

# Messenger

NOVEMBER 2024



*With a  
thankful  
heart*



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# CROSSING THE ROAD

## To Love Our Neighbor

by The Reverend Andrew T.P. Merrow, Rector

Dear Friends,

What do hurricanes, heroes and Hail Marys have in common? More than one might think. Hurricane Helene wrought “biblical” destruction upon Western North Carolina in the southern Appalachians. The increasing amounts of energy in the atmosphere from global warming have unleashed storms that in turn are increasingly described as a “Once in a 100/1000-year event.” But Hurricane Helene also brought out the best in the people who live in those mountainous, forested valleys, supposedly safely removed from such things. The stories of neighbors helping, even saving, one another remind us powerfully that everyone is in fact our neighbor when “all hell breaks loose.”



The parable of the Good Samaritan resonates with persons of faith and persons of no faith. We all can immediately identify with the robbed and beaten man lying by the side of the road, including the enormity of his gratitude for his savior. If we are honest with ourselves, we also can identify with those who choose not to see, to cross the road to avoid that recent unpleasantness. How sad then that so much of the time we have trouble identifying with the Good Samaritan at the center of the story. Does it really take a natural disaster to reveal that we are neighbors in the real sense of that word? Why is it so hard for us to take Jesus at his word? The worldview in

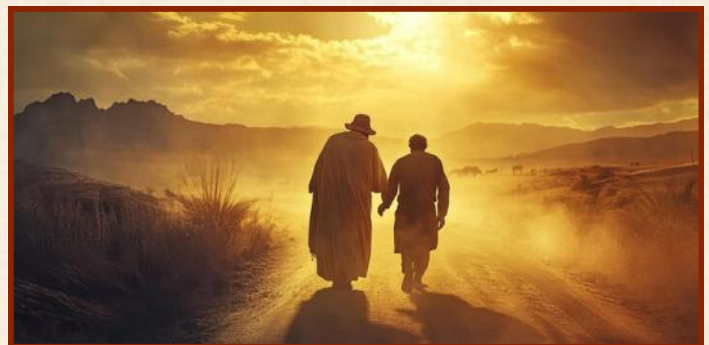
which Jesus lived sees the Good Samaritan as the other, the outcast, the least likely to do the right thing, and yet Jesus uses him to drive home his message.

Can only impending death and destruction cause the scales to fall from our eyes to see with depth and clarity that all human beings are neighbors, are family? Are heroes born of necessity or just a few naturally born that way, the right mix of genes and experience? The parable of the Good Samaritan suggests that being a “daily” hero is not the purview of only the few.

**“To be a disciple of Jesus requires us to commit to being trained in the ways of the HEART. It is not easy, and it takes time.”**

The Priest and the Levite who choose not to intervene are educated people but apparently not trained in the way of the heart. To be a disciple of Jesus requires us to commit to being trained in the ways of the heart. It is not easy, and it takes time. It is a primary reason that we do the same thing every Sunday, Eucharist after Eucharist.

This is where the Hail Mary comes in. Some of us have lived in exile for the last 20 years, a generation, having no football team in Washington to root for. One iconic play last Sunday against the Bears transformed strangers into neighbors, cynics into fans, robbing the toxic atmosphere of the nation’s capital of its divisive energy. In the good



old days, the crime rate really did drop during football games and Washington really did function better when Washington was winning. Life is strange. That Hail Mary didn't drop out of heaven, although Jayden Daniel's pass looked like it did. Rather the team had trained over time in case disaster struck and only 2 seconds are left on the clock. This is why sports can draw people together in spasms of joy.

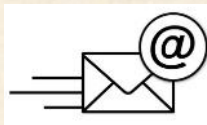
**“God wants JOY to be more than a Hail Mary in our life.”**

God wants joy to be more than a Hail Mary in our life. The kind of JOY that God wants for us is to have been formed into instruments of love ready to act at a moment's notice. I could be wrong, but I suspect that none of those ordinary folk in North Carolina acting like real neighbors battling the hurricane gave much thought about who their neighbor was going to vote for on November 5<sup>th</sup>.



*May the peace of the Lord always be with you.*

*Faithfully,  
Father Andrew +*



Drop Father Andrew a line or two about your thoughts on this message at [fr.andrew.mellow@stmarysarlington.org](mailto:fr.andrew.mellow@stmarysarlington.org). He would enjoy hearing from you!

Photo of destroyed home in North Carolina from Hurricane Helene: Sean Rayford/ Getty Images  
Depiction of Good Samaritan, Adobe Stock #927120902 by Dan Ai  
Waving American Flag, freepick

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*Compiled by Rev. Janettarose Greene who is an election official in Fairfax County on November 5.  
We pray for her well being and for all who are working the polls that day.*

**NOV 1 Pray for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit**

Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen (BCP, 251).

