

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF SAINT MARYAVE
Monthly Newsletter

"From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee."



The Rev. Nathan W. Ferrell

This line was written by the great Charles Wesley (1707-1788), priest in the Church of England and prolific hymnwriter. It comes from our Advent hymn 66, commonly known as "Come, thou long expected Jesus." December is a good month to put some extra effort into finding your rest in God. One way to do this is to practice mindfulness, since it provides a quick way to bring calmness into any hectic or stressful situation. A lot of attention has been given to this subject in recent years, but don't get confused. The basic practice is very simple. Just breathe and focus on your breath. As long as you are alive, your breath is present with you. In this sense, your breath serves as a metaphor or a sign of God's presence which is also always with you.

Here is a simple mindfulness practice with a Christian perspective that I recommend to you. Practice this at any time, but especially for at least five minutes when you feel your emotions or thoughts getting out of control.

As you slowly breathe in, say within yourself, "Breathing in, I calm my body."

As you slowly breathe out, say, "Breathing out, I am at peace."

As you breathe in again, say, "Dwelling in the present moment,"

As you breathe out once more, say, "I know that God is good."

Repeat this cycle for as long as you can, allowing every other thought and feeling to float by, like clouds drifting through the sky.

In addition to busyness and long To-Do lists, change is something that can often lead to much anxiety. We have a lot of change going on now here at Saint Mary's. Reverend Jane left not too long ago, as I returned from my 10-month deployment in the Middle East. Deacon Christine retired in October and will be away from our parish family for a while. Bruce Fithian is retiring at the end of the month, making the decision to relax and slow down the pace of his life. Jeff and Courtney Morgan are ending their ministry as our Guiding RAY Coordinators at the end of the month, in response to growing demands on their schedules at their primary jobs.

All of these changes have resulted from people making good and responsible decisions for their lives, but this does not minimize the real impact such changes can have on our parish life. Any time that we are experiencing the dizzying effects of change and stress in our lives, this is a sign that we need to re-center ourselves in God's eternal and changeless presence. Remember this, my friends, this month, and every month of your lives.

Nathan W. Ferrell +



Advent and Christmas 2022 at Saint Mary's

Sunday, November 27: Advent 1

8 & 10:15 Advent Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 3

9 - 2 SPARKLES FAIR with Boutique, Café, Baked goods & Toyland

Sunday, December 4: Advent 2

8 Contemplative Eucharist

9:30 Formation groups for all ages

10:15 Choral Eucharist

Friday, December 9

7:30 Saint Mary Schola presents: *Blow the Trumpet*

Saturday, December 10

9 - 12noon Advent Quiet Morning in the Fr. James Chapel

Sunday, December 11: Advent 3

8 Contemplative Eucharist

9:30 Formation groups for all ages

10:15 Choral Eucharist

3 Saint Mary Schola presents: *Blow the Trumpet*

Sunday, December 18: Advent 4

8 Contemplative Eucharist

10:15 Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 22

12noon Blue Christmas Eucharist in the Fr. James Chapel

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve

4 & 6 PM Family Christmas Lessons and Carols

A one-hour service designed for families and young people

9 PM Choral Candlelight Christmas Eve Eucharist

Beginning and ending in candlelight with magnificent music from the Choir

Sunday, December 25: Christmas Day

10:15 Joyful Christmas Morning Eucharist

Sunday, January 1: New Year's Day

10:15 The Holy Name



Vestry Highlights from the Wardens

by Janet Bowne

The primary agenda item for this month is the 2023 budget. Ben Parks-Stamm presented the proposed budget. Most of our expenses are fixed costs: utilities, taxes, insurance and salaries. Revenue comes primarily from pledges and contributions by parishioners. We do receive income from weddings, use of the parish hall and church as well as income from our endowment funds.

As we all are seeing with our personal budgets, inflation has increased our costs significantly. Again this year we are dealing with a deficit budget. Prior to the pandemic, we had deficit budgets but managed to increase revenue through the year erasing the deficit. It's not clear to us if

we can do that in 2023. We are hoping that COVID-19 will not be a major factor in 2023, but we know inflation is a reality. Our costs are up, and our parishioners may not be able to give as they have in the past.

How can we manage this? We will tighten our collective parish belt as much as we can. We are encouraging all parishioners to make a pledge intention for 2023. Adding COVID-19 lessening, we could hold another fundraiser in the summer. We are working to make Sparkles a big success again this year and plan for a robust Sparkles in 2023.

Budgets are always challenging and for many of us, frustrating. But it is essential to map out a logical budget for Saint Mary's. We appreciate the work of the Budget and Finance Committee in pulling the proposed budget together.

We also discussed the various transitions in key staff positions. In December we will welcome our new Deacon, Matt Simpson. We will celebrate Bruce Fithian's tenure with us on December 11 and welcome Kathleen Scott back to the choir loft. She will be with us through the program year as we look for a permanent replacement. And we will say thanks to the Jeff and Courtney Morgan for their leadership as our Guiding RAY leaders. Thank you, Meg Hurdman, for stepping in to be our volunteer coordinator for Guiding RAY. On December 18th, Bishop Brown will be with us for a baptism at 8 o'clock and the pageant at 10:15!



