



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

December 1, 2024 7:45 AM- The First Sunday of Advent, 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



From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.
The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth
came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It
is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart,
who has made him known. – John 1:16

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.

- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

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

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

Jesus said, “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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 Jerry Beam, Enid Ball, Sally Bradin 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 and Guillaume Brunet.** 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 Mike Mattingly. We also remember Barbara and Rodger Blackwell for whom the greens on the High Altar are given this morning, we give thankfulness for the children and grandchildren of Susie and Dave Murdock for whom the greens on the Lady Chapel Altar are given, and to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph Dixon 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, Decemeber 1, 2024

The First Sunday of Advent

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 Allyson Radford, Griffin Connor and
Owen Connor

Chalice

7:45 am Linda Noll

10:00 am Elizabeth Morrill

Readers

7:45 am Balana Gullatt

10:00am Ellen Buerklin, Elizabeth Morrill

Prayers of the People Peter Busch

Altar Guild: Team 1

Live Stream: Brian Lanouette

Ushers: Scott Scheidt, Tom Buechle

Parish Cycle of Prayers

In this week's Parish Cycle of Prayers we pray for Jerry Beam, Enid Ball, Sally Bradin and their families.

The Advent Greens on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Barbara and Rodger Blackwell** by the Detwiler family.

The Advent Greens on the Lady Chapel Altar are given by Susie and Dave Murdock to the glory of God and in thankfulness **for their children Sarah, Stephanie, Tasha, Jenny, Jeff and Tony, and their beautiful grandchildren Gianna, Benjamin, Vincent, Grace, Mason, Rosina, Francesca, Nolan, William, Michael, and Tennessee.**

The Sanctuary Light is given by the Dixon family to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Joseph A. Dixon.**

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 and Guillaume Brunet.

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, and Kendall.

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.*

Advent Wreath Making *TODAY* come to coffee hour in the Navajo Room and enjoy a great time together as we make Advent Wreaths. Yes, we will have coffee hour but we will also have all the supplies that you will need to make an Advent Wreath for your own home. As we enter this season of waiting and preparing, what better way to get into the spirit of the Advent season than devotion around your own Advent Wreath. Additional greens and clippers will be appreciated. Contact Janice Radford at janice.radford@gmail.com with questions.

Buildings and Grounds Update!

Save the Date: Radnor Police Visitation

Monday, December 16th at 6:30pm at Vestry Meeting

The Radnor Police Department has been invited to attend our December 16th Vestry Meeting at 6:30pm and present some of the community programs they offer to local congregations. Specifically they will be discussing Building Security Assessment, De-Escalation Training, CPR and First Aid Training. All parishioners are invited to attend as with all Vestry meetings. You may contact Tom Kelleher at tommytrain@gmail.com with questions.



Artist Rendering of Proposed Installation & Signage

Parish Hall Access Control System Installation

Vestry has voted to accept a proposal by 1 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.

Volunteer Opportunities



Offering Counters are needed! We would like to have a few volunteers to help count the Sunday offering. This will provide an additional layer of transparency in our Sunday offerings. If you can help out in this ministry, please reach out to Nicole Marie in the Church Office. Training will be provided

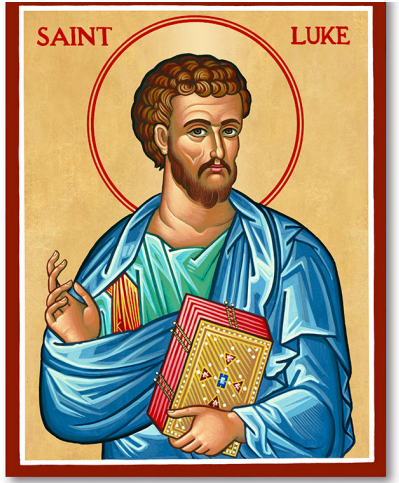


Church Office help is needed! Around the holidays the number of people seeking assistance always increases. We would like to have a few people help out in the Church Office from November 25-27 and December 16-23 to assist the staff with distributing charitable gift cards, and filtering requests for assistance with bills. If you can offer one, two, or several days, please contact Nicole Marie in the Church Office.



