



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

January 12, 2025 7:45 AM- The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ Rite I

Our Mission: God is calling the people of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Wayne, Pennsylvania to follow Jesus' teaching to love God with all our hearts, souls and minds; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Therefore we love and embrace each other, friend and stranger alike in worship, service and prayer as we seek to live in and share God's Word. – Adopted by the St. Mary's Vestry, May 2015



"I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." – Luke 3:16

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord,
He who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth--
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29 (*Read by all*)

- A** scribe to the Lord, you gods, *
Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
 worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
 the God of glory thunders;
 *the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
 the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
 the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
 and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
 the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
 the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
 and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord *
 all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
 the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
 the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Reading

Acts 8:14-17

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Conor Alexander

Nicene Creed

BCP page 326

The Prayers of the People

The Deacon or other person appointed says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world. In our parish cycle of prayers this week, we pray for Clem and Anna Urey, Courtney Tyus and Michael Price, Bud and Beth Tyson and their families

After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel, our Bishop, Father Conor our Rector that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph our President, and Josh our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor (*Congregation reads the names aloud*) **Irene Steinhardt, Barbara Kidder, Jennifer Lurie, Victoria Coates, JoAnne Vereneck, Jim Cobb, Scott Ziglar, Craig and Ann Marie Erickson, Marylu Hill and her family, Magali Behrmann, Avanya Manasseh, Wilhelm Rebmann, Tom Ferrara, Timothy O'Donovan, Joan McAndrew, Aldys Davis, Guillaume Brunet and Enid Ball**, that they may be delivered from their distress, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; especially remembering Alice Duncan Montague for whom the flowers on the High Altar are given, we also remember this morning Lewis H. Cook, Lynda Cook, Jerry Mahoney and Lewis and Kathryn Cook for whom the flowers on the Lady Chapel Altar are given, and to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Alice Moon Ritschard for whom the Sanctuary Light is given.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Invitation & Announcements

To all who are lonely and need friendship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, this church opens wide its doors and bids you WELCOME!

We welcome all visitors to St. Mary's this morning. Please sign our guest book by the front door of the Church.

Today is Sunday, January 12, 2025

The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ

7:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
(livestreamed and recorded)

11:15 am Coffee Hour

Acolytes

7:45 am Linda Noll

10:00 am Ruth Lanouette, Evangeline Rozells,
Penny Busch

Chalice

7:45 am Linda Noll

10:00 am Erlis Wickersham

Readers

7:45 am Balana Gullatt

10:00am Bridget Lanouette, Ellen Buerklin

Prayers of the People Toni Hoffacker

Altar Guild: Team 2

Live Stream: Thomas Sean Kelleher

Ushers: David Cutler, David Gardiner

Parish Cycle of Prayers

In this week's Parish Cycle of Prayers we pray for Clem and Anna Urey, Courtney Tyus and Michael Price, Bud and Beth Tyson and their families.

The Flowers on the High Altar this morning are given by the Huck family to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Alice Duncan Montague**.

Flowers on the Lady Chapel Altar are given by Stephanie Mahoney to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father **Lewis H. Cook**, stepmother **Lynda Cook**, her father-in-law **Jerry Mahoney** and her grandparents **Lewis and Kathryn Cook**.

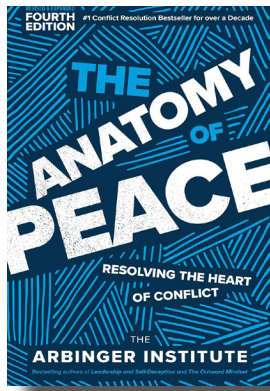
The Sanctuary Light is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her great grandmother **Alice Moon Ritschard**, by Nicole Marie.

Please pray for those in ongoing need of our prayers and all on our parish intercession list at St. Mary's: Irene Steinhardt, Barbara Kidder, Jennifer Lurie, Victoria Coates, JoAnne Vereneck, Jim Cobb, Scott Ziglar, Craig and Ann Marie Erickson, MaryLu Hill and her family, Magali Behrmann, Avanya Manasseh, Wilhelm Rebmann, Tom Ferrara Timothy O'Donovan, Joan McAndrew, Aldys Davis Guillaume Brunet and Enid Ball.

Also included on the prayer list are our friends John Paul, Peggy Wilson, Emma Cavanaugh-Kerr, Stan Compton, Arlene, Father Hentzi Elek, Carole Beideman, Doug Drumheller, as well as Dana, Fionn, Miriam, Kris, Jill, Kendall, Grace and Rev. Paul Reid.

The names read aloud today include St. Mary's parishioners and family members of parishioners. Please say aloud the names of your loved ones during the Prayers of the People when the lector pauses for the congregation to add their own petitions. Please note: *Kindly let our Parish Administrator Nicole Marie know if you would like yourself or another prayed for at our services. It is our practice to take individuals off the Intercession list after four weeks unless more time is requested.*

Christian Formation Sunday Mornings at 9am Navajo Room



The Anatomy of Peace

What if conflicts at home, work, and the world stem from the same root cause? What if we systematically misunderstand that root cause? And what if, as a result, we unwittingly perpetuate the very problems we're trying to solve.