Janet Bowne, Sr. Warden



Steve Conley, Jr. Warden

Stewardship 2023 Update - MORE THAN ENOUGH!

The parable of the loaves and fishes teaches us that each of us contributing what we can provides enough. Our pledge campaign provides enough to fund our operations and abundance to take care of our neighbors and plan for the future. Every gift is a miracle, a chance to change the world. And every gift is Love, the kind of love that protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres, as St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians. Please consider what you can pledge to Saint Mary's for 2023.

We are preparing our budget for 2023. Pledges are our largest source of revenue. At press time, we have \$130,180 in pledges from 54 parish households toward our goal of \$290,000. We are grateful for your gifts that allow us to love, minister, and pursue our mission with passion and purpose.

If you didn't receive a pledge packet in the mail, you'll find one [HERE](#) Together we will reach our pledge goal of \$290,000 for 2023! See pledge form insert in this AVE or [click here](#)

MORE
THAN
ENOUGH



SPARKLES 2022



Saturday, December 3
9 AM - 1 PM
It's almost here! Sparkles 2022!!!

How can you help make our biggest fundraiser a success:

- ◆ **Share** the details of Sparkles with your friends and on social media. Click [here](#) for the flyer and share in email or on social media.
- ◆ Help us with **set up** starting on November 30 at 8:30 am. We will start with setting up the tables and then bring the merchandise out for display. We will continue with set up on Thursday and Friday.
- ◆ **Bake** cookies, pies or cakes for the bake sale.
- ◆ **Bake** a signature almond cake (pan and recipe provided; please return the pan when finished).
- ◆ **Bake** festive cookies for the cookie walk. All baked items should be delivered by Friday, 12/2 at noon.
- ◆ **Sign up** to help on Saturday between 8:30-1:30 during our fair.
- ◆ If you can't work at the fair, plan to shop! Bring your friends!!

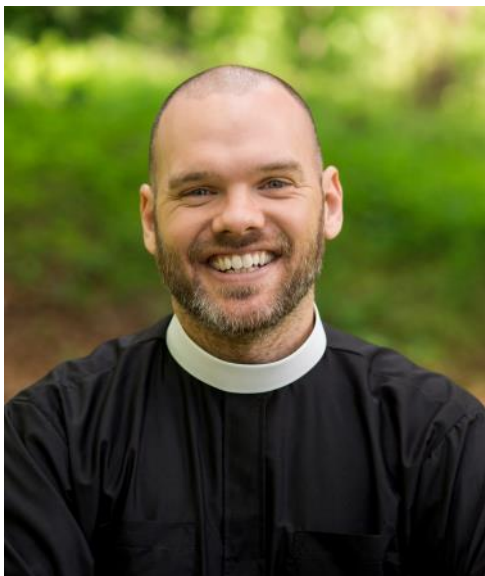
Thanks to everyone who has donated lovely items for the boutique.
We are so grateful.

Join in to help with our biggest fundraiser and friend-raiser!

Questions? Call or email Janet Bowne: jmitchellbowne@gmail.com or 207-318-7045.

Join us to welcome Deacon Matthew on Sunday 4 December!

There will be time during both Coffee Hours to greet Deacon Matthew. And at our 9:30 Formation time, Matthew will speak about his passion for ministry, as well as answering any questions from Saint Marians. Plus Father Nathan will tell the story of how he met Matthew while serving at St. George's Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg, Virginia, back in 2002-2003.



Deacon Matthew Simpson

Hello, Saint Mary's! I was raised in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and ordained in the Diocese of Pennsylvania at the Philadelphia Cathedral in June of 2018. A couple of highlights from my faith and career journey are that I was a missionary in Thailand and Laos for eight months in the early 2000s, and I was an international flight attendant for 10 years. When I was called to be a deacon, I had to change careers as well. I became a registered nurse, and I worked the COVID units throughout the pandemic. I am now board-certified as a cardiovascular nurse. I moved to Maine with my husband Kasey in May 2021, and we currently live in Parkside. I work for the Maine CDC as a public health nurse to the most vulnerable in Cumberland and York Counties, particularly in Portland. I am very excited to begin serving with all of you. While I have been doing service and ministry in Maine since moving here, this will be my first official placement at a parish in Maine. I look forward to learning, teaching, and discerning how we can be the hands and feet of Christ in the world together.

-The Rev. Matthew Simpson, BSN, RN-BC

Blue Christmas Eucharist

Thursday 22 December at 12 noon

in the Fr James Chapel

Blue Christmas

A quiet, reflective gathering for those who are grieving, sad, lonely, not feeling particularly festive, or just in need of quiet reflection in the busyness of the season.

All are welcome, no explanations needed.

