferably pita or some other flatbread)

Red wine or grape juice (the fruit of the vine)

Everyone is invited to have this supper ready at home when we gather on ZOOM at 6 PM. Alternatively, for those who will find this challenging, Saint Mary's is preparing Agape Suppers To-Go! In order to prepare the right amount, please sign-up to receive your meal(s) by calling Beth in the Parish Office, clicking of the graphic to the right or by using this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81061358823?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81061358823?pwd=VjJhL1I0RUlBcFRiVnhBV3F3L0xPd09)
[pwd=VjJhL1I0RUlBcFRiVnhBV3F3L0xPd09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81061358823?pwd=VjJhL1I0RUlBcFRiVnhBV3F3L0xPd09)



Maundy Thursday

From Deacon Christine:

shared by Deacon Christine Bennett

In the Gospel of John, there is a post-Resurrection story we don't often hear but which I find especially moving. Seven of the disciples have left Jerusalem together. They have seen Jesus in the house where they were staying. He has shown them his wounds and have spoken to them so they know He is risen. Still, they seem to be unsure about what to do next. There is no plan. Jesus is no longer there to tell them where to go and what they should do to carry on. I can imagine how let down they might have felt. They had traveled with Him; they had eaten together and sat at Jesus' feet listening to Him and learning from Him the vision God has for the world. Now he has left them, and they are lost.

As they reach the sea of Tiberius, they feel at home. They are fisherman after all, so Peter returns to what he knows and says to the others, "I am going fishing." The physical labor of hauling nets with his friends feels good. Doing something they understand brings a little normalcy back to their lives. They cast their nets but catch nothing. Then Jesus appears on the beach and tells them to cast their net on the other side of the boat. When they do, the net is filled with large fish. They are astonished by the large catch and by another appearance of Jesus there where they never expected to see him. There is a charcoal fire burning, and fish are cooking. There is bread, and Jesus invites them to eat with Him. They must have felt such joy to be with Him on the shore in that familiar place sharing food together as they had done so many times before. Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter answers yes, but Jesus asks the question again two more times. "Do you love me?" Peter had denied Jesus three times. Now Peter is redeemed by proclaiming his love for Jesus three times. In response, Jesus gives them all the instruction they need. Then three times he tells them, "Feed my sheep." Now they know what their mission is. Now they know what Jesus asks of them as He ascends to the Father.

"Feed my sheep," Jesus says to us. It is as simple as that and as challenging as that. If we love the Risen Christ, we must care for those He loved. We are charged with caring for each other and for those who long for fullness of life in Christ. The disciples saw Jesus, ate with Him, and traveled with Him. They saw the healings and had first-hand knowledge of His Crucifixion and Resurrection. We have the Gospels to read and the opportunity to respond to the messages that are there. Amen for us. May Easter be alive in you every day, and may you find joy in the knowledge that Christ died and rose for us. Amen.



Vestry Highlights from the Wardens

by Janet Bowne

The Vestry met on March 17, 2021 via zoom. Father Nathan led a teaching moment on Saint Patrick.

Treasurer Ben Parks-Stamm presented the financial results through February. We continue to manage our expenses well, and our parishioners are giving generously. Several parishioners caught up on their 2020 pledges in January and February. Other parishioners have paid their 2021 pledge in full. We also continue to see strong revenue from the amazing Sparkles team.

As we reopen, we will have a mini-campaign to capture pledge intentions from those who haven't yet pledged.

We are beginning a vestry liaison program by assigning a guild or committee to each vestry member. The vestry member will check in with the committee heads to understand any issues or concerns they may have about their committee/guild.

Nathan Ferrell: Care Team; Be Still; Wisdom Seekers

Janet Bowne: Altar Guild; Stewardship, Flower Delivery

Aaron Splint: Outreach

Ben Parks-Stamm: Budget & Finance

Darren Clark: Building and Grounds, Christian Formation (when it resumes)

Stan Eaton: Eucharistic Ministers

Rudy Israel: Prayer Partners

Jan Wentling: Altar Flower Guild, Kneeler Guild

Rick Hirschman: Music Ministry (Choir)

Thom Pettingill: Red Cross blood drives

Will Salomon: Churchyard

Tom LaPlante: Ushers & Acolytes

Pat Peard: Memorial Reception & Hospitality

Ex officio Clerk Jan Mordarski: Sparkles

We are having daily conversations about the process of reopening for in person worship. We realize that emerging from a pandemic will take time and will also require offering a variety of options to reflect the changing risk calculations for our parishioners. Our reopening will be similar to the way we ended our in person services last fall. Beginning on April 11th we will continue with online streaming options and offer in person services allowing 40 attendees at 8 am and 10:30 am. At 9:30 we will have a service in the auditorium for 20 people. We will all need to mask and distance from one another.

We are also trying to determine how and when to restart our Guiding RAY program. Given the current vaccination plan, it most likely will restart in September. We are committed to rebuilding this valuable program and look to our parents to offer their thoughts on program design.



