



# St. Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH EST. 1938

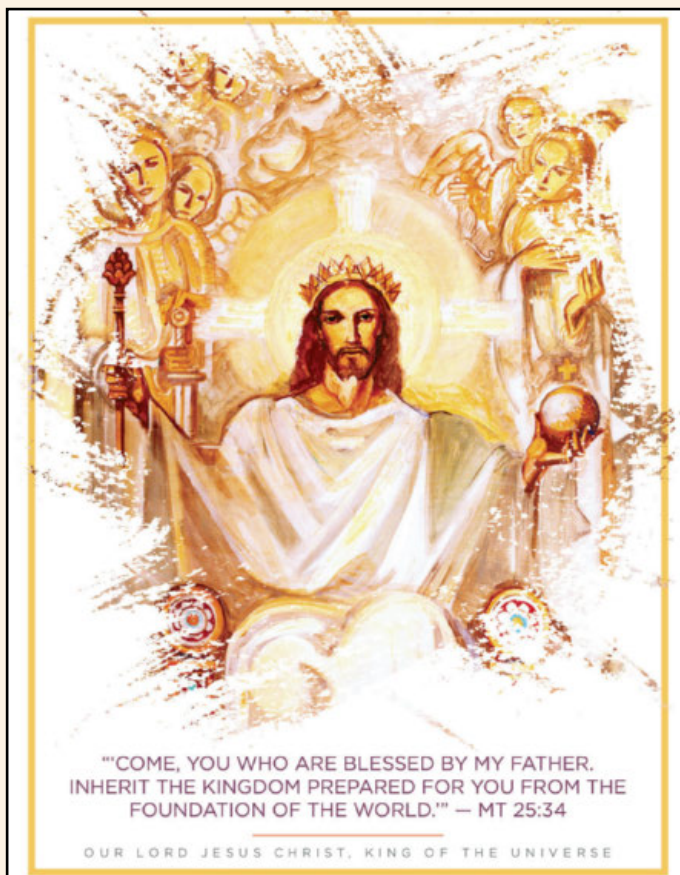
**NOVEMBER 26, 2023**  
**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,**  
**KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

## MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:30 AM\* & 11:30 AM  
Monday: No Daily Mass  
Tuesday: 9:00 AM  
Wednesday: 9:00 AM\*  
Thursday: 6:30 AM  
Friday: 11:15 AM\*  
\* Livestreamed


## RECONCILIATION


Friday: 12:00-1:00 PM  
Saturday: 3:30-4:15 PM




## OUR LOCATION

### St. Mary's Catholic Church


 1205 Old Mill Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060


 540-552-1091

 officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org

### Office Hours

Mon-Fri 9:00am-3:00pm

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

 [www.facebook.com/stmarysblacksburg](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysblacksburg)



## STAFF CONTACTS

### Clergy

**Rev. John Asare, Pastor**  
[jasare@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jasare@richmonddiocese.org)

**Deacon Mike Ellerbrock**  
[mebrook@vt.edu](mailto:mebrook@vt.edu)

**Deacon Rick Furman**  
[deaconrick@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:deaconrick@stmarysblacksburg.org)

**Director of Liturgy & Music**  
**Mrs. Beth Shaver**  
[liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org)

**Director of Formation**  
**Mrs. Sue Ellerbrock**  
[formation@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:formation@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### Administrative Assistant

**Mrs. Teri Wysocki**  
[officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### Business Manager

**Mr. Matthew Wheeler**  
[businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### Youth Minister

**Mr. Austin Mee**  
[nrvym@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:nrvym@richmonddiocese.org)

### Bookkeeper

**Mrs. Becky Meisner**  
[bookkeeper@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### RCIA

**Deacon Rick Furman**  
[rcia@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:rcia@stmarysblacksburg.org)



### Mass Intention at St. Mary's

Would you like to offer Mass for a special intention, thanksgiving, healing or for a beloved departed? Our Mass intention schedule has plenty of opportunity to do so. For more information or to offer a Mass, contact the Church office at 540-552-1091. Suggested donation is \$10 per intention.