**NOV 2 Pray for deliverance from faithless fear and wordly anxiety**

Most loving Father, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on you who care for us: Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which you have manifested to us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen (BCP, 216).

**NOV 3 Pray for quiet confidence**

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (BCP, 832).

**NOV 4 Pray for the nation**

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen (BCP, 258).

**NOV 5 Election Day**

**Pray for the election**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (BCP, 822).

**NOV 6 Day After Election**

**Pray to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ today, no matter the election results**

O God: Give me strength to live another day; Let me not turn coward before its difficulties or prove recreant to its duties; Let me not lose faith in other people; Keep me sweet and sound of heart, despite ingratitude, treachery, or meanness; Preserve me from minding little stings or giving them; Help me to keep my heart clean, and to live so honestly and fearlessly that no outward failure can dishearten me or take away the joy of conscious integrity; Open wide the eyes of my soul that I may see good in all things; Grant me this day some new vision of thy truth; Inspire me with the spirit of joy and gladness; and make me the cup of salvation to suffering souls; in the name of the strong Deliverer, our only Lord, and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Note: All prayers are taken from The Book of Common Prayer except for the final prayer, "For Today," which is printed in each issue of Forward Day by Day. A ministry of the Episcopal Church, Forward Movement inspires disciples and empowers evangelists. Visit at [www.forwardmovement.org](http://www.forwardmovement.org).*

*Photos by Andrea Meier*

**BRING YOUR PULL TABS  
LET'S FINISH THE JOB**

**LET'S FILL THIS WATER JUG TO THE BRIM  
BY THANKSGIVING**

Friends, we are ten inches from filling our 5-gallon water jug with pull-tabs. If we pitch in, we can make our first deposit to the Ronald McDonald Pull Tab Campaign a reality by Thanksgiving, 2024. Many thanks to so many of you for so many tabs! We even had a parishioner send in a full envelope of them while she was away on vacation. Thank you! *Rev. JR+*



**THE REV. JANETTAROSE LENDS HER VOICE  
TO CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF  
ORDAINING WOMEN**

*by Andrea Meier*

Hearing Rev. Janettarose Greene talk about her faith journey moved me deeply, and I thought it deserved broader circulation. In the event you missed her Tuesday Thought, we have her testimonial here.

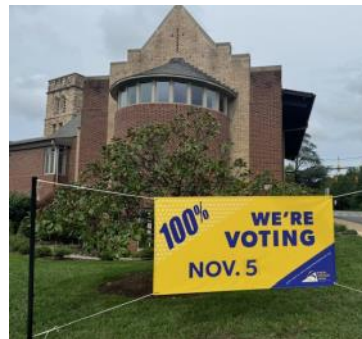
[Click here](#) or find it under Tuesday Thought on our YouTube Channel on the website.

**Vote! Nov. 5th!**

St. Mary's is participating in a non-partisan, inter-faith campaign to encourage voter participation in the November election. Please make a plan to vote! *Early voting:* For locations and times, check <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Early-Voting>.



The last day of early voting is Saturday, Nov. 2. *Nov. 5th:* For information on voting locations, a sample ballot, list of candidates, and proposed constitutional amendment and bond questions, see <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Elections>. *Not sure if you're registered to vote?* Check here: <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Voter-Registration/checkupdate-registration>. If need be, you may register the same day that you vote. Your ballot will be considered "provisional" until your eligibility to vote is confirmed. For more information, see <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Voter-Registration/Same-Day-Registration>



**ELECTION NIGHT PRAYERS**

**THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF VA**

**VIRTUAL PRAYERS 8PM-10 PM  
ON ZOOM**

[Episcopalvirginia.org/event/election-night-virtual-prayers/](https://episcopalvirginia.org/event/election-night-virtual-prayers/)

**Our next food distribution is next  
Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day!**

As it is Election Day and several schools will be closed, we are hoping to get some student volunteers. As always, the first shift is from 1:45 - 2 pm to help set up tables in Santa Maria's large parking lot (7000 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church, VA 22042). We will need two or three volunteers. Then from 2 pm - 4 pm, volunteers will repackage produce into smaller portions and set out food. During the final shift from 3:50 pm - 6 pm, volunteers will load food into cars that have lined up and help with clean up. [Below is the link to next week's distribution:](#)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FA5A72DA7FB6-52889071-santa/31298656#/>

## ***From the Minister of Music Gratitude***

*by Dr. Gregory Hooker*

**G**n this season of Thanksgiving I would like to give thanks for the stewardship of all the musicians at St. Mary's and especially to those who sing in a choir. Many of the singers have sung in church since their youth and have committed to weekly practices for nearly a lifetime of service. There are few rivals to this level of dedication within most parishes. And yet members of the choir do not want the spotlight, instead, wanting to be of service to others and to give an offering to God. They do this by submitting themselves to the discipline of learning about the fundamentals of music, singing and liturgy. Our choir is able to reflect the beauty of God in their singing because the inexperienced youth as well as the seasoned adult have offered their time and willingness to learn as the only prerequisite to membership. So please join me in giving thanks to those who dedicate themselves to the work and ministry of leading us in the liturgy through the gift of choral music. A big Thank You also to those of you who support us with your prayers, kind words of support, attendance at Choral Evensong, the Requiem, Lessons & Carols and other musical offerings throughout the year.