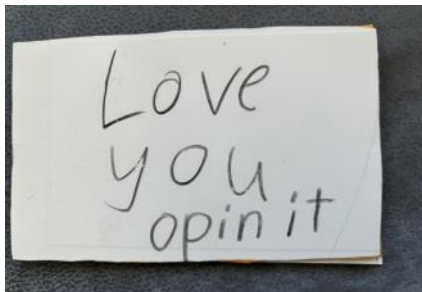


**Advent Quiet
Morning on
SATURDAY 10 DEC.
09—12 noon**



Formation on Sunday 13 November: Thank you Veterans!

135 Thank You notes were written to residents at the Maine Veterans Home in Scarborough. Thanks to all who participated! Here are some of our youths' notes.



CELEBRATE

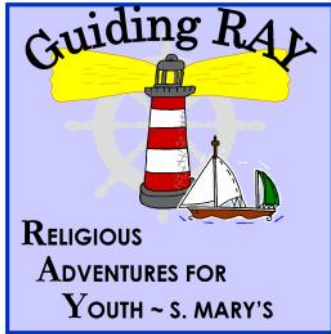


HONOR

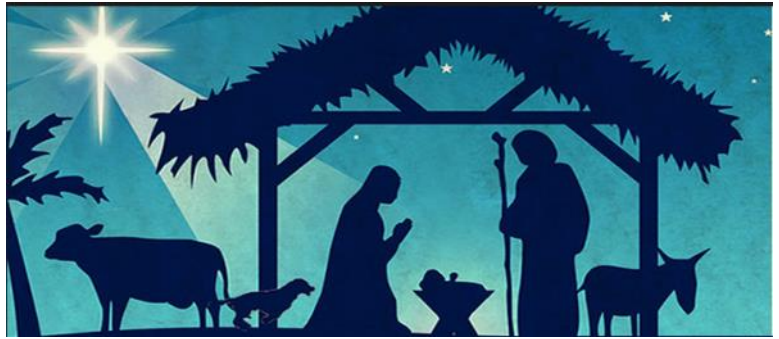


SERVE

Youth Christian Formation



Advent is upon us, and we look forward to celebrating the season with you in Guiding RAY! We have a few fun activities planned. First of all, we are excited to have Andrea Myles-Hunkin



directing our Christmas Pageant again this year on December 18. There will only be two practices, so it's a low-commitment activity - but it promises to be fun and meaningful for all who are involved. We will also be decorating our own Advent wreath craft during the month of December. Children can gather starting at 9:30 AM, class time begins at 10, and children will be brought over for Communion with their families just before 11 AM.

December dates to remember!

12/4: Guiding RAY - Pageant practice during Guiding RAY

12/11: Guiding RAY, then Pageant Rehearsal at 11:15 AM

12/18: Christmas Pageant at 10:15 AM

12/25: NO Guiding RAY

Also, at the end of December, Jeff and Courtney Morgan will be stepping back from their Guiding RAY position to be able to worship more often as a family. We are very grateful for their efforts in the past year and a half. Guiding RAY will continue under the volunteer leadership of Meg Hurdman, but we will need a number of other volunteers to help us through this interim period.



Saint Mary's Advent Giving

"Delivering Hope to Less Fortunate Children"

This is the goal of Toys for Tots since 1947! This year, all are invited to participate in this long-standing US Marine Corps holiday tradition.

Saint Mary's will serve as a local collection station.

Please bring a NEW, UNWRAPPED TOY and deposit it in one of our collection boxes. Our last collection day will be SUNDAY 04 DECEMBER.

FMI or to donate online, visit www.toysfortots.org or see the local campaign at www.topsham-me.toysfortots.org



Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

Helping Hands at Home: The "Magnificent Nine" Perform A Small Miracle



It was a bright and cold autumn morning as Saint Mary's volunteers just kept arriving (think "loaves and fishes" in the form of people with rakes and blowers) to help our fellow parishioner prepare her yard for winter by raking/ and bagging what must have been a gazillion leaves from her grounds, terrace and walkways. Three hours and **88 LEAF BAGS** later the job was done, and the tired but happy leaf warriors posed for a picture. Thank you all so much; you were all IN-CREDIBLE.



(From left to right: Jim Kane, Jack Thomas, Lee Van Dyke, Greg Fergin, Anne LaFond, Talie Harris. Not pictured: Doug and Becky Pride, Jennifer Gregg)

When I arrived home yesterday around noon, I couldn't believe my eyes. My lawn and walk, which I had left buried under a foot or more of leaves, were clearly visible. The wonderful parishioners of Saint Mary's had performed a much needed and appreciated seasonal miracle. A very heartfelt thank you to all for keeping my grounds tidy and me safe from slippery leaves and acorns. With gratitude to all,

Susan Chapman



If you are in need indoor or outdoor odd-job help at your home, please reach out. The 'Helping Hands at Home' ministry will try to assist! Contact Beth Shaw, admin@smary.org or Jennifer Gregg, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com

Falmouth Food Pantry - November Update

The Falmouth Food Pantry is currently serving just under 200 families (about 540 family members) a month, with the numbers increasing over the summer. As usually happens, when the weather becomes too cold to work outside, there will inevitably be additional requests for support. Volunteers continue to deliver boxes of non-perishable food, fresh vegetables, eggs, and meat to the homes of families who need food assistance. The Pantry has not yet returned to offering curbside assistance or to welcoming families inside the actual pantry.

