



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF SAINT MARY

AVE

Monthly Newsletter

What do we mean when we say "Church"?



May 23 is the celebration of Pentecost. This is often remembered as the birthday of the Church. But what do we mean when we use this word? What exactly is the Church?

To begin, let's be clear that we are not speaking of a building! The word translated as Church (*ekklesia* in Greek) is used 114 times in the New Testament and never does it refer to a building. *Ekklesia* means "called-out people," folks who are summoned out, an invited cohort of people, a gathered assembly. It doesn't matter WHERE they gather, but WHO is gathered and WHY. This group is God's gathered, equipped, and sent people, participating in God's reconciling mission made known in Christ and moved forward by the energy of the Holy Spirit.

Words matter. I know it is clumsy in our language, but one way to help correct the faulty focus on buildings is to be intentional about the words we choose. There are always consequences to the words we choose. And yes, we have full control over which words come out of our mouths.

On Sundays, instead of saying, "We are going to church," we can say, "We are going to meet with church" or "We are going to worship with church" or "It's time to go be with church." This can help shape our thinking from church as a place to church as a group of people.

But this word *Church* has an even more specific meaning in our Anglican and Episcopal tradition. To be precise, a Church is a diocesan community gathered around its Bishop. In our tradition, there is no Church without a Bishop. It was Ignatius of Antioch who wrote early in the second century that "Wherever the bishop is, there let the congregation be." A Bishop (*episkopos* in Greek, meaning overseer) IS the pastor and leader of a Church. Local clergy serve sub-groups of a Church that are themselves known as parishes, congregations, or missions. So there is in fact only one Episcopal Church in Maine, which is the entire diocese gathered around our Bishop Thomas Brown. Our official legal name recognizes this (the Parish of Saint Mary the Virgin), but over time we succumbed to prevailing cultural trends and took the name of "church" to ourselves.

What does it mean to you to be part of this special community called the Church here in Maine? What is your connection to Bishop Brown as your chief pastor? And what exactly is it that we are called out to do on a daily basis? Spend some time reflecting on these things as the celebration of Pentecost draws near, and give thanks for the privilege of being called out to be a participant in Christ's mission in this world.

Nathan W. Ferrell +

Destination: Bahrain

Friends, I have just received word that the Navy has selected me to be mobilized for 9 months to serve as Chaplain to our combined uniformed services at Isa Air Base in Bahrain. This mobilization will last from 12 November 2021 to 21 August 2022. Since receiving a commission in 2017, I have known that an overseas tour like this has been a possibility, and it is part of what all reservists do to defend our national and strategic interests around the world. Thankfully, we have 6 months to plan for this temporary transition, so watch for more information as the time draws near.

Thank you for your support of me as your parish priest and also as a Navy Chaplain, and for your ongoing support of my family.

Nathan W. Ferrell +



From Deacon Christine:

shared by Deacon Christine Bennett

Dear Ones,

We have been immersed in the joy of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. On May 23, our celebration will reach its peak with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus ascends to the Father, and as He promised, He has not left the nascent Church comfortless. Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to be our guide and advocate. It is because of the Holy Spirit's presence in us and with us that we can celebrate the birthday of the Church on the Feast of Pentecost.

As the story goes, the disciples experienced a great rush of wind as the Spirit became present to them and a tongue of flame appeared above each of their heads. We use the metaphors of wind and fire to describe the Holy Spirit, and I found myself wondering about that. We know the power of nature and experience it in the two elements of wind and fire. We see or have directly experienced the power of hurricane force winds or perhaps a tornado and we know the destructiveness of those winds and the devastating loss of life and property they can cause. These are not the soft spring breezes or cooling breaths of air on a summer day that we welcome but a power beyond our control. Fire too can be an out-of-control destructive power that is devastating when unleashed on acres of woodland, homes, and businesses.