Drivers are needed! St. Mary's is seeking 1-2 volunteer drivers to help deliver White Gift donations to St. Mary's Chester on Saturday 12/7. Your assistance ensures these generous gifts reach those in need. If you're able to help, please contact Scott Scheidt at sms9494@gmail.com to participate. Thank you for helping spread the blessings of Christmas!

Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes are in the pews for Christmas flower memorials. Please place your memorial requests and donation in the collection plate on Sundays or return it to the church office by **Wednesday, December 18th**. Email Susan Huck SBMHuck@aol.com or call her at (484)612-2546 if you have questions.



Please join the whole parish in this Advent Challenge.

Beginning on December 1, read one chapter from the Gospel of Luke each day. This will lead you to reading the entirety of Luke's Gospel by Christmas Eve. We will be reviewing what we read and the impact on our lives during the 9:00 Christian Formation time on Sunday Mornings. Please join us!

Stewardship and Giving "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 their gifts annually, which help our church budget for the year ahead. As this year draws to a close, we ask that you consider a pledge for 2025 to support all that St. Mary's provides in its mission.

You can submit your Pledge by filling out a pledge card and placing it the collection plate during the service or by dropping it off with Nicole our Parish Administrator.

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 invites parishioners to supplement our annual White Gift donation by donating personal hygiene items for St. Mary's of Chester. Please drop donations in the basket in the narthex. Suggested items include soap, toothbrushes, shampoo, and deodorant. Together, we can help brighten Christmas for those in need!

St. Mary's Book Club The next meeting of the book club will take place on **Wednesday, December 11th at 2pm** at Ellen Buerklin's house. We will discuss *The Old Man and the Sea* (1952) by Ernest Hemingway. Our January selection will be *Flight of the Swan* (2024) by Melissa Pritchard, illuminating little-known aspects of the life of Florence Nightingale. Our February selection is *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins. (1868) Everyone is welcome to attend for fellowship, delicious refreshments and discussion. We hope to see many of you there. If you have questions, please contact Erlis Wickersham.

Pastoral Care Committee Do you know a parishioner who would appreciate a "thinking of you" card or prayer to brighten their day? Please send their name and address to Linda Noll at lindanoll390@gmail.com. Our Pastoral Care Committee would like to keep in touch with those who may not be able to attend the Sunday services. We can also provide communion at home.

Deadlines for eChimes, Bulletin and End of the Year Finance Our Parish Administrator, Nicole Marie, will be out of the office **from the day before Christmas through New Year's Day**, so she will be working ahead on bulletins and announcements. Kindly have all Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Sunday December 29th, and Sunday January 5th Bulletin and Chimes announcements to her **by the end of the day on Tuesday December 17th**. Please allow a little extra time and grace for replies to your emails and phone messages from our staff at this busy time of year. Also please have all checks and financial questions for 2024 into Nicole **by the morning of December 23**. If you need your check deposited by the end of 2024 it is important you have it to Nicole by **early Monday morning on the 23rd**.

Thank you! Please reach out to Nicole with questions. You may call her at 610-688-1313 (extension 202) or email her at nicole@stmaryswaynepa.org.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S

TODAY December 1

Make Advent Wreaths during Coffee Hour, 11:30 am

Advent Quiet Day, Saturday December 7

Types of Prayer, 9am-11:30pm

Sunday, December 15

Advent Lessons & Carols with Eucharist, 10:00 am

Tuesday, December 24

Family Christmas Eve Mass with Pageant at 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Mass with Choir and Orchestra at 9:00 pm

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 am

Sunday, December 29

The First Sunday after Christmas Mass, 7:45am and 10:00am

Sunday, January

The Second Sunday after Christmas and Epiphany Celebration, 7:45am and 10:00am

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.stmaryswayne.org/livestream>

How to give to St. Mary's

Simply point your camera at the QR code below
and follow the instructions, or, to make a donation
via text, simply text worship 1887, to the number 73256.



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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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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