



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

43 Foreside Road · Falmouth, Maine 04105 · 207-781-3366 · [www.smary.org](http://www.smary.org) · [smary@smary.org](mailto:smary@smary.org)

## REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 29 January 2023

### 2022 Parish Activity Report



*Photo by Peter Guyton on 24 December 2017*

The Reverend Nathan Wilson Ferrell, Rector  
The Reverend Matthew Simpson, Deacon

# Table of Contents

2023 Annual Meeting Agenda	page 3
2022 Annual Meeting Minutes	page 4
Voter Qualifications	page 5
Slate of Nominations for 2023	page 5
Biographies for 2023 Vestry & Treasurer Nominees	page 5-6
Financial Reports from the Budget and Finance Committee	
2022 Statement of Financial Position - Balance Sheet	page 7
3-year Actuals with Operating Budget 2022 and 2023	page 8
2022 Change in Funds Balances	page 9
Budget Comments	page 9-10
Rector's Report	page 11
Deacon's Report	page 12
Warden's Report	page 12
Committee, Guild, & Ministry Reports	page 13-29
How we CELEBRATE	
Acolytes	page 13
Altar Flower Guild	page 13
Altar Guild	page 14
Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Euch. Visitors	page 14
Healing Team	page 14
Kneeler Guild	page 15
Music Ministry	page 15-17
Ushers	page 18
How we HONOR	
CARE Team	page 19
Churchyard Committee	page 19
Common Ground	page 20
Formation Groups	page 20
Formation Groups on Sunday	page 20
Be Still on Sunday	page 20
Be Still/Centering Prayer on Monday Evenings	page 20
Compass of Compassion	page 21
Merton Group	page 21
Quiet Mornings	page 21
Sacred Ground	page 21
Sacred Songs & Readings	page 21
Wisdom Seekers	page 22
Youth Programs	
Guiding RAY	page 22
Ignite – Middle School Youth Group	page 22
Hospitality	page 22
Coffee Hour	page 23
Memorial Reception	page 23
Newcomers Welcome Team	page 23
Prayer Partners	page 23
Prayer Shawl Ministry	page 24
How we SERVE:	
Altar Flower Delivery	page 24
Blood Drive	page 24
Buildings and Grounds	page 25
Meal Train/ Casserole Ministry	page 25
Office Angels	page 25
Outreach	page 26-28
Helping Hands at Home	page 28
Stewardship Annual Giving	page 28
Stewardship: Planned Giving	page 29
Fundraisers	page 29
2022 Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine	page 30
Clergy, Staff & 2023 Vestry	page 30
Gratitude	page 30
Our Parish during 2022	page 31

# The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

## Annual Meeting of the Parish

### Sunday 29 January 2023

**OUR MISSION:** At The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary, we are building authentic, vibrant, Christ-centered community as we ...

- ❖ **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.

## Schedule for Sunday 29 January 2023

- 9:30 AM One Parish Eucharist  
10:30 AM Brunch and Business Meeting  
11:00 AM VISION TALK

## Annual Meeting Agenda

Report on Quorum and Call to Order	Janet Bowne
Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes	Janet Bowne
Report of Nominating Committee + Vestry members, Diocesan Convention delegates, & Treasurer	Darren Clark
Election of the Slate	Janet Bowne
Election of new Nominating Committee	Janet Bowne
Review of 2022 Finances and 2023 Budget	Ben Parks-Stamm
Acknowledgments and Thanks	Steve Conley
Necrology: remembering our faithful departed	Nathan Ferrell
Vision Talk	Kerry Bennett
Adjournment and Blessing	Nathan Ferrell



# **The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary**

## **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish: 30 January 2022 via ZOOM**

Matt Fulton reviewed logistics of running the meeting via ZOOM and noted that the meeting would be recorded.

**Quorum:** It was determined that there was a quorum of over 50 people—including Erin Ferrell calling in from Greece.

**Opening:** Reverend Jane opened the meeting with prayer at 12:05.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Meeting in January 2021

*Rev Jane moved to accept, Bob Timberlake seconded and all approved.*

### **Nomination Committee:**

Stan Eaton presented the following nominees to Vestry

For Junior Warden—Aaron Splint

For Vestry (3 year terms) —Steve Conley, Chris Martin, Steve Reeves

For Convention Delegates—Nadine Timberlake

*Darren Clark seconded the above and all voted to approve.*

Additional delegates were needed and Bonnie Rodden and Marian McCue volunteered.

*Janet Bowne moved to accept added delegates, and Jim Kane seconded and all approved.*

**2022 Nominating Committee:** Janet Bowne presented the slate for the 2022

Next year's retiring Vestry members: Rick Hirschman, Darren Clark, and Thom Pettingill

*Slate seconded by David Andrews and all approved*

**Finance Report:** Parks-Stamm presented the financial report

- The 2021 budget year ended with a \$67,000 surplus thanks to some generous gifts from parishioners and increase in Sparkles revenue in addition to our endowments are doing very well.
- The 2022 budget has been accepted with a \$37,000 deficit.
- There were no questions and Janet thanked Ben for his attention to detail and hard work.

### **Acknowledgements**

Aaron Splint thanked everyone for participating in today's annual meeting.

Special thanks to Stan Eaton, Darren Clark and Jan Wentling for serving on the Vestry; their terms are now finished. Darren has agreed to stay on another year to finish out the term of Will Solomon who has resigned.

Thanks also to all Parishioners who have continued to participate in and help with programs.

Appreciation to Nathan for serving our country and to Jane for being our Temporary Priest in Charge and for filling that position so well during these extraordinary times. We all need Sunday to re-set and Jane is helping us to do that. Aaron also expressed thanks that we are doing well financially, thanks to the generosity of our Parishioners. We also gave a huge special thanks to Jana Burke and the Sparkles team for their incredible ability to raise funds and friends for Saint Mary's!

**Necrology:** Jane called for the Reading of the Necrology List. Aaron read the following names: Connie Dayton, Steve Dunwoody, Bruce Fossett, Keith Galli, Bill Gowen, Alice Hendry, Anne Hillard, Bev Knudsen, Elon Marquand, and Betsy Wiley.

### **Announcements**

—Book Sale is March 19 and donations of books are needed

—Candlemas Service Wednesday, Feb 2nd

**Motion to Adjourn** *David Andrews with second by Jim Stoddard*

Thanks to Matt Fulton for his technology assistance

**Fr Nathan Message:** A video clip was then able to be seen from our Priest Nathan Ferrell, currently serving as a Navy Chaplain in Bahrain. Erin Ferrell, his wife, then added a few of her own observations.

Submitted by: Jan Mordarski, clerk

## Voter Qualifications

According to the Constitution and Bylaws of Saint Mary's, membership in the parish and voting privileges at the annual parish meeting are defined as:

"Any person age fifteen years or older, who has attended and supported the Church for six months and accepts its Constitution, shall be considered a voting member of the Parish. Members who have not attended or supported the Church for a year may cease to be a voting member of the Parish."

## Slate of Nominations for the Year 2023

Our parish needs to elect Wardens, Treasurer, fill positions on the Vestry, and to elect delegates to Diocesan Convention. We are grateful for the following parish members who have agreed to serve in the following ways, if elected by the parish at this meeting:

### Vestry:

Senior Warden: Janet Bowne (*two-year term*)

Junior Warden: Steve Conley (*fulfilling Aaron Splint's remaining one year term*)

Treasurer: Peter Guyton (*two-year term*)

Two-year term: Darren Clark (*fulfilling Steve Conley's remaining term as Vestry member*)

Three-year terms: Kathy Galen, Patrick Murray, Ben Russell (*terms expire in January of 2026*)

Convention Delegates: Four in 2023, based upon our 2021 Average Sunday Attendance.

Nominations for Convention Delegates are: Lucy Ellis, Jessica LaPlante, Bonny Rodden, and Nadine Timberlake, with Tim Shannon as Alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

The Nominating Committee: Darren Clark (Chair), Tommy Pettingill, Rick Hirschman, Marian McCue, and Nadine Timberlake

## Candidate Biographies

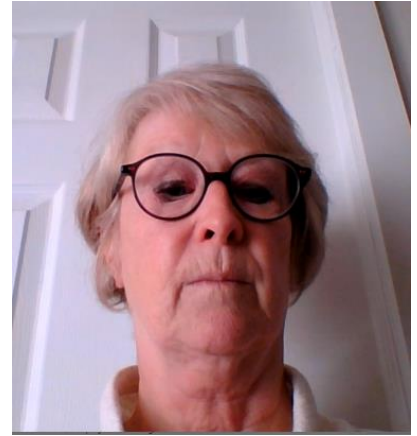
### **Peter Guyton, Treasurer**

I moved to Falmouth from Stamford, Connecticut in 2010 with my wife Penny and two sons, Chance and Boone. We were extremely happy to find and join St. Mary's a year later. My business career included 20 years as a Director of Information Technology for Fujifilm Medical Systems USA (formerly in Stamford, CT) and another five years as a Director of IT Services at Fujifilm Holdings USA in Valhalla, New York. At the latter, I oversaw a very large IT budget. In 2015, tired of constant travel, I opted to exit the corporate world and remain close to family and started a small photography practice in Falmouth. I was honored to capture a number of St. Mary's parishioner head-shots in 2021. Besides photography, I enjoy technology, skiing, writing, bicycling (over 5,000 miles in 2022) and spending time with family. I consider myself very blessed and have been looking for ways to give back to the Saint Mary's community. I would be truly honored to serve as treasurer.



### **Kathy Galen, Vestry**

I am pleased to say I became a member of Saint Mary's in 2014. I have recently retired from Milton Rents, and I am looking forward to following my journey of volunteer work by serving Saint Mary's and my community. I currently volunteer with Altar Guild, Souper Supper, Sparkles and several Outreach programs. My husband Jim and I reside in Westbrook. We have (2) daughters and (5) grandchildren. They all live in NH, and we love to visit with them and spoil our grandchildren. I look forward to continuing my journey and mission at Saint Mary's with God's blessing.



