



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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ADULT FORUM 9 to 9:45 am Sundays—The Adult Forum has been discussing the affirmations/rejections of the “Reclaiming Jesus” movement. Here is a quote from our own Episcopal News Service: *A group of Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders, including Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, have begun what they call a campaign to “reclaim Jesus” from those who they believe are using Christian theology for political gain. “We are living through perilous and polarizing times as a nation, with a dangerous crisis of moral and political leadership at the highest levels of our government and in our churches,” say the 23 signers of the statement. “We believe the soul of the nation and the integrity of faith are now at stake.” The group says the church’s role is to change the world through the life and love of Jesus Christ, while the government should serve the common good by protecting justice and peace, rewarding good behavior while restraining bad behavior. “When that role is undermined by political leadership, faith leaders must stand up and speak out,” the signers say, citing the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. who said the church is the conscience of the state, not its master or its servant. “Reclaiming Jesus: A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis” offers six “affirmations” of what the group, currently 23 strong, believes, “and the resulting rejections of practices and policies by political leaders which dangerously corrode the soul of the nation and deeply threaten the public integrity of our faith.” Ken Gorman*



News from The Branches - Sandra and Terri enjoyed dinner at Alfie's with the outreach group from the Dennis Twp. School District. Dinner was

followed by a good discussion about The Branches and the homeless situation in Cape May County. They are committed to our ministry and asked how they might help. Moving forward they will be supplying us with fresh fruit and vegetables and yogurt. Also, three different sources have contacted us this week and will be supplying us with paper products.

Three new volunteers will start next week. One of them will be doing "Healing Hands with Donna." Our guests love chiropractor day and yoga day, so Donna is sure to be a big hit.

Our folks continue to get jobs as the weather gets warmer. We are so proud of the effort many of them are making.

We are very pleased to report that one of our long time guests is in recovery and doing great! We know it is "one day at a time." Please keep him in your prayers along with those who have not found their way as yet.

We are busy every day. We continue to feed as many as sixty folks twice a day. The issues we encounter are many, but thanks to our dedicated volunteers we are able to help more of our guests on a regular basis. We are blessed. Stop in and pay us a visit at Branches. Join us for lunch. Meet our guests. Follow us on Facebook. Lots of good things are happening!

Priest in Charge

The Rev. Canon Dr. Peter B. Stube

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Assisting Clergy

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Julie Taylor, Parish Administrator

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This week at St. Mary's, May 6, 2018

TODAY 9 AM Adult Forum

MON 11 AM Eucharist at The Branches

TUES 8 PM AA meeting

WEDS 5 PM Choir

6:30 PM SWEEP meeting

THURS 11 to 1 pm St. Mary's Seniors Luncheon Meeting

FRI 10 am Alanon

SUN 9 am Adult Forum

SWEEP Meeting Wednesday, May 9, 6:30 pm - Agenda: Pentecost, Strawberry Festival and summer events

St. Mary's Seniors Luncheon Club Meeting Thursday, May 10, 11 AM

Our guest speaker will be an accountant who will discuss the new tax laws.

conTEXTS will begin Wednesday, May 16th from 6:30—7:30 pm



ANGELUS CONCERT—This afternoon, May 6th, The Angelus Chorus will be performing at The Middle Township Performing Arts Center at 4 PM. The proceeds will be donated to The Branches. **Tickets are available at the door.** We are very grateful that The Branches has been chosen to be the recipient of this wonderful event! Thank you Angelus Chorus!



NURSERY CARE - We would like to provide nursery care for children on Sundays especially once summer arrives.

USHERS—Like to be an usher? We have openings available for men and women.

FLOWER DELIVERY—Would you like to deliver the altar flowers on Mondays to parishioners?

Let the church office know if you can help with any of the above. Thank you!

COFFEE HOUR—A sign up sheet for the upcoming months is posted on the door to the kitchen.



Everyone enjoys coffee hour! Why not make your fellow parishioners happy and sign up today. No need to make it fancy, just coffee and something to go with it is perfect!

Service
Worship
Education
Evangelism
Pastoral care

The May meeting of SWEEP is this Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the chapel, and YOU are invited.

What is SWEEP? It is a combined, coordinated, collaborating gathering of parishioners at St. Mary's that meets regularly to examine, assess, plan and promote five important ministries of this church: Service, Worship, Education, Evangelism, and Pastoral Care. Please plan to join the meeting!

FORWARD DAY BY DAY—large print and small size booklets for May, June and July are available on the table and in the wall rack in the church narthex. Please help yourself.

Happy Birthday!



Birthday Blessings to

Betty Lou Darley on May 8th, Doreen Morris on May 9th, and Dean Blair, Jr. on May 10th!



Re you new or visiting with us? We're glad you are here! We would love to be able to welcome you more personally. If you would like that as well, please ... Fill out a welcome card. These are located in each of the pews. You may place it into the offering plate or hand it to any of our ushers, greeters, or liturgical assistants. Also, please take a welcome packet & sign our guestbook on your way out of church.

Holy Communion Here at St. Mary's, everyone is welcome to join us for Holy Communion. Consecrated grape juice and gluten-free hosts are available. Please tell our Eucharistic Minister when you come to the rail. Should you wish to receive a simple blessing, please indicate that by crossing your arms across your chest.



PENTECOST, May 20th—Can you speak another language? We are looking for lectors to help us celebrate Pentecost. Please let Fr. Peter know if you are interested.

St. Barnabas by the Bay Concert Series continues on Sunday, May 7th at 3 pm with Phil Goldenberg renowned Classical Guitarist. Reception to follow. A free will offering will be taken. 13 West Bates Ave., Villas 609-886-5960

GARDEN CLUB OF STONE HARBOR ANNUAL PLANT SALE—Saturday, May 12th from 8 am to 2 pm and Sunday, May 13, 9 am to 12 noon, will take place at the Stone Harbor Firehouse, 96th & 2nd Ave. Bake Sale on Saturday only.



St. Mary's Seniors Lunch Club Meeting

Bring a bag lunch and join us
Thursday, May 10th
11 to 1 pm



Guest speaker: Bob Kelly Fitzpatrick Bongiovanni & Kelly, Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

Topic: Tax Cuts and Jobs Act for individuals, Charitable Planning, and changes in NJ tax law for individuals.