

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The Third Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, May 4th, 2025
11:00am

Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. If you're new to the Episcopal Church, know that we follow an ancient and enduring pattern of worship called Liturgy, which is designed to give glory to God and draw people closer to God. We sing and pray together, and stand, sit and kneel at different times using our bodies, minds and voices as we worship in the Spirit. All of those directions are in this guide, which is drawn from the Book of Common Prayer you see in the pew racks in front of you. We have communion every Sunday (and sometimes more often!) and everyone is invited to the altar, regardless of membership or from what denomination they've come. If you haven't been baptized, or aren't sure you're ready to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing and talk to a priest after the service about getting baptized. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at www.stmaryshighpoint.org or check out our [Facebook Page](#).

The liturgy begins on page 355 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.

Voluntary Adagio

Frank Bridge

Welcome & Announcements

The Word of God

All stand, as able.

Hymn 174 At the Lamb's high feast we sing

The Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People *There is one hope in God's call to us;*

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People *One God and Father of all.*

The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children depart for Children's Chapel.

The Lessons

All are seated.

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles

9:1-20

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

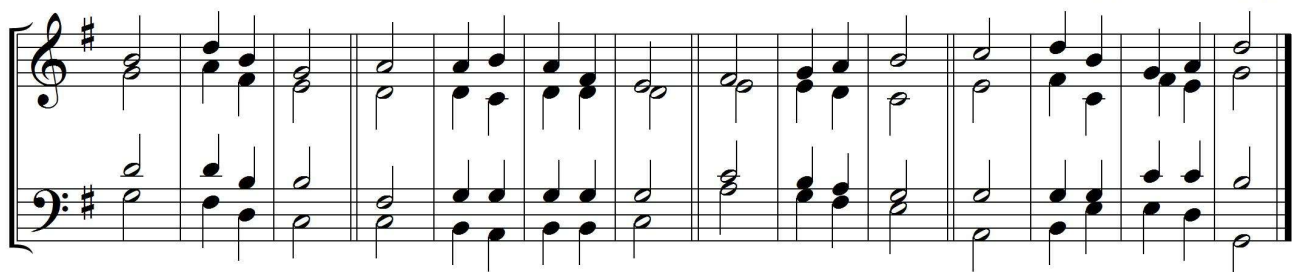
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 30

Exaltabo te, Domine

Robert Lehman



- ¹ I will exalt you, O Lord,
because you have | lifted • me | up *
and have not let my | ene•mies | triumph | over me.
- ² O Lord my God, I cried | out to | you, *
and | you re- | stored me • to | health.
- ³ You brought me up, O | Lord, • from the | dead; *
you restored my life as I was going | dōwn | to the | grave.
- ⁴ Sing to the Lord, you | servants • of | his; *
give thanks for the re- | membrance | of his | holiness.
- ⁵ For his wrath endures but the | twinkling • of an | eye, *
his | favor | for a | lifetime.
- ⁶ Weeping may | spend the | night, *
but | joy comes | in the | morning.
- ⁷ While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never | be dis- | turbed. *
You, Lord, with your favor, made me as | strōng | as the | mountains."
- ⁸ Then you | hid your | face, *
and | I was | filled with | fear.
- ⁹ I cried to | you, O | Lord; *
I pleaded | with the | Lōrd, | saying,
- ¹⁰ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go | down to • the | Pit? *
will the dust | praise you • or de- | clare your | faithfulness?

Second half of the chant

- ¹¹ Hear, O Lord, and have | mercy • up- | on me; *
O | Lōrd, | be my | helper."
- ¹² You have turned my wailing | into | dancing; *
you have put off my sack-cloth and | clōthed | me with | joy.
- ¹³ Therefore my heart sings to you | without | ceasing; *
O Lord my God, I will | give you | thanks for | ever.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

5:11-14

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Hymn 417, (V. 1) This is the feast of victory for our God.

The Gospel

John 21:1-19

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

All are seated.

The Rev'd Foster Mays

PRESENTATION & EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR HOLY BAPTISM

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present *Kathryn Tutton Rowell and Olivia Jane Rowell* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and

Godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the children you present are brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these people* in *their* life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant continues

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

*People I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.*

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

During these prayers the family and altar party proceed to the font.

Celebrant Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Celebrant *Kathryn Tutton Rowell*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Celebrant *Olivia Jane Rowell*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

After all have been baptized, the Celebrant continues

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

The Celebrant makes the sign of the cross with chrism on each of the newly baptized, saying

Kathryn, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

Olivia, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

The Celebrant presents the baptized (or their sponsor) with a candle lit from the Paschal Candle, saying

Receive the light of Christ, that your life, and Kathryn's and Olivia's might be a light to the world.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

This Little Light of Mine

Recognition of Sally Bulla's Retirement from Leading the Flower Guild

The Peace

All stand.