### **Patrick Murray, Vestry**

My wife Melissa and I are new Maine residents, having moved from Maryland two years ago, at a time corresponding to my retirement. We built a house in Falmouth and last Easter discovered Saint Mary, where we have enjoyed finding both spiritual enlightenment and a welcoming community of fellowship. For me personally, I worked for almost 50 years as a clinical microbiologist, directing clinical diagnostic laboratories at Washington University in Saint Louis, University of Maryland in Baltimore, and the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda Maryland. For the last 10 years of my professional life, I was the global director of microbiology for Becton Dickinson, a large multinational healthcare company. Melissa is a former nurse and now active artist, primarily working with oil representational landscapes. We were both very active in our Gibson Island Maryland church, Saint Christopher by the Sea, and I served on the church board for many years. Both Melissa and I look forward to being active in our new church community.



### **Ben Russell, Vestry**

Although I grew up in Falmouth, I now live in Scarborough with my wife Nancy. Three of our four children have blessed us with seven grandchildren, all of whom live locally.

Having retired from practice after 31 years as General Surgeon, I am enjoying this next chapter of my life, which allows for more free time and time to give to others. My connections to Saint Mary's are deep and strong. I was a member of the Junior Choir while in grade school and an acolyte while in junior and senior high school. During my journey to provide care to those in Greater Portland, I was drawn to Mercy Hospital and its Mission- to carry on the healing work of Christ. I came to appreciate and emulate the dedication of so many people whose life work it was to care for those among us who are at most risk. However, the Sisters also were realists and they knew that "no margin-no Mission" is a hard reality of life. This is not a greedy or vile sentiment, for it too is our reality as a Parish to be good stewards of all of God's Blessings. It would be an honor to serve on the Saint Mary's Vestry, as did my parents and grandparents.



# Saint Mary's Financial Reports *(unaudited)*

## Saint Mary's 2022 Balance Sheet *(unaudited)*

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Bank of America - Operating Account		
General Fund	94,039.47	97,000.71
Souper Supper Fund	1,297.28	1,132.37
Altar Flower Fund	2,623.46	2,698.93
Kneeler Fund	3,292.69	2,342.69
Churchyard Fund	6,515.00	580.00
Capital Projects Fund	6,175.02	9,179.82
Memorial Reception Fund	508.85	508.85
Long Creek Youth Ctr Fund	737.75	737.75
Outreach Fund	2,180.63	2,069.21
Sabbatical Fund	2,500.00	
Music	-	1,790.00
Royal School of church Music	2,400.29	2,400.29
Furniture Fund	550.43	550.43
Vestments Fund	1,108.65	1,108.65
In Her Presence		
Garden Redesign	-	(286.00)
Total Bank of America Operating Account	123,929.52	121,813.70
Charles Schwab	-	2,684.07
BoA - S. Mary's Discretionary	4,528.15	2,645.46
Cash and Cash Equivalents	128,457.67	127,143.23
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable	-	-
Total Current Assets	128,457.67	127,143.23
Other Assets		
JM Brown Memorial Fund	580,753.11	580,753.11
Mellie G. Estes Fund	20,138.64	20,138.64
Sabbatical Fund	13,033.29	13,033.29
Churchyard Fund	101,713.43	101,713.43
CEW Worship fund	561,981.69	561,981.69
Buildings & Grounds Endowment	580,131.14	580,131.14
Programs Endowment	292,612.01	292,612.01
Total Other Assets	2,150,363.31	2,150,363.31
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>2,278,820.98</b>	<b>2,277,506.54</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Deferred Income - Other	2,400.25	300.00
Norway Savings Bank LCC loan		
Pledge Prepayment	57,188.68	25,493.73
Total Current Liabilities	59,588.93	25,793.73
Total Liabilities	59,588.93	25,793.73
Net Assets		
Opening Balance Net Assets	503,411.28	503,411.28
Retained Earnings	1,748,301.53	1,430,942.64
Net Income	(32,480.76)	317,358.89
Total Net Assets	2,219,232.05	2,251,712.81
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2,278,820.98</b>	<b>2,277,506.54</b>

Note: Other Assets Balance is as of September 30, 2021. Current Diocesan sub fund accounting is pending.



# Summary of Activity & Budget *(unaudited)*

Operating Account	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2021 Actual
<b>Revenue</b>				
General Support				
General Pledges	244,067.64	275,000.00	290,000.00	288,604.08
Non-Pledge Payments	16,256.00	8,100.00	8,500.00	21,434.57
Loose Offerings	7,899.50	6,000.00	7,500.00	4,658.00
Prior Year Pledges	2,062.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	6,935.25
Special Offerings	3,064.64	1,500.00	2,500.00	2,916.12
Unrestricted Gifts	17,760.00	4,500.00	2,000.00	5,940.05
Use of Parish House	13,558.51	10,000.00	12,000.00	9,526.77
Use of Worship Space	4,603.30	3,000.00	3,000.00	4,844.20
General Fundraisers	16,458.87	13,000.00	18,000.00	29,804.80
Dedicated Revenues				
Altar Flowers	1,805.00	500.00	1,000.00	600.00
Capital Projects	21,549.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,250.00
Churchyard	5,935.00			3,080.00
Kneelers	950.00			
Memorial Receptions	-			200.00
Music Fund				
Worship				
Dedicated Revenue - Other				
Outreach				
Souper Supper	2,880.00	3,400.00	3,000.00	3,920.22
Long Creek Youth Center	-	100.00		-
In Her Presence				
Funds Received for Transmittal to Other Organizations	2,118.00			310.00
Other Outreach Revenue	2,411.42			-
Total Outreach	7,409.42	3,500.00	3,000.00	4,230.22
Dedicated Revenues	37,648.42	5,000.00	5,000.00	9,360.22
Other Operating Revenues	-	-	-	-
Total General Support	363,378.88	327,600.00	350,000.00	388,024.07
Income Distributions from Invested Funds				
Income Distributions from Unrestricted Funds	18,368.02	15,905.80	17,500.00	16,509.30
Income Distributions from Restricted Funds	60,194.67	51,882.90	55,000.00	53,906.31
Income Distributions from Invested Funds	78,562.69	67,788.70	72,500.00	70,415.61
Expense Vending Accounts	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	441,941.57	395,388.70	422,500.00	454,439.88
<b>Expenses</b>				
Diocesan Assessment	54,186.00	54,186.00	60,550.00	59,362.92
Personnel Expenses	240,848.50	239,978.88	236,960.99	211,454.73
Buildings and Grounds				
Maintenance	32,866.64	26,050.00	32,000.00	35,405.76
Fuel	18,385.72	14,670.00	30,517.28	12,154.56
Electricity	6,400.53	7,035.00	8,843.83	5,941.23
Water & Sewer	5,411.27	5,489.00	5,595.00	5,271.95
Telephone	5,726.67	6,012.00	6,100.00	5,863.24
Waste Removal	586.12	1,230.00	1,000.00	1,085.13
Professional Cleaning	5,948.11	5,950.00	7,700.00	5,112.60
Property/Worker's Comp Ins	19,324.00	21,219.00	19,925.00	19,290.00
Taxes	6,606.15	5,703.00	7,700.00	5,621.76
Buildings and Grounds	101,255.21	93,358.00	119,381.11	95,746.23
Other Operating Expense				
Office Supplies and & Repairs	7,440.87	6,500.00	8,707.20	7,760.67
Postage	566.00	750.00	800.00	614.70
Advertising	16.13	100.00	100.00	501.24
Vestry/Diocesan Expenses	614.75	100.00	250.00	1,448.74
Sewardship Expense				
Investment Expense				
Professional Fees	388.00	416.00	624.00	364.00
Printed Materials				
Licenses & Permits		25.00		
Parish Memberships				
Miscellaneous Expense	915.79	500.00	500.00	508.28
Other Operating Expense - Other	-	-	-	-
Other Operating Expense	9,941.54	8,391.00	10,981.20	11,197.63
Program Expense				
Worship Expense	4,086.07	5,450.00	5,400.00	2,929.35
Christian Formation	2,885.56	3,200.00	3,920.00	2,332.17
Hospitality	1,539.45	1,600.00	1,600.00	2,185.85
Music	11,457.25	6,000.00	11,850.00	5,029.68
RSCM/Youth Choir		-		
Outreach	20,859.09	17,250.00	7,000.00	17,887.02
Special Programs/Events	1,838.46	500.00	750.00	262.57
Program Expense	42,665.88	34,000.00	30,520.00	30,621.64
Major Improvements and Capital Expenditures	25,903.89	-	1,000.00	22,565.75
Other Expenses	(286.00)	-	-	286.00
Total Expenses	474,515.02	429,913.88	459,393.29	431,244.90
<b>Change in Operating Account before Principal Distributions</b>	(32,573.45)	(34,525.18)	(36,893.29)	23,194.78
Principal Distributions from/(to) Invested Funds				
Principal Distributions from/(to) Unrestricted Funds		-		46,300.00
Principal Distributions from/(to) Restricted Funds	(1,790.00)	-		(2,500.00)
Principal Distributions from/(to) Invested Funds	(1,790.00)			43,800.00
<b>Operating Account Increase or (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	(34,363.45)	(34,525.18)	(36,893.29)	66,994.78



# Saint Mary's 2022 Change in Funds Balances *(unaudited)*

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Balance 1/1/2022</u>	<u>Revenue/ Contributions</u>	<u>Investment Income Net of Expenses</u>	<u>Expense/ Distributions</u>	<u>Gains/(Losses)</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2022</u>
<b><u>Operating Account</u></b>							
General Fund	73,891.05	404,007.15	-	(439,157.66)	-	(4,290.00)	34,450.54
Designated Funds							
Souper Supper	1,132.37	2,880.00		(2,715.09)			1,297.28
Altar Flowers	2,698.93	1,805.00		(1,880.47)			2,623.46
Kneelers	2,342.69	950.00		-			3,292.69
Churchyard	580.00	5,935.00					6,515.00
Capital Projects	9,179.82	21,549.00		(24,553.80)			6,175.02
Memorial Receptions	508.85	-					508.85
Long Creek Youth Center	737.75	-		-			737.75
In Her Presence	-			-			-
Outreach	2,069.21	2,411.42		(2,300.00)			2,180.63
Sabbatical	-					2,500.00	2,500.00
Music	1,790.00	-		(1,790.00)			-
Royal School of Church Music	2,400.29						2,400.29
Furniture	550.43						550.43
Vestments	1,108.65						1,108.65
Funds Received for Transmittal		2,118.00		(2,118.00)			-
Worship		-					-
Garden Redesign	(286.00)	286.00					-
Other Dedicated Funds							-
Total Designated Funds	24,812.99	37,934.42	-	(35,357.36)	-	2,500.00	29,890.05
<b>Total Operating Account</b>	<b>98,704.04</b>	<b>441,941.57</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(474,515.02)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,790.00)</b>	<b>64,340.59</b>
<b>Discretionary Fund</b>	<b>2,645.46</b>	<b>7,450.00</b>		<b>(5,567.31)</b>			<b>4,528.15</b>
<b>Legacy Capital Campaign</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>
<b>Investment Funds</b>	<b>2,150,363.31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,150,363.31</b>
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>2,251,712.81</b>	<b>449,391.57</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(480,082.33)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,790.00)</b>	<b>2,219,232.05</b>

Note: Investment Funds have typically been updated quarterly so the beginning and year-end balances are as of September 30 since the quarterly statements are not received until after the year-end statements are published. Due to a change in Diocesan Sub-Fund management, 2022 reports are not available at the time of this printing.

