

Morning Prayer
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024
10:00 am



Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

St. Mary's is a place where God's grace allows our community to joyfully welcome all who are searching for a path Forward in Faith.

85 Conestoga Trail, Sparta, NJ 07871

www.stmaryssparta.org

(973) 729-3136

Welcome to St. Mary's!

We are glad you are joining us for worship this morning. We are an open, welcoming community. You will find the worship service printed in your bulletin, so you don't have to worry about juggling hymnals and prayer books. Coffee hour after the service is held in Shaffer Hall, down the long hallway (where the bathrooms are also located).

If you have younger ones, ask an usher for a coloring book and crayons. We also don't get upset if they're a little noisy sometimes. Twice a month we have Sunday School, so your children will be welcome to join the class.

The Eucharist: All are welcome to receive, regardless of background or religious affiliation. As Episcopalians we believe this is the Lord's table, not that of the Episcopal Church or St. Mary's. A couple of things have changed post-COVID. The ushers will direct you forward. You have the option to receive only the wafer, intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine, or receive the wine from the common cup. Gluten-free wafers are available; just ask the priest.

Healing Prayers: If you would like to receive healing prayer today, please look for the person standing at the rail to the right of the altar.

The Peace: While some of us are comfortable with handshakes and hugs, not all are, so please take your cue from the other person.

The Offering: The ushers will pass the offering bowl. You may also give electronically, via Vanco and Venmo.

Questions? Please ask any of us; if we don't know, we'll find someone who does.

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Sunday after Ascension Day
 Daily Morning Prayer Rite Two
 Sunday, May 12, 2024

OPENING HYMN *All hail the power of Jesus' Name*
 (Coronation) (H 450)

6 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial

ball, to him a - scribe, and

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
 2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
 3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and
 4 fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and
 5 gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet, and

crown him Lord of all! to him a -

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
 2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
 3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,
 4 crown him Lord of all! hail him who saves you
 5 crown him Lord of all! go, spread your tro - phies

scribe, and crown him Lord of all!

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
 3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!
 4 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 5 at his feet, and crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,
 on this terrestrial ball,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

OPENING SENTENCE (BCP p. 75)

The Officiant says

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1

The Invitatory and Psalter

VERSICLE (BCP p. 80)

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**

Amen. Alleluia.

ANTIPHON (BCP p. 80)

Alleluia. Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven: **Come let us
adore him. Alleluia.**

INVITATORY S 35 *Venite (White)* (s 35)



1. Come, let us sing to the
Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal -
va - tion. 2. Let us come be - fore his pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. 3. For the
Lord is a great God, and a great King a - bove all
gods. 4. In his hand are the cav - erns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his al - so. 5. The
sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have
mold - ed the dry land. 6. Come, let us bow down, and bend the

knee, _____ and kneel be-fore the Lord our Ma - ker. _____ 7. For
 he is our God, _____ and we are the peo-ple of his
 pas - ture _____ and the sheep of his hand. _____
 — Oh, that to - day you would heark-en to his voice! _____

PSALM: Psalm 1

Officiant and People

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *

**nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

**²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.**

**³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not
wither; ***

everything they do shall prosper.

**⁴It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

**⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when
judgment comes, ***

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *

but the way of the wicked is doomed.

At the end of the Psalm is sung or said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said,

¹⁶“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us— one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.”

²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

FIRST CANTICLE (BCP p. 85)

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Ecce, Deus

Isaiah 12:2-6

Officiant and People

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13

The people sit.

A Reading from the First letter of John.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

SECOND CANTICLE S 236 *A Song of Praise (Canticle 13)* (Rutter) (S 236)

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, be -

5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of

depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you,

you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and

high-ly ex - alt you Glo-ry to you!_____

high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er._____

SEQUENCE HYMN *We all are one in mission*

(Nyland) (WLP 778)

Verses 1&2 before the Gospel, verses 3&4 after the Gospel

1. We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;
 4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:
 the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

All stand, if able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus prayed for his disciples saying,] ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is

truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Silence may follow.

THE SERMON – Deacon Gail Kertland

Silence may follow.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (BCP p. 96)

Officiant and People together, all standing, if able.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERTORY

Announcements

Please be seated while announcements are made.