Saturday, Nov 25	5:00pm	MARYLOU †
Sunday, Nov 26	8:30 am	Great Thanksgiving for Parishioners of St. Mary's
		Walter Podgorsky †
	11:30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday, Nov 28	9:00 am	John and Helen Brust †
Wednesday, Nov 29	9:00 am	Travis Norfleet †
Thursday, Nov 30	6:30 am	Allen & Bernadine Wysocki †
Friday, Dec 1	11:15 am	LaVerne Dean †

### Upcoming Events

Online: [stmarysblacksburg.org/calendar-1](https://stmarysblacksburg.org/calendar-1)

- Dec 1 - First Friday Eucharistic Adoration, 9-11am
- Dec 2 - Breakfast with Santa, 9am-11am, Parish Hall
- Dec 3 - Donut Sunday
- Dec 3 - VT University Choirs Holiday Concert - Worship Area
- Dec 3 - Advent By Candlelight, 6:30-8pm
- Dec 5 - Rosary, 6:30pm, Worship Area
- Dec 7 - Sacristan Cleaners, 9am
- Dec 8 - Feast of Immaculate Conception, Masses 12 & 7pm



Rosemary Anderson	Butch Kelly	Solei Mueller
Ryan Barbeau	Kendra Kohl	Madison Neale
Joyce Bolger	Kyle Kuzemchak	Stephen Orr
Alex Brisendine	Ariyah Jarome	Sam Orth
Jill Burley	James Laignel	Therese Petersen
Nelson Carey	Darla Linkous	Ted Ricks
Carmyn Collins	Teresa Maher	Bev Shull
Renee Gambon	Martins Family	West Vaughn
Elijah Garbatini	Annie Martin	Doug Whichard
Brittany Heath	Becky Meisner	Loretta Zamer

Families may submit prayer requests to [officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENING

- NRV High School Youth Group meets this **Wednesday, November 29** at St. Mary's 7:30-9pm. See you there and invite your friends!
- Signups for the Diocesan Youth Conference continue through Dec 30. DYC is a gathering of 8th - 12th graders from all over our diocese and one of our most anticipated events of the year! DYC takes place Feb 9-11 in Richmond. Email Austin for more information.



Austin Mee  
[nrvym@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:nrvym@richmonddiocese.org)  
540-251-1754



### RECYCLE PLASTIC BAGS FOR BENCHES AT ST. MARY'S

**THANK YOU TO ALL** for helping St. Mary's acquire enough plastic for a THIRD bench! We are still collecting so be sure to bring your used plastic bags to the Parish Hall.

2023 Total: 1,696.46 lbs.



Goal: 2000lbs.

### Weekly Offering

November 12

#### Regular Collection

Offertory	\$5,722.90
Debt Reduction	\$840.00

#### eGiving

Offertory	\$4,615.00
Debt Reduction	\$40.00

Mass Attendance: 630 ↓ 21  
YTD Average Attendance: 614

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support!*

### Special 100th Birthday Request

Our parishioner **Marie Principe** turns 100 years old on **December 6!** Help make Marie's birthday extra special by writing a note of love and prayers. Cards are being collected in the Narthex until December 3. There are extra cards at the table or sign one of the "group cards". Let's shower her with our loving care on this milestone birthday!



### COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED

Do you have a gift of accuracy, confidentiality and service to our faith community? Please consider serving as a Collection Counter Minister. Ministers serve 1-2 Mondays per month, meeting at 10am, for approximately 1.5-2 hours.



Welcome to Give Central! Please register at [www.givecentral.org/location/1348](https://www.givecentral.org/location/1348) or use the QR code to give.



### Lourdes Gift Shop Nov/Dec Schedule

**75% OFF SALE  
ALL MERCHANDISE**

#### December 2 & 3

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 11:30 am

#### December 16 & 17

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 8:30 am & 11:30 am

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

The **Virginia Tech Choirs**, under the direction of Dr. Dwight Bigler and Dallin Baldwin, will present their Holiday Concert at St. Mary's on **Sunday, December 3** at 4pm. Tickets are **FREE** and do not need to be reserved in advance. Come and enjoy some beautiful holiday music!