## 2023 Budget Comments

To the members of the Parish

### **LOOKING BACK TO 2022:**

We ended the year 2022 with an operating deficit of \$34,363.

REVENUES: General pledges for 2022 were \$244,068, below our budget of \$275,000 and down from 2021 (\$288,604) and prior years (2020: \$267,429; 2019: \$276,350). Non-pledge payments, loose offerings, and revenue from use of the parish house and worship space were all well above budget and 2021, likely improved by our return to in-person worship. A special thanks to our Sparkles Team that was able to generate \$16,459 for the parish, higher than we had budgeted. Overall, total revenue for 2022 was \$441,942 compared to a budget of \$395,389 (and 2021 revenue of \$454,440). Our parishioners have continued to be incredibly generous during these inflationary times.

**EXPENSES:** Total expenses for 2022 were \$474,515, which was \$44,601 over budget. Much of that additional expense was capital projects (much of which was covered by generous donations). Beyond that, the categories of expenses most over budget were fuel (driven by an increase in price beyond what we'd budgeted), maintenance on our campus, and expenses for our music program. A special thanks to our Buildings and Grounds Committee that annually provides an enormous service to the parish through their many, many hours of skilled labor and care.

**THE ASSET SIDE:**

Year-end cash increased slightly by \$1,314 compared to the prior year-end. The church does not have any significant long-term financial liabilities (debt or payables). The total balance in the parish's investment funds (endowment) was \$2,150,363 as of September 30, 2021. This figure is over a year old as the diocese's vendor has not been able to provide statements of our accounts for over a year. This is clearly unacceptable and the diocese is looking to replace this vendor and Vestry is evaluating replacing the diocese as the manager of our investment funds.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023:**

**REVENUES:**

The general pledges for 2022 are budgeted at \$290,000, much higher than we received in 2022 but close to what we were able to do in 2021. As of January 18, 2023, the Stewardship Committee reports that we have received pledge commitments of \$250,770. So, at this writing, we need an additional \$39,230 to achieve the 2023 pledge budget. We cannot emphasize how important pledges are to our financial needs and ability to budget and plan for the year. Pledges represent 70% of our total general support for 2023.

**EXPENSES:**

The total expense budget for 2023 is \$459,393, which is up just slightly compared to our 2022 expenses (with capital projects removed to make a reasonable comparison). Our budget for 2023 includes cost of living adjustments for staff, but does not include significant capital projects, which are difficult to predict and budget for at the beginning of the year. As many of you are seeing in your household finances, the parish has seen financial challenges from inflation as our expenses (particularly fuel, electricity, and contract labor like snow plowing) grow faster than our income.

The result is a budgeted operating deficit of \$36,893. The operating deficit can be significantly reduced if we can exceed our pledge budget, and other giving and fundraising, which we did in 2021.

As Jesus spoke during the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:33), "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself." During my tenure as Treasurer there have been financial ups and downs, but our generous community has continually come through to support the important work that we are doing sharing God's love and message in the community.

**FINAL COMMENTS:**

The preparation of the budget begins with the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC). After the BFC develops a preliminary budget, it is given to the Executive Committee (EXCOM) for input and suggestions. The BFC meets again to review the EXCOM suggestions and make adjustments. The Vestry received the 2023 budget at its November meeting for initial study and comments. The BFC met again to review Vestry comments and suggestions and make appropriate additions or reductions. The Vestry continued to study the budget at its December meeting. Final Vestry approval was made at the December meeting.

Members of the BFC are available to meet with any member of the parish who might have questions or comments regarding the finances of the church. We also would welcome anyone interested to join the BFC. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or feedback.

Ben Parks-Stamm, Treasurer

**CELEBRATE**

**HONOR**

**SERVE**

# 2022 Annual Reports

## Rector's Report

The year 2022 at Saint Mary's continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The year began with another spike in infections, as the Reverend Jane Milliken Hague continued to serve and lead in my absence, due to my 10-month Mobilization to Bahrain with the US Navy. Things began to return to normal as the year progressed. At the end of August, Rev. Jane left us and moved on to serve as interim at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Princeton, NJ. We are very grateful for her compassionate and committed leadership in our parish during this unusual interim period. And I am extremely grateful for the flexibility and understanding of this entire parish family which supported me and my family throughout this time.

At the end of September, I returned from Navy duty and returned to Saint Mary's. Since then, parish life has increased in energy as is usual during the final quarter of the year. However, there have been several other transitions. In October, Deacon Christine Bennett retired (again) to resume her calling as an actively engaged lay member of the Church. Unfortunately, the Bishop has asked her to do that away from Saint Mary's for at least six months, to allow for a change in roles and relationships to develop. By God's providence alone, we were able to quickly identify another Deacon who was new to our area and not yet connected with a parish home. In December, the Reverend Matthew Simpson began his ministry among us. Deacon Matthew's gifts, experiences and primary vocation are very different than those of Deacon Christine, but we are excited to see how the Holy Spirit works through him to guide us in outreach and ministry in the years to come.

The end of December also saw the resignation of our long-time Organist and Choirmaster, Bruce Scott Fithian. Bruce has been an outstanding figure in our parish life for more than 15 years. Even though we all understand and support the reasons behind his departure, he will be sorely missed for his deep passion for music as well as the other many ways that he and his husband, Kue John Lor, engaged in our community life.

The end of December also marked the end of the leadership of Jeff and Courtney Morgan in our Guiding RAY program for children and youth. Although they served in this role for only eighteen months, we will miss their warm and hospitable leadership of this program during a season of ongoing change.

Interims are now in place for both our Music Ministry (Kathleen Scott) and our Guiding RAY program (Meg Hurdman, as a volunteer). 2023 will be a year of transition in both ministry areas, as we listen with discernment to how the Holy Spirit is leading us to be effective in ministry in the future. As always, the mission of God's Church never changes: to celebrate and worship our good Creator, to honor the presence of Christ in each person, and to serve the needs of our world in the power of the Holy Spirit. May God be honored in all that is said and done here at Saint Mary's.



The Reverend Nathan W. Ferrell, Tenth Rector of Saint Mary's



## Deacon's Report

Deacon Matthew Simpson only began his placement by the Bishop at Saint Mary's in December. As Deacon Matthew gets settled into St. Mary's, he will begin preaching on a regular rotation, and he will look to begin discernment and formation with congregants on what it means to be Church in the world beyond Sundays. In the meantime, Deacon Matthew will continue to look to serve with fellow parishioners in established servant ministries that Saint Mary's is already doing in the our communities as his secular vocation allows.



## Wardens' Report

2022 showed us again that our parish is strong. We began the year with our newly welcomed interim minister, Jane Milliken Hague while Father Nathan was deployed in Bahrain. COVID-19 was on the upswing. With lots of planning, we managed to maintain our ministries and programs safely. Reverend Jane was a perfect fit for our parish, and we appreciate her time with us. Her capable leadership kept us going and prepared us to welcome back Father Nathan.

We are grateful for the steadfast support from our parishioners. So much of what we do at Saint Mary's is driven by volunteers. From outreach to ushers and hospitality to vestry, we rely on our parishioners to fulfill our mission. We are blessed with a small but strong professional team to offer the framework for ministries and programs. Together we managed the ups and downs of the pandemic, deployment, and increasing economic headwinds. Thank you!

Sadly, we all grieved the sudden and tragic death of our Junior Warden, Aaron Splint in May. Aaron was a kind and thoughtful person, always ready with a smile and word of encouragement. Despite having a very full schedule, he always made time for Vestry work and for Saint Mary's. We miss him very much but are so grateful he shared his many gifts with us.



Janet Bowne, Senior Warden  
Steve Conley, Junior Warden



**CELEBRATE**

**HONOR**

**SERVE**



# Reports from Saint Mary's Ministries, Guilds and Committees

Our mission here at Saint Mary's remains constant as we continue to build authentic, vibrant, Christ-centered community. To do this, we:

**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.

We do this every day in many various forms, as demonstrated below.

## **CELEBRATE** **the goodness of God and the gift of life**

We are committed to maintaining our traditional Christian liturgy while extending our offerings to meet the spiritual desires and needs of the wider community.

### **Acolytes**

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Acolytes have not had opportunities to participate in the services since March of 2020. We look forward to relaunching our Acolyte ministry, hopefully in 2023.

### **Altar Flower Guild**

The members of the Altar Flower Guild take great pleasure in creating floral arrangements for the Altar each week as well as decorating the church for the Holy seasons throughout the calendar. We help to create the beauty on the Altar, in the Nave, the Chapel and the outdoor Easter Garden. We strive to provide fresh flowers each week, sometimes pulling from our own gardens or the garden and grounds at Saint Mary's. Our aim is to provide some beauty and solace for both our in-person and virtual worshipers. We can do this through the generosity of the members of Saint Mary's who donate specifically to the Flower Guild in memory or celebration of a loved one, an event or to support the cause. We welcome donations throughout the year and have an "ask" for additional funds prior to the Easter season. All funds stay within the guild to purchase material and flowers for the arrangements and to decorate our beautiful spaces.

In 2022 we welcomed back several members from their pandemic hiatus, we laid Jan Wentling to rest, and we welcomed Carolyn Davis. The guild would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join our group, as extra hands are always needed. Periodically we attend workshops to sharpen our skills, and we always pair new members up with a seasoned arranger. This is a wonderful group of talented people who would love to learn from others and share their talents. Please contact Beth or Jessica LaPlante (650-7977) if you would like to help in any way.