The Falmouth Food Pantry is now accepting food donations from individuals. Our donation box is in the foyer of the guild room. The most helpful foods are soup in cans (but not cream soups), boxes of pasta, cold cereal, canned tuna fish, canned chicken, and granola bars.

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.



CELEBRATE



HONOR



SERVE

Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

Welcome from St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center



St. Elizabeth's
—Essentials Pantry—

We all know this is *"The Season of Giving"*.

Many very worthy causes will reach out to you requesting support. We urge you to consider a financial gift to St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center (St. E's) this year. Donations can be delivered to the Saint Mary's office.

A check in any amount, made out to "St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center", will make it possible for this important ministry to continue meeting the needs of our neighbors, at no charge, for basic daily non-food essentials that cannot be purchased with SNAP funds. We also connect people with other resources in the community for needs such as housing, furniture, language acquisition, job search assistance, and other social needs.

Each week, members of the Saint Mary's community have filled to overflowing the donations box outside the Guild Room with **winter coats, dental care items, and kitchenware and housewares** that are clean and in good condition. We give a big **Thank You** to those who have generously donated so many items over recent weeks!

Saint Mary's has a wonderful team of volunteers who serve at St. E's on the **third Tuesday of each month**. We are looking for additional volunteers 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. FMI, contact Stan Eaton at stan.eaton@gmail.com.



American
Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

Critical Need Blood Drives

December 8, 12 - 5 PM and December 22, 9 AM-2 PM

There is a critical need for blood! It is safe for all healthy people to give blood. Sign-up today to be a blood donor and give to those who need your blood to survive! Go to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code "StMary" to make your donor appointment.

PLEASE donate, if you can. The need is great.

CELEBRATE

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Outreach Ministry - All Ages Serving Near and Far

Souper Supper: 2nd & 4th Fridays

Soup, salad, bread and a sweet treat ! In Person!
between 5 – 7 PM. ALL are welcome!

Enjoy this community-wide fellowship offering, dining in a relaxed atmosphere. You will be feted with a complimentary main course, Homemade hearty soup, salad, rolls, dessert and beverage.

Wonderful for singles and families alike! Offered twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 5-7 PM in the parish house auditorium. No reservations required. Just bring your family and friends and enjoy!



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 **35% less than suggested retail!**

Regular is \$11; Decaf is \$12

Plus you can support fair trade practices ...and a locally-owned business... and get GREAT organic coffee! Win! Win! Win!

Saint Mary's Adopted Family update - The Vemba Family

Joao, Belinda, Erica and Nicholas are all doing very well. Belinda and Joao are very active in the immigrant community and with their church in South Portland.

Joao is working a few hours a day for DHHS. General Assistance allows asylum seekers to work for DHHS or Sweetser for a minimal wage (much less than minimum!), which goes directly to their General Assistance account. He has applied for his work permit so should qualify for employment by February.

Belinda is expecting and is due in March but keeping busy volunteering remotely for The Opportunity Alliance, Maine Social Justice (helping with immigrants needing housing), and with Eastpoint Church. They are remarkably motivated, involved, and want to give back to their community.

Belinda has expressed the following NEEDS for winter:

Blankets! (Their apartment is chilly)

Jackets: Boys, size 5

Girls, size 6/7

Mom, size large

Dad, size large

Leggings: Girls, size 7/8

Mom, size large

Sweater: Boys, size 5t

Socks for family

Bus tags for Belinda and Joao

Gift Cards are needed for Walmart, Target



SAVE THE DATE! BABY SHOWER FOR THE VEMBAS! Sunday, January 22, 3-5pm at Saint Mary's
You are ALL cordially invited to a Baby Shower in honor of Saint Mary's "Adopted Family!"

“Another Person's Soul is a Far Country to Travel To”

shared by Merle Marie Troeger

Father's Nathan's presentation about the desert elders fascinated me and reminded me that some of the wisest words that have come down to us are from the famous commentator “Anon.” The elders' sayings are epigrammatic and pithy, perhaps the product of long periods of contemplative prayer or *quies*, translated best as “rest.”

I'm not sure of the origin of this title quote, but it has the flavor of one who has lived an ascetic life in the desert. Whoever she or he was, the wisdom is so true. Someone you know, even someone you know intimately, can sometimes say or do something that makes you think “I don't know that person at all!” That's when this anonymous elder had it right – “Another person's soul is a far country to travel to.”

In this life, we get to know some people very well – and others we hardly know at all. But we *do* get glimpses. There was the time that he said just the right thing when I was so despondent. There was the time that she brought me a flower that brightened a day that was going so badly. And then there was the time that he did such a cruel thing I couldn't forgive him for years. And there was the time she wounded me deeply – and probably unintentionally.

