

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Welcomes You!



The Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2026

8:15 – *Quiet Holy Eucharist*

10:30 AM – *Holy Eucharist with Choir*

Welcome to St. Mary's

Welcome, one and all! Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are most welcome here at St. Mary's! We strive to be an LGBTQ safe space and to live out our anti-racist principles in word and deed. The sacrament of Holy Communion is open to all who seek to know God in Christ. Come to the feast!

St. Mary's Staff

The Rev. Sean Lanigan (he/him) – *Rector*
lanigan@stmarysardmore.org

Michelle Germaine (they/them) – *Minister for Children and Families*
germaine@stmarysardmore.org

Leslie Martin (she/her) – *Interim Manager of the Ardmore Food Pantry*
foodpantry@stmarysardmore.org

Francesca Phillips (she/her) – *Director of Operations & Communications*
office@stmarysardmore.org

Dr. Clair Rozier (she/her) – *Director of Music*
rozier@stmarysardmore.org

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

A warm welcome to worship at St. Mary's this day!

Wherever you see the † in our bulletin, it is customary to stand, as you are able. Please listen to your body and remain seated as often as you need to. If you need a restroom during the service, please exit through the rear doors of the church, walk through the windowed cloister, and enter the Parish House. Bathrooms will be on your left.

Today we welcome guest organist Edward Landin Senn to lead our music.

Prelude

Out of the Depths

Pamela Decker

† Processional Hymn 401 *(The Hymnal 1982)*

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

† Salutation

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures forever.**

† Penitential Order

The Presider says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept

Almighty and merciful God,
 we have erred and strayed from your ways.
 We have followed too much
 the devices and desires of our own hearts.
 We have offended against your holy laws.
 We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
 and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Restore all who are penitent,
 according to your promises.
 And grant, O merciful God,
 that we may live a holy, just, and humble life
 to the glory of your name.
 Amen.

The Presider says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
 through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all
 goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you
 in eternal life. **Amen.**

† Trisagion/Kyrie

(8:15) *The Trisagion is repeated 3 times:*

**Holy God,
 Holy and Mighty,
 Holy Immortal One,
 Have mercy upon us.**

(10:30, S-91, *Kyrie*)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
 Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

† Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(10:30 only) Children's Dismissal

We're so glad that you have brought your children to worship today! During the 10:30 service, children in grades K-8 are dismissed at this time to participate in our Children's Ministry program. Younger children are also welcome to participate, with an accompanying parent. Children will return to the church prior to Communion.

If you are new to St. Mary's, please feel welcome to accompany your child in order to meet the adults who are leading Children's Ministry today. Children are also welcome to remain in worship, and there is an area for coloring and quiet play in the rear of the church. If your child needs a break from the sanctuary, you are also welcome to take them to the Parish Hall.

The First Lesson Genesis 12:1-4a

New Revised Standard Version

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm will be read responsively, and the congregation is asked to read the bolded text aloud.

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from God,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

God will not let your foot be moved;
the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.

**Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

The Holy One watches over you're
and is your shade at your right hand,

**So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

God shall preserve you from all evil
and is the One who shall keep you safe.

**God shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.**

The Second Lesson Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

New Revised Standard Version

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

† The Gospel

John 3:1-17

*New Revised Standard Version**Presider*

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Presider

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Rev. Sean Lanigan

After the sermon, a time of reflective silence is kept.

I believe in Almighty God,
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ,
a displaced Galilean,
who was born away from his people and his home,
who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger,
and returning to his own country suffered the oppression
of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power,
who then was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured,
accused and condemned to death unjustly.

But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,
and reunites all races.

I believe that the church is the secure home
for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it,
who speak the same language and have th

e same purpose.

I believe that the communion of the saints begins
when we accept the diversity of the saints.

I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal,
and in reconciliation, which identifies us more
than does race, language, or nationality.

I believe that in the resurrection
God will unite us as one people
in which all are distinct
and all are alike at the same time.

Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal
in which no one will be an immigrant
but all will be citizens of God's kingdom,
which will never end. Amen.

Presider

O God, you are our God; eagerly we seek you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water. Guide us with your mighty hand and outstretched arm, as we seek to become answers to one another's prayers.

