



# St. Mary's

CATHOLIC CHURCH EST. 1938

JANUARY 7, 2024

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM\* & 11:30 AM

Monday: No Daily Mass

Tuesday: 9:00 AM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM\*

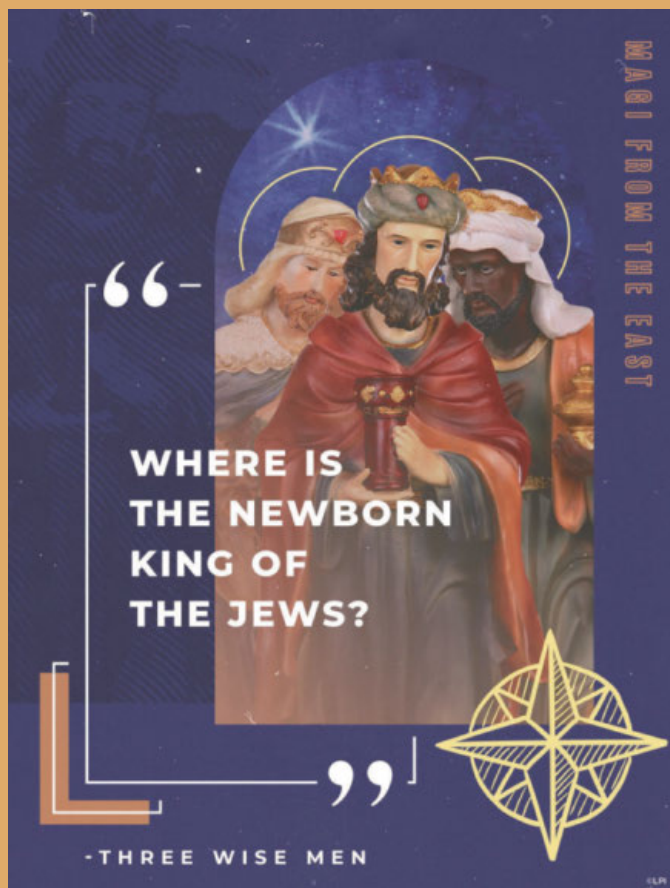
Thursday: 6:30 AM

Friday: 11:15 AM\*

\*Livestreamed

## RECONCILIATION

Friday: 12:00-1:00 PM



## OUR LOCATION

### St. Mary's Catholic Church

1205 Old Mill Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

540-552-1091

[officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto: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@stmarysblackburg.org](mailto:deaconrick@stmarysblackburg.org)

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

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

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

**Business Manager**  
**Mr. Matthew Wheeler**  
[businessmanager@stmarysblackburg.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysblackburg.org)

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

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

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

## Mass Intentions 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 person.

Saturday, Jan 6	5:00 pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sunday, Jan 7	8:30 am	Donald Natarelli †
	11:30 am	The Community of St. Mary's
Tuesday, Jan 9	9:00 am	Howard Snyder †
		Leo Einloth †
Wednesday, Jan 10	9:00 am	Hector Martinez †
		Ann & Christian Rottgardt †
Thursday, Jan 11	6:30 am	Sharon Desilets
Friday, Jan 12	11:15 am	Hector Martinez †
		The Knight Family †

## Upcoming Events

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

Jan 6 & 7 - Lourdes Gift Shop Open after all Masses  
 Jan 7 - Donut Sunday  
 Jan 14 - Lourdes Gift Shop open after 11:30 Mass  
 Jan 15 - Office Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
 Jan 18 - Sacristan Cleaners, 9am  
 Jan 19 - Children's Adoration, 10am



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
Carmen Collins	Teresa Maher	Bev Shull
Maryann Enos	Martins Family	Paul Sorrentono
Renee Gambon	Annie Martin	West Vaughn
Elijah Garbatini	Becky Meisner	Doug Whichard
Brittany Heath	Solei Mueller	Loretta Zamer

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

## Weekly Offering

**Dec 24 + 25**

### Regular Collection + Christmas

Offertory	\$10,949.00
Debt Reduction	\$192.00

**Dec 31**

### Regular Collection

Offertory	\$2,034.00
Debt Reduction	\$296.00

### eGiving

Offertory	\$2,155.00
Debt Reduction	\$70.00

### GiveCentral Dec 1-31

Offertory	\$37,417.82
Debt Reduction	\$1274.65

*Thank you for all your continued generosity and support!*



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.