The Offertory

The Officiant says the following:

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

Offertory Anthem - "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

by Sandra Eithun. St. Mary's Bell Choir.

The Officiant is seated while the ushers take up the collection, then bring it forward to the Officiant, who accepts it and all sing:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

The service then continues with the Prayers.

The Prayers

SALUTATION (BCP p. 97)

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 97)

Officiant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

SUFFRAGES (BCP p. 97)

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

FIRST COLLECT (BCP p. 98)

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

SECOND COLLECT

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THIRD COLLECT (BCP p. 98)

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

On this Mother's Day, we ask you to please bless mothers and all who serve as mothers in our lives. Bless child care workers, nursery attendants, and those who teach our children and youth. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR MISSION (BCP p. 100)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *This week the Prayers of the People come from Messiah's Lent Study Litany. Messiah will be reading St. Mary's Litany in service today.*

O Holy One, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer
Hear us, your children.

Holy One, we trust your power to save, please deliver us from conflict, hatred and division.

Grant us peace.

Holy One, we trust your power to save, please deliver us from fear, prejudice, and pride.

Grant us peace.

Holy One, we trust your power to save, please deliver us from complacency, envy, and indifference.

Grant us peace.

Holy One, you know what it is to be human, save us from our ignorance, our mistakes, and our pain.

Grant us peace.

Healer, who cares about all of us, remember those who are sick in body and spirit.

Hear our prayer.

Healer, who cares about all of us, remember those who are bereaved and missing loved ones.

Hear our prayer.

Healer, who cares about all of us, remember our broken communities, families, and nations.

Hear our prayer.

Healer, who cares about all of us, remember those who feel alone.

Hear our prayer.

Healer, who cares about all of us, remember those who are experiencing homelessness and financial instability.

Hear our prayer.

Nurturer, who comforts and protects us, you know our confusion and fear, hold us in your loving arms.

Come, Holy Spirit.

O Source of all, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, your power flows through us, send us out into the world with joy and grace to serve all your children.

Amen!

The Officiant then says

Let us gather together all of our prayers and offer the General Thanksgiving.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (BCP p. 101)

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;**

**but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,

**that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your
praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM (BCP p. 102)

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one
accord to make our common supplication to you; and you
have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two
or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the
midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions
as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of
your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN *Alleluia! sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol)* (H 460)

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 *5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

CONCLUDING VERSICLE (BCP p. 102)
 Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING SENTENCE (BCP p. 102)

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Healing Prayer is available at the altar rail following the service.

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Special Prayers

For those in need of prayer: Emily Ference; the Wikander family; Steve Mason; Barb; Cheryl Olson; Ann; Liam & Pam; Luke Wolters; Anthony; Steve; Michael; Donna; Chuck; Audrey; Peg Flower; Marlene Spuck; John Rockefeller; Laura; Susan Vega; Nickolas; Jim; Claire; Chris; William; Ginny; Carol Lynch; Nan; Joe Mello; John Kibildis; Steve, Gregory, Bob Mason; Maxine; Hattie Stone; Valerie & the volunteers at the Sparta Community Food Pantry; the clients, staff, and volunteers of Family Promise; for all those affected by prejudice and injustice; natural disasters; and war in the world, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East.

For those who have died and now rest in the eternal Light of Christ: Today, we remember; John Pierro; and all those who have died because of natural disasters, the sin of racism, and senseless violence, especially gun violence, and all those who have died due to intentional destruction, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Altar Flowers

The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week:

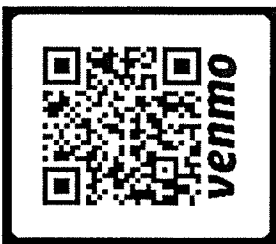
May 16	Ted Staszak
May 16	Dorothy Davis
May 16	Carter & Robin Stark
May 18	Jeffrey & Elizabeth Davis

This Week at St. Mary's

Tuesday	Yoga, 9:30 AM
Wednesday	Episcopal 101 Class, in the Chapel, 7:00 PM Compline, 8:00 PM on zoom (see e-chimes for the link)
Saturday	AA, 8:00 PM