SPARKLE IN SPRING 2021

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
APRIL 16-17, 9AM - 1PM

AND ON-LINE www.saintmarysparkles.org



Join us for safe in-person shopping. We'll have lots to choose from, but will be focusing on

- ♦ Spring and Summer Jewelry and Fashion Accessories
- ♦ Home Decorations, Linens (News and Vintage)
- ♦ Crafting Items for Sewers, Knitters, and Other Crafters
- ♦ Furniture and Household Items
- ♦ Books: Fiction and NonFiction

Please leave any donations in the Guild Room on the back table,
and plan to join us for shopping both days!

Also, we need help setting up for the Fair during the days before, April 12-15. Please check your calendar, and let us know if you could spare a few hours.

Our website, saintmarysparkles.org,
and our Facebook page, facebook.com/saintmarysparkles
will continue to operate 24/7; share it, with friends and family.

Questions? Contact Jana Burke (272-4535) call or text, or jana.burke@gmail.com.



Although there will not be a formal Book Sale in 2021, and we are not accepting any more books, there will be a GREAT selection of Fiction and Nonfiction books at the Sparkles Spring Event on April 16 and 17 from 9am - 1pm. Tell your friends!

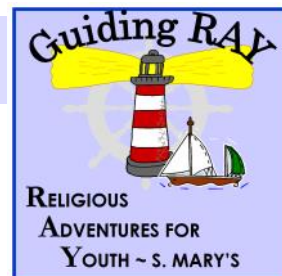


LIFE OF JESUS BRACELET

SPARKLES has a small supply of "Life of Jesus" stretch bracelets, that we would like to offer before Easter. These colorful bracelets were made by the children of Saint Mary's, and each bead depicts an event in the life of Christ. They're a perfect gift for Easter or First Communion. Please see the basket on the kitchen counter and leave a (suggested) donation of \$5.00 in the Honor Box.

Christian Formation

Guiding RAY is our ministry to all young people infant to 14. We offer our children an opportunity to learn Bible stories and to develop their relationship with God. Our hope is to guide them to the safe harbor of God's everlasting love where they can grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Illustrated Resurrection Set

Create your own set of the resurrection story. You can color and set it up at home. This is great for all ages. Just click on the picture or title here to download and print. Leave it up for all of the Great Fifty Days!

PALM SUNDAY OUTDOOR PROCESSION! March 28 at 9:30

Thirty minutes to bless the palms, sing and march around to welcome King Jesus into our community. Ending with hot cross buns to go!

RESURRECTION SUNDAY EASTER EGG HUNT! April 4 at 9:30

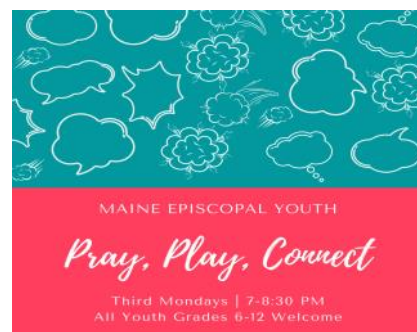
Thirty minutes to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection outside, followed by a giant egg hunt on our campus and flowers to take home!



Though Ignite is not meeting in person, through the Diocese there are opportunities for your middle & high schoolers to deepen connections with God and each other.

PRAY, PLAY, CONNECT: Monday 19 April, 7 - 8:30 PM - online meeting

Click <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81625716888> to join! FMI, reach out to Pastor Sara D'Angio White, Canon for Youth Ministry, Episcopal Diocese of Maine, at sdangiowhite@gmail.com or call or text (585) 749-9125



Prescription Drug Safety: Keep Teens Safe and Waterways Clean

Tip of the Month



Properly dispose your unwanted or expired prescriptions/pet medications in a Drug Disposal Box at your local law enforcement agency

Track and lock up prescriptions and pet medications to prevent accidental poisonings or theft

Never share prescriptions – taking someone else's medication is dangerous





Grateful Days Pledge Challenge

The Resurrection is a time for all of us to feel grateful for God sending his only son to be with us and teach us the way of love. This year we have so many reasons to count our blessings. Now that we are seeing the potential for a return to a more normal existence, we can take a moment to reflect on the last year. No one had a playbook for how to survive a modern pandemic. How would we continue to celebrate the goodness of God and the gift of life, honor the presence of Christ in one another, and serve the world in the power of the Holy Spirit which so much sickness, uncertainty and darkness?



Thanks to each of you and our talented staff, we were able to continue in new, different and effective ways.

As we return to some level of pre-COVID life, we have some challenges. We need to rebuild our Guiding RAY Program, Ignite Middle School Youth Group and our children's music program. We need your help. If you weren't able to make a pledge intention for 2021 during our pledge campaign, it's not too late and your support will help us support our young families, the future of Saint Mary's! Help us celebrate these grateful days after the Resurrection and as we come out of the pandemic by increasing the number of pledging households to 150, an increase of 35. Here's the link to make a secure online pledge: [confidential pledge form](#). Or click the above red heart to download a pledge form.

