



## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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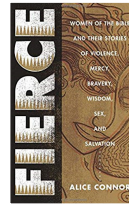
www.stmarysstoneharbor.org

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**Congratulations to new Vestry Officers and Members:** Senior Warden Jack Olthuis, Junior Warden Lou Schweickhardt, Treasurer Lillian Armstrong, and Vestry members Sandra Lockhart and Hilton Rodriguez.

**HOLY EUCHARISTS of the SEASON OF CREATION** continue through Epiphany. Fr. Peter will lead us in following the role of Jesus, while He walked with friends on the roads around Jerusalem, inviting all to encounter God through God's presence in creation. The spiritual journey of following Jesus is closely tied to the wonders of nature that He experienced in His earthly journey. During this Season of Creation, we will strive to more deeply understand the lessons Jesus taught us through creation, to better honor our Creator, and share fellowship with brothers and sisters along the way.

We've been discussing the "fierce women in the Bible" a la Alice Connor. There's no doubt that today's studied woman, Herodias *the elder*, was one fierce woman. She's one of a small set of female executioners in the Bible. But the question on my mind is: what lessons can we learn from her? There are several. I suppose one real possibility has to do with holding a grudge. As one of my favorite writers has said, "Not forgiving is like drinking rat poison and then waiting for the rat to die." In addition to holding a grudge, there's a fair amount of shock, intrigue, and sadness in this fierce woman's story. That's who and what we will be dealing with in today's Forum; you're always invited to our meeting in the chapel, 9-9:45 am. Truth to tell: I won't hold a grudge if you don't come. kg



On a highway outside of Washington, D.C., a white man stopped to help a black man with a flat tire. This action by a "Good Samaritan" might not have made the news, except for the fact that the person in need was retired Gen. Colin L. Powell. The challenge of loving our neighbors across the lines of race, age, culture and religion will be the topics of this Wednesday's (February 6<sup>th</sup>) meeting of conTEXTS. We meet in the parish hall from 6:30-7:30pm. Why don't you stop by? It's kind of a neighborly/helpful thing to do. kg



Beginning next Monday, February 11th, our parish hall will be home to a family of five from the **FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM**. St. Mary's day to provide for this family will be Saturday Feb. 16th. The rest of the week is covered by our co-host churches, Our Saviour Lutheran, St. Brendan the Navigator Parish, and Avalon Methodist. Please plan to help with dinners, social time and sleep over. The family is mom & dad, and three daughters, age 7, 4, and 3. A sign up sheet is on the parish hall bulletin board. Questions? See Joan Langston or call the church office. Thank you! **Also**, we will need help next Sunday to set up the parish hall for their stay. Please plan to lend a hand after the 10 AM service.

### Priest in Charge

The Rev. Canon Dr. Peter B. Stube

cell: 610-304-2539

e-mail: stmarysrector@hotmail.com

rectory: 609-830-5077

### Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Dr. W. Kenneth Gorman

e-mail: k-gorman@comcast.net

David Joseph Condo, Music Director

e-mail: StMarysStoneHarbor@yahoo.com

Julie Taylor, Parish Administrator

e-mail: jultaylor9425@yahoo.com

This week at St. Mary's, Feb. 3, 2019

**TODAY** 9 am Adult Forum

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY**

**MON** 11am Eucharist at The Branches

**TUES** 8 pm AA

**WED** 5 pm Choir

**6 :30 pm conTEXTS**

**FRI** 10 am Alanon

**SUN** 9 am Adult Forum

**Family Promise Week**



**TODAY is SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** Sunday. Our Church School families

will participate in this nationwide annual event to help those in need. They will be serving soup and bread in return for a donation to their pot. Thank you!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2019**—are available on the table in the parish hall. Please look for yours. If you do not use envelopes and would like to, please let the church office know.



Today is the deadline to sign up

**FEBRUARY 14th**  
**SENIOR LUNCH CLUB MEETING,**  
**11 AM SHARP, St. Mary's Parish Hall**  
Chef Mark Kalla of The Lobster House

will join the St. Mary's Seniors to celebrate Valentine's Day! He will prepare, share recipes, and serve a lunch with a Valentine's Day Chocolate theme. \$10 per person at the door. Limited seating for no more than 24 people. A sign up sheet is on the parish hall bulletin board. Advance sign up is required!

**DAY by DAY** devotionals for February, March and April can be found in the church narthex. Please help yourself.



We're looking for lectors, greeters, ushers and Eucharistic Ministers. Training will be available. Call the church office to find out more.

**COFFEE HOUR SHEETS** for the upcoming months are posted on the door to the kitchen. We all enjoy coffee hour so please pick a Sunday and sign up today. Your fellow parishioners will love you for it!



**ALTAR FLOWER CHART**—for 2019 is posted in the church narthex. If you would like to give flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please sign up on the chart and send a check in the amount of \$45 with "altar flowers" in the memo line. It's a wonderful way to honor family and friends throughout the year!




**Birthday Blessings to**  
*David Bond on Feb. 4th, Marion Myers, Ashley Andrews and Alexandra Nielsen on Feb. 7th, and Cheryl Barton on Feb. 9th!*

**ANNUAL MEETING**—Last Sunday, St. Mary's Annual Meeting was held. If you missed the meeting, copies of the Annual Report to the Congregation may be found on the table in the narthex and parish hall. Please take a copy and read all about the good things happening at our church.



**THANK YOU AGAIN**  
to Sandra Lockhart and Terri Mascione and their team of volunteers. **CODE BLUE** has been in effect for the majority of the past two weeks. They have kept The Branches open from 6 am on, all day, every day, providing food and a warm place for our homeless guests to stay during the day until everyone has a room for the night. Your ministry is a blessing to everyone who walks through your doors!

A Voice For The Homeless of Cape May County  
PRESENTS  
**CAPE AID**  
3rd Annual  
Concert for the Homeless  
Local Bands & Entertainers  
Benefit for The  
Branches Outreach Center



**Sunday February 24th 3 PM**  
First Presbyterian Church  
500 Hughes Street, Cape May  
*Donation Only No Ticket Needed*

This is one of The Branches favorite and best "funraisers." Please come and join us. You will not be disappointed. If anyone would be interested in donating a basket for our raffle, please call Terri at The Branches 609 886 5091. Thank you!