



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

March 23, 2025 7:45 AM- *The Third Sunday in Lent Rite I*
The Annunciation

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



Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." - Luke 1:38

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:4-10

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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, Tammy Lohmann, Carl Lohmann, Brian and Bridget Lanouette and David Lander 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 Donald 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, 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, Timothy O'Donovan, Aldys Davis, Guillaume Brunet, Enid Ball and Bob Buckley** 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, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good example of St. Mary and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. We pray especially for Alice Duncan and Hill Montague, in whose memory the Altar Flowers are given, and Mary Elizabeth Kelleher, in whose memory the Lady Chapel Flowers are given. We also give thanks for the life of Bob Simpson.

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, March 23rd, 2025 The Third Sunday in Lent The Annunciation

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 Barbara Zimmer
10:00am Allyson Radford, Penny Busch,
Evangeline Rozells

Chalice

7:45 am Barbara Zimmer
10:00am Erlis Wickersham

Readers

7:45 am Balana Gullatt
10:00am Joyce Randolph, Owen Cutler

Prayers of the People: Peter Busch

Live Stream: Scott Scheidt

Ushers: Neal Fulton, Janice Radford, Frank Tatnall

Parish Cycle of Prayers

In this week's Parish Cycle of Prayers we pray for Tammy Lohmann, Carl Lohmann, Brian and Bridget Lanouette and David Lander and their families.

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

Flowers on the Lady Chapel Altar are given in loving and joyful memory of **Mary Elizabeth Kelleher** which brightens our lives every day and always.

Please pray for those in ongoing need of our prayers and all on our parish intercession list at St. Mary's:

Irene Steinhardt, 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, Timothy O'Donovan, Aldys Davis, Guillaume Brunet, Enid Ball and Bob Buckley.

Also included on the prayer list are our friends John Paul, Peggy Wilson, Emma Cavanaugh-Kerr, Stan Compton, Arlene, Carole Beideman, Grace, Fionn Reid, Lois, Ellie and Karen Iacobucci.

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.*

2025 Planning Meeting After Church TODAY

The Merry Men will be meeting after church on Sunday March 23rd in the Children's Chapel to plan some fun events for 2025. Please join us!

St. Mary's Refugee Resettlement

Ten Years ago St. Mary's began a Refugee Resettlement Ministry with four other churches to respond to the global refugee crisis. Please take a look at our Parish Blog to see an update about Ernest, Denise, Samuel, Arman, Shahnaz, Aissata, Liber, Fatrat, and Marwa. You may find our Parish blog online here:

www.stmaryswaynepa.org/post/st-mary-s-refugee-update

More Parking Available for St. Mary's Parishioners!

Effective immediately, we are welcome to park at Mid Penn Bank, (where TD Bank, then Republic Bank were located,) on Saturdays and Sundays. The parking lot is accessed via Lancaster Avenue directly east of our church. We have been asked to not leave vehicles

Easter Flower Memorials

If you would like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please complete the card in the pews and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office. The church will be decorated with beautiful flowers and the memorial names will be listed in the church bulletin. Checks may be made payable to "St. Mary's Altar Guild". Questions? Contact Susan Huck at sbmhuck@aol.com or 484-612-2546. The deadline is

Palm Sunday, April 13.

St. Mary's Book Club The next meeting of the book club takes place at Ellen Buerklin's house at 2pm on April 9th. At that time, we will discuss Matthew Pearl's suspenseful novel, *The Dante Chamber*. **On May 14th** at Jean Wetzels home, we will read *A Warrior of the People* by Joe Starita. Everyone is cordially invited to attend, whether you have read the book or not. If you have questions, please contact Erlis Wickersham.

Children's Chapel Update

Chapel began with a discussion about the new Church season of Lent: its color, its meaning, and why there are purple veils on the crucifixes, no flowers, and we won't say Alleluia until Easter. They turned the tables on me when they asked me a number of questions which revealed their interest and understanding. I was able to answer a few questions and we will continue our discussion based on what I have found out.

1. What happened to Adam and Eve? They weren't born. Did they die? (Although created by God on the sixth day, they did die.)
2. Who decided the seasons and colors of the Church Year? (I told them it was after Jesus' death and through a little research found out that St. John Chrysostom, in the Fourth Century, in several homilies, set out the Feasts that Christians should celebrate. Pope Innocent III in the Thirteenth Century specified the liturgical colors.) Of course, the Jewish holidays of Passover and Pentecost are mentioned in the Old Testament.

If you have any questions about Children's Chapel please reach out to Edith Helms at edithclover@hotmail.com.

