

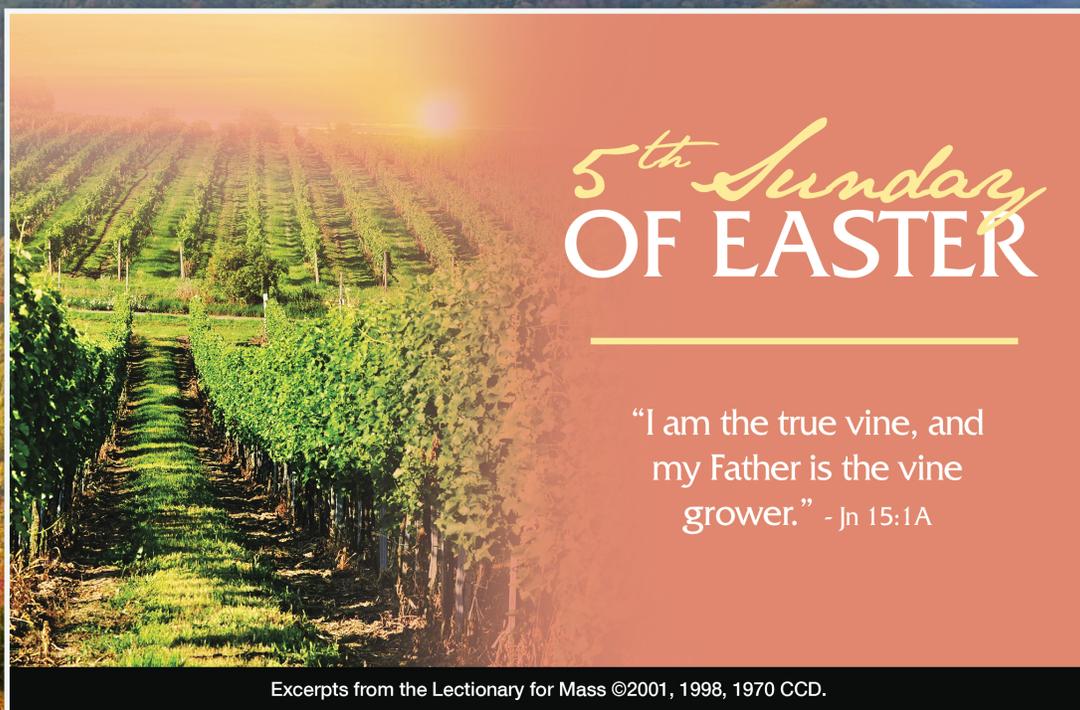
Saint Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH of BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

Established 1938

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021



CLERGY

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

RECONCILIATION

Friday: 12:00 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:30 AM and 11:30 AM
Monday: No Daily Mass
Tuesday: No Daily Mass
Wednesday: 9:00 AM
Thursday: No Daily Mass
Friday: 11:15 AM

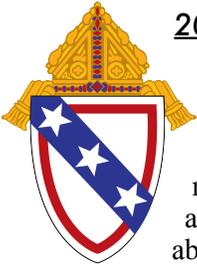


Join us on Facebook for
live-streamed Masses and
parish updates!
[@stmarysblacksburg](#)

1205 Old Mill Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060

(540) 552-1091

This Week's Announcements



2021 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Ten weekends ago, we collected for the Diocesan annual appeal. In case you missed that opportunity, we will be collecting this weekend to support the many wonderful things that the Diocesan annual appeal affords for our parish, like the ability to support programs such as To Our House and the Caring Closet Food Bank. **This year, the parish target for St. Mary's has been set at \$32,130; we've reached 105% of that goal.** Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed! If you have not yet donated, there is still time!

PPC NOMINATIONS

St. Mary's Catholic Church Parish Pastoral Council is seeking nominations to the council! Nominations may be made online at: tinyurl.com/stmarysppc. Contact the council directly at ppc@stmarysblacksburg.org



KoC UPCOMING WEBINAR

Blessed Michael McGivney, a Parish Priest, founded the Knights of Columbus to help the Catholic families of his parish. Learn how that venerable company has grown and can help your family in the 21st Century – register for the May 12 webinar at <https://tinyurl.com/ZoomToFoundedForFamilies>



SUMMER PEACE LAB

This year we will be offering a "Summer Peace Lab" for our rising Kindergarteners - rising 3rd graders. Provided we get enough children and high school and volunteers, we will be holding this outdoor offering on July 19 - 21st from 9am - noon. More information and registration forms will be available in the next few weeks. Questions: Contact Sue Ellerbrock



YOUTH WORK CAMP

High School Work Camp is coming to our parish this year and we hope you can join us! This year, due to Covid 19, our Diocese has put a program together for rising 9th - graduating 12 graders that will be held at St. Mary's the week of June 21 - 25th. St. Mary's will be paying the Diocesan Registration fee for any teen from our parish from retreat funds previously raised.



We are working the the Diocese to finalize our plans now. The day will begin at 8am and end by 4pm, for all 5 days. We will begin every morning at St. Mary's with a light breakfast and an opening on Zoom from our Diocesan leaders for youth ministry.

We will be working on different projects that we hope to include working at some parishioners homes, perhaps working with the food pantry, helping with our St. Mary's Garden, as well as other things as well as many team building games, time for prayer and mass.

Everyone who is interested needs to apply and we cannot assure everyone will get a spot as this is for those who are ready for this type of experience of helping our neighbors and growing in our faith with others.

To apply, please fill out the application from the link below. The deadline for applications is May 14th as final registration with the Diocese is May 24, 2021.