Intercessor

We pray for your church throughout the world. With Christ as the rock beneath our feet and our citizenship assured in heaven, help us who bear your name to live with integrity, bringing forth fruit to nourish a hungry world.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation, and for all the nations of your world; wherever we are living in righteousness, strengthen us; wherever we have lost our way, guide us and make us repentant.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your world, fractured by greed, fear, and discrimination; through your Christ make us one with yourself, that we, your image bearers, would be transformed into the righteousness of God.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our family, friends, and neighbors who are laboring beneath burdens too heavy to bear: for refugees and immigrants, for those without homes or adequate employment; merciful God, help us to befriend and assist all who are in need,

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who have asked us to pray for them, and we pray for the many cares and concerns of our hearts. (*A silence is kept, and prayers may be spoken aloud.*) Forge a way through the wilderness, O God, and be for us a river in the desert.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died. (*A silence is kept, and names may be spoken aloud.*) May everything that has passed away be gathered into Christ's new creation, that all may see your goodness in the land of the living.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Presider

Gracious God, our refuge and stronghold, the God in whom we put our trust; guide your people through our Lenten wilderness, have mercy on us and answer us as we call, through Christ the Lord of all, who is generous to everyone who calls upon him. **Amen.**

† The Peace

Presider

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

You are most welcome here at St. Mary's! If you are new, please fill out the Contact Card on the back of the bulletin and place it in the Offering Plate. We'll add you to our e-newsletter, and Rev. Sean will reach out with a personal welcome and to answer any questions you might have about St. Mary's.

Celebrating March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Let us pray: Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts, may your peace which passes all understanding, abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Presider Walk in love as Christ loves us and gives himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

On the first Sunday of each month, all cash placed in the offering plate will be designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Checks with "Discretionary Fund" in the memo can be contributed in the offering plate or by mail at any time. The Discretionary Fund enables Rev. Sean to meaningfully assist people who approach St. Mary's seeking tangible, material help – parishioners and non-parishioners alike.

Offertory Anthem

O For a Closer Walk

C. V. Stanford

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav'nly frame,
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy Dove, return, sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn, and drove Thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Text: William Cowper, 1772

All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all
 gifts, to offer thee; And hence with grate - ful hearts to -
 day Thine own be - fore thy feet we lay. A - men.

† Eucharistic Prayer A*The Book of Common Prayer*

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer, and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. We bless you for your mercy, and so we join with saints and angels for ever praising you and singing:

(8:15)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

(10:30, S-114, Sanctus)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -
— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

[the prayer continues on page 361 of the Book of Common Prayer]

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

[the prayer continues]

...All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

† The Lord's Prayer

The Presider says

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

† The Fraction

The Presider breaks the bread in silence

(8:15) *Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
 People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

(10:30, S-158, *Agnus Dei*)

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

† The Presentation and Invitation

The Presider, joined by those others distributing, raises the elements and says

Presider **The gifts of God for the people of God. Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you here, at Christ's table.**

You may be seated.

Communion of the People and Healing Prayer

All are most welcome to partake in Holy Communion, including children of any age. We believe that desire to commune with God precedes understanding and that understanding grows over time. Even for those who are advanced in years and in wisdom, the mystery of the sacrament remains. If you wish to deepen your connection to this mystery and have not yet been baptized, please consider speaking with Rev. Sean about participating in that sacrament of belonging.

If you are receiving Communion, please allow the priest or deacon to drop bread into your cupped and outstretched hands. Wine or grape juice may then be consumed by sipping or by intinction (dipping): the chalice containing wine is silver and will be on your left; the goblet containing juice is crystal and will be on your right. You may switch Communion lines if you prefer to receive wine rather than juice, or vice-versa.

If you are not receiving Communion, you are still most welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest to communicate a desire for a blessing.