### ***All Saints Choral Requiem Eucharist Sunday, November 3, 5:00 pm.***

The St. Mary's Choir will lead the remembrance of All Saints, and the congregation will be invited to place a flower on the altar in remembrance of the faithful departed. The music for the service is the *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924), sung by St. Mary's Choir with soloists and orchestra. The service will be followed by a festive reception in Paca Hall. This musical offering is supported by the generous donors to St. Mary's Music Fund.

### ***November Hymn of the Month Now thank we all our God, Hymn No. 397***

Martin Rinckart, Archdeacon in Eilenburg, Saxony wrote this hymn as a table grace for his children to sing and is dated June 24, 1630. The English translation by Catherine Winkworth was first published in London in 1858, and the hymn has appeared in Episcopal hymnals since 1871. This German "Te Deum" has transcended its German roots to become a familiar hymn in many parts of the world. Paradoxically it was so familiar to the English speaking world that it was used to celebrate the defeat of Nazi Germany.

***Save the date: Advent Lessons and Carols  
St. Mary's Choirs and Marymount University Choir  
Sunday, December 8, 5:00 pm  
Followed by reception in Paca Parish Hall  
Come celebrate the coming of our Lord***



## ***All Saints Choral Requiem Eucharist Sunday, November 3, 5:00 pm***

***Gabriel Fauré Requiem with Choir, Soloists and Orchestra***

On All Saints Sunday, we will remember in our spoken prayers those who have died since last November.

*All are welcome. A reception will follow.*



***Dr. Gregory Hooker, Music Minister & The Reverend Andrew T.P. Merron, Rector  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church 2609 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22207 ☎ 703.527.6800***



ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

**Upcoming Musical Offerings**

*All Saints Choral Requiem Eucharist*

Sunday, November 3, 5:00 pm

*Gabriel Fauré, Requiem with Choir, Soloists and Orchestra*

*Advent Lessons & Carols*

Sunday, December 8, 5:00 pm

*St. Mary's Choirs herald the season of our Lord's Coming*

*Receptions follow both events. Bring a friend! All welcome.*

2609 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22207 ☎ 703.527.6800 ☎ [stmarysarlington.org](http://stmarysarlington.org)



St. Mary's  
Arlington

Worship · Outreach · Family · Care



**AUTUMN**

**WOMEN'S**

**NIGHT OUT**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**FROM 6 - 9 PM**

**BRING AN APPETIZER OR BEVERAGE TO SHARE**

*Colleen Mason's Home*

**4802 14th St. N., Arlington, VA 22205**

Phone: 571-236-3577 | Email: [colleen.mason@verizon.net](mailto:colleen.mason@verizon.net)

**SIGN UP** on the Parish Hub at [stmarysarlington.org/hub](http://stmarysarlington.org/hub)





**St. Mary's**  
Arlington

Worship · Outreach · Family · Care

# Thanksgiving Food Drive

*Reach out to your Neighbor*

**Help families purchase turkeys for the holiday**

*(write a check or donate online via [tithe.ly](https://tithely.com), select "Thanksgiving Bags")*

**~Or~**

**Fill up a grocery bag**

**with the following non-perishable items:**

- 1 or 2 large cans of green vegetables
- 1 box of rice or instant mashed potatoes
- 1 bag of stuffing mix
- 1 can of gravy or packaged gravy mix
- 1 or 2 cans of fruit
- 1 large plastic bottle of cooking oil
- 1 box mix to make corn bread/dinner rolls
- 1 box mix to make a dessert (brownies, cake, cookies, etc.)