Of Quarks, Charmed Particles, Higgs Bosons and the Cross

shared by Merle Marie Troeger

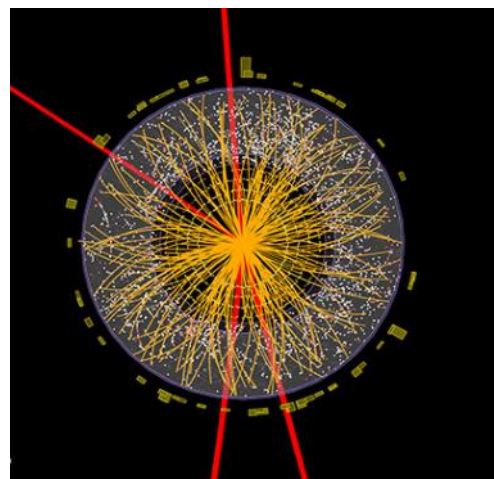
When I learned in Stephen Hawking's book *A Brief History of Time* that theoretical physicists had hypothesized and named quarks and charmed particles, I was, well, charmed. I found out too that quarks have "flavors." It turned out that physicists had a sense of humor as well as brilliance.

Several years ago scientists detected the Higgs boson, a particle that had been theorized for decades. It happened in the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland. The event was exciting for physicists but caught the attention of non-science majors too. Underneath it all, I think, is a sense of relief. We loved the Higgs boson because we could now be assured that the universe is orderly and elegant and, perhaps most importantly, predictable.

If only that were true in our own lives. The Higgs boson does not explain why suffering, grief and radical evil abound. It is an old problem, of course. Theodicy is the name for the problem; if God is good, why is there affliction? The Stoics said that suffering just "is." The Gnostics regarded the world and matter as evil. The Zoroastrians posited a cosmic struggle between Good and Evil.

Christians point to the cross. That is the place where Jesus experienced, in all his humanity, human anguish. It is where the Disciple Whom Jesus Loved and Mary the Mother of Jesus stood. It is a place most Christians look upon from a distance, like the rest of the disciples. Yet Christians understand that the mystery and paradox of the cross present us with a God who is not immune to human suffering but joins us there when the diagnosis is bad, the house has been shelled, the clean water runs out, the pain is unbearable. Rather than explain suffering, the cross stands for God with us in suffering.

Perhaps it's a long way from the Higgs boson to the cross. Today they seem to go together. (I've just read the newspaper on line.) Christians sometimes use the word "salvation" when they talk about the cross. For some, that has to do with life after death. For others it has to do with forgiveness of sin. For some, it has to do with the Christ's cosmic return. For me, today, salvation is knowing we are not going it alone. God is with us. And that is entirely predictable. Emmanuel. Hallelujah!



Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

The Faces of Stigma – The Recovery Community by Jennifer Gregg

“A Meaningful Human Connection Creates the Pathway to Recovery”

Saint Mary's had the honor of welcoming three of Portland's leaders in the field of Substance Use Disorder and Recovery on March 21 to speak to how Stigma manifests itself on the Recovery Community and how we in the community can consider responding.

Oliver Bradeen, the newly-minted Executive Director of Milestone, Sarah Coupe, the Founder and Director of Grace House for Women, and Margo Walsh, Founder and Owner of MaineWorks, spoke movingly about the nature of Substance Use Disorder and the societal challenges to successful recovery. Recovery from this “despair disease” must be grounded first in “self care”—the understanding that one is more than a statistic, a realization that despite one's disease and mistakes, one is a human being worthy of love and a dignified life. Forgiving and loving oneself is made all the harder in a society that either does not see or turns away. And women, we learned, can face even greater barriers due to societal roles for family care and rearing at which they are judged for having failed while in the grips of their disease. Yet only once one can again love oneself can one move forward and “get back to living.”

The Recovery Community depends on all of us to help build a culture of support and presence by recognizing the humanity of all and, in so doing, providing the sense of dignity and purpose that is so vital to us all. This requires *intentional engagement* at all levels—from learning more about Substance Use Disorder to advocating for those dealing with Substance Use Disorder to offering those suffering a kind smile or word as we pass by on a sidewalk. Even such a simple acknowledgment of humanity will create a pathway to recovery.

“By demonstrating your unwavering support for people struggling to recover, you are actually living the message of the church as I understand it. Thank you, Saint Mary's, for taking it to the streets in this lovely and direct way.” ~ Margo Walsh, Founder and Owner, MaineWorks



TWO times to get outside and do some good this Spring!