The same is true of me – and you. My soul – and your soul – is a far country for anyone else to travel to – even for those who love us the most. But there is One who knows us best. This One, in the beautiful language of the King James Version (Psalm 139), “has searched me and known me!” This One knows when I sit down and when I rise up. This One knows my ways, my paths, my speech and my thoughts.

Not only that, this One has known me from before my birth. This One “didst knit me together in my mother's womb.”

And there is no fleeing the One who knows us best. If we ascend to heaven, if we descend to Sheol (the traditional home of the dead), if we dwell in the innermost parts of the sea, and *even if darkness covers us*, that One is there. Perhaps this One knows us best when we don't want to be found. “If I say, ‘let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,’ even the darkness is not dark to thee, for the night is bright as the day; for the darkness is as light with thee.”

We are known and loved by God. Another person's soul - and our own souls - may be in far distant countries, but the One, the Lord, seeks us out and is nearby.



Saint Mary's Operating Finances - as of October 31, 2022 (-\$28,635)

INCOME

General Plate & Pledge Support	230,520
Use of Parish House & Sanctuary	14,546
Fundraisers	2,858
Miscellaneous Gifts & Revenue	12,077
Invested Funds Revenue	59,048
Dedicated Gifts	33,793
	<u>\$ 352,842</u>

**Remember to keep
your pledges and
gifts current!**



EXPENSES

Diocesan Assessment	45,155
Personnel (includes, taxes, benefits, & pensions)	199,218
Maintenance, Capital	49,717
Operating (utilities, insurance, taxes, supplies)	65,174
Program	22,213
Countless volunteer donated hours of time	0
	<u>\$ 381,477</u>

Thank you for your generous support of Saint Mary's. Your donations allow us to spread the word and love of Jesus while being a resource for our parishioners and community. Like many of you personally, we have been surprised and confronted by rising inflation and energy prices. Your contributions allow us to maintain operations during these challenging times. Your pledges allow us to plan and budget appropriately for next year. We are all blessed to be a part of such a supportive and engaged community. ~ Ben Parks-Stamm, Treasurer

Be Still.....and know that I am God.

Hello, St. Marians. Here we are having slipped so quickly past Thanksgiving and into Advent; the leaves have fallen and the temperatures are dropping. It is time to slow down in anticipation of the celebration of the birth of our Lord. Please join us Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15 for a time to encounter the Divine and the Miracle with meditation, poetry, and community. FMI, contact Jennifer Gregg at jenniferanngregg@gmail.com. Here is a sample of what we have read recently:

And when Sunday came, how differently the day was spent, from any way in which he had ever spent it yet! And how happily too, like all the others days in that most happy time! There was the little church, in the morning, with the green leaves fluttering at the windows, the birds singing without, and the sweet smelling air stealing in at the low porch and filling the homely building with its fragrance. The poor people were so neat and clean, and knelt so reverently in prayer, that it seemed pleasure, not a tedious duty. Their assembling there together, and though the singing might be rude, it was real and sounded more musical (to Oliver's ears at least) than any he had ever heard in church before.

~ Charles Dickens, from *Oliver Twist*

Iris of life

Like tiny drops of crystal rain,
In every life the moments fall,
To wear away with silent beat,
The shell of selfishness o'er all.
And every act, not one too small,
That leaps from out the heart's pure glow,
Like ray of gold sends forth a light,
While moments into seasons flow.
Athwart the dome, Eternity,
To Iris grown resplendent, fly
Bright gleams from every noble deed,
Till colors with each other vie.
'Tis glimpses of this grand rainbow,
Where moments with good deeds unite,
That gladden many weary hearts,
Inspiring them to seek more Light.

~ Zitkála-Šá

I said: What about my eyes?
God said: keep them on the
Road.

I said: What about my
Passion?

God said: Keep it burning.

I said: What about my heart?

God said: Tell me what you
hold inside of it.

I said: Pain and sorrow.

God said...Stay with it. The
wound is the place where the
Light enters you.

~ Rumi

FORMATION



Sundays at 9:30 AM

Be Still: Every Sunday in the Chapel *A contemplative time of themed reflection on scriptural passages, poetry and prose.*

NOV 27 – The War on Advent

Why do most people reject the practices of Advent and jump straight to the Nativity?

DEC 4 – Welcome to Deacon Matthew Simpson

Hear Deacon Matthew talk about his life and journey, and ask him your questions.

DEC 11 – Farewell to Bruce Fithian

Offer your own words of gratitude and appreciation for Bruce's time among us.

DEC 18 – Welcome to Bishop Brown

Our Bishop will be with us for our Christmas Pageant and for your questions at 9:30.