**NO GLASS CONTAINERS**

**Please bring filled bags to the Glebe Road Lobby  
by Sunday, November 17th**

*Donations will be distributed among APAH, Doorways for Women and Families, OAR, Samaritan Ministries of Greater Washington, Arlington View Terrace, Together We Bake, and Path Forward.*



# Santa Maria & St. Mary's Thanksgiving Dinner



## Traditional Thanksgiving TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

EUCHARIST & DINNER AT SANTA MARIA

EUCHARIST AT 7:30 PM | DINNER AT 8:15 PM

Location: Santa Maria Church 7000 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA  
Fellowship Hall

**St. Mary's has offered to bring apple and pecan pies.**

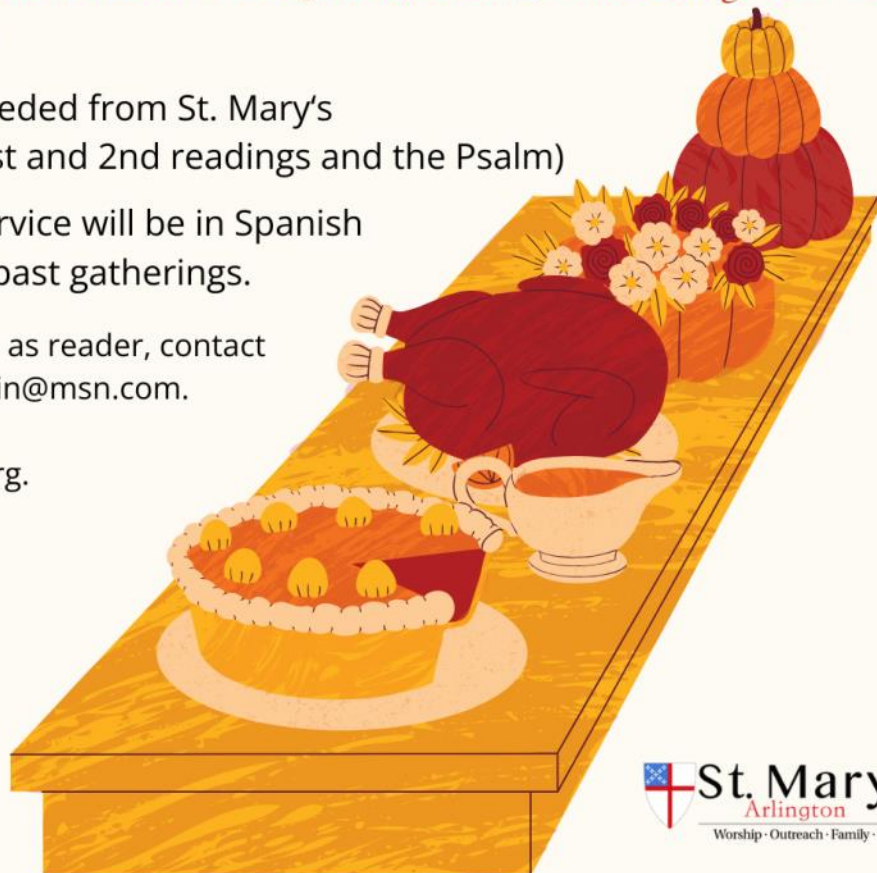
Please sign up on the Parish Hub or with QR code below, so we can give a head count to Santa Maria's.

Three Volunteers are needed from St. Mary's to read in English (the 1st and 2nd readings and the Psalm)

The remainder of the service will be in Spanish as we have done in our past gatherings.

For questions or to sign up as reader, contact Dana Martin at [danavmartin@msn.com](mailto:danavmartin@msn.com). or the church office at [office@stmarysarlington.org](mailto:office@stmarysarlington.org).

Sign Up with QR code



# Reflections on Gratitude

by Jackie Ly, Youth and Family Formation Minister

**N**ovember tends to be a month when we are surrounded with imagery encouraging thankfulness, generosity and appreciation for our many gifts. I have beautiful pumpkins on my stoop that I picked out with friends I don't get to see very often; I love helping my family cook for Thanksgiving and I have enjoyed cheering for a number of our youth at their extracurricular activities this fall. I'm continually thankful for my loved ones and for this St. Mary's family.

Despite so many things to be grateful for within this community, we also face a contentious election, disastrous impacts from climate change, school stress and concern about our neighbors in need being cold or hungry this season. It can be difficult to cultivate an attitude of gratitude if it is not something that comes naturally, and I find this is especially true for our young people who wonder where God is in the midst of so much hardship. Why would God let bad things happen to good people, they ask, and frankly I ask this question, too!

**“We all need regular reminders that the Holy Spirit is present with us.”**

We all need regular reminders that the Holy Spirit is present with us, celebrating our wins, crying in our sorrows, and guiding us back to a closeness with God that God so

desires with us. Having faith gives us hope, and having hope keeps us from residing permanently in despair. I know what despair feels

**“I also know that I would not be where I am today without faith, hope, love, and a practice of gratitude that keeps me grounded for whatever comes my way.**

like, and I also know that I would not be where I am today without faith, hope, love, and a practice of gratitude that keeps me grounded for whatever comes my way.

