



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

March 30, 2025 7:45 AM- *The Fourth Sunday in Lent 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



Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.

- Luke 15:31-32

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

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. **Amen.**

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

A Reading from the Book of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So Jesus told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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, Diane Kikta, Carolyn Kidder, Paul Keogh, Gregory Kelleher and Thomas Sean Kelleher 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 David Helms, in whose memory the Altar Flowers are given, and David Seavey, in whose memory the Lady Chapel Flowers are given. We also pray for John Standing in whose memory 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, March 30th, 2025 The Fourth Sunday in Lent

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 Gregory Kelleher

10:00am Ruth Lanouette, John Hinchey,
Allyson Radford

Chalice

7:45 am Gregory Kelleher

10:00am Erlis Wickersham

Readers

7:45 am Balana Gullatt

10:00am Bridget Lanouette (1),
Dave Lander (2)

Prayers of the People: Toni Hoffaker

Live Stream: Noah Lanouette

Ushers: Tom Buechle, Scott Scheidt

Parish Cycle of Prayers

In this week's Parish Cycle of Prayers we pray for Diane Kikta, Carolyn Kidder, Paul Keogh, Gregory Kelleher and Thomas Sean Kelleher and their families.

Flowers on the High Altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **David Helms** by Edith, Emily and Abigail.

Flowers on the Lady Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **David Seavey** by his family.

The Sanctuary Light is given by Enid Ball to the glory of God and in loving memory of **John Standing**.

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.*

St. Mary's Service Times Survey Results

Please join us during coffee hour for a brief presentation on the Service Time Survey Results and what we've learned, followed by a Q/A and feedback session.

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.**

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 overnight, nor to park during regular business hours Monday through Friday.

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 Wetzel's 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.

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 vze27g53@verizon.net.

Children's Chapel Update



This past Sunday our focus was on the Annunciation which is celebrated on March 25, but can be moved to a Sunday in Lent. That is why there were flowers on the altars in the Church. In addition the Collect, Canticle, hymns and Gospel were about Mary and Jesus' Incarnation. We also celebrated the return of two bells to the tapestry that hangs over the altar in the Children's Chapel. Thank you Peter Burke for making that possible.

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.

Adult Formation

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@stmaryswaynepea.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.

Outreach Meeting Tuesday April 8th, 6-7pm

The Outreach Committee will be meeting in the Navajo Room on Tuesday April 8th at 6-7pm. All are invited. Please join us!



Volunteers of Noah's Ark Thrift Shop:
Nina, Tammy, Lauren, Susan, Edith, Jean and Laurie

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

APRIL 18, 2025

12 NOON
GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

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

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



HOLY WEEK AT ST. MARY'S 2025

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, PERGOLES, TCHAIKOVSKY

APRIL 19
8:00PM THE GREAT VIGIL
OF EASTER

APRIL 20
EASTER SUNDAY
7:45AM RITE 1
10:00AM RITE 2 (PHILA. BRASS)

HE IS
RISEN!

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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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