Chair: Jessica LaPlante. Committee: Jessica LaPlante, Onnie Hastings, Jana Burke, Maura Fitch, Carolyn Davis, Melissa Kane, Jan Mordarski, Katie Porter, Helga Ryder, Lynne Shepherd and Jan Andrews

## Altar Guild

Altar Guild continued its quiet ministry in 2022. We adapted as needed under Reverend Jane's and Deacon Christine's direction. Reverend Jane reinstated the noon Thursday Eucharist service at the end of 2021. We held in person services throughout all of 2022.

Thank you to the Altar Guild members for their support during 2022:

Jana Burke, Joan Dow, Kathy Galen, Portia Hirschman, Mary Lalumiere, Barbara Murray, Katie Porter, Lynne Shepherd, and Mary Smith.

## Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Visitors

While our regular church services during much of this pandemic season has been altered, special thanks go to those of us who have been comfortable serving as readers during these unusual times.

We have a wonderful team of persons who feel called to serve God by reading scripture, serving at the altar, and taking the Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church. Our lectors have included:

Al Ahlers	Chris Martin	Virginia Stelk
Neila Blake	Marian McCue	Betsy Stoddard
Terry Brown	Rebecca Morgan	James Stoddard
Linda Eaton	Andrea Myles-Hunkin	Leonard A. Taylor, Jr.
R. Stanley Eaton	Betsy Parks-Stamm	Leonard A. Taylor, III
Erin McGee Ferrell	Pat Peard	Nadine Timberlake
Jennifer Gregg	Rebecca Clifford Pride	Gregory W. Unfricht
Jeff Herrold	David Robinson	Joyce Verey

Eucharistic Ministers are confirmed adult communicants in good standing authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at the Holy Eucharist, many of whom are also lectors. Because we have not consistently used our Eucharistic Ministers this past year due to COVID, our team looks forward to a time when we can serve at the altar again. That team includes:

Al Ahlers	Chris Martin	James Stoddard
Christine Bennett	Mary Ann McLean	Leonard A. Taylor, Jr.
John Bennett	Andrea Myles-Hunkin	Leonard A. Taylor, III
Terry Brown	Betsy Parks-Stamm	Nadine Timberlake
Steve Constantine	Rebecca Clifford Pride	Gregory W. Unfricht
Lee Dernehl	William Rana	Lee Van Dyke
R. Stanley Eaton	Lynne Shepherd	Joyce Verey
Jeff Herrold	Betsy Stoddard	

**Eucharistic Visitors** are confirmed adult communicants in good standing authorized to take the Sacrament to members of the congregation who are unable to be present at the Eucharist, by reason of illness or infirmity. Although we have been unable to go out and serve during the pandemic, our Eucharistic Visitor team includes:

Stanley Eaton	Rebecca Pride
Paul Engel	Nancy Lee Snow

## Healing Team

The COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed for in-person ministries such as the Healing Team. We look forward to being active again once the virus is under control.

In non-pandemic times, the Healing Team offers prayers during Communion at both Sunday services. A primary focus of Jesus' ministry was healing the sick in body, mind and spirit and Jesus commissioned his followers to do the same. Laying on of hands and anointing for healing is as old as the Church and an important opportunity to offer God's healing grace to one another.

## Kneeler Guild

The Kneeler Guild has had a busy and successful 2022 and are looking forward to continuing their meaningful work in 2023. We welcome new members to the Guild: Ben & Nancy Russell, Debra Madigan and Jean Marquand.

In May, we were able to get the last six completed kneelers dedicated to the Glory of God and for use in the sanctuary of the Saint Mary's Church. Revered Jane blessed them on May 1 and following the service, the Kneeler Guild hosted coffee hour. At the Coffee hour, we had pictures of the six kneelers and all the information about them on display. There was also a display of Hannah Russell's portfolio which Debby Hammond had organized and is now safely stored in the White Wool Room.

A notebook entitled The Art and History of Saint Mary's Kneelers has been started and hopefully will be complete in 2023. The notebook includes each kneeler with picture, related bible verse or theme behind the design, the name of stitcher, the person who it was dedicated to and who memorialized the kneeler. The pictures and formatting of the pages is mostly the work of Debra Madigan and Ben Russell. Eventually, we hope to get the notebook in print form which could be purchased by parishioners.

In October, the Guild hosted a second coffee hour to present the first section of the notebook to the parish and to offer the opportunity to support the ongoing care and maintenance of the kneelers.

Kneeler guild members: Jan Mordarski (chair), Jana Burke, Val Kyros, Debra Madigan, Jean Marquand, Barbara Murray, Grace Robinson, Ben Russell, Nancy Russell, Lynne Shepherd, and Ginny Stelk.



*All Saint Mary's Kneeler's were designed and canvas painted by our own Hannah Russell (1929-1992) in the early 1970s and stitched by nearly 100 women and men.*



*Photos from May 1 Kneeler Coffee Hour. Pictured Rev Jane Hague and Barbara Murray*

## Music Ministry at Saint Mary's

The Saint Mary choir continued to offer their much-appreciated contribution to Sunday worship services by leading the congregation with singing service music, hymns and presenting offertory anthems. Guest organist, Sylvia Infantine, graciously substituted for Bruce during his January stay in Long Island to visit Kue John Lor.

On January 6, a Sacred Songs and Readings service for Epiphany was celebrated with pertinent readings for this feast day, an Epiphany French carol *La Marche des Rois*, a cello piece, *Prière* (Prayer) by Camille Saint-Saëns played by John Bennet and a rousing organ piece, *The March of the Kings* by Carl Simone.

Another Sacred Songs and Readings service for *Candlemass*, which celebrates the young Christ child being presented at the Temple, took place on the feast day, Feb. 2. This lovely, meditative time of worship included topical readings, a *Candlemass* procession singing *The Song of Simeon*, hymn 34 'Christ, mighty Savior, Light of all creation,' and Hymn 25 'O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ' (the ancient *Phos hilon*). Cellist John Bennet played Astor Piazzolla's *Ave Maria* as a fitting piece for meditation.

Many parishioners have admired the Gregorian Chant manuscript that was in the narthex of the church (it is now in the entrance of the auditorium). I have long loved and sung plainchant, so when I looked closely at the manuscript, I saw that it was for Feb. 13 *Septuagesima* Sunday (Also known as, Shrovetide, which marks 70 days from Feb. 13 to the Saturday after Easter, and is therefore a kind of 'pre lent'). So on that Sunday I sang the chant: *Bonum est confiteri Domino, et psallere nomini tuo, Altissime*. The words are taken from Psalm 92: It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

The 10:15 service began with a hymn based on this text: 'It is good to sing your praises.' For offertory the choir sang the exquisite anthem 'Lord, in thy mercy' with a text by Martin Luther and music by Felix Mendelssohn.

Further February offerings included Aaron David Miller's 'God So Loved the World,' and a solo, Bach's 'My Heart ever Faithful,' by our soprano section leader, Bethany Perkins.

The choir helped usher in the Lenten season with appropriate anthems: C. V. Stanford's 'O for a closer walk,' Bob Chilcott's 'The Lord's my Shepherd,' Gabriel Fauré's *Agnus Dei*, Thomas Morley's *Agnus Dei*, and beautiful communion music: a Handel duet *Ahi, nelle sorti umane*, sung by Bethany Perkins Hall and Maria Belva, and Bach's cantata aria 'Sighing, weeping' sung by Bethany Perkins.

Bruce offered Lenten organ music with June Nixon's 'Chaconne for Lent,' Gerald Near's 'Prelude on J.S. Bach's Passion Chorale,' Gerald Near's 'Solemn Prelude on a Theme of Thomas Tallis,' and Paul Bryan's *Passacaglia*.

We enjoyed celebrating with Bishop Brown on April 3 with the lovely anthem 'Meditation for Lent', with the Guiding Ray children participating.

A Sacred Songs and Readings service for Martin Luther King's Feast day was held on April 4, and included the famous readings by the martyr as well as organ music by black composers: Prelude on 'We Shall Overcome' by Aldophus Hailstork, 'Deep River' arranged by Richard Billingham, and 'Toccata on 'Great Day' by Aldophus Hailstork.

The Saint Mary Choir offered 'Hush! Somebody's Callin' my Name,' a traditional spiritual arranged by Brazael W. Dennard, and John Bennet played the serene *Elégie* for cello and piano by Gabriel Fauré.

Holy week was ushered in with many stirring offerings: Bob Chilcott's 'God so loved the world' (the Sunday of the Passion), Felice Anerio's *Christus factus est* (Maundy Thursday), and the great Good Friday service: the chanting of the St. John Passion and Venantius Fortunatus's *Crux fidelis* for the Veneration of the Cross.

We were so fortunate to once again be able to celebrate the Vigil of the Resurrection on April 16 with hymns and anthems reflecting on the history of salvation: Hymn 412 Earth and all stars, Hymn 648 When Israel was in Egypt's land, and Richard Shephard's 'A new commandment.'

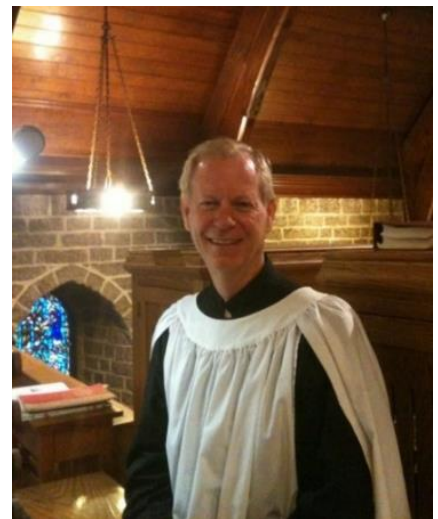
The resurrection was celebrated with the full organ playing and Gustav Holst's anthem 'Joy is come!'

After two years of smaller engagement, we were all happy to celebrate The Sunday of the Resurrection in all its glory on April 17. Trumpets, bells and joyful singing included the offertory anthem 'O Sons and Daughters of the King,' and Bruce enjoyed playing Charle-Maire Widor's thundering *Toccata* on the great Casavant organ.