Blow the Trumpet

A Concert of Seasonal Music for Advent

Friday 09 December, 7:30 PM, Church of Saint Mary, Falmouth

Saturday 10 December, 3:00 PM, Cathedral Church of St. Luke

Sunday 11 December, 3:00 PM, Church of Saint Mary, Falmouth

The St Mary Schola will present 'Blow the Trumpet,' an Advent concert that explores the famous texts of this season. We all know and enjoy the great passages from Isaiah, such as 'Comfort ye, my people - make straight in the desert a highway for our God.' These beautiful prophecies will be translated into song by some of the greatest composers of the early music repertoire, such as a motet by the high Renaissance composer, Palestrina, with the beautiful words: 'Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds pour down righteousness. Let the earth open and bring the Saviour.'

Also included will be a motet on the words 'Comfort ye, my people' by Heinrich Schütz, the greatest German composer before Bach. Mary's role during this season will be celebrated by the serene music of Victoria: his 'Alma Redemptoris Mater' (Loving Mother of the Redeemer). A joyful work by another Renaissance master, William Byrd, will conclude the first half of the concert.

Interspersed throughout the program will be readings from the medieval and Renaissance eras by Becky Pride, including Chaucer's 'Prioress's Tale.'

The second half will feature two glorious choruses from Bach cantatas, a delightful *Pastorale* by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, featuring recorders, and rarely heard music from the Mexican Baroque, accompanied by guitar.

It is always a privilege to share this wondrous music with friends during this special time of the year.



A Bonus Organ Performance before Bruce retires

Bruce Fithian will play a recital on the new organ at Saint Alban's Church in Cape Elizabeth on Wednesday 14 December at 5:30 PM, as part of their weekly organ recitals during Advent. The 30-minute program will feature Advent hymns and works by Bach that elaborate the melodies of the hymns, as well as music by Mendelssohn.

Program

Hymn 54 Savior of the nations, come!

Fantasia super *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* BWV 659a - J.S. Bach

Hymn 61 "Sleepers wake!" A voice astounds us - verses 1&2

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme BWV 646 (Schübler-Choräle) - J.S.. Bach

Hymn: Our Father, God in Heav'n Above - Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546) based on the Lord's Prayer; Music: *Vater unser im Himmelreich, Geistliche Lieder*

Organ Sonata No. 6 - Felix Mendelssohn

A Butterscotch Christmas: Wednesday 21 December, 7 PM

Sock hop around the Christmas tree with us! A live band and vocal trio featuring Erin Chenard, Jenna Guigey and Molly Harmon in Saint Mary's auditorium!

Join Butterscotch Sock Hop for our debut holiday concert! We'll be performing the "best" kind of Christmas music (...from the '50s!) - plus more mid-century favorites including songs made famous by The Andrews Sisters, Bing Crosby, The Chords and more. Sit and soak it in, or bring your socks and bop around to the music in a laid back, family-friendly atmosphere.

Learn more about the band at: www.butterscotchsockhop.com

Link for purchasing tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-butterscotch-christmas-tickets-428654044787>



Thanks, Kudos and Notes!

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

Thanks to Bruce for presenting his Camino journey at Common Ground. Amazing pictures and so informative!

Kudos to all the parish family for their letters to our Veterans!!

yay!

Thank you to Father Nathan and Erin for the formation program in October and November on Bahrain, the Desert Elders, Islam and Spiritual Resilience!

To the *Be Still* team for offering contemplative formation each Sunday.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the outdoor and indoor clean up especially our B & G crew! We are ready for winter!

To Dana Madison for his donation of a frost-free freezer.

Thank you to Bruce for the 11/13 Sacred Songs & Readings Service as well as all who created and participated: Becky Pride, John Bennett, Lee Van-Dyke, Lee Dernehl, Merle Marie Troeger, and Jennifer Gregg

To the Budget and Finance Committee led by Ben Parks-Stamm for their work to create our 2023 budget.

To everyone who has hosted Coffee Hour. What a wonderful welcome for all of us!

All of the Sparklers: so many parishioners have signed up to help with all things Sparkles.

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ST MARY SCHOLA

BRUCE FITHIAN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bruce Fithian's Finale

BLOW THE TRUMPET

Fri, December 9, 2022	7:30 pm, Saint Mary's, Falmouth
Sat, December 10, 2022	3:00 pm, Saint Luke's, Portland
Sun, December 11, 2022	3:00 pm, Saint Mary's, Falmouth

Featuring works by Palestrina, Victoria, and Byrd, Bach, Charpentier, and rarely heard pieces from the Mexican Baroque.

Tickets: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door | Students (25 under) free at stmaryschola.org



Send us your milestones, kudos and notes by the 20th of every month!!

