

# Saint Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH of BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

*Established 1938*

## 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 27, 2021

### 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went in and said to them,  
“Why this commotion and  
weeping? The child is not dead  
but asleep.” - Mk 5:39

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

#### **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](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysblacksburg)

1205 Old Mill Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

(540) 552-1091



# This Week's Announcements



## **THEOLOGY ON TAP WITH DEACON MIKE**

The NRV Catholic Young Adults group is kicking off their return to in-person events with a Theology On Tap Night with Deacon Mike at Rising Silo on Thursday July, 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The topic will be Pope Francis: Historical background and current events. The NRV Catholic Young Adults group includes young professionals, single or married, 18 – 35 years of age. For more questions or to RSVP, contact Natalie Duncan at 703-473-2068 or [nbduncan@vt.edu](mailto:nbduncan@vt.edu).



## **THE ORDINATION OF FATHER TOM LAWRENCE**

Congratulations and many blessings to our friend Fr. Tom Lawrence, whose ordination to the priesthood in the Diocese of Richmond was celebrated June 5th! As a seminarian, Fr. Tom spent his pastoral year with us at St. Mary's Church and at Catholic Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech in 2018-2019. Fr. Tom will be returning to celebrate the 11:30 am mass with our community this Sunday, June 27th, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall.



## **ROOM SCHEDULING FOR MINISTRIES AND GROUPS**

Thank you to all of the ministry leaders who participated in the first round of room scheduling! If your ministry missed the deadline to schedule a room in this round, or if your group is looking for a place to meet in-person this coming year, contact the church office at [officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org) to reserve your space at St. Mary's!



## **OFFICE CLOSED ON JULY 5**

The St. Mary's Office will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day.



## **ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS, AND MORE NEEDED**

Welcome back, Liturgical Ministers! With the dispensation lifted June 26th, we will resume scheduling two Altar Servers, two Lectors, three Eucharistic Ministers (host only), three Ushers and two Greeters at each weekend mass. Please log into Ministry Scheduler Pro to update your user profile with your mass preference and any dates you will not be available to serve in July and August. If you feel you could use a "refresher course" before serving again, contact Beth Shaver [liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org). Special thanks to all our Liturgical Ministers who continued to serve during the past 14 months, especially our Ushers who ensured the Diocese of Richmond's safety protocol was followed. You were a true blessing to St. Mary's Community in an unprecedented time of need. God bless you all.



## **SUMMER PEACE LAB**

All rising Kindergarten - rising 3rd graders are invited to join us at St. Mary's this year for our "Summer Peace Lab." This totally Catholic Event will be held outdoors on July 19 - 21st from 9am - noon. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions in the past, we are holding a modified Summer Camp and will hold our regular Vacation Bible School next Summer. The deadline for sign up is Sunday, July 11th. Registration Fee is \$25 and can be paid on the first day of camp--and don't forget to invite a friend! To register, visit: <https://stmarysblacksburg.org/summer-offerings>



## **SPRING CLEANING HELP STILL NEEDED**

We still need volunteers to help spruce up the grounds of the St. Mary's campus! For a complete listing of the work that we need to do, visit [www.stmarysblacksburg.org/spring-cleaning](http://www.stmarysblacksburg.org/spring-cleaning). If you're interested in doing a little light yard work for the parish, contact Matt Wheeler at [businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org).

# Latest Ministry and Group Updates



## **OUR LADY OF LOURDES GIFT SHOP LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Our Lady of Lourdes Gift Shop is the only Catholic religious articles gift shop in the NRV right in our own parish hall. The purpose of the Lourdes Gift Shop is to provide Religious items at a reasonable price to the members of St. Mary's Parish. The proceeds of the shop have been given back to the parish community in various ways. Lourdes Gift Shop would like to reopen, but we need volunteers to do so. If you could spare 15 minutes before and after Mass on Saturday or Sunday, please let us know. We will train you. Please contact the Parish Office or Mike Martin at [miketechtransfer@outlook.com](mailto:miketechtransfer@outlook.com).