For the month of May, Saint Mary's was gracious enough to allow Bruce and Kue John Lord to fulfill a dream: walking the *Camino francés*, a 480 mile trek across northern Spain arriving at the ancient pilgrimage cathedral of Santiago. This 33 day journey was truly inspirational, and in the fall, Bruce attempted to share some of these truly remarkable experiences on a Thursday Common Ground gathering. We are so grateful that guest organist and choir director, Kathleen Scott, led the music ministry during their time in Spain.

Bruce returned in June for Trinity Sunday and the choir's last Sunday participation, and enjoyed leading Bob Chilcott's anthem 'Be Thou My Vision.'

The summer season enabled Bruce to play some favorite organ pieces during the Sunday eucharists, such as Vaughan Williams's *Rhosymedre* (Fathers Day), Organ settings of Early American Hymns (July 3), Handel's 'Arrival of the Queen of Sheba,' and Paul Bryan's 'Trumpet Air.'





For Kick Off Sunday on September 11, we remembered our dear friend Thomas Troeger by singing an anthem by Jonathan Crutchfield, based on Tom's joyful poem 'Make Our Church One Joyful Choir.'

We were so grateful to celebrate the return of Father Nathan from Bahrain on September 25 and offered the César Franck's *Panis angelicus*, featuring our tenor section leader, Ben McVety.

It was with great happiness that after more than two years, we were once again able to offer a choral evensong on October 2. This is a cherished Anglican tradition, and we loved singing a great masterpiece by Charles Villiers Stanford: his *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C*. The Preces, Responses and anthem were by the eminent American composer Dan Locklair.

On October 16 we were able to thank Christine Bennett for her many years of service on her last Sunday as deacon, by singing Everett Titcomb's 'Jesus! Name of wondrous love.'

Further anthems during the fall included Mendelssohn's 'I waited for the Lord' with soloists Bethany Perkins and Maria Belva, Mozart's *Ave verum*, and William Harris's 'Holy is the true light.'

On November 13, a Sacred Songs and Readings service 'The Lord's Prayer'

was offered to reflect and honor Christ's great prayer. This included pertinent readings as well as Becky Pride's 'The Lord's Prayer: a Variation.'

Hymns with the prayer theme were sung, such as Hymn 615 'Thy kingdom come!', and 'Our Father, God in heaven above' by Martin Luther. This last hymn was the theme used in Mendelssohn's Organ Sonata #6 which Bruce was thrilled to play. We also savored a Thomas Troeger's poem 'Let All Who Pray the Prayer Christ Taught' by singing his text to the tune of Dundee. As a prelude to a time of meditation, John Bennett played a serene work by Olivier Messiaen, *Louange à l'Éternité de Jésus* (Praise for the eternity of Jesus).

On November 20, we celebrated the Diocese of Maine's 200th birthday with hymns especially written for this occasion: 'O Wondrous Souls of Light,' and 'On Christ the Solid Rock.'

On November 27, it was with great thankfulness that we could one again honor the First Sunday in Advent with a service of Lessons and Carols. Similar to the Vigil of the Resurrection, the story of Salvation included readings from the Bible and anthems and hymns that reflect on the readings. These included the hymns 'Creator of the stars of night,' 'Come, thou long expected Jesus,' and 'Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.'

The choir had worked very hard on the beautiful anthems: Peter Warlock's 'Adam lay abounden,' Vaughan Williams's 'This is the truth sent from above,' Paul Manz's 'E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come,' and David Vernier's 'I Sing Of A Mayden.'

Once again, we honored Thomas Troeger on the second Sunday of Advent with Walter Pelz's setting of Tom's poem 'The Moon with Borrowed Light.'

The annual pageant on Dec. 18 was greatly appreciated and a way to celebrate the Guiding Ray Program under the leadership of Jeff and Courtney Morgan.

Finally 2022 concluded with the joyful Christmas eve services, with Bethany Perkins beautiful participation in the 4:00 and 6:00 services, John Bennett's cello ensemble from the Portland Conservatory for the 6:00 service, and the 9:00 candlelight service fittingly enhanced by the choir's singing John Rutter's 'Candlelight Carol.' I am biased, of course, but in Reverend Jane Hague's words: 'the choir is the glue that keeps the church together,' I couldn't agree more! Bruce Fithian



*Please thank the loyal and dedicated choir members:*

### **The Saint Mary Choir**

**Sopranos:** Maria Belva, Bethany Perkins, Toosie Smith

**Altos:** Linda Eaton, Betsy Stoddard, Jamie Szal, Jane Tholen, Nadine Timberlake (*whosometimesingsoprano*)

**Tenors:** William Salomon, Ben McVety, James Stoddard

**Basses:** Stan Eaton, Greg Fergin, Rick Hirschman, Tommy Pettingill, Justice Pollard, Tim Szal

# Ushers

I want to start with a note acknowledging the sudden loss of one of our most faithful and committed ushers, Aaron Splint. Aaron was committed to Saint Mary's in many ways. He enjoyed ushering and could always be counted on to fill-in in a pinch. Thank you, Aaron.

Ushers play a key role in helping ensure that our clergy and congregation feel welcome and have the support they need to participate fully in and enjoy our worship services. We are the first people parishioners and new visitors see when they come through the door and may be the last, they see when they leave, so it's an important ministry at Saint Mary's.

We have a great group of people, and we have fun ushering together. Serving as an usher is a good way to serve the parish and make some new friends at the same time. It doesn't require a significant time commitment, and it is a wonderful opportunity to experience our services from a slightly different perspective. Usually, each person only must usher once a month, and if you can't make your scheduled time, others are always available to cover for you.

It is best to have a balance of "veteran" ushers and new recruits, and we welcome new recruits that would like to join. Even if your schedule makes it difficult for you to commit to a regular rotation, we will welcome the opportunity to include you on a standby list of potential fill-ins whom we might call upon in those instances when the regularly scheduled usher has a last-minute conflict. We would like to express our thanks to all of the individuals who served as ushers throughout 2021 and look forward to having them continue their service in 2023.

We welcome any questions, comments, or suggestions you might have about how the Saint Mary's ushers might better support your individual needs or those of the congregation at large during our worship services. If you'd like to join our ministry, contact Tom LaPlante at (207)272-5621 or via email at [tlaplante@llbean.com](mailto:tlaplante@llbean.com).

Our present ushers are:

## **8am Service:**

Al Ahlers  
Rayle Ainsworth  
Ed Ainsworth  
Steve Conley  
Baer Connard  
Charlie Hurdman  
Jim Kane  
Judy Oliver  
Len Taylor  
Greg Unfricht

## **10:15 am (9:30am) Service:**

Mark Bentley	Chris Martin
Alice Brock	Pat Peard
Tim Caven	Steve Reeves
Steve Conley	Ryan Stinneford
Steve Constantino	Joyce Verey
Harry Duvall	Len Verey
Ron Frye	Dawn Yerkes
Chuck Horton	Noah Yerkes
Tom LaPlante	



# HONOR

## the presence of Christ in one another

We are committed to the spiritual growth of all God's children. We are committed to treating all people with dignity and respect and to increasing the care we provide for one another.

## CARE Team

This is one of the ministries that was able to continue during the pandemic and meet monthly through Zoom. In 2016 we formed a CARE group (Community Actively Reaching Everyone) of loving parishioners to work with our clergy to care for other parishioners - concentrating on keeping track of everyone on our parish family who might need special attention. A chart was created with names on the left and columns for various possible ministries, such as delivery of casseroles and soups, cards, visits, rides and phone calls. This group has met most every month since with all discussions within this group confidential. A special ministry was carried out by Nadine Timberlake who visited, with Bible Studies, both Foreside Harbor, Falmouth by the Sea and Portland House when pandemic openings allowed.

Prayer Partners members, led by Becky Pride, met on Zoom with the CARE team every month, as many parishioners are in both groups.

We welcomed Rev. Jane and Beth, when she has time, to be with us at each monthly meeting while Fr Nathan was in Bahrain. In November, we were joined once again by Fr Nathan once he settled in following his return from his Navy Chaplaincy assignment.

We would love to have anyone interested join this ministry group at any time by calling Beth at the office or Lee Snow at 781-2309, [nlsnow@aol.com](mailto:nlsnow@aol.com)

## Churchyard Committee

As a reminder to all Saint Mary's parishioners, if you are thinking about where to place your remains upon your passing, Saint Mary's Churchyard (cemetery) has many spots open in both Saint Mary's Woods and the Burial Garden. Please contact Beth Shaw or Hugh Smith for more details.

The committee met in May of 2022 and reviewed a list of maintenance projects developed earlier. Several tasks were completed in 2022.

- A headstone that had fallen over was reset including adding cement to stabilize it.
- Two very large overgrown shrubs in the Old Churchyard were removed.
- A volunteer from a family with a plot in the Old Churchyard trimmed the boxwoods and other shrubs in the circle area resulting in a much-improved appearance.
- Buildings and Grounds members removed all of the pear trees lining the path through the Burial Garden and also ground down the stumps. The trees had never thrived in the shade of the oak trees and were dying.
- Buildings and Grounds members maintained the Churchyard picking up branches, raking and pruning as needed.

Please contact a member of the committee if you have questions and would like to help us with our work. The committee consists of Hugh Smith (chair), Ed Ainsworth, Becky Pride, Virginia Stelk and John Teets.

### **2022 Churchyard Activity:**

*Lots Acquired:*

During the year, 2 full units and 2 Saint Mary's Woods units were acquired in the Churchyard.

## Common Ground

Due to COVID-19, we have not been able to meet for our weekly Thursday evening (when school is in session) gathering called Common Ground that consists of a potluck dinner followed by a current, informative and entertaining program. We look forward to the possibility of re-starting this ministry.



## Formation on Sundays

In September 2018, we made a slight change in our Sunday morning schedule to create space for a brief time of “**Formation**” together between the early and the later liturgies. Since the COVID-19 pandemic has affected our meeting in person, much of this opportunity was halted. Be Still continued as it swiftly switched to Zoom, and Rev. Jane offered occasional meetings. When Fr Nathan returned, a Bahrain Report was offered that provided a fascinating review of his time overseas and his personal growth there. In December, it was personal time. We said Welcome to Deacon Matthew, Farewell to Bruce Fithian, and Hello to Bishop Thomas!