Coming Up at St. Mary's

May 12	Mother's Day Brunch
May 19	Pentecost Ken & Lin Zink Anniversary Celebration
June 2	Parish Picnic, 10 am – 1:00 pm (see e-chimes for details/RSVP)
June 8	Racial Justice & Equity Pilgrimage, Grace Church, Madison
June 9	Hegg Awards, St. Peter's Morristown, 3:00 pm
June 14	Talent Show, 7:00 pm
June 15	Sussex Minors Game, Skylands Stadium Augusta, 6:00 pm 150th Anniversary of St. John the Baptist Convent, Mendham



Electronic Giving to St. Mary's

If you would like to give electronically using **Venmo**, please use this QR code to make your offering or pay your pledge to St. Mary's; or use one of the laminated cards in the pew rack. You may also give using **Vanco**—look for the link on the St. Mary's website on the "Giving" page. Thank you for supporting mission and ministry at St. Mary's!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MAY

Sunday May 19th Pentecost - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth

Sunday May 26th Trinity - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer lay led

JUNE

Sunday June 2nd Joint Church Picnic - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth and Deacon Gail

Sunday June 9th - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer with Deacon Gail preaching

Sunday June 16th - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth

Sunday June 23rd (Mother Elizabeth on vacation) - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer lay led

Sunday June 30th (Mother Elizabeth on vacation) - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer with Deacon Gail preaching

JULY

Sunday July 7th - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth and Deacon Gail (baptism)

Sunday July 14th - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer with Deacon Gail preaching

Sunday July 21st - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth

Sunday July 28th - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer lay led

AUGUST

Sunday August 4th - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth and Deacon Gail

Sunday August 11th - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer with Deacon Gail preaching

Sunday August 18th - St. Mary's 10 am Holy Eucharist with Mother Elizabeth

Sunday August 25th (Mother Elizabeth on vacation) - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer lay led

SEPTEMBER

Sunday September 1st (Mother Elizabeth on vacation) - St. Mary's 10 am Morning Prayer with Deacon Gail preaching

Announcements

Mother Elizabeth's sermons

If you'd like to follow along with Mother Elizabeth's sermons, you can read or listen to them at <https://elizayoda.substack.com>.

Prayer Requests

Bob Schock will take care of your prayer requests. Please let Bob know if you want your request sent out on the Prayer Chain; if you want the person's name listed in our Prayers of the People in the bulletin; or both. It's also helpful if you'll let Bob know when someone's name may be removed from the prayer lists! You may contact Bob on his cell at 973-903-0791 or via e-mail at bschock@life-recovery.com.

Episcopal Relief & Development

ERD continues to assist Ukrainian refugees; they are also helping the survivors of the recent floods & wildfires in our own country. If you can help, please visit EpiscopalRelief.org

Sussex County Minors Game

The Sussex County Miners game outing is Saturday June 15th at Skylands Stadium in Augusta. The game starts at 6:00 PM with Fireworks following the game. Tickets are \$10 and we have excellent seats. If you're interested, please contact Ted Staszak at (973)223-1835.

Episcopal 101 Class

Wednesdays @ 7 pm

April 10, 17, 24

May 1, 8, 15

Taught by Mother Elizabeth, Deacon Gail, and Bill Kibildis

Come learn more about the Episcopal Church, the Bible, the prayer book, the Nicene Creed and more!

In-person at Messiah and St. Mary's (Chapel) with a Zoom option.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, May 14 Building & Grounds Meeting, 10:30 am - double classroom

Thursday, May 16 Finance Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm – Zoom

Tuesday, May 21 Vestry Meeting, 7:00 pm

Monday, June 3 Outreach Meeting, 7:30 pm - Zoom only

Talent Show

St. Mary's Church and *The Church of the Messiah* are organizing a combined "Talent Show" at St. Mary's Church on Friday, June 14 at 7pm. If you would like to perform, please see Laura Lopez after Sunday services, or e-mail her at laspiano@hotmail.com. The evening will conclude with a combined song from members of both choirs.

