

The mission of St. Mary's is to invite all people into a relationship with God and each other in Christ.



St. Mary's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Mustard Seed Church



October 2023

The Mustard Seed Church
Sowing Seeds in the Community...



During the month of October, it is Mosaic in Action's intent to work on residences in West Columbia on October 14th. If you would like to volunteer or visit with the Mosaic in Action team on the date listed between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., contact the Construction Supervisor, Marcus George, at 214-914-2646 or marcus@mosaicinaction.org.

Donations to Columbia Methodist Church

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, we were able to provide enough items to fill 3 of the Columbia Methodist Church Food Pantry bags and extra food to be used for additional bags. The monetary donations were given to the Food Pantry to purchase the frozen items needed to complete the bags. Columbia Methodist Church greatly appreciated our support as the number of families they help increases each week.



Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals will be Sunday, October 8th at 4:00 p.m.. The Husseys will be heading up this special event, open to the community, but need the entire congregation to help. Last year we had 56 people and 26 animals attend.



If you want to help in any way with the preparations, planning, or the day of the event please contact Hannah or Justin Hussey or the office. We need everyone for this to be as spectacular as it has in the past.



Walk the Block - Trunk or Treat

It is time to start thinking about Trunk or Treat. Once again, St. Mary's will participate with the Methodist Church and the Baptist Church in "Walk the Block". Last year, our church had 11 cars and tables participating, so get your ideas flowing for decorations (Google if necessary) and mark your calendars for Monday, October 31st from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Let's plan on beating last year's number.

This year, we are providing a free photo booth from Kat's Corner of Fun. Each person or group who poses for a picture will get 3 pictures to take home.

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex and Parish Hall so we can get an idea of how to space our vehicles or tables. If you are not able to participate on Halloween but still want to do something, there are containers for donated bags of candy. Last year over 200 trick or treaters came by, and some people ran out of candy.

The Saint John's Bible

On Saturday, October 7th from 6pm-10pm, Galveston's ArtWalk is hosting an illustrator of The Saint John's Bible that is housed at Trinity Episcopal in Galveston. This beautifully illustrated Bible will be on display, and we will be able to speak with the illustrator. This is a fun night of walking around looking at various art exhibits. We will meet at the church at 4pm and caravan to Galveston, have dinner, and proceed to the ArtWalk, which is a free event. Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex and Parish Hall. For more information about the Bible, click [here](#) .



Trip to Brookwood

The Christmas poinsettias have been ordered, so it is time to plan our ladies' trip to Brookwood. We will leave on Wednesday, December 20, with the time to be determined. This is a great opportunity for us to share a delicious meal in their elegant restaurant, pick up those last-minute gifts from their gift shop and garden center, and enjoy each other's company. Of course, we will also pick up the poinsettias. That's the whole purpose of the trip. Right?

If you have never been to Brookwood, this will be a wonderful experience. Because reservations fill up quickly, please let the office know you will be attending by Tuesday, October 10th. You are welcome to invited friends and family members. The more the merrier.

ALL SAINTS DAY PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

All Saints Sunday is November 5th this year. On that day, we read the names of those we love but see no longer. The names are read at the altar prior to Holy Eucharist and the Eucharist is dedicated to their memory. Use this form to provide the names of your loved ones that you would like to have read. Extra forms are also available in the Narthex and Parish Hall.

Deadline is November 1.

Name _____

In Memory

of _____



UTO Boxes

The UTO boxes handed out on Pentecost will be blessed on All Saints Day, Nov. 5th. Bring your filled box(es) that day. You can also bring them before or after that Sunday, if you are not planning on being at church. Envelopes will be available if you would rather make a monetary donation or write a check.



Bishop Ryan is Coming

Bishop Ryan will be celebrating the Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's on Sunday, November 19, at 9:00 a.m. If you would like to be confirmed, received, baptized, or renew your commitment to Christ during this service, please let Father Paul know.



Stewardship Campaign

Stewardship is a time to reflect on God's gifts to us and how we can show our gratitude for these gifts and share them with others through our time, talent, and offering. The stewardship theme for this year is "Rooted in Abundance" and it is a reflection of Jeremiah 17:8. The theme reminds us that we are inspired to give because so much has been given to us.

Our Stewardship Campaign will be starting soon.

New Worship Leaders

More parishioners have joined our worship leaders. Justin Hussey has been serving as usher for several months and Hannah Hussey has been serving on the altar guild. Hannah has also joined our Sunday School program along with Jackie Walker. Our newest usher is Dick McGuire who joined in August.

More are still needed. If you would like to serve as an acolyte, usher, altar guild member, lector, leader of the Prayers of the People, Lay Eucharistic Minister (server of the chalice) or help with our Sunday School program, please let Father Paul or Dani know.

Message from Marvin Miller

Uncommon Decency

A few years back, Sara Tucholsky, a 5-foot-2-inch softball player in her senior year for Western Oregon University, was playing in a big game with Central Washington University. Both teams were vying for the Division II NCAA playoffs. Sara, who was batting less than .200 all season, hit the ball over the fence with two runners on.

