



## Spring has Sprung at St. Mary's

### What's Happening June 2019 edition

Bill Haines, Editor

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For those who see God in nature, spring could be all the proof they need. In a few short weeks the barrenness and desolation of winter has been transformed into the fertile, teeming of spring. Let's not forget Easter. The Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia.

By now you have either heard or received the letters written by Fr. Peter and Jack Olthuis to inform us that Peter will be leaving us as Priest in Charge at the end of June. Peter, Jack, the Vestry, and Bishop Stokes have worked together to insure a smooth transition. Fr. Gorman, with the blessing and authority from the aforementioned, has graciously accepted to serve as supply priest beginning June 1. The next chapter in St. Mary's history is beginning.

Project Resource, a team from the Diocese, met with mostly the Discernment Committee and the Vestry on May 1 to discuss the next step in the process. I was astounded by Jack's prophetic ending sentence written on April 29. "It's what gives me confidence and hope that in the power of the Spirit, we will move ahead to fulfill Jesus' mission here in St. Mary's." Father Rob Droste stated that St. Mary's doesn't have a mission. Jesus has a mission and St. Mary's is to help with Jesus' mission. Let us pray that we discern Jesus' mission and call a priest to lead us in fulfilling Jesus' mission.

SWEEP will meet on Wednesday evening at 6:15 in the parish hall. In Sunday's bulletin, Fr. Gorman quoted from the Project Resource meeting, "Churches grow when people in them grow spiritually." Join us on Wednesday to discuss our growing.

St. Mary's Senior Lunch Program meets on Thursday, May 9 at 11 AM. The speaker's topic will be The Underground Railroad in Cape May County. Bring a bag lunch and a \$5 voluntary contribution to offset speaker fees.

April 15 has come and gone. Your taxes have been paid. Now, if you are seventy and a half years old, and have an IRA, you have a Required Minimum Deduction. We have to deduct a certain amount of money from our

IRA. If you haven't already received your RMD, you can donate all or a part of it to St. Mary's. The advantage is you receive credit for the donation but your RMD does not show as income to you. The requirement is that your financial company has to forward the check to St. Mary's. You can't receive the money and then donate it without it showing as income for this year.

The Branches is happy with the change in temperature. Code Blue is finished for the season. However, the need for those less fortunate than us is never finished. I hope Jesus' mission includes The Branches. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

St. Mary's Thrift Shop is the funding source for our outreach programs. They also need and appreciate your help. If you haven't completed your spring house cleaning and have gently used articles, you can donate them to the thrift shop. You can call the shop for a pickup at 609-886-7272

Circle June 16 on your calendar for

**St. Mary's Strawberry Festival Sunday!**

It's also Father's Day. Bring dad and the family in for dessert from 6 to 8 pm. A free will donation will be accepted.

Sign up to help on the parish hall bulletin board.