If you wish to receive healing prayer and the laying on of hands, please proceed to the side chapel after receiving Communion. You may request prayer for yourself or on behalf of others – for any reason. All prayer requests will be held in confidence by those who are offering healing prayer today

Communion Hymn 304
(The Hymnal 1982)

I Come With Joy

Land of Rest

† Post-Communion Prayer

Enriching Our Worship 2

**Faithful God,
in the wonder of your wisdom and love
you fed your people in the wilderness
with the bread of angels,
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.
We thank you for feeding us with this bread.
May it strengthen us
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may embody your desire
and be renewed for your service
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

† Blessing

Enriching Our Worship 2

May the God who goes before you
through desert places by night and by day
be your companion and guide;
may your journey be with the saints;
may the Holy Spirit be your strength,
and Christ your clothing of light;
and may the blessing of God,
Source, Son, and Spirit
be upon you this day
and remain with you always.
Amen.

† Sending Hymn 149
(The Hymnal 1982)

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

Old 124th

† Dismissal

<i>Presider</i>	Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
<i>People</i>	For you have redeemed me, O God of truth.
<i>Presider</i>	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in B-flat

Brenda Portman

The St. Mary's Prayer List

Ann D'Antonio, Jeffrey Germaine, Jason Loudon, Sara Pilling, Leo Schick,
Nathan Tullio, Ethan Vasquez, Judith Whitcomb

We pray also for our neighborhood and wider community, especially those with whom we share space and ministry: the guests and volunteers of the Ardmore Food Pantry; the families served by Family Promise of the Main Line; the children, parents, and teachers of Play & Learn.

Should there be someone you would like to have added to the published Prayer List, please email Francesca (office@stmarysardmore.org) who will send you a link to a brief form. Names will remain on the new list for two months. If you'd like someone to remain on the prayer list for longer than 2 months, you can always re-submit their name. Thank you for continuing to keep our St. Mary's community aware of those needing our prayers and support.

Introduce Yourself
Link to Contact Card



Give Online
Link to Simple Give



Serve on Sundays
Link to sign-up



Happenings at St. Mary's – Get Involved!

There's always something going on at St. Mary's, and we'd love for you to be a part of it!
From community gatherings to special events, everyone is welcome to join in.

Recurring Weekly Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
Every Tuesday	5:30 PM	Zoom	Centering Prayer Group

Other Events & Activities

March 8 to 22	All Day	Upstairs Rectory	Family Promise
March 10	7 PM	Contact Bill FitzGerald	Spirituality and the State
March 14	11:30 AM	Church	Tyler Flynn Memorial Service

Kids, Youth & Families Events & Activities

Sundays	9:30 AM	Upstairs Classroom	Youth Choir
Sundays	6 PM	Upstairs Rectory	Youth Group
March 8	6 PM	Reach Climbing	Family Rock Climbing <i>Email Michelle if interested</i>

Scan the QR Code to read Tidings and learn more about these activities!



Have an idea? Planning something? Need to get it on the calendar?
Reach out to Francesca at office@stmarysardmore.org.

We're so glad you're here! Thank you for joining us at St. Mary's today. We know it can be intimidating to walk into a new place where most people seem to already know what's going on. Many of us have been in your shoes, and we'd love to help you connect here. We have come to St. Mary's from a wide variety of religious and non-religious traditions. We've stayed because we want to be part of a community of shared values – of shared hopes and dreams for being human together on this fragile Earth – and because we've found deep meaning in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

HELLO

WELCOME

St. Mary's is a church with a special history of caring for one another and for our neighbors. Founded in 1883 to serve the mill workers of Ardmore, some wealthier neighbors joined the parish, too. Later in our history, St. Mary's was on the vanguard of explicitly welcoming LGBTQ+ people. We seek to grow continually in our inclusivity and diversity, desiring particularly to become a community ever more deeply committed to anti-racist thought and action. Children are very welcome in every aspect of our life together as full and valued members – fussy babies and talkative toddlers included.

St. Mary's is also a church that strives to walk its talk. We founded, fund, and operate the Ardmore Food Pantry. We regularly provide housing for families – in partnership with Family Promise of the Main Line – as they seek stable, secure permanent housing. We also care deeply about welcoming immigrants and refugees, working against gun violence, and ensuring equal access to quality education. **We hope you'll continue to join us in our work and worship!**

Newcomer Contact Card – We Look Forward to Getting to Know You!

Your Name(s)

Your Email Address(es)

Your Phone Number(s)

Your Home Address

Questions, Comments, and/or Doodles?

Would you like to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter? Yes No

Please Place in the Offering Plate or Give Directly to the Priest or Deacon