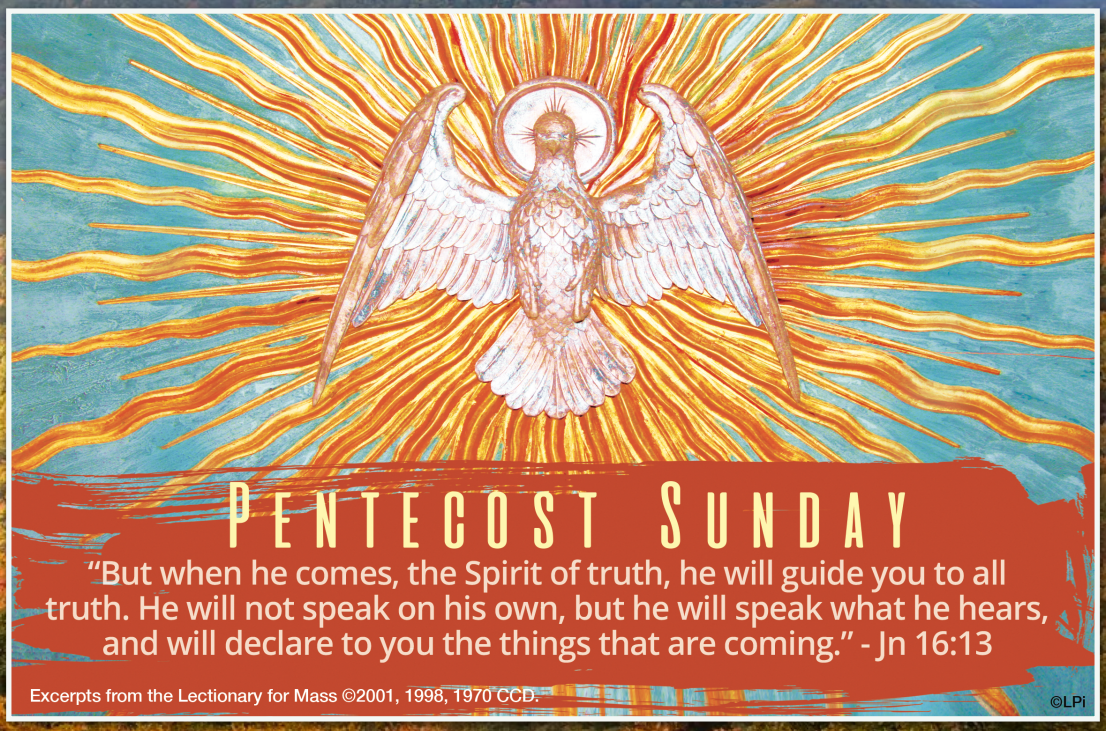
Saint Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH of BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

Established 1938

Pentecost Sunday

May 23, 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

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our collection for the Diocesan Annual Appeal. In case you missed the opportunity, we are continuing to collect for the appeal. This year, the parish target for St. Mary's has been set at $32,130; **we've reached 107% of that goal**. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed! If you have not yet donated, there is still time!

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. For more information and to register, visit: https://stmarysblacksburg.org/summer-offerings

CONGRATULATIONS AND PRAYERS FOR NEWLY WEDS

On May 28, Father David Sharland will perform the Sacrament of Matrimony for Blaine Mainz and Elizabeth Schmitt. On May 29, Father David Sharland will perform the Sacrament of Matrimony for James White and Alexandra Sykes. Congratulations to Blaine, Elizabeth, James, and Alexandra— may we offer prayers for their continued love and happiness!

PRAYERS FOR THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Pénélope Noële Mallet and Charles Emmanuel Sosa will receive the Sacrament of Baptism from Deacon Rick Furman on May 23. Prayers of love, peace, and joy in the Trinity for these children and their parents!

EVANGELIZATION CAR MAGNETS IN NARTHEX

The Evangelization Committee made car magnets available to parishioners. The 4 types of evangelization magnets are now available again in the narthex of the church for free! You can pick up a magnet and place it on your vehicle to help grow our church in Blacksburg and to evangelize those who do not have God in their lives. All of us were given the responsibility from Jesus to spread the gospel and make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:18-20), teaching them to observe all that He commanded of us. St. Mary's Evangelization Committee needs your help to do that, so please pick up a magnet for your vehicle.

Latest Ministry and Group Updates

BLACKSBURG INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

Understandably, donations of non-perishable food in the narthex Interfaith Food Pantry drop box (right under the TV announcement screen) have been lower than normal due to reduced Mass attendance during the pandemic. However, the continuing need for your support has remained unchanged. Especially as we begin to return to greater Mass attendance, your donations of any amount of non-perishable food is the easiest way for you to directly assist your fellow Montgomery County residents who are food insecure. Thank you for your continued support of this ecumenical endeavor over the 34 years of its existence!

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.

GREETING CARDS FOR PRISON MINISTRY

Within the last 12 months, we have been able to collect 80 lb of greeting cards to send to St. Paul Prison Ministries (federal prisons) nationwide and GraceInside (state prisons) in Virginia. We would like to hit the 100 lb mark by the end of summer, so please remember the greeting card box on the right in the narthex. Reduced mass attendance has affected card donations for many months, but now that there is an increased attendance at mass, we are hopeful that those who receive greeting cards from various charities will keep them for use by inmates to keep in contact with their families.

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.

PARISH CHARITIES

How does St. Mary’s charitably support the local community? Parishioners contribute to our “Parish Charities” fund by 1) designating it on the memo line of a check offered in the regular Sunday collection, or 2) online through Parish Direct, or 3) using your church envelope for the second collection designated for Parish Charities annually each September. The St. Mary’s Justice and Peace Committee considers grant applications from the parish or local community each quarter for award of Parish Charities funds.

Mass INTENTIONS

"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 22	5:00 PM	–
Sunday, May 23	8:30 AM	Thomas Hall ✝
Sunday, May 23	11:30 AM	The Community of St. Mary's
Wednesday, May 26	9:00 AM	Winifred Knight ✝
Friday, May 28	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 stmarysblcksburg.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 (5-9-21)

Offertory	$2,845.17
eGiving	$925.00
Debt Reduction	$685.00

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.