## Be Still on Sunday Morning

**Be Still** continued most Sundays. The meetings were *via* Zoom until Spring when the programs moved to hybrid Zoom and in-person.

Be Still coordinated by John Bennett, Jennifer Gregg, Becky Pride and Merle Marie Troeger, is a contemplative group that meets each Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15. We begin with a five-minute quiet, centering period, followed by the introduction of a poem, scripture or other art form for contemplation and group response. The session concludes with five minutes of quiet reflection and a prayer.

Changing, overarching themes carry us along during the year. The theme for much of the year was “Peace.” The new theme is “Grace.” As usual, the theme is fleshed out in poetry, music and sometimes art work.

A group of 10-18 participants enjoys the intimacy of small group sharing, seeking spiritual growth and community. Please know that you will be welcomed to try out/join us at any time. Contact any of our coordinators to receive the readings in advance; the Zoom link can be accessed from the Saint Mary's Weekly eNews.

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

## Be Still: Centering Prayer on Monday Evenings

In response to the pandemic lull, Be Still: Centering Prayer on Monday Evening also transitioned from Zoom-only to hybrid gatherings – simultaneous Zoom and in-person, masked gatherings in the Chapel. A small group of parishioners, members of other Portland-area churches and folks “from away”--as far as Colorado! – join together each Monday evening at 5 PM. Led by Jennifer Gregg, we begin with a short Taize chant (digitally accompanied) before entering into 30 minutes of silent reflection. There follows a short reading from scripture. We continued drawing from The Gospel of Thomas in 2021) with short periods for directed reflection, followed by time for response, as desired. All are welcome to drop in at any time. Contact Jennifer Gregg with questions or just click on the link provided in the Weekly eNews



## Compass of Compassion

In a response to the many people voicing their anguish during turbulent times, St. Mary's began to offer a daily reflection of comfort. As we watch the news, our hearts break for so many who are caught in a struggle for power and who have no peace. Since February 2022, we have been sending out a daily poem, scripture, or inspiration to lighten our sorrow. This is for all who seek a direction and compass for their prayers.

## Merton Group

As with other formation groups, Merton Group transitioned to hybrid mode as the pandemic allowed, with the in-person participants meeting in the Chapel from 3-4 PM on Wednesdays. This is a small, spiritually diverse, inquisitive, tolerant, open-minded and supportive group of self-described seekers. We meet to read and discuss a selected work that draws from the Christian and other faith traditions in an effort to help us reflect on our own and world's spiritual roots and fuel personal growth. Because we read aloud to each other, there is no homework, regular attendance is not necessary, and the nature of the reading lends itself easily to those who wish to join the group mid-book. All are welcome to visit or join the group at any time. Contact Jennifer Gregg with questions or click on the zoom link provided in the Weekly E-News.

## Quiet Mornings

**Lenten Quiet Morning**, on Saturday, March 5, 2022. The theme was the Anointing Woman who appears in all four gospels. Again, we used the biblical texts in various translations, poetry and art to illuminate the story. Merle Marie planned the program and Becky Pride led the quiet morning adding her own materials and selected poetry. The artwork was circulated via zoom and sway photo program.

<https://sway.office.com/5pD75CaClUwCYwji?ref=Link>

**Advent Quiet Morning**, on Saturday, December 10, 2022. The theme was Prayer and the title was Postcards from the Soul. We looked at the traditional forms of prayer (intercession, thanksgiving, petition, confession, praise) and we identified other ways we pray as well (action, silence, meditation). We considered what names we use for God, how and why prayer works and the ways we pray that we might never have called prayer before.

## Sacred Ground

Throughout 2022, about 20 people at St. Mary's have participated in a program called Sacred Ground which explores the stories of Indigenous, Black, Latinx and Asian/Pacific-Americans as they intersect with those of European Americans. The curriculum consists of a series of 10 sessions and includes powerful documentary films, articles and 2 books, all relating to racial healing, racial equity and whiteness. A key component of Sacred Ground is the formation of dialogue circles that study, meet and pray together. Within the safety of these circles, people tell their stories. For instance, where does my family's history intersect with larger historical events? The creation of the State of Maine? The Atlantic Triangular Trade? The voluntary and involuntary migration of persons to this country? Colonial-era land acquisition, seizure and settlement?

## Sacred Songs and Readings

Bruce Fithian and John Bennett spearheaded and planned four special evening services that included music, poetry and prayer. They did not follow a particular order of service such as Evening Prayer or Compline. They were intended to be quiet and contemplative, with periods of silence built in among the other elements.

The Sacred services occurred on:

January 6, 2022, celebrating Epiphany

February 2, 2022, celebrating Candlemas

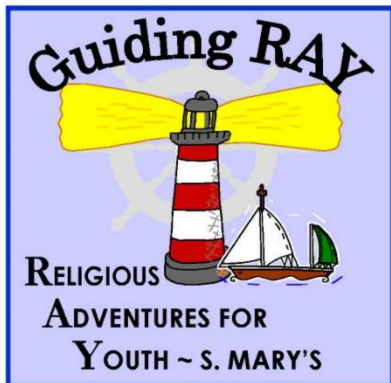
April 4, 2022, celebrating the feast day of Martin Luther King, Jr

November 13, 2022, reflecting on the Lord's Prayer

## Wisdom Seekers

On Tuesday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30, there is a Bible study group called **Wisdom Seekers**, coordinated by Nadine Timberlake, that meets in hybrid form, either in person or on Zoom. We study Scripture appointed for the upcoming Sunday, examining the historical background, how people living at that time understood God's message, and what is it saying to us today. We have seven and 10 people who join in a lively discussion, sharing our thoughts and ideas. It is a great way learn more about the Bible and to prepare oneself for the coming Sunday. All are welcome to join at any time during the year.

## Guiding RAY



The Guiding RAY ministry has done well this past year. During the Spring semester, we had a canned food drive, sledding activity, and many enjoyable times outside tending to the church's garden. The kids attending really enjoyed getting to see the 'fruits' of their labor and harvest the vegetables in the fall for the Falmouth Food Pantry. Thank you to Bobbi MacCallum for your assistance with the garden planting and tending. We were able to safely put on the Christmas Pageant in December and had a lot of participation from many families. Friendships grew among the kids this year. We typically had around 10 kids attend each week. While we would have preferred to have had more volunteer involvement, but we were able to manage the ministry well between ourselves (Jeff and Courtney), playing games, and learning about God's love through a weekly

liturgical Bible lesson.

## Middle School Youth Group

The pandemic interrupted the meeting of this group since March of 2020. In the meantime, these young people have been encouraged to participate in the online offerings of our diocesan Youth Ministry.

## Hospitality Ministry

Although we have not yet filled the position of Hospitality chair and COVID has caused us to cancel many fellowship gatherings with food, we were so fortunate to have Robin Webber stepped forward to head up the Coffee Hour planning for which has made many people happy to see it return. We hired Cinnamon Girl (owned by Melissa Cott - a former parishioner) to cater the Kickoff Sunday coffee hour to start the 2022-23 program year.

COVID-19 did put a halt to other gathering events: the Annual Meeting brunch, the Memorial Day Parade refreshments, and the Summer dinner and fundraiser which takes months to plan and the Kickoff event. We are hoping someone will step up to take over leadership of this vital aspect of our community, and that new members will join this ministry! **If interested in leading or joining the Hospitality Ministry, please contact the parish office or one of the Wardens.**

## Coffee Hour Ministry

The Coffee Hour Ministry was redefined halfway through the year. Coffee Hour is the time that parishioners can gather together, newcomers can be welcomed, and special events can be held. In order to attract new Hosts, we streamlined the Coffee Hour requirements. A helpful parishioner (usually Dana – thank you!) sets up the coffee urn, carafe, paper cups, tables, and some treats for the Coffee Hour following the 8am worship. The Host of the day piggybacks on this setup for the Coffee Hour, keeping it simple to ease cleanup. The Host also provides the food, with either homemade or store-bought baked goods, cheese and crackers and fruit in some form. Coffee Hour is accommodated by a number of people helping to carry it out.

It can be reported that the roster of parishioners signed up to Host expanded to include both regular Hosts and people new to the experience. We intend to keep this momentum going in 2023 by making it as easy as possible to participate, whether streamlining cleanup or making sure that no one is Hosting alone. This is a joyful ministry, and anyone can be a part of it! Contact Robin Webber at [webberonsebago@msn.com](mailto:webberonsebago@msn.com)

## Memorial Reception Guild

The memorial receptions we provided this year were in honor of Priscilla Connard, Hannah Russell, Tom Troeger, Aaron Splint, Margaret Sommer, Lincoln Stelk, Stephen Smithwick, Charlie Butts, and Jan Wentling. Of course, needing to have so many receptions within one year means that our community suffered painful losses, including Aaron's unexpected death which was especially shocking to all. Yet the many volunteers who helped with these receptions moved in to fill the breach as always, offering essential sustenance and comfort to grieving families and friends every time. The heartfelt thanks expressed by family members, repeatedly, buoyed our spirits and testified to the crucial role this ministry plays at St. Mary's. We extend our huge thanks to the volunteers for their invaluable service and encourage others to consider joining with us in the future. To join or help out with this wonderful ministry, contact Alice Brock [acbrock83@gmail.com](mailto:acbrock83@gmail.com) or Joyce Verrey [joyceverrey@gmail.com](mailto:joyceverrey@gmail.com)

## Newcomers Welcome Team

This year, 2022, because of the COVID-19 pandemic once again, we have had no gatherings. We will hopefully return to them during this upcoming year.

The Welcome Team at Saint Mary's includes the committee and members of the Vestry. Our objective is to introduce new church members to the Saint Mary's community, and to make them feel welcome in our parish family. We usually organize coffee hours a couple of times a year, after the Sunday morning services. They are held in the Auditorium like every coffee hour, so that whole families can attend.

We are looking for a chair of this wonderful ministry; if you are interested, please contact one of the Wardens or the parish office.

## Prayer Partners

Special thanks to all those who have attended our monthly ZOOM meetings and who have called or emailed Lee and/or Becky to keep our prayers of intercession ongoing during these difficult times.