Coastal Clean Up at Mackworth Island: Sunday 18 April, 12 - 2 PM

Mackworth may seem pristine, but plenty of litter has washed up during the winter and our help is needed to pick up the cans, plastic and other debris that has washed ashore. Meet at the island at noon. Special parking will be designated for our clean-up crew. Bags will be provided. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves. Families are most welcome. Sponsored by the Outreach Committee. FMI, contact Bonny Rodden at 781-4978 or brodden1br@gmail.com.

Pine Grove Trail Clean Up: Sunday 2 May, 12 - 2PM

Pine Grove Preserve serves all of the neighborhood around Saint Mary's. Join Fr Nathan to clean up the trails after all of our winter storms. Bring gloves, limb cutters, a rake and a chainsaw - if you have one. We move branches and debris and repair trails. All are welcome! FMI, contact Fr Nathan, na-thanferrell@smary.org



CELEBRATE



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SERVE

Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and

Falmouth Food Pantry



The Falmouth Food Pantry continues to be unable to accept food donations from individuals, but rest assured the Pantry is busy serving our community using a doorstep delivery distribution system. Boxes of food are being packed at the Pantry and delivered by volunteers to area families. If you know a Falmouth family with an urgent need, please call Nancy Lightbody at the Pantry at 776-0081. At this time, the best way to support the Pantry is through monetary donations. Donations should be made payable to the Falmouth Food Pantry and mailed to: 271 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, ME 04105. Donations may also be made online via PayPal at: <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1807575>. If you have any questions about the ways in which Saint Mary's supports the Pantry, please feel free to reach out to Saint Mary's outreach coordinator for the pantry, Vanessa Record, at recordvanessa@gmail.com.



Parish 2021 Victory Gardens! Start Planning Now!

The Outreach Committee is joining forces with the Food Pantry again to assist in providing fresh food for local families who are nutritionally vulnerable this summer. Flowers are also a welcome contribution. *We invite all parishioners who have a corner or more of available land, or even a container, to grow fresh produce and/or flowers and donate part of their harvest to the Falmouth Food Pantry this up-coming growing season. A share of your harvest will mean the world to those for whom fresh vegetables are a very scarce and treasured commodity.* The Outreach Committee will organize regular pickup of your donated produce and flowers for delivery to the Food Pantry. Please let us know if you wish to participate in planting, donating and/or helping with transport to the Food Pantry by contacting Vanessa Record at recordvanessa@gmail.com.



VIRTUAL SPRINGTIME WALK

May 2021

Saint Mary's is joining with the Cumberland churches to support Habitat for Humanity in 2021! Throughout the month of May, individuals and families are invited to set goals for self-guide walks/hikes/runs for a cause! Choose your distance and fundraising goals for the month; register and seek sponsorships on-line for your effort! Prizes will be available for fundraising goals.

"Walk Bags" will be available with suggested walking and hiking (included pet friendly) trails in Falmouth, Yarmouth and Cumberland, as well as some snacks and a fun photo-scamenger hunt for our younger walkers/runners! All proceeds will go to building decent, energy- efficient homes--the current project is in Freeport. More info to come! To sign up as a fundraiser: charity.gofundme.com/springtimewalk2021

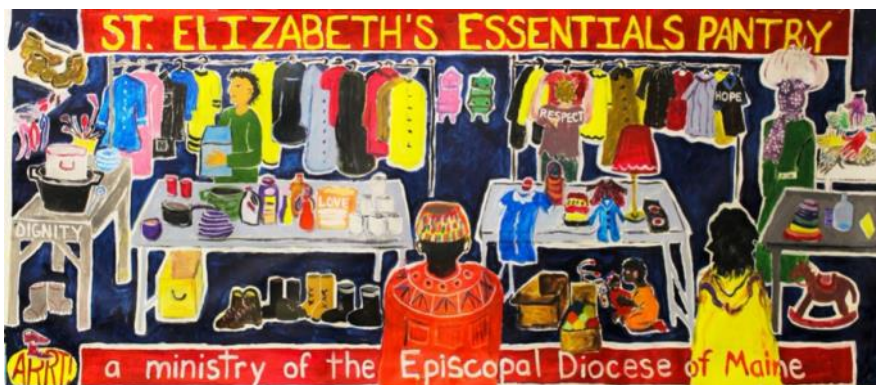
Right now, we are collecting individual packets of M&M's and Granola Bars for the Walk Bags. Please drop off in the designated basket in front of the Guild Room. FMI: Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com

[Click here for a Springtime Walk info](#)

[Click here for a Springtime Walk brochure](#)

Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

What is the St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center?



St. Elizabeth's is a low-barrier pantry serving non-food essentials to all those in need, including new Mainers and Mainers whose families have been here for generations.

Every Tuesday (8:30 - 11 am) at no charge, we provide basic, daily essentials that cannot be purchased with federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funds. Items are distributed at the rear of St. Luke's Cathedral, located at 134 Park Street, Portland, ME

We connect people with other resources in the community for needs such as housing, furniture, language acquisition, job search assistance, and other social needs. On average we serve nearly 185 individuals each week.

