

# Saint Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH ❖ EST. 1938



*We are a sacramental people, serving as the visible presence of Jesus Christ in our community.*

### CLERGY

Rev. John Asare, Pastor  
Deacon Mike Ellerbrock  
Deacon Rick Furman

### MASS

Saturday  
5:00pm  
Sunday  
8:45am and 11:30am  
Tuesday-Thursday  
9:00am  
Friday  
11:15am

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday  
3:30-4:15pm

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday  
9:00am-3:00pm  
Friday  
9:00am-12:00pm

### CONNECT WITH US

1205 Old Mill Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540) 552-1091

[stmarysblacksburg.org](http://stmarysblacksburg.org)



**EASTER SUNDAY**

# RISEN

When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. —Jn 20:6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**Easter Sunday Mass  
streamed via Facebook Live at 9:00am**



This year, we may not be able to participate in a Chrism Mass,  
but God has already anointed us to do his work.

We may not be able to renew priestly commitment or to ask God's blessings on our priests,  
but we have been given multiple new ways to see their ordination in action.

We may not be able to wash feet,  
but the Spirit has shown us multiple opportunities for service.

We may not be able to receive the Eucharist,  
but Christ is still present to us and in us.

We may not be able to experience the Garden of Gethsemane,  
but we know better what it is like to be alone in prayer and fear.

We may not be able to proclaim the Passion or to touch the wood of the Cross,  
but we know what it is to suffer and to join our sufferings to His.

We may not gather at the foot of the Cross,  
but we know what it is to mourn our dead -in our family, in our country, and in our world.

We may not be able to stand in the glow of the Easter fire and to light the flame of a Paschal Candle,  
but we know that Christ's victory has dispelled the darkness and that "the night shall be as bright as day."

We may not be able to enter a confessional,  
but we know that Adam's "necessary sin" was "completely destroyed by the death of Christ"  
and that this "happy fault has won for a us so glorious a Redeemer!"

We may not be able to see our elect bathed in the baptismal waters,  
but we can renew our own baptismal promises and support them in the journey of faith.

We may not be able to welcome new members to our Eucharistic table,  
but we can rejoice in our common Baptism in Christ.

We may not be able to rejoice in the beauty of the lilies and the spring flowers,  
but we know what the angel told the women in the garden.

We know that the tomb is empty.  
We know that Christ is risen.  
We know that whatever the world may be facing, we are always saved.  
It's always Easter.

*~Rita A. Thiron, M.A.*

Join us on Facebook Live for Easter Mass

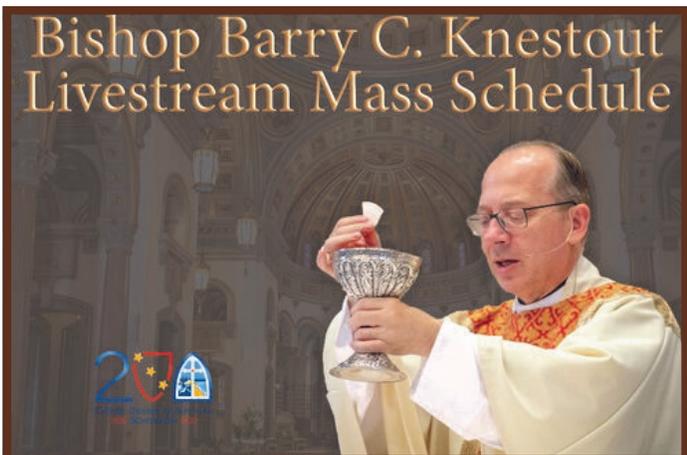


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Easter Sunday  
9:00am



**Bishop Barry C. Knestout  
Livestream Mass Schedule**



**Bishop Barry C. Knestout  
will celebrate Easter Sunday Mass  
from the Cathedral in Richmond at  
10:00am**

[https://richmonddiocese.org/  
bishop-knestout-to-celebrate-holy-  
week-liturgies-livestream/](https://richmonddiocese.org/bishop-knestout-to-celebrate-holy-week-liturgies-livestream/)



### **Now More Than Ever**

Faith Direct is St. Mary's **online giving program** that allows parishioners to *conveniently and consistently make church contributions* through either direct debit from a checking/savings account or a credit/debit card.

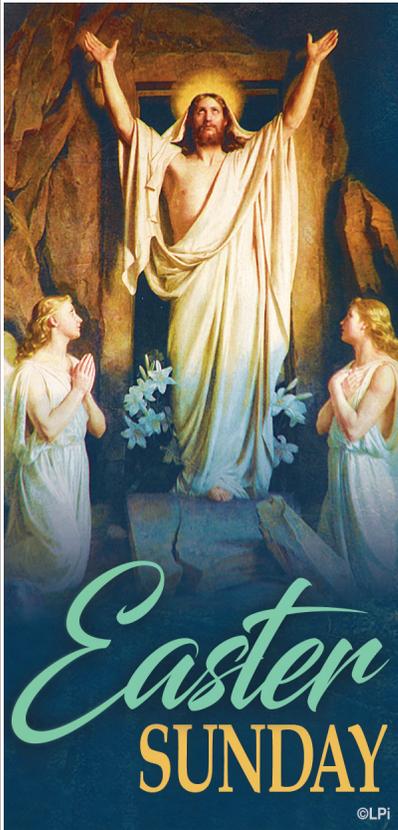
Online giving provides an easy opportunity to support St. Mary's parish even when not attending Mass.

Here's how you can **ENROLL**:

- type **faith.direct/VA969** (directly into a browser or search window)
- call Faith Direct, **1-866-507-8757**
- text "**ENROLL**" to (540) 274-2005 (and follow the prompts)
- visit St. Mary's website and click on **Faith Direct button**

Please call the Office with any questions. Thank you for enrolling!