We will be organizing a sign-up for refreshments after the show and would appreciate volunteers to help set up/break down the performance space.

An open plate donation will be collected to support a common charity that both parishes would like to support.

Sparta Community Food Pantry

“GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD.”

The Book of Common Prayer

OUTREACH MINISTRY at The SPARTA COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

99 Demarest Road, Sparta NJ

<https://www.thespartacommunityfoodpantry.com>

THANK YOU for **SERVING GOD** by donating an item on the always needed item list below. Please kindly bring your donations to the basket(s) set up in the narthex near the main church entrance.

Let's remember that Hunger doesn't go on Vacation – it's year round!

The pantry is always in need of: Cereal (hot & cold), pasta & pasta sauce, meal in a can (ravioli, spaghetti, etc.), juice, boxed milk, coffee, tea, mac & cheese, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned protein, toilet paper, paper towels, cat & dog food (5lb max for bagged pet food).

TRICKY TRAY DATE & LOCATION:

Saturday June 1st

12pm - 5pm

St. Kateri Roman Catholic Church

427 Sparta Stanhope Road, Sparta

Racial Justice & Equity Pilgrimage | The Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Join Bishop Hughes for a walking tour through the racial history of Madison, NJ

ON SAT, JUN 8 2024, 8:45AM GRACE CHURCH, MADISON.

The itinerary for this day-long pilgrimage has been developed by the Rev. George Dredde of the diocesan Racial Justice and Healing Commission, in conjunction with Professor Jonathan Golden, Ph.D., Director of Drew University's Center on Religion, Culture and Conflict.

The pilgrimage will conclude no later than 4 PM. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Cost: \$20 per person.

Transportation: This is a walking tour designed for those able to walk and stand for periods of time. For participants who cannot, limited transportation arrangements can be made.

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 31, 2024, 12:00pm

For more information and to register:

<https://dioceseofnewark.org/event/racial-justice-equity-pilgrimage>

Contacting the Parish Administrator

Dina is our Parish Administrator and works Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 9 am to 1 pm. Her e-mail address is: admin@stmaryssparta.org, and you can always phone the office & leave a message for her.

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024**

ZOOM HOST	Andy Lopez
ACOLYTE	George Reeves
LECTORS	Tricia Spitnale Robin Stark Marjorie Christie (P)
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	
USHERS	Dan Riley Sharon Rockenfeller
HEALER	Lin Zink
ALTAR GUILD	Jennifer Bonnema Dorothy Davis Joyce Morris Elsa Schock
COUNTERS	JoAnn Riley Gates Parker
GREETER	

Mother's Day Brunch: Thanks to Jesse Nowacki, Larry Palmer, Bill Kibildis and Brian Grace.

St. Mary's Church Choir

Richard Butera, Carol Hinks, Andrew Lopez, Vicki Minardi, Drew Muzzo, Josh Muzzo, Jim O'Bosky,
Kathy O'Brien, Linda Palmer, Gates Parker, Donald Rutsch, Robert Schock, Robin Stark, Margaret Stem,
Lin Zink.

St. Mary's Bell Choir

Renee Crain, Andrew Lopez, Josh Muzzo, Kathleen O'Brien, Linda Palmer, Gates Parker,
Robin Stark, Margaret Stem.

St. Mary's Children's Choir

Shannon Daley, Jolié Jennings, Tristan Jennings, Jack Lopez, Josie Lopez

St. Mary's Staff

The Rev. Elizabeth Ivell , Priest-in-Charge	motherelizabeth@stmaryssparta.org
The Rev. Deacon Gail Kertland	deacongail@aol.com
Laura Lopez , Director of Music	laspiano@hotmail.com
Dina Marlin , Parish Administrator	admin@stmaryssparta.org

The Vestry of St. Mary's

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Carter Stark Senior Warden Finance and Function	Leslie Boston Junior Warden Faith and Formation	Jesse Nowacki Finance and Function
Brian Grace Fellowship & Forming Communities	Gates Parker Facilities	JoAnn Riley Faith and Formation
Larry Palmer Facilities	Sharon Rockenfeller Fellowship & Forming Communities	

Treasurer, Ross Wisniewski