All are welcome to Children's Chapel, although there is a focus on children. Please follow the Cross during the singing of the Sequence Hymn which is before the Gospel. For roughly half an hour we joyfully learn about and praise our Creator and Savior through songs, games, stories and art. We return, again following the Cross, in time for Holy Communion.

Monday Morning Bible Study Online via Zoom 11:00am - 12:00pm During the months of February and March, the 11am Bible study class has been discussing the book of Jeremiah. We intend to begin a close analysis of Ezekiel on March 31st. We will follow this by reading the book of Daniel, and then we will turn our attention to the New Testament. Please consider adding this Bible study to your Lenten devotions. You will be in good company and always most welcome. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Erlis Wickersham at

Adult Formation
March 23rd and March 30th at 9:00 am in
the Navajo Room

At 9am in the Navajo Room, Father Conor will lead a series of Reflections on the Last Seven Words of Christ from the Cross. Please consider adding this devotion to your Lenten observances. Everyone is welcome for discussion and fellowship.

Future Adult Formation classes

Because of First Sunday Breakfast on April 6th, followed by Palm Sunday and Easter, the next Adult Formation classes will begin on April 27th, when we will consider New Testament Letters not written by Paul. Erlis Wickersham will lead a discussion of Peter (April 27th) and Timothy (May 11). Twila Garletts will discuss James (May 18th). All are invited.

Help St. Mary's Restore Homes
for Those in Need
April 12

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- Ephesians 2:10

Embrace the spirit helping others by joining St. Mary's volunteers to repair homes and restore hope for low-income families on Saturday, April 12th. The event is organized by Good Works, a Christian nonprofit organization located in Phoenixville, PA. Any skill level is welcome. To sign up, contact Scott Scheidt at sms9494@gmail.com. Let's make this year unforgettable by creating positive change together for families in need!

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 kindly help us meet these deadlines, all announcements, photographs, updates and notices must be submitted to our Parish Administrator, Nicole Marie, by **the End of the day on Tuesdays**. We appreciate you honoring this deadline and your understanding. Please reach out to Nicole at nicole@stmaryswaynepa.org or 610-688-1313 (extension 202) with any questions.

Two Special Events Sponsored by
The Women of St. Mary's

Wharton Esherick Museum
www.savingplaces.org/distinctive-destinations
wharton-esherrick-museum
Friday, May 2nd
1:00pm to 2:00pm
and
Thursday, May 8th
11:00am to 12:00pm

This spring, the Women of St. Mary's have scheduled two guided tours of the Wharton Esherick Museum. One takes place on Friday, May 2nd from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. The other is scheduled for Thursday, May 8th from 11:00am to 12:00pm. There is a small fee for each tour, which can accommodate 8 people. If you would like to be included, please let Erlis Wickersham know and we will arrange it with you.

Garden and House tour of Chanticleer
www.chanticleergarden.org
Thursday, June 26th
11:00am

We have also reserved a Garden and House tour of Chanticleer on Thursday, June 26th at 11:00am, followed by a lovely lunch at Linda Noll's house. There is room for twelve people on this tour. It takes about an hour and there is also a small fee. Please tell Erlis if the Chanticleer event appeals to you. All are welcome, men and women. Since space is limited, we urge you to reserve early.

Please reach out to Erlis Wickersham with any questions.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

APRIL 18, 2025

12 NOON
GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

3 PM
MUSIC OF THE PASSION
BACH, HANDEL, PERGOLESI,
TCHAIKOVSKY

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
104 LOUELLA AVE, WAYNE, PA 19087
WWW.STMARYSWAYNEPA.ORG





HOLY WEEK AT ST. MARY'S 2025

HE IS
RISEN!

APRIL 13

PALM SUNDAY

7:45AM RITE 1

10:00AM RITE 2

APRIL 17

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00PM

APRIL 18

12:00 NOON GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

3:00PM MUSIC OF THE PASSION

BACH, HANDEL, PERGOLESI, TCHAIKOVSKY

APRIL 19

**8:00PM THE GREAT VIGIL
OF EASTER**

APRIL 20

EASTER SUNDAY

7:45AM RITE 1

10:00AM RITE 2 (PHILA. BRASS)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 104 Louella Ave, Wayne, PA 19087 www.stmaryswaynepa.org

Parish Staff

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

For Pastoral emergencies please call Fr. Conor at 610-234-9948

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

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

Toshi and Masako Makihara, Property Caretakers

Joan McAndrew, Nursery

Vestry

Term 2026

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Term 2027

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Term 2028

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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>

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

104 Louella Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087 | 610-688-1313 | www.stmaryswaynepa.org

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