ONLINE RESOURCES

All worship videos remain available on Facebook.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

NOONDAY PRAYER AT 12 MON - WED in the Chapel and on [Facebook Live](#)

HEALING EUCHARIST AT 12NOON ON THURS in the Chapel and on [Facebook Live](#)

SUNDAY HOLY EUCHARIST: 10:15 AM available on [Facebook Live](#)

INTERACTIVE SPIRITUAL FORMATION

BE STILL CENTERING PRAYER: Mondays at 5 PM In the Chapel and [on ZOOM](#)

BE STILL DISCUSSION: Sundays at 9:30 AM In the Chapel and [on ZOOM](#)

WISDOM SEEKERS: TUESDAYS AT 10:30 AM In the Guild Room and [on ZOOM](#)

MERTON GROUP: Thursdays at 3 PM In the Chapel and [on ZOOM](#)



Some important dates in our
Saint Mary's parish family

Happy December Birthdays to:



1	Len Taylor	15	Sonia Barter		
3	McIntyre Robich	15	Elise Gauvreau		
5	Agnes Parks-Stamm	15	Jan Mordarski		
6	Missy Smithwick	15	Sharon Pedersen	21	Harold Otte
8	Neila Blake	15	Karee Rhoades	21	Elle Reeves
8	Meredith Herrold	16	Micaela Amato	22	Mary Ahlers
8	Melissa Kane	16	Emily Kearins	22	Emma Ross
9	George Bokinsky	16	Ron Vincent	24	Nancy Russell
9	Adeline Scott	17	Joe LaPlante	25	Mark Legere
10	Elsa Dean-Muncie	18	Susan Chapman	26	Caroline Grace
11	Michael Kane	18	Tom Leighton	27	Garrett Bowne, V
13	Sarah Caven	18	Henry Shannon	29	Michael Manetti
14	Alice Brock	19	Katie Clark	29	Matthew Reevy
14	Lowell Brown, Jr.	20	Charlotte Reaves	30	Obinna Mokeme
14	Ava Draeger	20	Nicholas Reevy	31	Ruth Kimball
14	Andy Hyland	20	Chris Richards	31	Mary Ann McLean
15	Kate Barter	20	Kayla Rose		

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

Happy December Anniversary wishes to:



19	Beppie & Bob Cerf	29	Sarah & Tim Caven
28	Kyla & David Duchin	30	Meredeth & Mark Winter



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 EM	10:15 Usher	10:15 EMs	10:15 Lector	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour	
Nov 27 Advent 1	Baer C x	Readers: Lad, Len, Al, Katie, MaryAnn, Greg	Joyce & Len V	Readers: Erin, David R, Ginny, Marian,	Readers: Rebecca M, & Linda	Greens	Steve & Michele	
Dec 4 Advent 2	Len T Al A	Lee VD	Harry D Tom L	Jeff H Joyce V	Joyce V	Greens	Joyce & Len	
Dec 11 Advent 3	Baer C Al A	Becky P	Dawn Y Alice B	Betsy PS Nadine T	Linda E	Greens	Jan A	
Dec 18 Advent 4	Len T Al A	Mary Ann	Harry D Tom L	Pageant	Stan E	Greens	Lynne S	
Dec 24 CMas Eve	4pm: Ushers TBD EM : Greg U & Terry B Readers: Rebecca M,, Neila B,, Greg, Terry 6pm: Ushers TBD EM Len T & Lad T Readers: Len, Lad, 9pm: Ushers TBD EM: Andrea MH & Lynne S Reader: Andrea							
Dec 25 CMas Day	10:15:	EM &	Reader:	Stan E		CMAS	~	



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

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

Worship Schedule

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

8:00 - *Contemplative Eucharist*

9:30 - *Formation for All*

10:15 - *Choral Eucharist*

NOONDAY WORSHIP:

