



# St. Mary's Episcopal Church

*A parish in the Diocese of Pennsylvania*

May 18, 2025 7:45am The Fifth Sunday of Easter Rite I

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I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.  
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

-John 13:34-35

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

**O** Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **First Reading**

**Acts 11:1-18**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

**N**ow the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**H**allelujah!  
 Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
 praise him in the heights.  
 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
 praise him, all his host.  
 3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
 praise him, all you shining stars.  
 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
 and you waters above the heavens.  
 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \*  
 for he commanded, and they were created.  
 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
 he gave them a law which shall not pass away.  
 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
 you sea-monsters and all deeps;  
 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
 tempestuous wind, doing his will;  
 9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
 fruit trees and all cedars;  
 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
 creeping things and winged birds;  
 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
 princes and all rulers of the world;  
 12 Young men and maidens, \*  
 old and young together.  
 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
 for his Name only is exalted,  
 his splendor is over earth and heaven.  
 14 He has raised up strength for his people  
 and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
 the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
 Hallelujah!

## Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

A Reading from the Revelation to John.

**I**saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them as their God;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

*Reader*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

John 13:31-35

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**A**t the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

**The Rev. Conor Alexander**

## Nicene Creed

**BCP page 326**

## The Prayers of the People

*The Deacon or other person appointed says*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world. In our parish cycle of prayers this week, Carole Fowler, Dan and Natalie Finn, Laura Ferrara and their families.

*After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.*

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel, our Bishop, Father Conor our Rector that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald our President, and Josh our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor (*Congregation reads the names aloud*) **Irene Steinhardt, Jennifer Lurie, Victoria Coates, JoAnne Vereneck, Jim Cobb, Scott Ziglar, Craig and Ann Marie Erickson, Marylu Hill and her family, Magali Behrmann, Avanya Manasseh, Wilhelm Rebmann, Timothy O'Donovan, Aldys Davis, Guillaume Brunet, Enid Ball, Bob Buckley, Leah Laurie, John Paul, Peggy Wilson, Emma Cavanaugh-Kerr, Stan Compton, Arlene, Carole Beideman, Grace, Fionn Reid, Ellie Karen Iacobucci, Father Joseph Smith and Andy Miller** that they may be delivered from their distress, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

*Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.*

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good example of St. Mary and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. We remember Betty and Frank Rippel, and Joseph A. Dixon for whom the Altar Flowers are given, Milas Bennett in whose memory the Lady Chapel Flowers are given and in memory of Gopal and his family for whom the Sanctuary Light is given.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## Invitation & Announcements

To all who are lonely and need friendship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, this church opens wide its doors and bids you WELCOME!

We welcome all visitors to St. Mary's this morning. Please sign our guest book by the front door of the Church.

### Today is Sunday, May 18, 2025 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II  
(livestreamed and recorded)

11:15 am Coffee Hour

#### Acolytes

7:45 am Gregory Kelleher

10:00am John Hinchey, Ruth Lanouette,  
Allyson Radford - Torch

#### Chalice

7:45 am Gregory Kelleher

10:00am Brook Hunt

#### Readers

7:45 am Balana Gullatt

10:00am Bob Mickel (1), Dave Lander (2)

**Prayers of the People:** Toni Hoffaker

**Live Stream:** Owen Cutler

**Ushers:** Brian Lanouette, Pat McKay,  
David Parsells

#### Parish Cycle of Prayers

In this week's Parish Cycle of Prayers we pray for Carole Fowler, Dan and Natalie Finn, Laura Ferrara and their families.

**Flowers on the High Altar** this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Betty and Frank Rippel, and Joseph A. Dixon**, by their family.

**The Lady Chapel Altar Flowers** are given by Carole Fowler to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Milas Bennett**.

**The Sanctuary Light** is given by Vijaya to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Gopal and his family**.

**Please pray for those in ongoing need of our prayers and all on our parish intercession list at St. Mary's:** Irene Steinhardt, Jennifer Lurie, Victoria Coates, JoAnne Vereneck, Jim Cobb, Scott Ziglar, Craig and Ann Marie Erickson, MaryLu Hill and her family, Magali Behrmann, Avanya Manasseh, Wilhelm Rebmann, Timothy O'Donovan, Aldys Davis, Guillaume Brunet, Enid Ball, Bob Buckley and Leah Laurie. Also included on the prayer list are our friends John Paul, Peggy Wilson, Emma Cavanaugh-Kerr, Stan Compton, Arlene, Carole Beideman, Grace, Fionn Reid, Lois, Ellie, Karen Iacobucci, Father Joseph Smith and Andy Miller.

The names read aloud today include St. Mary's parishioners and family members of parishioners. Please say aloud the names of your loved ones during the Prayers of the People when the lector pauses for the congregation to add their own petitions. Please note: *Kindly let our Parish Administrator Nicole Marie know if you would like yourself or another prayed for at our services. It is our practice to take individuals off the Intercession list after four weeks unless more time is requested.*

**St. Mary's Memorial Day Parade  
Hot Dog Roast!  
Monday, May 26 at 9:00am**

Please join us on Memorial Day in front of St. Mary's Church to greet our neighbors and enjoy a hot dog at the Radnor Memorial Day Parade. The Merry Men will be setting up a tent and a barbeque at 9am with signs welcoming everyone to enjoy hot dogs and refreshments. Please join us as this event provides a fantastic opportunity to say hello to our neighbors and share the wonderful spirit of our church community.