It is difficult to imagine that there could be goodness or blessing in raging winds and fire, but in fact there is. To make a fine piece of jewelry, gold or silver must be melted at high temperatures and formed in the desired way and cooled to become a whole new thing of beauty. The fire of the Holy Spirit can refine us into a new being, taking away our weaknesses, doubts and flaws and refining us into the people God created us to be. In the same way the wind of the Holy Spirit, if we give ourselves over to it, will move us where we need to be and will fill us with the strength and power we need to stand for justice and for those who are in need. The doubts and fears will be blown away and we will stand strong to be Jesus' people in this storm-tossed world.

Join us for the birthday party! Wear red in honor of the Church's birthday and feel the Holy Spirit blow you where it will and fill your heart with the flame of gratitude and joy. Be prepared to be inspired to be a new creation for God prepared to learn and to do new things for God's people.

Faithfully, Deacon Christine



Photo Directory Time

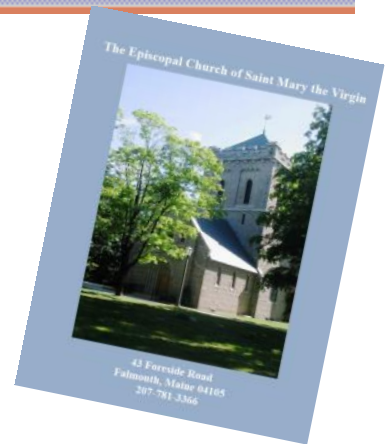
It is time for us to print a new pictorial directory! This directory will be available only to parishioners and is to be used only for communication purposes within our parish and our Church. It is an important community building tool.

But we need your photos! Each person and family can upload their own photos into Realm (<https://onrealm.org/>) by signing into your own Realm account. Please make sure that your photos are recent and of good quality. Realm is Saint Mary's database program and is how we stay updated and informed.

Alternatively, would you like a new photo taken for our new parish directory? Our own Peter Guyton has graciously agreed to take photos of parishioners and family members at our Parish House for your convenience on the following days:

Saturday and Sunday, June 5 & 6, 12 to 4 PM

Peter is a highly skilled photographer and shares his home in Falmouth with Penny and their boys, Chance and Boone. You can view some of his work on his website: <https://www.peterguyton.com/>. Each subject and group will get to pick their favorite image before departing the Parish House. A high-resolution digital will be emailed to you afterwards on request. Peter has agreed to offer this service to our parish pro bono. Donations will be collected, and all proceeds will go to Saint Mary's. Don't miss this great opportunity for a quality photo. Please contact Peter directly to schedule your free appointment and to ask any questions: 207-370-4692 or admin@peterguyton.com.



Regional Confirmation & Reception: 5 June at 10 AM

Bishop Brown will lay apostolic hands on all those who are presented to be confirmed and received into the Church. This will take place on the first Saturday morning in June at Trinity Church on Forest Avenue in Portland. Be in touch with Fr Nathan ASAP if the Holy Spirit is calling you to be confirmed or received at this time.

Vestry Highlights from the Wardens

by Janet Bowne

The Vestry met on April 21, 2021 via Zoom. Father Nathan led a prayer for the earth on the eve of Earth Day.

Jim Stoddard presented to the Vestry on behalf of the Building and Grounds Committee. He highlighted several B & G initiatives undertaken over the last year.

- Repaired the leak in the lower level of the parish hall.
- Coordinated the work to replace the bell timer. Work continues to determine the best way to adjust the bell to ensure its longevity.
- Managed the buildings through COVID and took measures to save money on heating buildings and heating hot water during the time we were closed.
- Conducted the annual inspection with the fire department.
- Coordinated contracts for lawn and snow maintenance.
- Purchased an AED machine for the church building.
- Currently coordinating bids on painting the chancel.
- Returning to in person work sessions beginning in April.
- Recruited Sean Burke to join B and G. New members are needed!

