



# St. Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH EST. 1938

**DECEMBER 17, 2023**

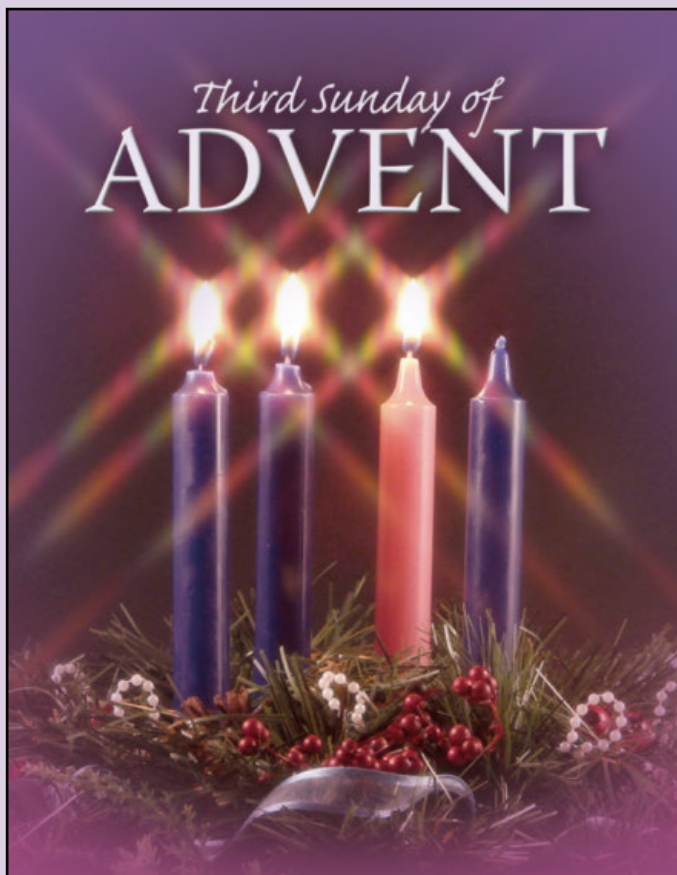
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## 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, Dec 16	5:00 pm	The Community of St. Mary's
Sunday, Dec 17	8:30 am	Joey Wheeler †
		Clair Kelley †
	11:30 am	Louis Cotroneo †
Tuesday, Dec 19	9:00 am	Kevin Kirchner †
Wednesday, Dec 20	9:00 am	Nancy Butler †
Thursday, Dec 21	6:30 am	The Brewton Family, David, Sarah & Baby Charlotte
Friday, Dec 22	11:15 am	Nancy Butler †
		Val Coluni †

### Upcoming Events

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

Dec 21 - Sacristan Cleaners, 9am  
Dec 24 - Christmas Masses - 4:00, 7:00 & 11:00pm  
Dec 25 - Christmas Mass - 9:00am  
Dec 25-Jan 1 - Parish Office Closed  
Dec 26-29- No Daily Mass



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

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

### Weekly Offering December 3

#### Regular Collection

Offertory \$5,005.46  
Debt Reduction \$537.00

#### eGiving

Offertory \$450.00  
Debt Reduction \$315.00

Mass Attendance: 698 ↑ 150  
YTD Average Attendance: 615

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support!*



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



### Lourdes Gift Shop Nov/Dec Schedule

**75% OFF SALE  
ALL MERCHANDISE**

**December 16 & 17**  
Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 8:30 am & 11:30 am



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.

### YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENING

- Signups for the Diocesan Youth Conference continue through Dec 30.! DYC takes place Feb 9-11 in Richmond. Email Austin for more instructions on how to register.
- To keep up with middle school and high school youth ministry events throughout the year, subscribe to our Flocknote listserv directly at [nrwym.flocknote.com](http://nrwym.flocknote.com).



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: 1,873.00 lbs.**



**Goal: 2000lbs.**

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 23 - 5pm Vigil Mass**

**Sunday, December 24 - 8:30am**

**THERE IS NO 11:30am MASS**

#### Christmas Eve

**Sunday, December 24**

**4:00pm - Children's Choir & Pageant**

**7:00pm**

**11:00pm**

#### Christmas Day

**Monday, December 25**

**9:00am**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## RCIA

### **Next Session**

January 9, 2024

Watch for 2024 calendar of sessions.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Dec 17 – Regular classes

Dec. 24, 31, and Jan. 7, 2024 – **No Classes**

### **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

Our Religious Education students in the First Sacraments Program have completed their reconciliation preparation. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their First Holy Communion.

## ANGEL TREE

Thank you to everyone who shopped for Angels for our Angel Tree this year! Needy children and seniors will have a wonderful Christmas due to the generosity of St. Mary's parishioners. We hope that these children will know the love of Christ through our gifts at Christmas. Both VICCC and Catholic Charities want us to know how much they appreciate our generosity and spirit at St. Mary's. Please continue to pray from your Angel this Advent season!.

## 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."

## 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.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Liturgical Ministers are reminded to add their names to the Christmas Mass schedules as soon as they know their availability to serve December 24 at 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, and 11:00 pm, and December 25 at 9:00 am. Also, as always, be on the lookout for incoming sub requests, and check the roster before coming to Mass and accept any outstanding sub requests. With anticipated high attendance including many anticipated visitors at these celebrations, we appreciate everyone's willingness to serve! God bless you!

## 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 [Seminarman 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 Seminarman 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)



**THANK YOU to all who made our 1st Annual Breakfast with Santa a huge success!!** We would especially like to thank the Knights of Columbus, **Bob Bolger, Nelson Carey, Jamie Cogbill, Tim Leake and Asa Weber** for the awesome pancake breakfast, our fantastic Middle and High School elves, **Josephine Hitzelberger, Josie Rhoads, Evelyn Rhoads and Clara Gresham**, and of course, Santa!

Be on the lookout for upcoming Parish Life events including Donut Sundays, Lenten Friday Soup Suppers, and our 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday.



## ST. MARY'S MINISTRY CORNER

### **This week's ministry: Music Ministry**

Christmas is a wonderful time to come and sing with St. Mary's Music Ministry! If you are musically inclined and love Christmas carols as much as we do, you are most welcomed to join our ensemble at the 7:00 pm Mass this Christmas Eve.

Contact Music Director Beth Shaver for the rehearsal schedule and the musical lineup:  
[liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:liturgy@stmarysblacksburg.org)

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

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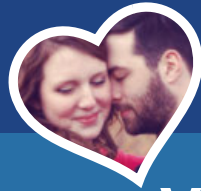
**PATRICK  
K. Moore, PC**  
*Attorney at Law*

1100 South Main St.

**953-1100**

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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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