Join us in the Adult Forum in January to discuss *The Anatomy of Peace* by the Arbinger Institute. In it you will learn how cultivating peace begins with your own mindset, and how to shift that mindset towards one of peace. All participants will need a copy of *The Anatomy of Peace* by the Arbinger Institute, available on Amazon. Please join us! If you have questions, please contact Erlis Wickersham.

Children's Chapel Update During Children's Chapel on Sunday, January 5th, after reading an interactive book about the Nativity which included a puzzle to solve and a quiz game to play, we talked about why the Wise Men came from far away to see the Baby Jesus, why they didn't return to Herod the Great to tell of the Baby in Bethlehem and why the Holy Family fled. We touched on Herod the Great not being the Herod in the Easter story and The Holy Innocents who are celebrated on December 28th. If you have questions about Children's Chapel please contact Edith Helms at edithclover@hotmail.com.

Buildings and Grounds Update

Parish Hall Access Control System Installation

Vestry has voted to accept a proposal by i Touch AVS Systems to install an Alarm.com access control system and doorbell cam to the main door of the Parish Hall. This system will add an electronic door strike to the latch, which will allow the main Parish Hall to be unlocked remotely, with keypad codes, mobile credentials and also within scheduled time windows. The goal is to increase access to the Parish Hall for the community while improving security when it is empty or understaffed. All keyholders can continue to use their keys until the new system is fully implemented and we get accustomed to using it. You may contact Bob Mickel at robertmickel27@gmail.com with questions.



Artist Rendering of Proposed Installation & Signage

Please note: Parish Hall Access Control System Installation was completed on January 9th, stand by for updates from Building and Grounds on upcoming adoption and transition instructions from physical keys to mobile credentials and PIN codes.

Diocese Growth Development Grant Awarded

The Diocese has awarded our parish a Growth Development Grant to cover up to \$30,000 of our critical infrastructure repairs conducted as part of our Transition and Transformation program.

The grant will cover the costs expended to repair the Fr. Greene Room, Fire Exit Stairs and Roof Repairs allowing us to replenish a substantial portion of the endowment drawdown used to finance the repair. Please direct any questions to Bob Mickel.

Stewardship and Giving

2025 Pledge Campaign



Thank You for Your Time, Talent, and Treasure!

Everything we have is a gift from God. In gratitude for God's generosity, we dedicate a portion of these God-given gifts - our time, talent, and treasure - to furthering God's Kingdom.

At St. Mary's, we rely on the generosity of our parishioners to pledge those gifts that help our church budget for the year ahead. We ask that you consider a pledge for 2025 to support the mission of stewardship.

If you haven't had the opportunity to pledge yet, there is still time to fill out a pledge card and put it in the offering plate, send it in the mail, or go to the Stewardship Page and fill out a pledge form online, or go directly to The Annual Pledge Card online.

You can also text Worship 1887 to the number 73256.

Or, from a computer, aim your cell phone camera at the QR code below and follow the link and instructions.



Nourish Our Neighbors: Donate Meat & Veggie Essentials to St. Mary's Little Free Pantry St.

Mary's Church food pantry strives to fight hunger and build a caring community. Help us by donating nonperishable meat & vegetable items like canned chicken, canned peas, tuna, carrots, beef stew, Spam, and vegetable soup. Please place your donations in the Little Free Pantry basket in the narthex. Your kindness cultivates hope!

Monday Morning Bible Study Online via Zoom

11:00am - 12:00pm As the church moves in new directions, this is an ideal time to commit yourself to closer acquaintance with the Bible. We offer a discussion class in which all can participate, or you can just drop in to listen. Come when you can and always be assured of a warm welcome. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Erlis Wickersham at vze27g53@verizon.net.

St. Mary's Book Club

The next meeting of the St. Mary's Book Club will take place on Wednesday, February 12th at 2 PM at Erlis Wickersham's house. We will discuss *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins. On March 12th our selection will be *Fruit of the Dead* by Rachel Lyon and on April 9th we will read Matthew Pearl's *Dante Chamber*. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and delicious refreshments, whether you read the book or not. We hope to see you all. If you have questions, please contact Erlis Wickersham.

DEADLINES for eCHIMES & BULLETIN

The weekly liturgy bulletins are available online on Fridays and in print on Sundays.

The eChimes is distributed on Fridays.

To help us meet these deadlines, all announcements, photographs, and notices must be submitted to our Parish Administrator, Nicole Marie, by the **End of the day on Tuesdays**. We appreciate your understanding. Please reach out to Nicole with questions. You may call her at 610-688-1313 (ext. 202) or email her at nicole@stmaryswayne.org.

WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST. MARY'S

Sunday in the Church

7:45 am Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II*

Daily Office: **9:30am and 5pm**

Thursday Healing Service: **12 noon**

**Livestreamed at St. Mary's Livestream page*

<https://www.stmaryswaynepa.org/livestream>

Parish Staff

Fr. Conor Alexander, Rector (frconor@stmaryswaynepa.org)

Dr. Gordon Turk, Organist & Choirmaster (gturkpipes@aol.com)

Nicole Marie, MFA, Parish Administrator (nicole@stmaryswaynepa.org)

Toshi and Masako Makihara, Property Caretakers

Vestry

Term 2025

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Weekly announcements and updates: www.stmaryswaynepa.org/echimes