Jim announced that he will be stepping down at some point in late 2021 as he and Betsy are moving to New Hampshire.

Ben Parks-Stamm wasn't able to attend but shared his financial review via email. Sparkles continues to be a star! January-March, Sparkles has generated over \$4,000 in revenue. The April Sparkles push has generated almost \$5,000. The Grateful 50 Days campaign to capture pledges that didn't come in earlier this year has generated 5 new pledges. Saint Mary's is blessed with many generous parishioners. Our investment funds continue to provide much needed income.

We are not going to participate in the second round of the Paycheck Protection Program. The Diocese is applying again, but many churches in the Diocese are struggling. We are optimistic that we will be able to rebuild without this subsidy, and many churches are currently unable to meet their obligations without the federal subsidy.

The Audit Committee has been formed and Beth has given them information, but tax season is slowing down these busy volunteers. We are grateful for their help and look forward to their report.

Father Nathan reminded the Vestry members to complete Safe Church Training every 4 years.

In May or June, Nathan hopes to present to Vestry a draft resolution concerning Creation Season that could be taken to Diocesan Convention. This resolution will permit and encour-



Janet Bowne, Sr. Warden



Aaron Splint, Jr. Warden

age congregations to observe Creation Season in some official capacity from 1 September to 4 October each year.

The Diocese Social Justice committee is asking each parish to appoint an Earthkeeper to work with the Diocesan effort on conservation measures.

All signs continue to point to September as a time to open completely and restart our Guiding RAY Program. It is hoped that we will be able to hire a part-time GR director and a Nursery Worker. To that end, Father Nathan is hosting a zoom session with parents and any interested parishioners on May 17th at 7 pm to discuss the rebuilt program's design.

Father Nathan asked what our next steps should be on advancing racial equity. Book discussions are always informative, but perhaps we should try to do more actions to decreasing racism in ourselves and our community.

Our current schedule will continue through June 13. We will consider outside worship during the summer.

We are producing our own pictorial directory. Watch for info on how to get your photo taken by parishioner and professional photographer, Peter Guyton at NO cost to parishioners.

We have several leadership vacancies that need to be filled soon. Janet Bowne welcomes suggestions on how best to fill these important jobs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. If current COVID trends continue to subside, we will meet in person in May.



Grateful 50 Days Pledge Challenge

Thank you to all the parishioners who have shared their pledge intentions and to those who have made extra contributions. If you want to help us build back better, contact Beth Shaw (admin@smary.org) to learn how you can make a secure, confidential pledge or gift. Or use this convenient link for a [confidential pledge form](#).



Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far



Habitat for Humanity®
of Greater Portland

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" are available outside the parish offices 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



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

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

Keep Calm, and Pedal On!

This year marks the 37th annual



 **American Lung Association.**

Trek Across Maine
Cycle For Air 

Trek across Maine, a bike-riding, fundraising event supporting the American Lung Association on June 30. This will be the 4th consecutive year of S. Mary's Parishioners assembling "Team Godspeed" as event participants. As was the case last year, the 2021 event is being conducted as a "virtual event." The current 2021 Godspeed Team is comprised of Bruce Fithian, Charlie Hurdman & Greg Fergin; we invite and welcome any bike riders who may want to join us. For more info, click [here](#) to visit the Trek Across Maine website, or contact Bruce, Charlie or Greg.

Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

St. Elizabeth Jubilee Center



Photo of Trunk Load of Donations



Photo of Tables with Kitchenware

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Your generosity makes it possible for our neighbors in need to receive, every Tuesday (8:30-11am), weekly supplies of:

- Toilet paper, powder laundry detergent, body soap, deodorant;
- Feminine hygiene products and adult incontinence products;
- Infant diapers through our collaboration with the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine's diaper bank;
- Bed, bath, and table linens (clean and in good condition, please label size);
- Kitchenwares (pot, pans, covers, slow-cookers, glasses, cups, bowls, pitchers, kitchen utensils (No knives);
- Oral health care products.