#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**



When we awoke this morning, we found ourselves blessed with another day. It is Easter Sunday. As that thought crossed our minds, did we find ourselves saying “so what” or “alleluia”? For many, today is truly a day of alleluia. For others, it is just another day of “so what.” Faith makes a huge difference. It not only makes a difference in how we understand today and the significance of what we celebrate, it also makes a huge difference in terms of how we understand ourselves.

Succeed, live well, be productive, find your niche, follow your dreams, make money, protect your social status, be politically correct, and keep your preferences to yourself are pretty good examples of the messages our secular life wants us to hear. In and of themselves, they don't sound all that harmful. But when really examined, they are. The life of resurrection embodied in the Gospel tells us a much different story.

Life keeps us busy. We are always connected, distracted, occupied, and working. For many of us, an agenda awaits us before we even start our day, and unfinished stuff is brought with us when we retire at night. Make the best of life and “find your own road to happiness are messages we all too easily believe. The “so what” response to the new life of resurrection is often the result of believing that life is only what I make it. What God has to say isn't important to me securing my next raise.

Sadly, we live as if the grave is the end. While we may give the wonder of heaven a blink now and then, its glory really doesn't impress us or matter all that much. It's all about the here and now and what I need to do today to get where I want to be tomorrow. We tend to put off considering the one significant “tomorrow” that will come the millisecond after we take our last breath. When that happens, will we want to be thinking “so what?” or “alleluia”?

There is only one Jesus, one mission, and one resurrection. There is also only one of us. Have you ever pondered what one solitary, humble human life can do? Faith, not our world, tells us how special we are. We are not robots. We are not replaceable. We have one shot. There are no do-overs. Love is at our core and unites us together as one with the God of love who so desperately wants us to be with Him forever. This may not match our secular agenda, but it ought to make our true inner agenda leap for joy. There doesn't need to be an end. I can live forever. Alleluia!

# THANK YOU

*for your generosity*

## Thank you to our parishioners

Fr. John **gratefully thanks** all who have enrolled in online giving as well as those who continue to donate to our parish offertory. We are in it together and by the grace of God we will come through this a stronger, more faithful parish!



Our world wants us to believe that life is only what we make of it. Today, we realize how untrue that is. Life is ultimately about what God makes of it, and the resurrection of Jesus reveals this. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Who do you understand yourself to be? What we did yesterday, are doing today, and may do tomorrow pretty much determine how we perceive ourselves. We even perceive Jesus this way in limiting our vision of him to his earthly accomplishments. But, we know through today's triumphant celebration that Christ is much more than his earthly legacy. The transfigured and resurrected Christ is the beginning, the end, and the fulfillment of all things and every person. All that Jesus did stands in second place to who we now know him to be. Do we realize that this will be our journey too? Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia!

# Prayer REQUESTS

Aaron Johnson  
Alex Sepoli  
Alison Maguire  
Amy Haugh Dodds  
Ann Martin  
Anthony Atkins  
Barbara Marino  
Baxter Perkinson  
Becky Glazener  
Becky Hepler  
Becke Chamberlin  
Ben Liuzzo  
Bud Chamberlin  
Charlotte Joyce  
Clark DeHart  
Daniel Brooks  
Dennis Kilper, Jr  
Diane Folz  
Diane Merrix  
Dick Stewart  
Doug Whichard  
Baxter Perkinson  
Frank Baker  
Elaine Lutz  
Elina McCartney

Eva Kelly  
Jace Baab  
Jackie Fore-Dye  
Janice Steele  
Jen Austin  
Jessica Moore  
John Bianchi  
Josefina Cerezo  
Kathy Kelly  
Kathy Hummel  
Isaac Hummel  
Leslie Pittges  
Lisa Lavery  
Lisa Walters  
Lori McDaniel  
Lou Cotroneo  
Marie & Vivianne Castillo  
Mary Ann Barksdale  
Mary Claire Madera  
Mary Devens  
Mary Elaine Riley  
Mathias Baker  
Mike Chandler  
Nancy Aull  
Patty Carey

Paul Ringel  
Paula Lovett  
Rodney Allen  
Richard Kelly  
Rita Sullivan  
Stephen Orr  
Suzi Vass-Gal  
Thaddeus Baker  
Theresa Liuzzo  
Tom Heintzman  
Vera Genua  
Vin Liuzzo  
Von Brannock  
Watt Shields  
Seminarians:  
Accilien Ponge  
Admen Noel  
Theragin Putercin  
Tom Lawrence  
Our Haiti Twin Parish & School  
Prayer and Support Group for  
the Promotion of Mental Health  
& Recovery

**Our Military Families**  
Austin T. Leake  
Christopher Abrahamsen  
Daniel Milauskas  
George Zolovick III  
Grace Milauskas  
John Harvey III  
John Milauskas  
Justin Laatz  
Diana & Mathew Halferty  
John Newman  
Michael Canfield  
Michael Quinn, Jr  
Ryan C. Curran  
Vincent Vitiello  
Zack Mayo



## CONNECT WITH US

info@stmarysblacksburg.org  
(540) 552-1091  
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1205 Old Mill Road | Blacksburg, VA 24060

### Help for Victims of Abuse

**Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064, and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Jennifer Sloan at 1-877-887-9603.**

### **BICENTENNIAL PRAYER OF THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND (1820-2020)**

Father of lights, the radiance of your Son has guided the advance of the Gospel across the Diocese of Richmond for two centuries, strengthening our Church from the Eastern Shore to the Cumberland Gap.

Grant that the nearness of your Son may dispel the darkness of our sins, so that as our love increases more and more, we may dare more than ever to fearlessly proclaim the word.

Holding fast to the word of life, may we shine like stars in the world.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