We are looking for 4-6 volunteers from Saint Mary's willing to work 2-4 hours per month to assist with this ministry. There are a variety of tasks, ranging from sorting, delivering materials to the Jubilee Center, assisting neighbors, and more. For more information, please contact Stan Eaton at stan.eaton@gmail.com.

Be Still on Monday Evenings

A Wonderful Way to Begin Your Week

During the last difficult year, "Be Still on Monday Evenings" moved from in-person gatherings in the Chapel to Zoom. Saint Marians have been joined by parishioners from St. Alban's Episcopal Church for this practice of Centering Prayer, finding it to be a vital cornerstone of support and growth throughout this period.

We meet on Mondays (via zoom) from 5-6pm. The zoom link is recurring and is also published in every Saint Mary's Weekly E-News; all parishioners are warmly invited to join whenever the Spirit moves.

The gathering begins with a Taize chant, followed by 20 minutes of silent prayer/meditation. We then listen to a short reading from scripture with time ascribed for silent contemplation, followed by time for response, as desired.

Setting aside an hour to be truly still with God may seem to be a luxury; those within this group have found it to be essential to our spiritual, emotional and physical well-being. Please know you will be welcome! FMI: Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com



Did You Know?

James Armistead Lafayette, spy, c 1748-c 1830

Armistead provided crucial intelligence that helped defeat the British and end the Revolutionary War. Originally a slave, he worked as a double agent under Lafayette, the French general who helped the American colonists fight for their freedom (Armistead added his surname to honor him). Virginia lawmakers, after lobbying by Lafayette, granted Armistead his freedom in 1787.

CELEBRATE

HONOR

SERVE

Souper Supper *To Go*: 2nd & 4th Fridays

Dining In remains temporarily suspended.

Soup, bread and a sweet treat will be *CURBSIDE TO GO* between 5 – 6 PM. ALL are welcome!



Support "Souper Supper" Buy "Coffee by Design" Coffee!

Medium to robust coffees: Casco Bay and Rebel Blend

"Coffee by Design" 12 oz. bags of ground fair-traded, organic, delicious coffees are on sale at Saint Mary's for \$10 a bag (Decaf is \$11). ...and support fair trade practices ...and a locally-owned business... and get GREAT organic coffee! Win! Win! Win!

Did You Know YOU Can Change Your Community?

Children in Maine need foster parents!
Now more than ever, children who identify as LGBTQ+ need safe and affirming homes.

In Maine;

- 1 in 5 youth self-identify as LGBTQ.
- The number one factor youth identified as a contributor to self-harming is bullying in response to issues of gender identity.



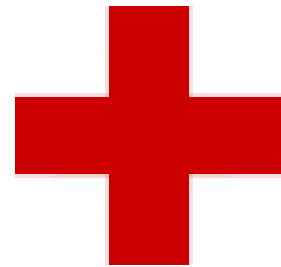
Minority & LGBTQ youth enter the foster care system at disproportionate rates that are not matched by resource families. These youth then try to manage grief, loss, and separation in an unfamiliar setting, with a family that may have a limited understanding of the unique challenges and risks they face.

Start Today!

Do you have knowledge, experience, and skills you can share with a child?
Are you thinking about starting a family?

Call: 1.844.893.6311

Visit: <https://afamilyformemaine.org/#getstarted>



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

Critical Need Blood Drive

April 3, 13, 27
9AM - 2PM

Sign-up today to be a blood donor and help give to those who need your blood to survive!

Go to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "StMary" to make your donor appointment.

Did You Know?

Amelia Boynton Robinson, civil rights icon, 1911-2015

Robinson was known as the "the matriarch of the voting rights movement." A shocking photo of her being beaten by White police officers during the Bloody Sunday march in 1965 in Selma, Alabama, horrified the nation and led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act. It also showed Robinson's true grit. As far back as the 1930s, she was registering Black voters in Alabama, an act that could have cost her her life. In 1964, she became the first African American woman to run for Congress in Alabama.

Music Ministry

Hello!

I wanted to introduce myself. My name is **Bethany Perkins Hall**, and you may have heard me singing on the Facebook Live services the past couple of weeks. In the fall, you'll see me regularly as the soprano section leader in the choir.

I am fortunate to be a music teacher for the Greely school district. I teach elementary music and middle school chorus and am finishing my fourth year there. Before that, I had a private piano and voice teaching studio and taught at private schools also, like Breakwater and Living Waters Christian. I music direct for Lyric Music Theater and other local theaters and perform with Opera Maine, Opera on Tap, and the Oratorio Chorale. I like to perform concerts upon occasion, like the one I arranged at Saint Mary's in 2019 to benefit Asylum Seekers.

My degree is in vocal performance from Gordon College, and I was fortunate enough to grow up in a highly musical family. My parents are both musicians and music directors, and my father runs Perkins Music House. I'm sure you will get to meet them sometime, and maybe even experience their talents. My mother started giving me her overflow of piano students when I was fifteen, and I started teaching for half price! It was a wonderful introduction into a lifelong passion. My two sisters are also teachers.