## **EVANGELIZATION MAGNETS IN NARTHEX**

The 4 types of evangelization magnets are now available again in the narthex of the church for FREE! We ask that each parishioner select one of the 6" car magnets 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.

## **GREETING CARDS FOR PRISON MINISTRY**

Our thanks to the parishioners who have responded to our request to drop off unused greeting cards in the narthex for prison inmates. Last week we were able to mail 29 lb of cards to Paulist Prison Ministries in Washington, D.C., who in turn send them to priests visiting federal prisons throughout the U. S. We now have sent 121 lb of various greeting cards for federal prisons and the Virginia prison system. If you receive greeting cards from the various charities you support, please consider recycling them through us.

## **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.





"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, June 26	5:00 PM	John Sieger †
Sunday, June 27	8:30 AM	Jack Snider †
Sunday, June 27	11:30 AM	Libby Reynolds †
Wednesday, June 30	9:00 AM	Hilary Holbrook †
Friday, July 2	11:15 AM	The Community of St. Mary's

## **COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS**

### **MASKS ARE MANDATORY FOR THE UNVACCINATED**

Face coverings must be worn by everyone unvaccinated, 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 [stmarysblacksburg.org](http://stmarysblacksburg.org).

### **STAY HOME IF YOU'RE ILL**

The Bishop has granted a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass those who are ill, have reason to believe that they were recently exposed to COVID-19 or another serious or contagious illness, are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility, or those with serious underlying health conditions.

### **EUCCHARIST ONLY SERVED IN ONE SPECIES**

The Eucharist will only be served as the Body of Christ.



### **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](http://bit.ly/StMarysCLOW)

## **FAITH DIRECT®**

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

- Visit [faith.direct/VA969](http://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 (6-20-21)**

Offertory	\$3814.54
eGiving	\$465.00
Debt Reduction	\$220.00



## **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.

## A MEDITATION ON THE GOSPEL

The author of The Cloud of Unknowing prays, "That which I am and the way that I am, with all my gifts of nature and grace, you have given to me, O Lord, and you are all this. I offer it all to you, principally to praise you and to help my fellow Christians and myself." Knowing that God sustains us in being is the key to faith. All that we need to do is to love God as God is and the rest will begin to fall into place. God made us in His image and desires that we have life. God also desires that we be healed of all of our wounds, especially those caused by sin, and know his loving touch. Being weighed down by negativity, imperfections, the cares of the world, and weakness is not something that God desires.

Faith can profoundly change how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It gives a clearer lens through which to see life and connects us with the powerful virtues of love and hope. Three friends journeying with us through all that we encounter, faith, hope, and love, help us experience God's embrace and heal us. All we have to do is let God be who God is and not foolishly try to make Him into what we need or want Him to be. Without God we cease to be. It's that simple. The very blood that flows through my veins and the life that I have come directly from Divine origins. With this knowledge of who God is and who I am, I can open my ears and hear the powerful words Jesus speaks, "Do not be afraid, just have faith." Trust begins.

When we are struggling, we naturally reach out for God because we know that a divine remedy is the only remedy. But, in doing so we wrestle with letting God take charge. We want something more miraculous and visible than the obvious and have difficulty in finding consolation simply resting in God's presence. Our naked being, stripped of any pretense or self-serving agenda, is being called to rest in and love the uncreated Presence of God. Reach out in love to God. Ask God to heal you from all that separates you from Him. Put aside any ideas of God that create barriers between you and God's tender and endearing presence. The Cloud of Unknowing leaves us with wisdom, "think of yourself and of him in the same way, that is, with the simple awareness that he is as he is and that you are as you are." This is a meeting of two friends who desire nothing more than to share life together.



Last quarter, St. Mary's earned \$961.05 from Kroger. You can help raise this number by linking your existing Kroger Plus Card with St. Mary's by visiting: [kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards](https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards)



By joining the Amazon Smiles program, St. Mary's will receive 0.5% of the profit from all your Amazon purchases!

Sign up now at:  
[smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage?orig=%2F](https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage?orig=%2F)