How might you express your thankfulness to God? Who are you most thankful for? How does being thankful affect the way we view others, and finally, in what ways might we be faithful stewards of our many gifts at St. Mary's? You could:

- ◆ Volunteer to help with children and youth activities such as the Christmas Pageant or Youth Group
- ◆ Chaperone an upcoming retreat or our June mission trip with our amazing youth.
- ◆ Take exceptional care of our church, especially our Merrow Fellowship Center and the newly refurbished Sr. High Classroom (and if youth have ideas about what should go on the classroom walls, I'm ready for suggestions!)

- ◆ Share your gift of photography and help us capture special moments at St. Mary's
- ◆ Give generously through our stewardship campaign - pledge cards can be found in the pews
- ◆ Bring in a complete Thanksgiving bag for a neighbor in need, now through Nov. 17th
- ◆ Remind the young people in your life that while these are anxious times, we can put our trust in God to walk with us through all that we face

**This is my prayer for the season:**

*God, we thank You today and every day. We know that we can't work to make You love us any more than You already do- Your love is that big! Help us to take time to think about Your big love so that we can give Your love to others. Thank you for giving us Jesus, who taught us how to be more loving. We are so thankful for the people You have given us and the ways we see You in every season of our lives. Amen*

*(taken from "Every Season Sacred" by Kayla Craig)*



Jackie Ly is St. Mary's fearless and tireless organizer of all things youth and family. St. Mary's is thankful for her indomitable spirit.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY SAVE THE DATES:

**Sunday, November 17th, 3-5pm**

4th and 5th Grade Youth Group Leads Thanksgiving Bag Sorting- parishioners invited to help!



**Sunday, November 24th:**

Christmas Eve Pageant Deadline to register your PreK-5th grade child for a part: [click here](#) or register on the Parish Hub.

**Sunday, December 1st,** Advent Wreath Making at 9am and 11:15am coffee hours. Kits available to make at home or with us! Sold for \$20 in advance, [click here](#) or register on the parish hub.



**February 18, 2025** - Martin Luther King Jr., Day of Service, 8:30 am to Noon

**February 22, 2025** - Diocesan Fellowship Day for 3rd-5th Graders

**February 23, 2025** - Bishop's Visit & Youth Confirmation

**March 14-16, 2025** - Confirmation Retreat for current 8th graders and up who are planning to be confirmed in 2026.

**March 21-23, 2025** - Diocesan Jr. High Youth Retreat at Shrine Mont



**June 22-28, 2025** - Sr. High Mission Trip to New Bern, NC; Adult chaperones needed!

“Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep his love is.”

Ephesians 3:17-18



## SHRINE MONT PLANNING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Our June 6-8, 2025 Shrine Mont Parish Weekend Planning Team is looking for volunteers to brainstorm activities and themes, develop our weekend program and help make it happen next summer! Youth and adults interested in a fun working committee should contact Jackie Ly for more information.



## GALLERY TRIP TO ART MUSEUM

Join the Arts Committee on a Gallery Field Trip  
to the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art

**November 16 at 10 am**

*Stations of the Cross and Bible Illustrations &  
The Mask and the Cross*

*by Nigerian artist, Bruce Onobrakpeya*

We'll be meeting up with a group from a Presbyterian church to explore and discuss the images together. Below is an image of *The Mask and The Cross* by Nigerian artist, Bruce Onobrakpeya. Now in his 80's, Onobrakpeya has been designated a UNESCO Living Treasure. These powerful images call upon traditional West African visual culture to explore Christian imagery, a transportation that the artist explains in a fascinating video that accompanies the exhibition. Those who want to linger for a longer discussion can stay for lunch after the trip. Sign Up is limited to 10. [Register here](#) or on the [Parish Hub](#).



### FUNERAL INFORMATION FOR JOY STEVENSON

Joyce "Joy" Owen Stevenson, wife of Bishop Mark Stevenson passed away on October 29.

#### Visitation

Wed. November 13, 4-7pm  
All Saints Episcopal Church, Library  
8787 River Road  
Richmond, VA 23229

#### Requiem Liturgy

Thursday, November 14, 10 am  
All Saints Episcopal Church  
8787 River Road  
Richmond, VA 23229

#### Burial

Saturday, November 16, 10 am  
Sunville Cemetery  
2270 Sunville Road  
Coopertown, PA 16317

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her name to:  
[Episcopal Migration Ministries](http://iam.ec/memorial) (iam.ec/memorial)



This poem was written by  
the Rev. Len Abrams,  
a long time friend of  
Wayne Lewis's and who is now a  
priest in the Church of England.

*Lord, grant that I may today  
by your grace  
in things large or small,  
seen or unseen,  
Be your answer  
To the prayers of others.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen.*

---

*Have a favorite prayer you'd like to share?*

*Submit to Andrea  
by the 20th of the Month.  
andrea.meier@stmarysarlington.org*

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#### The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the  
SERENITY  
To accept the things  
I cannot change;  
COURAGE  
To change the things  
I can;  
and the  
WISDOM  
To know the difference.