(No clothes, please!)

The St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center is a low-barrier pantry offering, at no charge, non-food essentials that cannot be purchased with SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) funds to all those in need, including new Mainers and Mainers whose families have been here for generations. The Center is located at the rear of St. Luke's Cathedral, at 134 Park Street, Portland, ME. On average we serve nearly 185 individuals each week. We are looking for 4-6 volunteers from St 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.

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.



Did You Know?

Garrett Morgan, inventor, 1877-1963

Morgan's many inventions made the world a safer place. He is best known for developing a traffic "warning light," a precursor to today's traffic light. He also invented a new type of sewing machine, a straightener for Black hair, and a personal breathing hood to protect miners and firefighters.

Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

We did some good in April on Mackworth Island

Saint Marians, who set off with plastic bags to scour Mackworth Island for trash on April 18, discovered that the shores and trail were cleaner than years past. Fewer plastic bottles, bits of plastic foam and strands of rope. With 10 volunteers, there were enough people to clean up the island as well as part of the causeway leading to the mainland. Peter, Chance and Boone Guyton grabbed trash stuck in the rocks and made the biggest haul of the day. The rangers were very grateful for our efforts. Although we don't know why less debris washed ashore, it's a good sign for God's gift to us -- the sand, rocks, forest and scent of the sea -- that bless us with solace and inspiration.

Peter, Boone & Chance Guyton, Margaret Fast, Jennifer Gregg, Lucy Ellis, Tom and Merle Marie Troeger, Will Salomon and Bonny Rodden.



Let's do some more in May!

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

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. **If anyone would like to manage one of the church's raised garden beds this summer, please contact Vanessa.** The garden beds will be prepared and planted but will need some tending from mid-June through the growing season. This is a fun activity for an individual or family. Many thanks to Bobbi MacCallum and Genia Sklute and her students at High Touch High Tech for preparing and planting the garden beds. All produce will, of course, be donated to the Food Pantry.



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.



Family building?

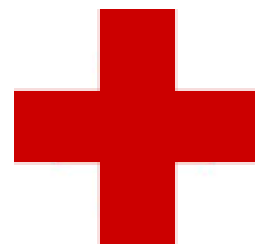
AFamilyforMEMaine.org

Get started today!

A Family for ME



**You can be the lie changing hero in a child's story.
You can be a Foster Parent**



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

**Critical Need
Blood Drive
May 11 & 25
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?

Charles Richard Drew, scientist, 1904-1950 Drew is known as the "father of the blood bank" for his hand in developing America's first large-scale blood bank program in the 1940s. Before that, Drew was the first Black student to earn a medical doctorate from Columbia University, where his interest in the science of blood transfusions led to groundbreaking work separating plasma from blood. This made it possible to store blood for a week -- a huge breakthrough for doctors treating wounded soldiers in World War II.

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!

Casco Bay CAN
TOGETHER, PREVENTING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

Table Talks

CASCO BAY CAN - SUNDAY, MAY 16 or 23 at 4 PM

ZOOM TABLE TALKS

for Saint Mary's Families & Friends

Saint Mary's welcomes Casco Bay CAN back for what is always a very popular and highly informative "Table Talk" evening designed for parents, grandparents, and adult mentors to gather in a safe space to receive updated information about substance use prevention for use with children of all ages.

This year we will be running this over ZOOM, with break-out rooms for those with elementary-aged children and those with children from middle-school and higher, including adult children. It is a great opportunity both for Saint Marians and your friends, so please feel free to invite other parents (from sports teams, extra-curricular activities, neighborhood etc).