I have an unusually bittersweet story. When I was 21 and a senior in college, having just been accepted to a Masters of Opera program in Australia, I started having seizures and was diagnosed with a rare and inoperable but benign brain tumor. I was able to finish college, but my strength was exceptionally low, and I couldn't stand for long periods or continue in opera at that time. I continued to sing and perform as a part of concerts and special events, and as a soprano section leader at church, but for an overly ambitious young singer it was a big change. I relied on the love and strength of our Savior, as well as the love and strength of my family, while my physical strength was low for those years.

Over the past five years or so, my tumor has been shrinking! I rejoice every day in the strength I have in my body. Exercising has become a favorite pastime because I'm so enamored with being able to do it! I am blessed to be able to work full time and perform regularly! I genuinely enjoy teaching elementary and middle schoolers, and I have a silly nature as well as compassion and empathy that seem to make teaching a great fit for me.

I am also blessed to have a loving husband, Tim, and two stepsons, Charlie and Ben. We live in Gorham with our cats, Hootie, Nerdy and Bubbles, and our Puerto Rican rescue corgi-mix, Marty.

Thank you already for all the welcome I have received to your church. I am delighted to be singing with Bruce, whom I greatly admire, and your choir in your beautiful church. I can't wait to meet you all over the coming months.



Music during this Holy Season 2021



Bruce Fithian has posted an organ recital for Lent, playing our beautiful Casavant instrument. [CLICK THE ORGAN](#) The program begins with the first movement of a Double Violin Concerto arranged by J.S. Bach. Then, there are pieces particularly suited for this time of year: June Nixon's 'Chaconne for Good Friday,' a very beautiful and haunting 'Prelude on a Solemn Theme by Thomas Tallis' (the theme is the melody by Tallis from our hymn book, hymn # 692 'I heard the voice of Jesus, say' - also made famous by Ralph Vaughan Williams in his 'Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis'), and a sublime work by Dietrich Buxtehude, the Passacaglia in d minor.

The Saint Mary Schola will be offering a Lenten video as well. This program will include a beautiful trio sonata for two violins, cello and organ by Arcangelo Corelli (Michael Albert, Lauren Hasting Genova and Philip Carlsen), a setting of 'Salve Regina' (One of the famous

Marian antiphons: Hail, Holy Queen) by Marc Antoine Charpentier for two sopranos and alto (Christine Letcher, Erin Chenard, and Abra Mueller), and the 'Third Lesson of Tenebrae' for Maundy Thursday by François Couperin for two sopranos and organ (Jennifer Bates and Molly Harmon). Although we will not be able to meet together, we can enjoy the blessings of comforting music, thanks to technology and the very much appreciated assistance of Kue John Lor for filming, recording and editing.

KATAHDIN PILGRIMAGE: August 5 – 7

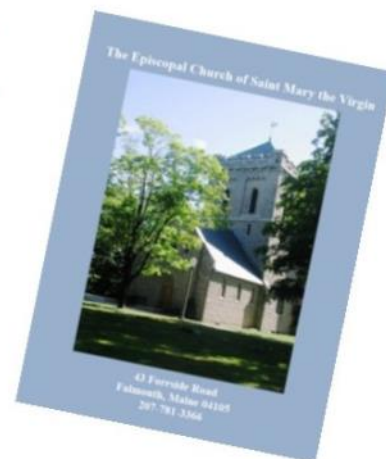


At least once in their life, every Mainer should stand at the summit of Baxter Peak on Katahdin, the zenith of Maine, if he or she is able. Join a small group for a summer-time adventure in amazing Baxter State Park. Two nights in lean-to's, with truly exceptional food provided by the Hirschmans. Space is limited, so speak with either Portia Hirschman, revportia1@msn.com or Jim Kane, 329-1764 or kanejbabson@gmail.com.

You're a part of Saint Mary's Family

Be a part of Saint Mary's next Pictorial Directory
Families!! Individuals!! Ministries!!

Planned for Spring 2021 and with our *Realm connection*, we will be doing this *in-house*, so no high-pressure photo salespeople! You download your own digital photo or contact the parish office for photo assistance (admin@smary.org or 781-3366 M-Th).



Help get us updated!



It's time to update your emails, phone numbers, addresses,
add family photos and any other information.
NOW you can do it yourself right here:

<https://onrealm.org/>

If you haven't opened your Realm account yet, we've sent a new invitation to the email we have for you. If you did not receive it on Thursday, March 25 contact the parish office (admin@smary.org or 781-3366 M-Th), and we'll send a direct invitation to join. Keep us updated and add your picture before the next directory is printed!

News, Notes, Kudos, Dates & Reminders

(Send your 1-3 line notes, announcements or thanks to Beth at admin@smay.org by the 20th of the previous month)

Thanks to Merle Marie & Becky and their helpers for leading yet another insightful Anti-Racism Zoom discussion group on the book, *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Thank you to the Sparkles team for their incredible effort to raise money for Saint Mary's. Their boundless energy, creativity and determination is impressive.

