



# St. Mary's

## CATHOLIC CHURCH EST. 1938

**MARCH 17, 2024**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



### 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



### 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."  
- Jn 11:25

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

GLPI

## 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@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:formation@stmarysblacksburg.org)

### Administrative Assistant

**Mrs. Teri Wysocki**  
[officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org](mailto:officestaff@stmarysblacksburg.org)  
ND—GO IRISH!

### 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

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

### RCIA

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

**Parish Registration:** Are you new to St. Mary's? Welcome! Please register at [stmarysblacksburg.org/parish-forms](http://stmarysblacksburg.org/parish-forms).

## 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, Mar 16	5:00 pm	Salvatore Natarelli † Tom March †
Sunday, Mar 17	8:30 am	Joey Wheeler † Donald Natarelli †
	11:30 am	The Community of St. Mary's
Tuesday, Mar 19	9:00 am	Joey Wheeler †
Wednesday, Mar 20	9:00 am	Becky Meisner †
Thursday, Mar 21	6:30 am	Safety of our twin parishes in Haiti
Friday, Mar 22	11:15 am	Thomas Moran †

## Upcoming Events

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

Mar 16 & 17 - 1st Focus Groups/Survey of Parishioners  
 Mar 16 & 17 - Preorders for Mar 22 Fish Fry  
 Mar 16 & 17 - KofC - 40 Cans for 40 Days of Lent  
 Mar 17 - RCIA 3rd Scrutiny, 11:30 am Mass  
 Mar 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day - GO IRISH!!  
 Mar 17 - Stations of the Cross, Religious Ed Families, 10am  
 Mar 19 - "Young at Heart" Easter Egg Hunt, Coffee & Donuts, after 9:00am Mass  
 Mar 21 - Sacristan Cleaners, 9am  
 Mar 22 - Fish Fry, 5-7pm  
 Mar 22- Stations of the Cross and Adoration, 7pm  
 Mar 24 - Palm Sunday  
 Mar 24 - Easter Egg Hunt, after 11:30am Mass

## Holy Week Schedule

### Palm Sunday

Regular Mass Schedule

### Holy Thursday

Mass - 7pm

### Good Friday

Stations of the Cross - 12pm  
 Reconciliation - 1-3pm  
 Divine Mercy Novena - 3pm  
 Passion of the Lord - 7pm

### Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil

Divine Mercy Novena - 3pm  
 Vigil Mass - 8pm

### Easter Sunday

Masses - 8am, 10am & 12pm



The Lourdes Gift Shop will be open after the following Masses in March:

**Mar 17 - 11:30am**  
**Mar 23 - 5:00pm**  
**Mar 24 - 8:30 & 11:30am**  
**Mar 31 - 11:30am**

## Weekly Offering

### Mar 10

#### Regular Collection

Offertory \$3,232.96  
 Debt Reduction \$146.00

#### eGiving

Offertory \$1,640.00  
 Debt Reduction \$20.00

**Mass Attendance: 674** ↑ **28**

**YTD Average Attendance: 705**

*Thank you for all 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.

## YOUTH MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

• The Diocesan Work Camp is approaching, join us as we serve our brothers and sisters in need this Summer! See the youth ministry bulletin board in the Narthex.

- NRV High School Youth Group will be at Holy Spirit this **Wednesday, March 20** from 7:30-9pm. Join us and bring a friend!
- NRV Middle School Meetup is next **Friday, March 22**, \*5-7:30pm\*. We have our annual Lenten Special open to whole families and high schoolers as well: 5-6pm join for the KofC parish Fish Fry (order ahead and bring \$, more details for that in the bulletin). 6-7pm is Meetup itself. 7pm is teen-led stations and adoration. Families welcome for part or all of the time frame. Bring a friend!



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



Rosemary Anderson	Brittany Heath	Martins Family
Ryan Barbeau	Carsyn Hodges	Annie Martin
Joyce Bolger	Butch Kelly	Solei Mueller
Alex Brisendine	Kendra Kohl	Stephen Orr
Cadyn Burden	Maggie Kohler	Sam Orth
Jill Burley	Kyle Kuzemchak	Therese Petersen
Nelson Carey	Ariyah Jarome	Ted Ricks
Carmyn Collins	James Laignel	Walter Sandberg
Maryann Enos	Darla Linkous	Paul Sorrentino
Renee Gambon	Teresa Maher	West Vaughn
Elijah Garbatini	Greta Marle	Doug Whichard
		Loretta Zamer