You will:

- Learn new information and trends about underage drinking and youth substance use prevention
- Share challenges and ideas for preventing youth substance use
- Learn how to look for signs of youth substance use
- Get strategies for communicating effectively with other parents on youth substance use
- Learn the protective factors that influence youth to make positive choices
- Get resources and practical tips to use at home and share with other parents

FMI: Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com



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

As springtime thoughts turn to refurbishing your garden, please survey your existing gardens and remove invasive plants--they reproduce easily and spread fast, crowding out native plants, causing environmental and economic harm. Many of these plants caught a free ride to your yards, finding a safe spot away from natural enemies that existed in their home (insects, diseases, etc.) and outgrow and crush our native plants. For more information about how to identify and control these plants: [Invasives Brochure](#), prepared by the Conservation Commission; [Gardening to Conserve Maine's Native Landscape: Plants to Use and Plants to Avoid](#), ["Plants Out of Place: Invasive Plant Ecology and Management" Presentation](#) by the Maine Natural Areas Program.



Adopt a Bed

Interested in "adopting" a bed on our beautiful campus? Pick any area and think of it as your own! Your commitment would simply be to keep an eye on it and weed it as needed. Note that this work does not include the formal beds behind the chapel that are beautifully maintained by members of St. Mary's Garden Club. Contact Lucy Ellis, Landscape Team (cell) 450-3650.

Singing Our Pain Out

shared by Merle Marie Troeger

If we were all able to worship together in church, we'd be singing the great Easter hymns we love. It would be exhilarating! "Christ is Alive" and "Jesus Christ is Risen Today."

But how do we sing about our pain, our helplessness, even our wrath? If I am reading a psalm, I tend to gloss over the hard parts. I notice the lectionary compilers do the same thing, perhaps to save us from Sunday morning unpleasantness. Yet there are times when a word of rage is just what's in my mouth.

Psalm 74 is a long howl of communal pain. It is the cry of a people after the community has suffered grave trauma. *"Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild animals; do not forget the life of your poor forever. Have regard for your covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the haunts of violence."* This psalm was the keening of the Jews after Kristallnacht in 1938 Nazi Germany. It was the moaning in our country after the September 11 attacks. It's the agony of all of us after 147 mass shootings (defined as four or more people shot or killed) in our country so far this year.

Psalm 109 is a nice cursing song. Are you angry at a betrayal? It's very cathartic to ask God to punish the wicked one: *"He clothed himself with cursing as his coat; may it soak into his body like water, like oil into his bones."* May his own curses turn back in on him and destroy him! Good stuff when you're outraged.

Sometimes God is the target of our anger and even sarcasm. That is the time to pull out Psalm 88. *"Every day I call on you, O Lord; I spread out my hands to you. Do you work wonders for the dead? Do the shades rise up to praise you?"* Why bother with God at all? Is there any point to prayer?

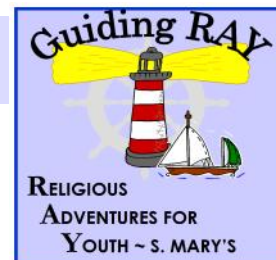
None of these psalms are listed for Sunday reading in the Revised Common Lectionary, so you may be surprised at the visceral anguish they contain. They contain something else too. At some point the psalmist calms down and takes a deep breath. "Did I just say that?" Well, yes, that's exactly what I felt, and it was good to get it off my chest. And I'm not taking any of it back. If I can't be honest with you, God, who can I be honest with?

God, help me grieve what needs to be grieved. Help me despise what needs to be despised. Help me seek justice where there is no justice. Then, eventually, when the time is right, help me move into another mood, a time of healing, a disposition where praise returns to my mouth. At some point the time will be right to sing *"With my mouth I will give great thanks to the Lord; I will praise him in the midst of the throng."*



Christian Formation

Guiding RAY is our ministry to all young people up to age 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.



All families and young people are invited to gather in the Auditorium at 9:30 on Sundays for a brief, informal, and interactive Eucharistic celebration.

We are beginning to make tentative plans for September when we hope it will be safe to gather together on Sunday mornings.