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

## ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Calendar Year	Sunday	Holy Days	Total Attendance	Avg 5pm	Avg 8:30am	Avg 1130am	Avg Sunday Attendance
2023	31,592	4,563	36,155	151	219	238	608
2022	25,767	5,089	30,856	133	190	213	537
2021	20,547	2,222	22,769	99	158	154	411
2020	14,324	1,393	15,717	86	120	136	341
2019	38,262	5,064	43,326	178	290	283	750
2018	37,553	5,684	43,237	185	264	287	736

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

**We accomplished our 2000 lbs. goal for 2023!** With everyone's help, we collected **2023 lbs** of plastic and were able to get two benches. Thank you for all the plastic. Next year's goal is 2024 lbs.

**2023 Total: 2023 lbs.**  
**2024 Goal: 2024 lbs.**



## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENING

- NRV High School Youth Group kicks off the new year this **Wednesday, January 10** at **Holy Spirit 7:30-9pm!**
- To keep up with middle school and high school youth ministry events throughout the year, subscribe to our Flocknote listserv directly at [nrvym.flocknote.com](https://nrvym.flocknote.com) or email Austin.



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



# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## RCIA

**Next Session**  
January 9, 2024

Watch for 2024 calendar of sessions.

rcia@stmarysblackburg.org  
stmarysblacksburg.org/rcia

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**January 7-- No Class**  
**Happy New Year!**



## 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.

## ST. MARY'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS GROUPS

Our Parish Pastoral Council is updating the parish strategic plan originally created in 2020. The primary purpose is to identify areas of parish life and parish ministries that our St. Mary's community wishes to support and to determine what resources will be necessary to sustain those ministries and church facilities. Focus groups will be held after Masses in the Narthex. All parishioners will have the opportunity to share their thoughts. Please be on the lookout for these times that will begin the later in January.

## HAITI

The Haiti people are in crisis now with violence, famine and their usual poverty. Yet many still hold their belief in Christ and his message of salvation. We at St. Mary's have three "twin" Haitian parishes that we support, not only for material needs but also faith needs. Through your financial donations, we have supported students to attend school; built 2 schools, a rectory, water purification plant, and medical clinic for our sister parishes; and now support 3 seminarians to eventually share Christ's message in that country.

You can continue to help support our Haitian parishes, not only through financial donations but also in joining our Haiti Committee to identify projects, and work with the Haitian pastors in fulfilling the priority needs of their parishioners. We meet on the second Monday evening of each month at 7 PM in the Haiti Room. Come join us, to help with our role of evangelization and corporal works of mercy, spreading Christ's love to our Haitian brothers and sisters.

## **JESUS IS CALLING US DEEPER**

**He promises to restore and renew his people!**

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

Watch the video to learn more about the exciting journey ahead and how you can be a part of it!

<https://youtu.be/hDNZeBtCjjc>



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

**This week: Buildings and Grounds**

There's ALWAYS something" when you take care of your home." The same goes for our Church home. Many hands are needed to take care of the grounds and the building. If you like to garden, have a skill (electrical, plumbing, mechanical, construction, or landscaping) or just like to get sweaty and dirty, please volunteer!

Contact: Matt Wheeler

[businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysblacksburg.org)

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CONTACT ME **Sandra Tomczak**

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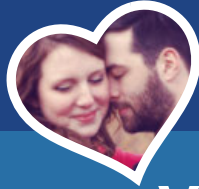
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**“RUA’H KIBRIYA...AMEN”**

**“WITH EVERY BREATH**

**I BREATHE**

**THE GLORY OF GOD...**

**SO BE IT”**

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AVAILABLE**

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