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

## 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.



**2024 Total: 431 lbs.**

**2024 Goal: 2024 lbs.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## **RCIA**

**Next Session**  
March 19, 2024

**Topic**  
Paschal Mystery  
Presentation of the Lord's Prayer

**Speaker:**  
Deacon Mike

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

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

- March 31 - NO CLASSES—Easter Sunday
- April 28 - Last Day of Classes
- May 4 - First Communion—5:00pm Mass

## **HAITI SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN**

The Haiti Committee sponsorship campaign is reaching out to parishioners and the community to ask for support in sponsoring 150 students for the academic year 2024-25 at our twin parishes. The cost of a full student sponsorship remains at **\$200**, which enables each student a year of schooling, lunches, teacher salaries, and a maintained school facility. Our target goal again this year is to raise **\$30,000** to cover all of the students. To date we have collected **\$10,675**. Thank you!

## **2024 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ST. MARY'S TARGET: \$33,100)**

Join our Annual Diocesan Appeal and spread the hope of our coming Resurrection across our community. Through your generosity, you'll bring hope and mercy to those who need it most. To contribute to the Appeal, please scan the QR code or go to [richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal/](http://richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal/) where you will be able to make an ongoing recurring gift or a one-time gift. **THANK YOU to all who have contributed so far! We have collected \$44,443 to date!**



## **40 CANS OR \$40 FOR 40 DAYS OF LENT**

The Knights of Columbus have kicked-off their annual food collection event in the Narthex. Food and money collected will benefit the St. Mary's Caring Closet. Please consider this opportunity for part of your Lenten Almsgiving.

Collected as of March 3: **270 lbs & \$1,211**



## **EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS**

To contribute a lily and other flowers in honor of a deceased loved one this Easter, pick up a collection envelop from the Narthex, fill in their name and your name as the donor, include your monetary donation (any dollar amount is appreciated), and we'll add the name of your loved one to our Easter bulletin for prayers. Thank you for your generous support of our Environment & Art ministry this holy season!



## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

St. Mary's will host our 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Palm Sunday, March 24** at 1pm for all kids aged 1 - high school seniors. New this year, Tuesday, March 19 after the 9am daily Mass, we will have an Easter egg hunt in the Parish Hall for the **"Young at Heart"** (ages ~30-103) along with coffee and donuts! Please bring in donations of plastic Easter eggs and/or wrapped candy to help make these events **eggstra** special! A basket for donations can be found in the **Parish Hall**.

## **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL SURVEYS**

The PPC is conducting small focus groups to determine where parishioners believe parish emphasis should be moving forward, what programs are liked and participated in, and ways that our parish can strengthen the engagement of our parishioners with our St. Mary's Community. This process will make it easy to share your thoughts. PPC members will be in the Narthex and parish hall after each Mass on **March 16 & 17**, and then again on **April 13 & 14**. Please seek them out for a few minutes after Mass. Thank you.

## **FISH FRY FRIDAY - MARCH 22**

Mark your calendars for the last Fish Fry Friday of this Lent  
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

March 22 Fish Fry: Preorders March 16 & 17

The cost is **\$10** for a fish dinner (grilled or fried), hushpuppies, mac 'n cheese, potatoes, coleslaw and a cookie.



## **Stations of the Cross** **Blessed Sacrament Adoration**

Join in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
and Stations of the Cross  
starting at 7pm on all Fridays in Lent.



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

**This week: Glean Team**

On **Thursday, March 21**, the Glean Team will be cutting down 3-8 in. diameter locust and walnut trees near the flower garden and the septic drainfield and the small barn from 8am-noon. This is to prepare the land for regular mowing and to protect the flower garden from varmints. Bring heavy duty gloves, chainsaw if you have one, extra blades, tools to tighten the blades, fuel, etc. Volunteers can take the cut trunks home as firewood. On **Saturday, March 23**, at 3pm we need volunteers to help run the cut trees through a large wood chipper. If you can come, please text John at 540-392-1184 or Mike at 540-239-0878. Bring heavy duty gloves and water to drink.

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

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CONTACT ME **Sandra Tomczak**

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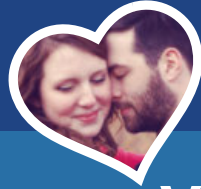
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**“RUA’H KIBRIYA...AMEN”**

**“WITH EVERY BREATH**

**I BREATHE**

**THE GLORY OF GOD...**

**SO BE IT”**

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AVAILABLE**

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