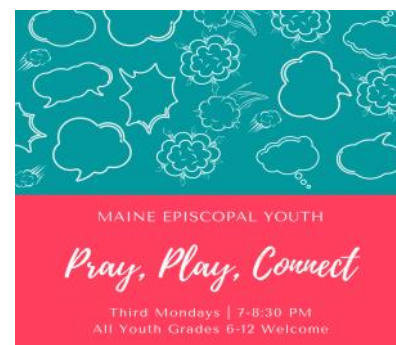
Come together for a ZOOM meeting to share your thoughts and ideas for re-launching Guiding RAY at **7 PM on Monday 17 May**. We need everyone's input, so please mark your calendars and watch the weekly eNews for the ZOOM link.



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 17 May, 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



The Day of Pentecost is May 23

The Church is the **body of Christ**, drawn together and given life by the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is celebrated as the birthday of the Church, and it is one of our seven principal feasts of the church year. Will you pray on Pentecost for the Holy Spirit to fill you and the whole Church with new life and new energy to continue the mission of Jesus?



Renewal of Vows for the Church in Maine Tuesday 18 May at 11 AM

All are invited to gather with our Bishop at the Cathedral or online for an energetic renewal of our vows to walk in the ways of Christ. Watch the eNews for the link to the online portion of this special gathering.



SUMMER CAMP FOR EVERY CHILD

Bishopswood is an Episcopal coed overnight camp that is affordable and open to all youths ages 6-16. It is nestled in an old forest with giant trees on the shores of Lake Megunticook in Hope, Maine.

[Camp Information](#)

[Online Registration](#)

Traditional Youth Camp (Ages 8-16) One or more week program. Learn skills and meet friends that will last a lifetime.

Mini Camp (Ages 6-8) 3 days at camp with a 4:1 staff ratio. Great for first extended stay away from home.

Counselor in Training (Ages 16 or grade 10) A five-week program to develop essential leadership skills and the many facets of being a camp counselor.



UPCOMING FAMILY & ADULT PROGRAMS

Spring Work Weekend - 3 days

Everyone is Welcome

April 30 - May 2, 2021

Please join us for our Annual Spring Volunteer Work Weekend to clear away winter and prepare the Camp for summer. Lodging and meals provided.

Open House & Family Camp Weekend

Families for 1 or 2 nights

May 21 - 23, 2021

A great opportunity for campers to learn the routines and try some of the fun activities, all with the comfort of their families.

Bishopswood is proud to be accredited by the American Camping Association. Financial aid is available to help youth go to camp. FMI, call Saint Mary's.

KEYS TO BUILDING STRONG FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

Parents are the #1 influence in a child's life. Strengthening relationships will make it easier to talk about preventing substance use with your teen.

**Talk Early,
Talk Often...
Keep Talking**

Tips to foster a good relationship with your teen

- ▶ Show me that I matter to you
 - When you listen and pay attention to me it shows me you enjoy being with me
- ▶ Push me to keep getting better
 - Hold me accountable and help me learn from my mistakes and setbacks
- ▶ Inspire and empower me to see possibilities for my future
- ▶ Broaden my horizons by exposing me to new ideas, experiences and places

See page 8 for CB CAN Table Talks info

Casco Bay CAN

TOGETHER, PREVENTING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

Create Awareness Now

A grant funded project sponsored by Cumberland County Government



www.cascobaycan.org



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 they are able. Join a small group for a summer 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 ASAP with either Portia Hirschman, revportia1@msn.com or Jim Kane, 329-1764 or kanejbabson@gmail.com.



SPARKLES IN SPRING



In April, we had our second in-person Sparkles sale for 2021. We were so excited to see each other again, and to welcome in members of the Parish and community. It's a lot of work to set-up, run the sale, and clean-up, but also so much fun! As always, we had a great showing of seasoned Sparklers, and we also welcomed some new volunteers. Other parishioners who weren't able to help in person, laundered linens, sorted beads, and repaired jewelry at home. We were happy to



offer doorstep delivery and pickup.

