

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

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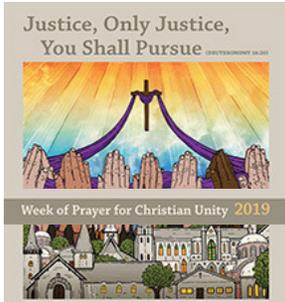
www.stmarysstoneharbor.org

facebook page: St. Mary's Episcopal Church

SEASON OF CREATION Beginning today, 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.

CODE BLUE

Continues through Monday and The Branches is open 12 hours a day during this time of extreme cold. The homeless are given shelter when a Code Blue is called, however, they are put on the street at 6 am and are not allowed into shelters until after 6 pm. That leaves a gap when they are outside in the cold and when The Branches can come to their aid. We are in need of food—soups, stews, casseroles, sandwiches, bread, water—foods that are filling. Also volunteers to help cover the extra hours they are open during a Code Blue. Please call Sandra Lockhart if you can give an hour or two to help in the morning or evening. 484-888-1591 or at The Branches 609-886-5091.



Join us for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Breakfast Saturday, Jan. 19th at St. Mary's

This coming Saturday morning at 9 am, our parish is hosting a first-time event. We have invited folks (clergy and lay) from the churches on Seven Mile Island to come to St. Mary's to celebrate an observance called The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We are inviting our own parishioners

to attend as well! **There's a sign-up on the bulletin board, or just call the church office or Fr. Ken. But please RSVP so we know how many to provide breakfast for.** We have also asked other folks from our parish to help pull this off. You know: creating a menu, buying food, setting up...those kinds of things. They, too, have signed up. (My thanks to all.) Some time ago at a parish meeting, a person mentioned that they would like to have an opportunity to learn more about other churches. Here's that opportunity. Enjoy a great breakfast, acquaint yourself with someone from a different church, and learn about them and their church in a very enjoyable setting. If you have any questions, call Fr. Ken. Hope to see you there!

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY January 27, 2019 There will be one service at 9 am followed by a Potluck Brunch and the Parish Annual Meeting. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend, and if possible bring something to share for the potluck.

We thank the following candidates for agreeing to serve: for Sr. Warden, Jack Olthuis; for Jr. Warden, Lou Schweickhardt; for Vestry, Sandra Lockhart and Hilton Rodriguez. Their biographies are posted in the parish hall.

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, January 13

TODAY 9 am Adult Forum

MON 11am Eucharist at The Branches
5 pm Finance Committee Meeting

TUES 8 pm AA

WED 5 pm Choir
6 pm conTEXTS

FRI 10 am Alanon

SAT 9 am Christian Unity Breakfast

SUN 9 am Adult Forum

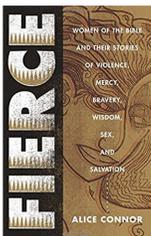
A good time was had by all painters at our Painting Party on Friday. Many thanks to Dina Ziembra for bringing this fun event to St. Mary's!

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2019—are now 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.

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



Birthday Blessings to Joye Barron on Jan. 15th, Dorothy Haig on Jan. 16th, Patti Lehr & Rachael Stube on Jan. 17th, and Stella Danks on Jan.



We don't choose our family. We are born into it. Sometimes we are lucky enough to be born into a truly loving and supportive family. On the other hand, our friends, our close friends, are the family we choose. Learning to select the right people to be in our "chosen" family can be one of the most important things we do in our life. Who do you think were Jesus' chosen family? The emphasis is on "chosen." His siblings? They weren't chosen. His disciples? Well, he did choose them, and he did spend much of his time with them, but they were more followers than family. This morning in the Adult Forum where we are following Alice Conner's portrayal of some biblically fierce women, Alice Connor makes the claim as to who was Jesus' chosen family. Want to know who they were? Join us in the chapel, 9-9:45 today. kg

Watching the news Thursday evening, a TV crawler announced: "65% of American families believe they will never overcome their debt." That is terribly sad. A segment of our debt-beleaguered society caught my attention this past week. The story said that an average undergraduate student has a debt of \$33,000. Wednesday's conTEXTS will explore attitudes and practices of individuals and institutions regarding lending and borrowing and consider what our faith teaches us about debt. conTEXTS meets 6:30-7:30 pm in the parish hall. Our conversations probably won't solve this problem (or any that we discuss), but they sure offer interesting perspectives. Join us.



FEBRUARY 14 SENIOR LUNCH CLUB MEETING, 11 AM SHARP— Chef Kalla of The Lobster House will join us for a special meeting. He will prepare, share recipes, and serve a lunch with a Valentine's Day Chocolate theme. \$10 per person. Only 24 spots are available. A sign up sheet is on the parish hall bulletin board.

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 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!



Many thanks to all who helped with greening the church prior to Christmas, and with de-greening the church on Sunday, Jan. 6. Special thanks to Clyde Pettit, Lou Schweickhardt, and Jack Olthuis, for leading the way. Special thanks to Bill & Janice Haines for their altar work with the Poinsettias, both getting them in (with the help of their son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter), and to all who moved the Poinsettias out to the Parish Hall and put away their wooden holders. Special thanks to Stan Ziemba, Ryan & Jack Cleffi, and Ashley Seigel, all of whom also did some heavy lifting, before Christmas and after, climbing ladders, moving furniture, putting away the outdoor creche, getting things put away in storage in the loft and the attic. Ashley even ended by vacuuming the entire sanctuary! We are blessed!

FAMILY PROMISE—As a host congregation, we are invited to attend their 10 Year Anniversary celebration luncheon on Sunday, Jan. 27th at 1:30 to be held at Avalon Links. Lunch \$20. RSVP by Jan. 21 to 609-846-7862 x 9. See the parish hall bulletin board flyer.

A FREE SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT SERIES will be held at St. Barnabas, Villas, beginning Jan. 20 at 3 pm with Thomas Werkheiser. More details and a flyer listing future concerts may be found on the parish hall bulletin board.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

As is required by Diocesan Canon and State Statute, it is hereby announced -

The Annual Meeting of the
Congregation and Corporation of
St. Mary's Parish in Stone Harbor, NJ will
be held on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at
10:00 AM in the Parish Hall (or when a
quorum is present). The purpose of the
meeting is to review the budget for 2019,
elect parish officers, and transact any
other business that may properly come
before the meeting.

Ms. Cheryl L. Barton
Clerk of the Vestry
(Diocesan Canon 90; New Jersey Revised
Statutes 16: 12-1)