# Mark Your Calendars

- 11/1 All Saints Day**  
Noon Holy Eucharist, Chapel
- 11/3 The 24th Sunday after Pentecost**  
All Saints' Sunday  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 10 am  
Holy Baptism at 10 am for  
Austin Whirley & Riley Wiest  
No Wilderness Service  
5 pm, Choral Requiem Eucharist  
6 pm, Reception
- 11/4-15 Father Andrew on Sabbatical - Sicily, Italy
- 11/7-9 Diocese of Virginia, Clergy Conference  
Fredericksburg, VA
- 11/10 The 25th Sunday after Pentecost**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm  
Faith Formation at 9 am  
Mark Lagon "On Human Trafficking"
- 11/13-20 Rev. Janettarose travels to Kumasi,  
Ghana with the Triangle of Hope  
Leadership Team
- 11/16 Funeral for Mary Petroni, 11 am
- 11/17 The 26th Sunday after Pentecost**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm  
Wilderness Service at 10:15 am  
Thanksgiving Bag for Outreach, deadline  
Faith Formation at 9 am  
Rev. Dr. Canon Judith Maltby  
A 2024 VTS Merrow Fellow  
On "Furious Charity" and the Poetry  
& Theology of Vassar Miller
- 11/20 Funeral for Gladys Barrett at 11 am  
Reception to follow in Paca Hall
- 11/24 The Last Sunday after Pentecost**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm  
Pageant Enrollment Deadline
- 11/28 Thanksgiving Day  
Coffee at 9:30 am  
Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am
- 12/1 The First Sunday of Advent**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm  
Wilderness Service at 10:15 am  
Advent Wreath Making both coffee hours  
Bring brown bags for 1st of Month
- 12/7 Advent Clean Up Day, 9 am-Noon
- 12/8 The Second Sunday of Advent**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am  
ADVENT MART from 9 am to Noon  
Advent Lessons and Carols, 5 pm  
w/St. Mary's Choir & Mary Mount Univ.
- 12/14 Advent Quiet Morning, 9am-Noon  
Register on Parish Hub
- 12/15 The Third Sunday of Advent**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am  
Wilderness Service at 10:15 am  
Christmas Caroling at 3 pm w/choir
- 12/21 Communion Prep Class, 9am  
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 10 am
- 12/22 The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm
- 12/24 Christmas Eve**  
Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist, 4pm  
Holy Eucharist, 8 pm  
Choral Music, 10:30 pm  
Holy Eucharist, 11 pm
- 12/25 Christmas Day**  
Holy Eucharist, 10:30 am
- 12/26 Feast of St. Stephen  
Holy Eucharist with healing, 11 am
- 12/27 Feast of St. John  
Holy Eucharist at 11 am
- 12/28 Holy Innocents Day  
Holy Eucharist at 11 am
- 12/29 The First Sunday after Christmas**  
Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 5 pm  
Coffee Hour, 9 am  
Christmas Lessons and Carols, 10 am
- 1/1 New Year's Day and Holy Name Day  
Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am, Chapel

# ADULT FAITH FORUM—SUNDAYS AT 9 AM

**NOVEMBER 10**

**Ambassador Mark P. Lagon,  
Longtime Parishioner**

## **On Human Trafficking**

Ambassador Lagon has worked on human trafficking over the last quarter century as a U.S. Senate staffer on the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000; as U.S. Ambassador-At-Large and Director for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking; as CEO of Polaris, the leading U.S. non-profit combating trafficking which leads the primary hotline for the U.S. government; and, co-founded and advises the Global Business Coalition Against Trafficking.

**Mark P. Lagon** has been worshipping at St. Mary's since 2005 with his wife Susan, daughter Elena, and mother Sonja.

He's worked on human trafficking over the last quarter century:

1999-2000: As Senate Foreign Relations Committee staffer helping finalize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 creating the U.S. government's domestic and international apparatus to combat trafficking

2007-2009: He served as U.S. Ambassador-At-Large and Director for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking

2009-2010: He was CEO of the leading U.S. non-profit combatting trafficking, Polaris, which operates the primary hotline for the U.S. government. Co-founded the Global Business Coalition Against Trafficking in 2012, which includes Coca-Cola, Google and Marriott – and is its senior advisor still.

*Currently, he is:*

Chief Policy Officer at Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

Senior Fellow at the faith-based Trinity Forum.

Adjunct Professor in the Masters in Foreign Service program at Georgetown University.

*He used to be* full-time curricular chair at that Georgetown Program before becoming President of Freedom House in 2015.