Thanks to our generous parishioners, we had a beautiful display of items for sale. For the first time, we combined the Book Sale and Sparkles, which added to the fun and drew in even more customers

Behind the scenes, there's always a lot of laughter and camaraderie, and customers told us over and over how grateful they were to have a beautiful, welcoming and safe place to shop. Fundraising for Saint Mary's was great, too! We raised over \$4000 in April, and we've raised over \$9000 year-to-date. We've decided not to wait until December for the next sale, so Sparkle in Fall will be

October 21 and 22. We'd love to have you join us! FMI Jana Burke, janaburke@gmail.com

Buildings & Grounds Update

by Jim Stoddard

It looks like Spring is here to stay. The B&G group is ready to tackle the outdoor chores on the Saint Mary's campus. During the winter and in spite of COVID, we had been working our magic to keep the Church and Parish House functional and presentable. Now we are outside, preparing the campus for Spring and Summer activities. Some of the projects that need tending to are: repair and replace Foreside entrance light posts, replace Foreside lighted signpost, purchase and install an AED emergency kit in Church, and work on reviving front lawn.

Some projects that need outside contracting are: repair and paint Church Chancel walls and refurbish the Church bell. The latter is being resolved and that is why you haven't heard the bell lately. Stay tuned. Church lawnmowing is again under contract to Eric Booth.

Will be back next month to give update on activities. Tata for now.

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)

Thank you to Fr Nathan, Deacon Christine, and Bruce Fithian for all the planning and work that went in to setting the stage for a wonderful Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday. And thanks to Janet Bowne for making all the pieces fit together. What a talented team!

Thanks to Meg Hurdman and Jennifer Gregg for organizing, cooking, creating and curating the Agape Meals To-Go for Maundy Thursday as well as the many volunteers that assisted in prepping (Lee Dernehl, Jennifer Gregg, Katie Porter, Joyce Verrey) packaging (Alice Brock & Pat Peard), distributing (Christie, Harrison, William & Charlotte Rana) and cleaning up (Judith & Greg Fergin). Great job!

yay!



Thank you to everyone who has donated items and worked on the Spring Sparkles weekend event. Amazing energy and great results!

To the Be Still team for their leadership on this very important formation program!

To everyone who has helped us in the step-by-step process to return to in-person worship! Thank you for your understanding and suggestions!!

T
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S!

To Father Ferrell and all our thoughtful caring Parish family, How fun it was to see so many of you out in front of our home on Saturday, April 3 to wish Mark a happy 95th birthday! Our thanks to all who were here and all that couldn't be here but send wishes and beautiful cards, special letters to Mark, and even a poem.

We were also honored by a tree being planted in his honor as well as balloons brought and displayed along with a complete Easter dinner all prepared for us to enjoy! How very blessed we both are to have you all in our lives.

With masks on, we couldn't tell who everyone was, but we so appreciated your presence!

And the frosting on the cake was the Salvation Army Band playing in our driveway – what fun! Our love, Mark & Connie



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 May Birthdays to:



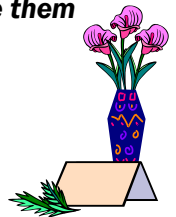
1 Judy MacDonald	9 Clara Brouillette	
1 Charlotte Rana	9 Pat Studley	
2 Nancy Hill	10 Mary Follo	20 Jane Tholen
2 Grace Brown	13 Lucas Michaud	21 Portia Hirschman
4 Holly Bernstein	14 Stan Eaton	23 Dee Dee Fournier
4 Samantha Heinzman	15 Ross Isacke	24 Betsey McCandless
6 Larissa Norman	16 Charnette Chadwick	26 Robert Cott
7 Norma Jean Brilliant	17 Michael Richards	26 Jack Haney
7 Bruce Fithian	17 Emily Legere	26 Shelly Maher
7 Jim Kane	18 Madeline Harris	27 Hannah Morgan
7 Sam LaPlante	18 Henry Kearins	27 Tom Stegemann
7 Jane Stegemann	19 Madeline Michaud	29 John Fournier
8 Henry Funk	19 Patty Sarchi	29 Noah Yerkes
8 John Raeke	20 Lynda Conner	30 Carolyn Bernier
9 Mark Bentley	20 Morgan Harris	30 TJ Rhoades