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

12 NoonDay Prayer in-person & on Facebook Live

THURSDAY

12 Healing Eucharist in the Chapel & on Facebook Live

BE STILL CENTERING PRAYER

Mondays 5:00



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF SAINT MARY



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

www.smary.org

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

The Rev. Matthew Simpson, *Deacon*
deaconmatthew@smary.org

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

Jeff Morgan, *Guiding RAY Coordinator*
GuidingRAY@smary.org

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

Office Hours

MON - THU, 9 - 4

Copy deadline for January AVE: Dec 15

YOUR 2022 SAINT MARY'S VESTRY

Nathan Ferrell, Rector, 207-310-0268, nathanferrell@smary.org

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

Steve Conley, Jr. Warden, 751-6738, Steve.Conley@point32health.org

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

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

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

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

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

Chris Martin, 814-758-2949, foodservicechris@yahoo.com


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

Tommy Pettingill, 781-2219, thomaspettingill@gmail.com

Steve Reeves, 615-440-2505, stevekreeves@gmail.com



The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 First Sunday of Advent 8 Advent Lessons & Carols <i>Update on Diocese of Maine</i> 10:15 Advent Lessons & Carols 4-6:30 OC rehearsal 4-6 Horizon Voice rehearsal	28 9-12 GC Boxwood wksp 12 Noonday Prayer 4-6 HV rehearsal 5 Be Still 6 PCC rehearsal	29 9-12 Art Group 12 Noonday Prayer 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 4 FLUKES rehearse in Aud 4:30 TOPS meeting 6/7 12-step in Aud & GR 7 Schola rehearsal in sanct	30 12 Noonday Prayer 1-3 Staff meeting 5-8 HV rehearsal 7 Schola rehearsal in sanct	12/1 Healing Eucharist Merton Group 7 Choir rehearsal	12/2 <i>Office closed</i>	12/3 SPARKLES FAIR 9-1
4 Second Sunday of Advent 8 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Formation groups <i>Our Welcome to Matthew</i> 10:15 Holy Eucharist 7 12-step meeting	5 12 Noonday Prayer 4-6 HV rehearsal 5 Be Still 6 PCC rehearsal	6 St. Nicholas 9-12 Art Group 12 Noonday Prayer 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 4 FLUKES rehearse in Aud 4:30 TOPS meeting 6/7 12-step in Aud & GR	7 12 Noonday Prayer 3 CARE meeting 5-8 HV rehearsal 7 Schola rehearsal in sanct	8 12-5 Blood Drive 10 Sacred Ground 12 Healing Eucharist 3 Merton Group 7 Choir rehearsal	9 <i>Office closed</i> 5-7 Souper Supper Dine in! 7:30 Schola Concert	10 9-1 Advent Quiet Morning 9-2 JAVSA
11 Third Sunday of Advent 8 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Formation groups <i>Our Formal Farewell to Bruce</i> 10:15 Holy Eucharist 3:00 Schola CMA's Concert 7 12-step meeting	12 9-2 Garden Club Tea 12 Noonday Prayer 1 Sacred Ground 4-6 HV rehearsal 5 Be Still 6 PCC rehearsal	13 9-12 Art Group 12 Noonday Prayer 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 4 FLUKES rehearse in Aud 4:30 TOPS meeting 6/7 12-step in Aud & GR	14 12 Noonday Prayer 1-3 Staff meeting 6 ORI 6-8:30 OC dress rehearsal	15 AVE deadline 12 Healing Eucharist 3 Merton Group 4 Outreach meeting 7 Choir rehearsal	16 <i>Office closed</i>	17 Oratorio Choral Holiday Concert 1, 3, 5 pm
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Formation groups <i>Welcome Bishop Brown</i> 10:15 Holy Eucharist & CMA's Pageant	19 12 Noonday Prayer 4-6 HV rehearsal 5 Be Still 5 PCC board 6 PCC rehearsal	20 7:30-11 St. Elizabeth's 9-12 Art Group 12 Noonday Prayer 10:30 Wisdom Seekers 4 FLUKES rehearse in Aud 4:30 TOPS meeting 6/7 12-step in Aud & GR	21 ST. THOMAS 12 Noonday Prayer 6 Vestry Meeting 7 A Butterscotch Sock Hop Christmas Concert	22 9-2 Blood Drive 12 Healing Eucharist 3 Merton Group 7 Choir rehearsal	23 <i>Office closed</i> 5-7 Souper Supper Dine in	24 Christmas Eve 4 Family Christmas Lessons and Carols 6 Family Christmas Lessons and Carols 9 Candlelight Christmas Eve Eucharist
25 Christmas Day 10:15 Holy Eucharist 7 12-step meeting	26 ST. STEPHEN 12 Prayer where you are 5 Be Still	27 ST. JOHN 12 Prayer where you are 4:30 TOPS meeting 6/7 12-step in Aud & GR	28 HOLY INNOCENTS 12 Prayer where you are	29 12 Prayer where you are 3 Merton Group 7 Choir rehearsal	30 <i>Office closed</i> 12 Prayer where you are	31 

The Parish Office will closed this week - through Tuesday, Jan 3

MORE
THAN
ENOUGH



Kneeler design by Hannah Russell; photo by Ben Russell

Saint Mary's Annual Pledge Campaign 2023

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We pledge \$_____ to Saint Mary's for 2023.

- I/We will plan to pay this pledge: *(please check one line)*

_____ weekly _____ monthly _____ quarterly _____ annually

- *Ways to make pledge payments:*

_____ I/We will send or bring the pledge payment(s) to office or place in the Sunday offering plate or mail to Saint Mary's 43 Foreside Road, Falmouth, ME 04105.

_____ I/We would like to receive offering envelopes to pay this pledge by check or cash.

_____ I/We will set up direct payments to Saint Mary's church from my/our bank.

_____ I/We will make pledge payment(s) by giving electronically through Saint Mary's website (above).

_____ I/We wish to make pledge payments through my IRA and need instructions on the way to do this.

_____ I/We wish to use Venmo to make pledge payments to @Churchof-SaintMary.

- Information for making Annual Pledge payments with *stock*: Please ask your broker to contact Charles Schwab 1-800-435-4000 and Beth in the parish office so that your gift is credited correctly
- DTC: 0164 Code 40
- Account: 80091830
- *I/We have considered a gift from my/our estate(s), and:*

☐ I/We have included Saint Mary's in our estate planning.

☐ I/We would like information on planned estate gifts to Saint Mary's.

* * *

This Annual Pledge form is a prayer in action that you offer before God for the support of this parish family known as Saint Mary's, and for the needs of the wider world as well. We understand that circumstances may change after pledges are made. If you need to adjust your pledge, please contact our Parish Manager, Beth Shaw, in confidence.