A PhD in political science, his 2<sup>nd</sup> book was [Human Dignity and the Future of Global Institutions](#) inspired by human trafficking and HIV/AIDS.

In government, he also served Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations

**NOVEMBER 17**

**The Reverend Canon Dr. Judith Maltby,  
2024 Merrow Fellow**

Canon Maltby will speak at Adult Formation on "Furious Charity:" The Poetry and Theology of Vassar Miller, who was a Poet Laureate of Texas. She will also be speaking at VTS on Nov. 11 from 6-8 pm in the Lettie Pate Evans Room as part of the Costan Lecture series. The series is free and open to the public.

**DECEMBER 1**

## **Advent Wreath Making**

Sign Up on the Parish Hub



**DECEMBER 8**

**Advent Mart | 9 am—Noon**



**DECEMBER 15**

Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery with Rev. Jos Hubbard, Episcopal Priest, Preacher, Pastor and Teacher, Rapid City, South Dakota

*and*

Sarah Augustine, Executive Dir., of the Coalition to Dimantle the Doctrine of Discovery

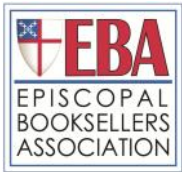
**DECEMBER 22**

Coffee Hour

**DECEMBER 29**

Coffee Hour

# BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



*Episcopal Booksellers Association is a member of Church Publishing Incorporated. Some of the following accessible eBook titles were highlighted this month and we thought it would be nice to pass along the list.*

[Awakening the Creative Spirit: Bringing the Arts to Spiritual Direction](#)

Christine Valters Paintner and Betsey Beckman  
9780819220936 | List Price: \$14.99

[A History of the Church in England: Third Edition](#)

J. R. H. Moorman  
9780819220950 | List Price: \$23.99

[The Spiritual Life](#)

Evelyn Underhill  
9780819224699 | List Price: \$9.99

[Living with Contradiction: An Introduction to Benedictine Spirituality](#)

Esther de Waal  
9780819224989 | List Price: \$11.99

[Every Earthly Blessing: Rediscovering the Celtic Tradition](#)

Esther de Waal  
9780819225160 | List Price: \$12.99

[Still Listening: New Horizons in Spiritual Direction](#)

Norvene Vest  
9780819225177 | List Price: \$16.99

[Grounded in God: Listening Hearts Discernment for Group Deliberations, Revised Edition](#)

Suzanne G. Farnham, Stephanie A. Hull, and R. Taylor McLean  
9780819225269 | List Price: \$9.99

[Soul Friend: Spiritual Direction in the Modern World](#)

Kenneth Leech  
9780819225399 | List Price: \$16.99

[Introduction to Theology, Third Edition](#)

Owen C. Thomas, Ellen K. Wondra  
9780819225450 | List Price \$44.99

[To Pause at the Threshold](#)

Esther de Waal  
9780819225832 | List Price: \$9.99

[Supervision of Spiritual Directors: Engaging in Holy Mystery](#)

Rebecca Bradburn Langer and Mary Rose Bumpus RSM  
9780819225870 | List Price: \$14.99

[Welcome to the Book of Common Prayer](#)

Vicki K. Black  
9780819226013 | List Price: \$9.99

[For All the Saints: Remembering the Christians Departed](#)

N. T. Wright  
9780819226044 | List Price: \$9.99

[Tracks of a Fellow Struggler: Living and Growing through Grief](#)

John R. Claypool  
9780819226082 | List Price: \$9.99

[A Manual for Eucharistic Visitors](#)

Beth Wickenberg Ely  
9780819226198 | List Price: \$9.99

[Being a Deacon Today: Exploring a Distinctive Ministry in the Church and in the World](#)

Rosalind Brown  
9780819226440 | List Price: \$21.99

[Following Francis: The Franciscan Way for Everyone](#)

Susan Pitchford  
9780819226624 | List Price: \$11.99

[Strength for the Journey: A Guide to Spiritual Practice](#)

Renee Miller  
9780819227973 | List Price: \$9.99

[Will Our Children Have Faith?, Third Revised Edition](#)

John H. Westerhoff III  
9780819228017 | List Price: \$12.99

[Embodied Spirits: Stories of Spiritual Directors of Color](#)

Sherry Bryant-Johnson, Therese Taylor-Stinson, and Rosalie Norman McNaney  
9780819228949 | List Price: \$9.99

[Call on Me: A Prayer Book for Young People](#)

Jenifer Gamber and Sharon Ely Pearson  
9780819228505 | List Price: \$9.99

[Evangelicals on the Canterbury Trail: Why Evangelicals Are Attracted to the Liturgical Church, Revised Edition](#)