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Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Anthony Piccolo

Love is the key of life and death,
Of hidden heavenly mystery:
Of all Christ is, of all he saith,
Love is the key.

As three times to his Saint he saith,
 He saith to me, he saith to thee,
 Breathing his Grace-conferring Breath:
 "Lovest thou Me?"

Ah, Lord, I have such feeble faith,
 Such feeble hope to comfort me:
 But love it is, is strong as death,
 And I love thee.

~ Christina Rossetti

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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

The Celebrant continues

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

The Celebrant prays the appointed Proper Preface.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus qui venit

William Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The people kneel as able.

Then the Celebrant continues

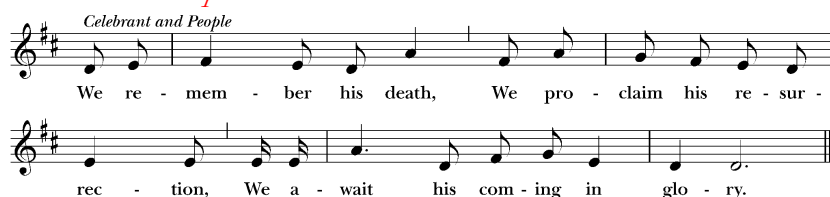
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

McNeil Robinson



The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.**

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

All 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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Fraction Anthem

Jeffrey Smith



The Choir sings

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast.

All repeat the Alleluias.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Music at the Communion

Motet

Giovanni Gastoldi

Day of delight and beauty unbounded,
Tell the news, the Gospel spread!
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor,
Tell Christ risen from the dead!

Sing of the sun from darkness appearing,
Sing of the seed from barren earth greening,
Sing of creation, alleluia!
Sing of the stream from Jesus' side flowing;
Sing of the saints in water made holy;
Sing of salvation, alleluia!

Sing now of mourning turned into dancing,
Sing now the mystery, hope of our glory,
Sing with thanksgiving, alleluia!
Sing now of fasting turned into feasting,
Sing the Lord's favor lasting forever;
Sing all things living, alleluia! ~ *Delores Dufner*

Hymn 256 A light from heaven shone around

Sending Out Prayer

Celebrant and People

As the people of Saint Mary's, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread one cup. Amen.

After Communion, all stand and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant blesses the people.

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Hymn 182 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

Voluntary In dir ist Freude from *Orgelbüchlein* *J.S. Bach*

Altar flowers: The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Marie King, by her husband, Edward, and her son, Scott.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to give or to make a pledge payment. We appreciate your support of St. Mary's and our parish's ministries which serve our community and beyond.



Baptized Today
Kathryn Tutton Rowell
Olivia Jane Rowell
Daughters of Kathryn Ross Rowell and William Chase Rowell
Grandchildren of Stephanie Ross
Sponsored by William Brandon Ross

Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

Preacher

The Rev'd Foster Mays

Lector

Kerr Ramsay

Verger

Kathy Conrad

Chalicers

Alicia Archibald, Betsy Lehman

Acolytes

Griffin Hawks, Mason Hawks

Organist & Choirmaster

Charles Hogan

Virtual Verger

Willow Travis

Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 388-389; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carlozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Originated in riteplanning.com, © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Herb Goins – Senior Warden
Jason Johnson
Candice Greig
Will Moore
Patrick Simcox
Ellen Walsh
Nancy Amos - Clerk

Vestry 2025

Tim Yates – Junior Warden
Steve Bingham
Hodge Cole
Lenora Sparks
Mark Penley
Amanda Gane

Keeping in Prayer this Week: We pray for those whose needs are closely linked with ours and for those who suffer from any sickness, grief or distress, also remembering and praying for those on our parish prayer list, including Helen Congdon, Linda Nitz, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Trish, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Jerri Phillips, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick and Margaret Lewis, Frankie Gurganus, Nancy Jenkins, Kathy, Diane Kearns, Joan Cardwell, Bill Fenn, Cheryl Warren, Debbie Ewing, Barry, Pat Hayes, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne, Sam Hawley, Robert Eamon Kelly, David Stewart, Dick Shaler, Jane Gill-Shaler, Denni Mikola, Shirley, Greg Denison, Ray, Robert Taylor, Michelle Maynard, Hannah, Linda Focarelli, Carter, Tom Peterson, Loyd, Mike Hennen, Connie Strader, Ginny Long, Katherine Anne Marsh, Em, Phil Williams, Kim Williams, Michael, Jennifer Boggs, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough, Gary King, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Reece White, Kim Susnik.

About St Mary's Prayer List: St Mary's maintains a published prayer list, which is added to the service leaflet and to the e-news each week. To add someone, please secure permission to use either the first and/or last names from the person to be added, and then contact Denise Story at 336.884-4730 or by email at admin@stmaryshighpoint.org. Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will be updated at the end of the month unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

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