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 May Anniversary wishes to:



11 Margaret Jean & Len Taylor	23 Bruce Fithian & Kue John Lor
15 Anne & Geoff LaFond	24 DeeDee & John Fournier
21 Mary & Hugh Smith	25 Edie & Lad Taylor
22 Maureen & John Hale	28 David & Suzanne Farnham
	31 Diane & Gerry Billings



Worship Server Schedule

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

Date	8am Usher	8am Lector	10:30 Usher	10:30 Lector	Altar Flowers	Altar Guild
May 2	Greg U	Becky P	Aaron S	Maggie G	Helga R	Janet B
May 9	Steve C	Mary Ann M	The Vereys	Stan E	Jan M	Janet B
May 16	Len T	Greg U	Tom L	Will S	Onnie H	
May 23	Steve C	Al A	Aaron S	Ginny S	Jan M	
May 30	Al A	Len T	The Vereys	Andrea MH	Jan A	
June 6	Jim K	Lad T	Tom L	Erin MF		
June 13	Len T	Becky P		Betsy S	Jan A	

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

May 2021

The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 5th 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 12-2 Clean Up in Pine Grove Woods 7 12-step meeting in Aud	3 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-lawn 5 Be Still	4 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 4-5 CU rehearsals - lawn	5 10-2 Mainely Weavers- outside 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-Lawn 6 ORI & Dowsers in Aud	6 10 CARE & Prayer 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group 4 Outreach meeting	7 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer	8 4-6 Opera Maine - Serenade (Rain date 4.9)
9 6th Sunday of the Gr. 50 days Happy Mother's Day 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	10 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-lawn 5 Be Still	11 9-2 Blood Drive 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 4-5 CU rehearsals - lawn	12 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-Lawn	13 Ascension Day 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	14 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer 5-6 Souper Supper TO GO in Miss	15
16 7th 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	17 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-lawn 5 Be Still 7 Guiding RAY Zoom with Fr Nathan	18 8:30-11 St. Elizabeth's 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 11 Renewal of Vows at Cathedral and online 12 Noonday Prayer 2 Staff meeting 4-5 CU rehearsals - lawn	19 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-Lawn 6 Vestry meeting	20 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group June AVE deadline	21 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer Camp Bishopswood Open House & Family Camp weekend	22
23 Day of Pentecost 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	24 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU rehearse-lawn 5 Be Still	25 9-2 Blood Drive 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 4-5 CU rehearsals - lawn	26 12 Noonday Prayer 5-7 CU Youth Outdoor 6 pm Concert	27 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	28 Office closed 12 Noonday Prayer 5-6 Souper Supper TO GO	29
30 Trinity Sunday 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Family Eucharist 9:30 Be Still on ZOOM 10:30 Holy Eucharist In-person and on Facebook	31 Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Day Office Closed 12 Noonday Prayer 5 Be Still	6/1 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 12 Noonday Prayer 2 Staff meeting 4:30 / 5 Executive Com- mittee	6/2 12 Noonday Prayer	6/3 12 Noonday Prayer 3 Merton Group	6/4 Office closed Plant Sale set-up 12 Noonday Prayer	6/5 9-12noon SM Garden Club Plant Sale 12-4 Photos with Peter G.



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 June AVE: May 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

Tom LaPlante, 272-5621, laplante@maine.rr.com

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Jan Wentling, 400-9904, janwentling@hotmail.com