Robert E. Webber and Lester Ruth  
9780819228529 | List Price: \$12.99

[A History of the Episcopal Church, Third Revised Edition](#)

Robert W. Prichard  
9780819228789 | List Price: \$23.99



# Announcements

## SAVE THE DATE:

**Mark Your Calendars now for  
Friday evening, MAY 2, 2025**

It is hard to believe, but we are just six months away from Father Merrow's last Sunday at St. Mary's. Please mark your calendars now with the following important information:

*Father Andrew Merrow's  
Retirement Party*

*May 2*

*Join us for an evening of  
Celebration,  
Tributes and Toasts.*

*Invitation and details to come!*

\*\*Father Merrow's incredible tenure has positively impacted so many, over generations, in our faith community. We want everyone to have the opportunity to join in his celebration and send off. Do you know of a former parishioner who we should include/invite? Email Derek Greten-Harrison, Parish Administrator at [derek@stmarysarlington.org](mailto:derek@stmarysarlington.org).

\*\*Interested in helping with the big party? Looking for volunteers! Email [Suzanne@thestrups.com](mailto:Suzanne@thestrups.com)

## ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR JOB POSTING

St. Mary's will be posting the job description under the Parish Hub.

## MID WEEK IN THE CHAPEL TAKE TIME TO REFLECT

Tuesday	Noon Day Prayer
Wednesday	7 am Holy Eucharist
Thursday	11 am Holy Eucharist, <i>with healing</i>

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PLEDGE

Thank you to all who have made a financial pledge to St. Mary's for 2025. We hope that all of our parishioners are called to pledge and support the ministries of St. Mary's including our 25% commitment to outreach in the community. If you have not yet made your pledge, please take time to prayerfully consider what you can contribute for next year. You may make your pledge online at [www.stmarysarlington.org/pledge](http://www.stmarysarlington.org/pledge) or submit a pledge card to the church.



## THANKSGIVING BAGS WE CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

St. Mary's has committed to providing 300 Thanksgiving Bags to our outreach partners. Won't you be a part of something special on this day of plenty as we bless those in need. See page 9 for the list of items needed. **Return no later than November 17** to Merrow Fellowship Center. Checks may be written to St. Mary's with memo line to reflect "Thanksgiving bags." Thank you for helping with our Outreach efforts to make a real difference in our Immediate community.

## ADVENT MART DECEMBER 8 IN PACA HALL

**BOTH COFFEE HOURS, FROM 9 AM—NOON**

Come find a gift or two from unique artisans, and outreach partners.

## WALKING THE MOURNER'S PATH WILL MEET IN EARLY 2025

Flyers with dates are available in Merrow Fellowship Center

## FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH CLASSES FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION & RECEPTION ARE BEING PLANNED FOR EARLY 2025

## ST. MARY'S OFFICES & STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.stmarysarlington.org

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703.527.6800, ext. 306

The Rev. Janettarose L. Greene  
janettarose@stmarysarlington.org  
703.527.6800, ext. 316

The Rev. Canon Victoria Heard  
victoria.heard@stmarysarlington.org  
214.957.3832

The Rev. Kate Sonderegger  
ksonderegger@vts.edu

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Dennis Carter-Chand  
dennis.carter.chand@stmarysarlington.org

## The Diocese of Virginia

The Right Reverend E. Mark Stevenson  
Bishop of Virginia

The Right Reverend Gayle Elizabeth Harris  
Assistant Bishop of Virginia

## St Mary's Vestry

Colleen Mason (2025) *Sr. Warden*

Chris Jennings (2026) *Jr. Warden*

David Smith (2025) *Register*

Jim Bicksel (2025)

Alec Hicks (2026)

Melissa Wiley (2026)

Michael Devine (2027)

Campbell Hutton (2027)

Suzanne Stroup (2027)

## St Mary's Staff

The Reverend Andrew T.P. Merrow, Rector

The Reverend Janettarose L. Greene,  
Associate to the Rector

The Reverend Canon Victoria Heard,  
Part-time Associate to the Rector

The Reverend Kate Sonderegger, Priest Associate

Greg Williams, VTS Seminarian

Tom Welch, VTS Seminarian

Dr. Gregory Hooker, Music Minister

Matt Gabay, Volunteer Associate Organist

Garine Adams, Wilderness Worship Leader

Rosanna Esposito, Minister of Community Life

Jackie Ly, Youth and Family Formation Minister

Derek Greten-Harrison, Parish Administrator

Andrea Meier, Communications Minister

Jane Shafran, Facilities Manager

Prosper Daziorlor, Assistant Facilities Manager

John Bednar, IT Support & Live Stream

Janet Tasker, Interim Finance Manager

Deborah Gandy, Volunteer Treasurer

Dennis Carter-Chand, Outreach Coordinator