Prayer Partners is a long-standing group of around 30 parishioners who pray daily for many people within and outside the parish. People ask to have their names or those of their friends or loved ones on this list. We gather regularly to go over the list, add names or uplift people, as well as to pray together and reinforce each other. The list is strictly confidential and reserved only for those who pray the list. If you would like prayers for yourself for any reason or for a friend, or if you would like to join this praying community, call Beth at the office or Becky Pride at 781-4391 or email her at [rebeccapride1@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccapride1@gmail.com).

## Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl Ministry involves knitting shawls using *large needles-size 13* and a *quite simple pattern*. You need not be an accomplished knitter to learn how to create these practical messages of comfort. They are called “Prayer Shawls” because the work is initiated with prayer, and the shawls are blessed prior to being given. One simple pattern involves casting on 57 stitches, then knitting three stitches and purling three stitches—representing the Holy Trinity. Most knitters enjoy repeating “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” with the stitches. There are other more complex patterns available, but all involve a three-stitch pattern invoking the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you need a packet with all supplies needed, contact the Parish office.



Our supply of completed and blessed shawls is on the low side, so we could use some replenishing. With our Eucharistic Visitor ministry as well as the CARE Team, we hope more parishioners and friends in the hospital, nursing homes, new mothers or someone just needing support will be given one. We look forward to being able to deliver these again. We need your help to know who needs one. Just request a prayer shawl, and it will be given.

Those interested in more details and/or participating in any of these ministries should contact Ginny Stelk at 847-3602 ([lstelk@maine.rr.com](mailto:lstelk@maine.rr.com)). We need you.

## SERVE

### the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*We are committed to serving others in our community and in the world,  
trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us.*

## Altar Flower Delivery

During a normal year, the Altar Flower Delivery Guild delivers the flowers each week which have graced the altar to parishioners who are ill, home bound, or just observing a celebration in their lives. It is also a way of extending Sunday worship to perhaps those for whom prayers have been offered that Sunday. Our small group of dedicated members are Dawn & Noah Yerkes, Cindy & Chuck Horton, Betsy & Jim Stoddard and Lynne Shepherd. Thank you for your ministry. We certainly welcome new members.

Kindly consider offering your time to this ministry. Perhaps this could be a one-time 'teaching moment' for your family. It takes little time and effort and no special skill in floral arranging is necessary, but the rewards are many. Contact the Parish Office if you might be able to consider offering a half hour every few weeks to this important ministry of Saint Mary's. We are also looking for someone to lead this wonderful ministry.

## Red Cross Blood Drives

Since COVID began, Saint Mary's has coordinated with the American Red Cross to serve as a primary donation site in the greater Portland area. We are proud to be such an important part of this effort to save lives and keep our community healthy.

Here are the total collection amounts from drives at Saint Mary's during 2022, according to an email from our primary contact at the Red Cross in Portland:

*“We ran a total of **16 blood drives** at the Episcopal Church of Saint Mary, which is just incredible. During 2022 Saint Mary's and the American Red Cross were able to collect a total of **457 units of blood** which equates to **1,371 lives** potentially saved. What an amazing achievement!”*



American  
Red Cross

*Together, we can save a life*



# Buildings & Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee (B&G) had a very busy year in 2022. This was driven in part by available members meeting on many Tuesday afternoons from the spring into the fall to work on a wide variety of tasks. These tasks included regular maintenance items and other work identified by the committee, parishioners and staff. The highlights of this work are:

- A major reconstruction of the lychgate including support structure and completely new roof. The project was supported by an anonymous parishioner in memory of G. David Fenderson.
- A significant repair of the support columns and sill of the Rectory front porch.
- Repair a drain leaking from the water fountain into the lower-level hallway and repair the ceiling and wall damage.
- Cut down and grind the stumps of the dying pear trees in the Burial Garden.
- Removal of several dead trees throughout the campus including hiring the removal of one next to the Chapel.
- Apply two coats of stain to the Rectory deck, backsteps and bulkhead.
- Repair the ceiling in the Guiding Ray great room damaged by a spill in the auditorium above.
- Install a temporary fix to a leak at the top of the church spiral staircase and place Plexiglas in the slit windows to keep rain off the steps.
- Hire a structural engineer to do an initial analysis of masonry issues in the Church previously identified by committee members.



*Lychgate sketch by Jessica LaPlante*

While committee members provide hundreds of hours maintaining our campus, there are nonetheless tasks that require professionals. Unfortunately, the elevator has been less than reliable of late and required several visits from Pine State Elevator with issues continuing into 2023. Other significant expenses including repair of the Rectory refrigerator, hiring an arborist to remove a tall threatening tree and engineering consultation. These and other normal expenses resulted in being significantly over budget for the year.

In 2022, the committee lost its longtime chair, Jim Stoddard, as he and Betsy moved to New Hampshire. We are grateful for his leadership, hard work and countless hours he put in.

Hugh Smith & Fred Webber, Buildings and Grounds co-chairs

## Meal Train/ Casserole Ministry

This is another ministry that COVID-19 affected greatly as our mission is to share meals with parishioners who are temporarily unable to cook for themselves, and this kind of contact has not been allowed.

The Meal Train consists of dozens of Saint Mary's cooks who prepare and deliver meals to folks in our community who are in need and unable to cook following surgery or recovering from an illness or other life-changing events, such as the arrival of a new baby or other needs.

Without formal meetings and relying on internet and telephone contact, we provide meals to numerous families in our church community. In some cases, it has been for one or two days while for others we have provided weeks of meals seasoned with kindness and care.

If you are interested in helping this ministry when restrictions lift, please contact the parish office [admin@smayr.org](mailto:admin@smayr.org) or Christie Rana [christie.rana@gmail.com](mailto:christie.rana@gmail.com)

## Office Angels

With COVID letting up during periods of 2022, some of the Office Angels ventured out to help with small projects while others were still 'on hold'. Thank you to Lee Dernehl, Susan Chapman and few others that came out and thanks also those angels that proofed the AVE publication on a monthly basis in their own homes. Thanks you to Becky Pride, Jennifer Gregg, Marian McCue and Linda Eaton.

With things turning around hopefully later in 2022, we can begin to welcome more office helps to the angel ranks.

## Outreach Committee

Outreach at Saint Mary's continues to focus on our relationship with God's creation, human and otherwise. The committee tries to offer as many possibilities for parishioners to build relationships with the immigrant community, the recovery community, those dealing with food insecurity, families in need, at-risk youth, as well as racial justice matters and caring for creation.

This year Outreach continued its hallmark programs. Parishioners cooked and served members of the community twice a month at Souper Supper, even once by candlelight when the power failed and curbside when Covid made it unsafe to eat inside. They volunteered at St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center, providing those in need with items not covered by general assistance. The church community responded to the need as well, loading the St. Elizabeth's box in the Parish Hall with coats, diapers, pots, and pans, and more. Under another program, Helping Hands at Home, a loyal contingent returned this year to rake leaves for a very grateful parishioner.

Nourishing the committee and the entire parish with prayer again this year, Merle Marie Troeger offered her "Quiet Mornings" of reflection in Lent and Advent.

There was a significant change on the Outreach team when Jennifer Gregg retired as chair after years of dedicated leadership. The other committee members are Stan Eaton, Anne LaFond, Dana Madison, Marian McCue, Vanessa Record, and Bonny Rodden.

Some of the highlights of the year were:

- Helping the Vembas, our adopted family from Angola, settle into their new home in Westbrook while they await a permit allowing them to work. Big news for 2023! Belinda is expecting a third child in March!
- Providing the Falmouth Food Pantry with fresh vegetables from the gardens of Guiding Ray and adult parishioners as part of the Grow-A-Row project. And making apple crisp and volunteering at the Community Dinner which raises money for the Pantry.
- Socializing with homeless families of asylum seekers and watching over them at night when they were sheltered for two weeks at the Congregational Church in Falmouth.

### Outreach Financial 2021 Disbursements

Another role of Outreach is recommending to the Vestry how to spend 5% of pledges from last year that are designated for outreach. This year, \$15,200 was distributed to Souper Supper and 18 non-profits. The criteria were: non-profits with whom we have a mission relationship, those for which individual parishioners volunteer, and those organizations in Maine and internationally that serve people in need. Thank you for your generosity!

In 2022, the following grants were distributed:



## **Racial Justice \$2400**

### **Maine Initiatives \$700**

<https://maineinitiatives.org/>

Provides grants to a network of Maine organizations that advance racial justice work.

### **Four Directions Development Corporation \$700**

<https://fourdirectionsmaine.org/>

Provides education and investment to Native Americans in Maine for business ventures and affordable housing.

### **Maine Council of Churches - \$1000**

<http://mainecouncilofchurches.org/>

Advocates in Augusta for the needy and the environment and provides programs for its 7 denominations, including advocacy training.

## **Food Insecurity \$2300**

### **Cultivating Community - \$500**

<https://www.cultivatingcommunity.org/>

Teaches youth and New Mainers about sustainable farming practices, promotes community gardens, and is involved with food programs in schools.

### **Falmouth Food Pantry - \$1300**

<https://www.facebook.com/FalmouthFoodPantry/>

Provides fresh vegetables and dry goods to about 200 families.

### **Cumberland Food Pantry- \$500**

<https://www.cumberlandmaine.com/community-food-pantry>

Provides food to the needy in Cumberland, North Yarmouth, Pownal, and New Gloucester.

## **New Mainers \$2000**

### **In Her Presence - \$500**

<https://inherpresence.org/>

Saint Mary's grant provides transportation funding so immigrant women can travel to Southern Maine Community College where classrooms are used for critical training in professional and development skills.

### **St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center - \$1000**

<https://stelizabethsmaine.org/>

Distributes non-food essentials (ie. infant diapers, feminine/personal hygiene products, toilet paper, soaps, dental care products, bed/bath/kitchen items) to 170-185 needy families.

### **Family Promise \$500**

<https://greaterportlandfamilypromise.wordpress.com/about/>

Provides shelter, meals and case management for homeless families in conjunction with faith-based communities.

## **At-Risk Youth \$1500**

### **Friends of Long Creek Development Center – \$500**

<https://www.friendsoflongcreek.org/>

Collaborates with staff and corrections officers at Long Creek to provide higher education and vocational training to the remaining youth at the facility.

### **The Opportunity Alliance – Homeless Youth Service - \$1000**

<https://www.opportunityalliance.org/>

Provides intensive case management to young people facing homelessness by seeking to support and stabilize the entire family.