Thanks to the Outreach Committee and Jennifer Gregg for offering the last in a series of three presentations of Stigma in our communities. May we respond and open doors.

yay!

Thanks to Fr Nathan for leading the Immerse Bible discussion group of the New Testament. Much was learned and so many were please with the interpretation of the Bible.

Thanks to Janet Bowne for setting up appointments to get the audio system updated in the church.

To Betsy and Jim Stoddard for organizing Hot Cross Buns for Palm Sunday.

To the Souper Supper crew for feeding souls and hearts.

Welcome Vanessa Record to the Outreach Committee to serve as the coordinator for our ministry with the Falmouth Food Pantry.

Reverend Portia Hirschman for planning to celebrate with us while Father Nathan was with the Marines... until his trip was cancelled.

Thank you, Stan Eaton for agreeing to serve as Saint Mary's liaison with St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center.

Mark Stimson is turning 95 years old on April 4. The Portland Rotarians and the Board of the Salvation Army have invited members of Saint Mary's Church to participate in a Drive-by Flash Mob on Saturday, April 3 at 12 noon to wish him a Happy Birthday from the street. Meet at the head of Pilgrim Street in South Portland 5 minutes before 12noon. If unable to attend, but wish to have Becky Pride drop a card off on that day, please bring them to the Parish House by Friday, April 2.

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CELEBRATE



HONOR



SERVE

GROW IN GOD EVERYDAY

ONLINE WORSHIP (worship videos are available a day later on the website)

NOONDAY PRAYER: Monday – Friday 12noon on [Facebook Live](#)

SUNDAY HOLY EUCHARIST: Sundays at 10:30 AM on [Facebook Live](#)

BE STILL: CENTERING PRAYER: Mondays at 5 PM [online via ZOOM](#)

ONLINE SPIRITUAL FORMATION

BE STILL: Sundays at 9:30 AM [online via ZOOM](#)

A contemplative time of themed reflection on scripture passages or poems. Contact Jennifer Gregg at jenniferanngregg@gmail.com

WISDOM SEEKERS: Tuesdays at 10:30 AM [online via ZOOM](#). A group discussion of the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. A great way to learn and be prepared for worship. Contact Nadine Timberlake at ntimberlake@aol.com

MERTON GROUP: Thursdays at 3 PM [online via ZOOM](#). A small, spiritually diverse, inquisitive, tolerant, open-minded, and supportive group of "seekers" that each week pray, read aloud from a chosen book, reflect, question, and grow. FMI, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com



Here are some important dates in our
Saint Mary's parish family

Happy April Birthdays to:



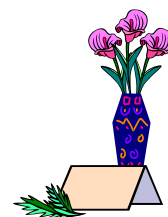
1	Lester Evans	16	Sara Fallon	
3	Piper Bickerstaff	16	Trey Fallon	
3	Chris McGonigle	16	Jacob LaPlante	
3	Tim McGonigle	17	Alexis Lindberg	23
4	Mark Stimson - 95 yo!	17	Ginny Stelk	23
7	Bexie Knowles	18	Cayman Bickerstaff	24
8	Alice Hendry - 98 yo!	19	George Kendall	24
8	Bennett Smith	19	Alex Barr	25
8	Jim Zimpritch	19	Connie Stimson	25
10	Rick Hirschman	20	Mallory Ianno	25
10	Richard Kourinos	21	Rebecca Nuzzi	27
13	Miss Ella Brown	22	Angelica Barrett	28
15	Alden Record	22	Katalina Echavarri	28
15	Jeannie Gulliver	22	Hannah Russell - 91 yo!	29
				Sarah Brown

We'd love to include good wishes on your birthday and anniversary. If we don't yet have the dates, please send your and your family's special dates into the parish office and we'll be sure to include them on your special month. admin@smary.org or call 781-3366 or drop a note to the church. Thanks!

Happy April Anniversary wishes to:



12	Nikki & Lester Evans	15	Julie & Harold Otte
12	Pam Peeler & Richard Casselman	19	Angelica & George Barrett
15	Meg & Charlie Hurdman	27	Elizabeth & Jack Heinzman



Caring for God's Creation - Insight from the Outreach Committee

Do you find yourself questioning what is recyclable and what is not? There's an app for that! Check out

<https://www.ecomaine.org/what-can-be-recycled/recyclopedia/>
to download on your smartphone (or print out the information!)

[ecomaine's free Recyclopedia - ecomaine](#)

Find out which bin to put things in and recycle right! Look up more than 1,300 recycling, composting, and trash items on ecomaine's Recyclopedia



Helping Hands at Home: Help for Parishioners

Saint Mary's seeks to be of assistance to parishioners who are confined during the Coronavirus crisis. Do you need help with grocery shopping? Are you able to help others with grocery shopping? Please contact Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com or Beth Shaw, admin@smary.org with your needs or offers of help.