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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## RCIA

### **Next Session:**

Tuesday, November 28, 7pm

**Topic:** Walk Through the Mass

**Speaker:** Erin Raymond

[rcia@stmarysblackburg.org](mailto:rcia@stmarysblackburg.org)  
[stmarysblackburg.org/rcia](http://stmarysblackburg.org/rcia)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Nov. 26th—**NO Classes**—Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec 3 - Family Advent Wreath Making

Dec. 3, 10, 17th—Regular classes

Dec 9 - 1st Reconciliation, 9am

Dec. 24, 31, and Jan. 7, 2024—**No Classes**—Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



## **KID'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND CHOIR 2023!**

Children ages 3 and up are invited to participate in the Annual Christmas Pageant presented at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass **December 24**, and kids ages 7 and up are invited to sing in the Christmas Choir. Rehearsals for the pageant and choir are Saturday mornings, **December 9, 16 and 23** from 10:00-11:15 am in the Worship Area. Sign up in the Narthex TODAY!

Contact Miss Beth for all the information: [liturgy@stmarysblackburg.org](mailto:liturgy@stmarysblackburg.org).

## **1st ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - Saturday, December 2**

**Saturday, December 2, 9-11am**, St. Mary's will be hosting Breakfast with Santa. Bring the family for a FREE pancake breakfast in the Parish Hall cooked by the Knights of Columbus. Santa travels all the way from the North Pole to be with us, so make sure the kids have their lists ready!



## **ANGEL TREE**

**Angel Tree gifts are due by Sunday, December 10.** After purchasing your gifts for your angel, please wrap the gifts, bundle multiple packages and attach the angel tag to your gifts. Contact Bob or Teresa Bolger at [rcbolger28@gmail.com](mailto:rcbolger28@gmail.com) with any questions. Please remember to pray for your special angel!

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS MEMORIAL AND HONORARY DONATIONS**

You can help provide Christmas flowers for our church and remember or honor a loved one. Donations should be submitted by **Sunday, December 17** to be included in the Christmas bulletin. Use the special envelopes located in the Narthex. Be sure to write who the flowers are for along with your name as it should appear in the bulletin. Make checks payable to St. Mary's Church with a notation in the memo line "Christmas Flowers."

## **RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS CARD SALE - KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus have started the annual **Keep Christ in Christmas: Send Religious Cards (and car magnets) Sale!** This year's sale supports Diocese of Richmond Seminarian David Arellano. For more information on David's story, stop by the Christmas Card display in the Narthex. Prices are located on the front of each box of cards. Cash or checks made out to Knights of Columbus (with note for FPSF) are accepted. Donations for the Seminarian Fund are also gratefully accepted.

You can also support 2 great causes by purchasing a package of Christmas cards from the display and donating them to the Prison Ministry (box on the credenza in the Narthex)



## **ST. MARY'S MINISTRY FEATURE**

**This week's ministry: Glean Team Potato Drop**



The 2023 Potato Drop for St. Mary's Glean Team occurred on November 10-11 at the Montgomery County Christmas Store in Christiansburg. A tractor-trailer with 42,000 lbs of potatoes from Maine arrived on Friday morning to be unloaded, processed, and assigned to 30 food pantries in our region. Many of the 840 fifty-pound bags had to be rebagged into 5 & 10 pound mesh bags.

A cadre of volunteers arrived on Friday afternoon to assist with the rebagging, including parishioners and Youth Ministry members from St. Mary's. Lots ranging from 100 lb to 7465 lb were sequestered for assigned pickups on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Food pantry representatives in cars, trucks, vans and trailers arrived to carry home their loads before Thanksgiving. Boxes of surplus apples and winter squash grown locally also were offered to these pantries as bonus gifts.

Our sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who showed up in spite of inclement weather to get the most labor-intensive task, rebagging, completed before 6 PM. Our next Potato Drop will be in February 2024, providing another opportunity for volunteers to help regional food pantries minister to our communities.



## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

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CONTACT ME **Sandra Tomczak**

stomczak@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2402



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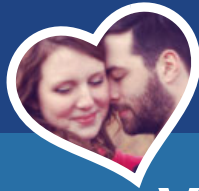
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K. Moore, PC**  
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“RUA’H KIBRIYA...AMEN”

“WITH EVERY BREATH

I BREATHE

THE GLORY OF GOD...

SO BE IT”

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AVAILABLE**

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