**Summer Church Picnics  
Thursday, May 29 at 6:00pm  
Ascension Day Potluck  
Parish House, Fr. Greene Room**

Hot dogs, burgers and chicken, iced tea and lemonade will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish (salad, dessert, fruit, BYO). Each picnic will have a designated church group to help with set up, an after dinner activity and clean up. (Choir, Altar Guild, WOSM, Vestry, Hospitality, Merry Men) Please mark your calendars for our summer picnics:

**Thursday, May 29 (Ascension Day Potluck)  
Wednesday, June 25  
Wednesday, July 9  
Wednesday, July 23  
Wednesday, August 6  
Wednesday, August 20**

**Special Event Sponsored by  
The Women of St. Mary's**

Garden and House tour of Chanticleer  
[www.chanticleergarden.org](http://www.chanticleergarden.org)  
Thursday, June 26th  
11:00am

Followed by lunch at Linda Noll's home

We have reached capacity for this wonderful event. Thanks to everyone who reserved a place. Participants will need a parking permit on that morning, and carpooling is encouraged. Please let Erlis Wickersham know if you need a permit, and she will obtain it for you. Many special thanks to Linda Noll for her lovely luncheon invitation. Please reach out to Erlis Wickersham at [vze27g53@verizon.net](mailto:vze27g53@verizon.net) with any questions.

**St. Mary's Book Club  
Wednesday, June 11th  
at Erlis Wickersham's house**

The next meeting of the book club will take place on June 11th at Erlis Wickersham's house, where we will discuss *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser. In July we read a selection of poems by John Keats, and in August our title is *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which is a delightful comedy by Oscar Wilde. Everyone is welcome to attend for delicious refreshments and lively discussion. You do not even need to have read the book. We do hope to see you there. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Erlis Wickersham at [vze27g53@verizon.net](mailto:vze27g53@verizon.net).

**Monday Morning Bible Study  
Online via Zoom  
11:00am**

Each Monday, the members of our class engage in fascinating reading and discussion of the prophet Ezekiel. Our next focus will be the book of Daniel. Since we have spent recent months with Old Testament prophets, our further plans will feature New Testament readings. Everyone is encouraged to attend. No preparation is needed, and you can always be sure of a warm welcome. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Erlis Wickersham at [vze27g53@verizon.net](mailto:vze27g53@verizon.net).

**Adult Formation for June and July  
in the Navajo Room at 9 AM**

In June, we begin a new series about Women of the New Testament. On June 8th and 15th, Father Conor will speak about Mary, the mother of Jesus. Erlis Wickersham will lead a discussion of Mary Magdalene on June 22nd and Twila Garletts will tell us about Joanna, Salome, and Susannah on the following Sunday, June 29th. We will continue our studies in July, beginning with a discussion of the Beatitudes on July 13th. Tom Buechle will make a visual presentation, based on recent class discussions, on July 20th. Then on July 27th we will complete our discussion of the Beatitudes. There will be no Adult Formation in August. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any or all of these discussions.

## New Neighbors Seeking Assistance

St. Mary's has recently been contacted by a family from Brevard, NC who will be relocating to the Wayne area at the end of June after being impacted by Hurricane Helene. They are seeking a furnished rental that can accommodate two adults, one child, and a 20-pound French Bulldog. Ideally, they are looking for a temporary rental for 4–6 weeks, covering most of July and early August. The family is also looking forward to becoming part of our parish community and attending services at St. Mary's! If you have any leads or recommendations for rental opportunities, please contact Peter Burke at **burkenes@yahoo.com**. Thank you for your help and hospitality!

## Administration Deadline

The weekly liturgy bulletins are available online on Fridays and in print on Sundays. The eChimes is distributed on Fridays. To help us meet these deadlines, all announcements, photographs, and notices must be submitted to our Parish Administrator, Nicole Marie, by the **End of the day on Tuesdays**. We appreciate your understanding. You may reach out to our Parish Administrator, Nicole Marie with questions at **nicole@stmaryswaynepa.org** or 610-688-1313 (ext. 202).



### **How to give to St. Mary's**

Simply point your camera at the QR code below and follow the instructions, or, to make a donation via text, simply text worship 1887, to the number 73256.



## Parish Staff

**Fr. Conor Alexander**, *Rector* (frconor@stmaryswaynepa.org)

For Pastoral emergencies please call Fr. Conor at 610-234-9948

**Dr. Gordon Turk**, *Organist & Choirmaster* (gturkpipes@aol.com)

**Nicole Marie, MFA**, *Parish Administrator* (nicole@stmaryswaynepa.org)

**Toshi and Masako Makihara**, *Property Caretakers*

**Joan McAndrew**, *Nursery*

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## Vestry

### Term 2026

**Linda Noll, People's Warden**

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**Dave Lander**

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### Term 2027

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### Term 2028

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**Geoffrey Aigeltinger**

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## WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST. MARY'S

Sunday in the Church

7:45 am Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II\*

Daily Office: 9:30am and 5pm

Thursday Healing Service: 12 noon

\*Livestreamed at St. Mary's Livestream page

<https://www.stmaryswaynepa.org/livestream>

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

104 Louella Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087 | 610-688-1313 | [www.stmaryswaynepa.org](http://www.stmaryswaynepa.org)

Weekly announcements and updates: [www.stmaryswaynepa.org/echimes](http://www.stmaryswaynepa.org/echimes)