Like many things during COVID times, this calendar is subject to change

<div>  <h1>April 2021</h1> <p>The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary</p> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3/28 Palm Sunday 9:30 Be Still 9:30 Palm Procession outdoors 10:30 Passion Eucharist In-person and on Facebook 7 12-step meeting in Aud	29 12 Noonday Prayer for Holy Week 4-7 CU rehearsals 5 Be Still	30 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 11 Holy Week Prayers with Bishop Brown 2 Staff meeting 4-5 CU rehearsals	31 12 Noonday Prayer for Holy Week 1-5 recording in Sanctuary 5-7 CU rehearsals	4/1 Maundy Thursday 12 Maundy Thursday liturgy on Fb 3 Merton Group 6 Agape Meal on ZOOM	4/2 Good Friday Office closed 12 Good Friday Prayers on Fb 6 Good Friday In-person and on Facebook	4/3 9-2 RedCross Blood Drive 12 Holy Saturday Prayers-Fb
4 Resurrection Sunday 8:00 Paschal Eucharist 9:30 Be Still 9:30 Outdoor Celebration & Egg Hunt 10:30 Paschal Eucharist In-person and on Facebook	5 12 Noonday Prayer 4-7 CU rehearsals 5 Be Still	6 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 4-5 CU rehearsals 5:00 ExCom	7 10-1 Weavers outside 12 Noonday Prayer 2 CARE & Prayer 5-7 CU rehearsals	8 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	9 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer 5-6 Souper Supper TO GO	10 
11 2nd Sunday of the Gr: 50 days 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Family Eucharist 9:30 Be Still on ZOOM 10:30 Holy Eucharist In-person and on Facebook 7 12-step meeting in Aud	12 12 Noonday Prayer 4-7 CU rehearsals 5 Be Still	13 9-2 Blood Drive 8:30-11 St. Elizabeth's 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 2 Staff meeting 4-5 CU rehearsals	14 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearsals	15 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	16 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer 9-1 Sparkle in Spring	17 9-1 Sparkle in Spring
18 3rd Sunday of the Gr: 50 days 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Family Eucharist 9:30 Be Still on ZOOM 10:30 Holy Eucharist In-person and on Facebook 7 12-step meeting in Aud	19 12 Noonday Prayer 4-7 CU rehearsals 5 Be Still 6 PCC board meeting	20 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 4-5 CU rehearsals May AVE deadline Public School	21 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearsals 6 Vestry meeting	22  12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	23 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer 5-6 Souper Supper TO GO	24 Fr Nathan - away for vacation - 4/22-26
25 4th Sunday of the Gr: 50 days 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Family Eucharist 9:30 Be Still on ZOOM 10:30 Holy Eucharist	26 St. Mark's Day 12 Noonday Prayer 4-7 CU rehearsals 5 Be Still	27 9-2 Blood Drive 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 2 Staff meeting 4-5 CU rehearsals	28 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearsals	29 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	30 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer	5/1 St. Philip & St. James

Lector schedule for the April (May) 2021.

Be sure to let Beth in the office know if you have switched dates with someone.
781-3366 or admin@smary.org

April 4 Betsy S
April 11 Jim S
April 18 Craig B
April 25 Linda E

May 2 Maggie G
May 9 Stan E
May 16 Will S
May 23 Ginny S
May 30 Andrea



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road
Falmouth, ME 04105
207-781-3366 www.smary.org

Our Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship

10:30 - Holy Eucharist - In person
and on Facebook Live

MONDAY - FRIDAY

12 Noonday Prayer
(on Facebook Live)



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF SAINT MARY

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road
Falmouth, Maine 04105
207-781-3366 / smary@smary.org
www.smary.org

The Rev. Nathan Ferrell, *Rector*
nathanferrell@smary.org

The Rev. Christine Bennett, *Deacon*
deacab@maine.rr.com

Bruce S. Fithian, *Organist*
bsfithian@aol.com

Beth Shaw, *Parish Manager*
admin@smary.org

Office Hours
MON - THU, 9 - 4:30

Copy deadline for May AVE: April. 20

YOUR 2021 SAINT MARY'S VESTRY

Nathan Ferrell, Rector, 310-0268, nathanferrell@smary.org

Janet Bowne, Sr. Warden, 318-7045, jmitchellbowne@gmail.com

Aaron Splint, Jr. Warden, 838-2708, asplint@yahoo.com

Ben Parks-Stamm, Treasurer, 458-3151, ben.parks.stamm@gmail.com

Darren Clark, 781-424-9905, ddclark@maine.rr.com

Stan Eaton, 317-6097, stan.eaton@gmail.com

Rick Hirschman, 310-3800, rrhirschman@msn.com

Rudy Israel, 917-923-9444, rfisrael@aol.com

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Pat Peard, 781-3710, peardpatricia@gmail.com

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