Sign up at: tinyurl.com/4tbbjpk4

NEW CATHOLIC VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Saint Vincent de Paul Virtual Academy (SVVA) is opening this fall for students in grades 8-12 throughout the Diocese of Richmond. It will be administered by the faculty and staff at Peninsula Catholic High School who have experience delivering their curriculum virtually since 2016. Applications are being accepted for high school students seeking a dynamic virtual learning experience built on Catholic values. Join us for our Virtual Open House on Monday, May 10th at 6pm via Zoom. Contact [Alyson LeMaster](#), Director of Enrollment, at 757-596-7247 ext. 106 to register or visit our [website](#) to learn more about SVVA.

Latest Ministry and Group Updates

PENTECOST NOVENA

There will be a Pentecost Novena from May 14th to May 22nd, 2021. As you know, Pentecost is a special feast because it is the birthday of the Church. The Novena to the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of Our Lord Himself when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost. Addressed to the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, it is a powerful plea for the light and strength and love so sorely needed by every Christian. All parishioners are invited to participate in all the nine days of the Novena. Every day at 7 PM there will be a Zoom session of the Novena. Those who might not be able to attend the Zoom session may do the novena reflections on their own at any time convenient to them. Please see <https://stmarysblacksburg.org/novena> for details.

UPDATE ON PRISON MINISTRY

State prisons in Virginia remain closed to outsider visitation, even though most inmates and staff have received their COVID vaccinations. Even chaplains at the prisons are not allowed open access to prisoners who seek their consultation. Until Keen Mt. State Prison in Oakwood, VA allows visitors, the collection of greeting cards in the narthex remains our sole activity during this pandemic. The collected cards will be sent to GraceInside, Virginia's prison chaplain service organization since 1920, until chaplains are allowed back into the prisons to make our cards available to inmates..

UPDATE ON HAITI MINISTRY

Food For The Poor (FFTP) offered a matching grant program in March to parishes with twins in Haiti. Up to \$2000 would be matched by them to purchase beans and rice for the Haitian parishes. At this time, FFTP stated that 4 million Haitians are in hunger mode or on limited rations due to 20% inflation, civil unrest, COVID, and other factors. The Haiti Committee sent them the \$2000 to purchase \$4000 of beans and rice for our Savanette parish. The \$4000 has purchased 7 tons of beans and rice for Fr. Delva to distribute within his parish community this month. Our thanks to parishioners who donate to our Haiti Ministry, which allows us to continue support of our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a national organization that builds bunk beds for children ages 3- 17. Last year the local chapter built and delivered 106 beds to needy families in Montgomery County. This year they plan to build two hundred more. The need is hidden inside of people's homes, and is greater than most of us realize. Many children here in Montgomery County sleep two to a bed, on floors, on cots, and on couches. The Montgomery County chapter is headed by Col. Paul Mele. He has asked if St. Mary's would sponsor a bed build. We are asking for donations to be able to do so, and volunteers to help build the beds. Any donation will help us toward our goal of \$4,000 to pay for 20 beds. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Catholic Church with "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" on the memo line.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRY

Justice and Peace Committee. J&P Committee provides information, financial assistance, and volunteer services to those in need within the New River Valley and our Haiti parish twin. Its ministries include Glean Team, Interfaith Food Pantry, Haiti Twin Parish, His Hands, Prison Ministry, Sanctity of Life, Social Outreach to numerous NRV charitable organizations. To become involved, call Bob Canfield 540-951-1298.



“We have a Lord who is capable of crying with us, capable of walking with us in the most difficult moments of life.”
 – Pope Francis

Saturday, May 1	5:00 PM	The Community of St. Mary's
Sunday, May 2	8:30 AM	Tammy Lyman †
Sunday, May 2	11:30 AM	Sean Mahoney †
Wednesday, May 5	9:00 AM	–
Friday, May 7	11:15 AM	–

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

ARRIVE TO MASS EARLY

Arrive 30 minutes early to mass to allow time for seating and screening.

DOORS LOCK PROMPTLY

To ensure proper socially-distant seating, the doors will lock at the start of mass, so arrive on time.

WORSHIP AREA CLEANED

The worship area is cleaned after the celebration of every Mass, in accordance with CDC guidelines.

COLLECTION IN NARTHEX

Offertories can be placed in the collection baskets in the Narthex, or given through Faith Direct.

MASKS ARE MANDATORY

Face coverings must be worn by everyone older than 5, but they may be removed briefly to take communion.

NO PHYSICAL WORSHIP AIDS

Worship aids and Father John's homily can be found online at stmarysbleksburg.org

MAINTAIN 6 FEET OF DISTANCE

Ushers will seat you and your family 6 feet away from others. Please maintain this distance after mass.

STAY HOME IF YOU'RE ILL

The Bishop has granted all Catholics in the diocese a dispensation from the obligation to attend mass.

CHECK YOUR TEMPERATURE

If your temperature is above 100.4°F, please stay home to protect your fellow parishioners.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Our virtual CLOW can be used in several ways to help your children learn more about the Gospel each week. We envision you either watching as a family after Mass or having your children view the Virtual CLOW during Mass online. View the CLOW presentation online at:
bit.ly/StMarysCLOW

FAITH DIRECT®

Faith Direct is St. Mary's online offertory program. Here's how you can enroll:

- Visit faith.direct/VA969 in any web browser
- Call Faith Direct at **1-866-507-8757**
- Text "**ENROLL**" to (540) 274-2005
- Visit **St. Mary's website** click Faith Direct

Last Week's Collection (4-25-21)

Offertory	\$3,310.00
eGiving	\$670.00
Debt Reduction	\$340.00
Faith Direct Offertory	\$12,966.00
Faith Direct Debt Reduction	\$540.00



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 at 1-877-887-9603.