## **Substance Use Disorder \$2500**

### **Maine Recovery Fund - \$1000**

<https://www.mainerecoveryfund.org/our-impact>

Provides wraparound services, such as housing and transportation, to people in recovery working at jobs provided by the for-profit business MaineWorks.

### **Casco Bay CAN - \$1000**

<https://www.cascobaycan.org/>

Offers training sessions for parents, grandparents, and other adult mentors to reduce the risk of substance abuse among family members of all ages.

### **Milestone Recovery - \$500**

<https://milestone-recovery.org/>

Provides emergency shelter, medically managed detoxification and long-term treatment for people with substance use and behavioral health disorders.

## International \$2500

### **Community Life Centers of Haiti - \$500**

<https://www.clchaiti.org/>

Provides faith-based spiritual, emotional and medical care to Haitian children and their families in the community of Ouanaminth, which is struggling with the chaos of roving gangs and natural disasters.

### **Partners for World Health \$1000**

<https://www.partnersforworldhealth.org/>

Collects surplus medical supplies and equipment and redistributes them to those in need locally and internationally, which included an instant response to Ukraine.

### **Church World Service \$500** (affiliated with ACT Alliance)

<https://cwsglobal.org/>

Assists refugees and provides disaster relief around the world, including boots-on-the-ground agencies in Moldova that provide shelter and safety to 400,000 refugees fleeing Ukraine.

### **Doctors Without Borders. \$500**

<https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

Provides medical aid in many areas of the world, including Haiti and Ukraine.

## Helping Hands at Home

This ministry, which began in 2019, is designed to help parishioners on a periodic but year-round basis to stay in their homes by helping with simple tasks and indoor and outdoor odd jobs.

Volunteers have agreed to be “on call” to participate as they are available in this ministry. It is a wonderful way for those with both outdoor skills (raking, shoveling, simple gardening, simple plumbing/construction projects) and indoor skills (deep cleaning, organizing, clerical) can come together in response to the needs of parishioners. The pandemic has limited volunteer activity largely to outdoor work, but this has nonetheless been critical to the parishioners we help.

If you are interested in joining this core band of volunteers (Holly Bernstein, Janet Bowne, Kathy Galen, The Grace-Cleale family, Tom and Jessica LaPlante, Dana Madison, Jan Mordarski, Hugh Smith, Mary Smith, Jim Stoddard, Betsy Stoddard, Joyce Verey, Len Verey) please contact Jennifer Gregg, [jenniferanngregg@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferanngregg@gmail.com) or Beth Shaw, [admin@smary.org](mailto:admin@smary.org) for more information.



## Stewardship: *our annual Campaign*

Saint Mary's continues to be blessed with pledges and gifts of all sizes from many generous parishioners. Thank you!! At the start of 2022, our pledge goal was \$270,000. We ended the year with \$244,068 in pledges and \$47,040 in other gifts. Thank you all!!

Volunteering is an equally important component of stewardship. Saint Mary's has so many wonderful volunteers offering support for all aspects of our mission and ministries. Without volunteers, we simply could not fulfill our mission. Thank you to everyone who gives their time in big and small ways to keep us going strong even during a pandemic. When we look back on these challenging years, one thing will be clear: Saint Mary's rose to the challenge to continue to serve God and our community.

Another component of stewardship is our fundraising efforts. Thank you to the incredible Sparkles Team who made Sparkles 2022 such a huge success. Sparkles totaled more than \$16,500 for 2022. Simply wonderful!

We look toward 2023 and inflation is hitting all of us hard, including Saint Mary's. We don't know how the year will go but Saint Mary's is well positioned to continue to do God's work in our community. Thank you!

## MORE THAN ENOUGH





## Planned Giving: *Alida Greely Brown Heritage Society*

The Planned Giving program aims to inform and recognize those among us who wish to remember Saint Mary's with deferred gifts to help ensure Saint Mary's long-term fiscal health.

Saint Mary's Alida Greely Brown Heritage Society (named for our founder) enables individuals to make such gifts to Saint Mary's easily and recognizes those who have expressed their intention to provide such gifts as part of their estate planning. Membership may be public or private, as you so choose. If you have already provided for Saint Mary's in your will, we hope you will inform either Father Nathan or Beth Shaw so that we can properly thank you and invite you to join this society. In 2022, we were not able to host our AGB annual lunch nor any Diocesan First Light Society gatherings with the Bishop.

Thank you to those parishioners who have already included Saint Mary's in their estate planning, thereby ensuring Saint Mary's viability for generations to come.

In 2022, Saint Mary's received a generous gift of \$10,000 from an anonymous family to fund the Music and Organ Endowment Fund. While the cornerstone of our music ministry the Casavant organ, costs associated with repair as well as other music needs had not been endowed. We are grateful to have this fund seeded and know that it will grow to serve Saint Mary's music ministry in the future.

For more information on Saint Mary's planned giving program, please feel free to contact Janet Bowne (781-3844, [jmitchellbowne@gmail.com](mailto:jmitchellbowne@gmail.com)) or Beth Shaw (781-3366, [admin@smary.org](mailto:admin@smary.org)).



*Alida Carroll Brown,  
mother of Alida Greely Brown*

## Fellowship & Fundraising Events



### Book, Bake and Soup Sale

The Book Sale (no Soup or Bread) was held in March of 2022 and raised over \$2000 for local outreach, and will be held again this year on March 4, 2023.

We are "Calling All Books" at this time and will be advertising the sale beginning in mid-February as well as hosting a coffee hour with sign-up sheets at that time.

Funds raised at the Book Sale are used for local mission and charity assistance coordinated by the Saint Mary's Outreach Committee. To help with the sale or with any questions, contact Jan Mordarski ([janmordarski@gmail.com](mailto:janmordarski@gmail.com)) or Vanessa Record ([recordvanessa@gmail.com](mailto:recordvanessa@gmail.com))

## Saint Mary's Sparkles in 2022

Thanks to many volunteers, lots of generations donations and even more shoppers, Sparkles 2022 was a success. We raised just over \$16,000 but have some items that may not sell until January.

As a rookie chairman, I relied heavily on the institutional knowledge from prior chair people and other Sparkles insiders! And all of those experienced people came through 100% to help and advise. Additionally, Beth Shaw, our Parish Manager, shared her many talents in ensuring our brand remained strong in the signage, tags and marketing materials. It's not possible to have a sale without the goods to sell. We received lots of wonderful donations to sell including from parishioners who happened to be downsizing just at the right time for lovely items to come our way! Our bakers outdid themselves by producing cookies, cinnamon coffee cakes, almond cakes, pies, breads and candy. As has been our experience, so many of our patrons comment on the quality of our merchandise as well as the welcoming and cheerful atmosphere created by our volunteers! Simply incredible!! Thank you!





## 202<sup>nd</sup> Diocesan Convention of The Episcopal Diocese of Maine: 22 October 2022

The 2022 Diocesan Convention was held online. Prior to the actual convention, the Diocese held regular town meetings usually weekly which allowed all the delegates to learn about the major items like the budget, the resolutions and other important business. These meetings were extremely helpful in making the actual convention function well. Thank you to our delegates for their participation!

### 2023 Clergy, Staff & Vestry

Rector	Nathan Ferrell	nathanferrell@smary.org
Deacon	Matthew Simpson	DeaconMatthew@smary.org
Organist/Choir Director	Kathleen Scott	KathleenScott.7@gmail.com
Guiding RAY Coordinator	Meg Hurdman	Guiding RAY@smary.org
Parish Manager	Beth Shaw	admin@smary.org
Sr Warden*	Janet Bowne	jmittchellbowne@gmail.com
Jr Warden*	Steve Conley	Steve.Conley@point32health.org
Treasurer*	Peter Guyton	peter.guyton@3dogyard.com
2021	Rudy Israel	RFIsrael@aol.com
2021	Tom LaPlante	tlaplante@llbean.com
2021	Pat Peard	peardpatricia@gmail.com
2022*	Darren Clark	ddclark@maine.rr.com
2022	Chris Martin	foodservciechris@yahoo.com
2022	Steve Reeves	stevekreeves@gmail.com
2023*	Kathy Galen	Kathleendaisy@aol.com
2023*	Pat Murray	Patrick Murray1948@gmail.com
2023*	Ben Russell	BLR@maine.rr.com

*\*Pending election at Annual Meeting*



### With Gratitude

We thank the Rev. Jane Milliken Hague who was the priest in charge of Saint Mary's while Fr. Nathan was answering the call to the Navy by fulfilling the Chaplain position in Bahrain for 10 months (November 2021 – September 2022.)

We also thank and recognize the years of service by two huge figures that came to Saint Mary's in September of 2007: Christine Bennett and Bruce Fithian

- Deacon Christine Bennett retired from Saint Mary's in October 2022 after many years of assisting in our Sunday worship and being a key member of many pastoral ministries at Saint Mary's. Her calming and reassuring presence will be missed as we await her next role in God's plan.
- Bruce retired from the choir loft at the end of 2022 after fifteen years leading the musical portion of our worship and church life. His talents are known far and wide and there will be big shoes to fill.

All at Saint Mary's wish only the best as these two integral members of Saint Mary's parish explore other interests, travel and enjoy a slower pace.

Our gratitude also extends to Jeff & Courtney Morgan for taking charge of the Guiding RAY program for 18 months – stepping down at the end of 2022. Your energy and vitality was so appreciated by parents and clergy alike, and we look forward to sitting in the pews with you and your family.

And thank you to our staff and **entire parish** for creative and positive energy that lifted us up in 2022.

# Saint Mary's Parish Registry - 2022

## **Baptisms:**

Lydia Alison Gulliver  
Charles Begin Cameron  
Charles Christopher Holm  
Robert Cooper Reeves, II

## **Deaths:**

Robert Cheney  
Tom Donaldson  
John Fournier  
Alice Harding  
Pat Kinkade  
Dawn Peterson  
Hannah L. Russell

Aaron Splint  
Lincoln F. Stelk  
Kathryn Street  
Jane Record Frick  
Syephen Smithwick  
Thomas H. Troeger

## **Marriages:**

Ann Michele Duvall and Stephen R. Conley



*Photo taken by Bishop Thomas Brown at the wedding rehearsal of Michele and Steve, January 2022*