She had never hit a ball out of the park before, even in practice. She was so excited, she missed first base. Realizing this, she turned to go back but collapsed in agony as her knee gave out. Her first-base coach yelled that she had to crawl back to first base because if anyone on Sara's team touched her, she'd be out and her home run would be nullified. Her coach encouraged her to try to crawl around the other bases to preserve her home run, but it was out of the question.

That's when the star player on the other team, Mallory Holtman, asked the umpire if she and a teammate could carry Sara around the bases. It was an unprecedented request from an opponent fighting for a playoff berth, but the rules allowed it. Without hesitation, Mallory and shortstop Liz Wallace lifted Sara and carried her, lowering her to touch each base with her good leg.

To Mallory it was simple: "In the end, it's not about winning and losing so much; it was about this girl. She hit it over the fence and was in pain and deserved a home run."

Mallory was right. It's just common decency.

Sadly, such kindness isn't common at all in sports, and that's why all the coaches, players, and spectators who were stunned by this spontaneous act of sportsmanship wept. And that's how Mallory became a national hero.

By the way, her team lost 4-2, but in all the spectators' eyes, everyone won.

Jim Gentil



Don't Forget

Remember to keep your empty print cartridges for St. Mary's. All brands and types are welcomed. We have been turning in 10 cartridges a month, earning a \$20 credit. This greatly helps defray the cost of our office supplies.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Special thanks and gratitude to

- Theata Miller, Dan Roddy, Colleen Matocha, Dani Mikel, AJ Mikel, Marvin Miller, Shyanne Roddy, Abigail Roddy, Trace Roddy, Jasey Hussey, Hannah Hussey, Justin Hussey, Tracy Lane, Sherry Wehner, Jackie Walker, Ouida Thomas, Travis Prater, Kendy Hankins, Wendy Hankins, Jay Wiggins, Vicki Vrazel, Buck Barnes, Gwynne Olson, Bill Olson, Dick McGuire, Reesie Cantrell, Adam Schill, Braylee Schill, and Jennifer Schill for serving as Worship Leaders in August and September.
- Amber Prater for setting up the Livestreaming on our Facebook site, monitoring the feed during the service, and responding to on-line viewers.
- Theata and Marvin Miller for stapling the service.
- Mary Stewart for organizing the children's bags for Sunday service.
- The vestry, AJ and Dani Mikel, Theata and Marvin Miller, Teresa Hawthorne, Dan and Donna Roddy, Abigail Roddy, and the Brotherhood for providing hospitality during August and September.
- The Reverend Nan Doerr for serving as our celebrant when Father Paul was gone.
- Donna Roddy, Gwynne Olson, and Dani Mikel for decorating for the Parish Dinner.
- Dan Roddy, Donna Roddy, Justin Hussey, Hannah Hussey, AJ Mikel, Dani Mikel, and anyone else who helped clean up after the Parish Dinner.

You are awesome, and St. Mary's greatly appreciates all you do.



Prayer Request

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please notify the office by email or phone. The prayer list will be updated each month, so if prayers need to continue for an individual person, please fill out a new card or let Dani know. Prayers for the sick and those in need are the joyful duty of the Christian community. Help us keep our parish prayer list current by notifying us of those in need of prayer and when those listed are no longer in need.



Camp Allen Events

Needlepoint Retreat - December 4-7: Join fellow needlepointers for this midweek retreat.

October Birthday

Justin Hussey - October 1

Colleen Matocha - October 9

Rachel Davidson - October 9

Wade Roddy - October 10

Aaron Mikel - October 13

Thomas Culbreath - October 27

Sherry Wehner - October 31

Andrea Anderson - October 31

October Anniversaries

Sydney and Robert Mikel - Oct. 30

Dates to Remember

Sunday services are streamed on St. Mary's Facebook Live at 9:00 a.m.

October 1 - Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Nan Doerr
children's Sunday School during the service

October 1 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

October 1 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children provided

October 3-5 - Strengthen With Prayer Exercise Program (8:00 -9:00 a.m.)
Parish Hall - bring yoga mat and hand weights

**October 7 - ArtWalk in Galveston, viewing the St. John's Bible, and dinner
meet at St. Mary's at 4:00 p.m.**

October 8 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

**October 8- Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Paul Wehner
children's Sunday School during the service**

October 8 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

**October 8 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children are provided**

October 8 - Blessing of the Animals (4:00 p.m.)

**October 9-12 - Strengthen With Prayer Exercise Program (8:00 - 9:00 a.m.)
Parish Hall - bring yoga mat and hand weights**

October 10 - Last day to sign up for December 20th trip to Brookwood

**October 15 - Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Paul Wehner
children's Sunday School during the service**

October 15 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

**October 15 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children are provided.**

October 15 - Vestry Meeting (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

**October 16-19 - Strengthen With Prayer exercise Prayer (8:00 - 9:00 a.m.)
Parish Hall - bring a yoga mat and hand weights**

October 22 - Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

**October 22 - Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Paul Wehner
children's Sunday School during the service**

October 22 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

**October 22 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children are provided.**

October 29 - DOK Meeting (7:45 a.m.)

October 29 - Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Mark Crawford
children's Sunday School during the service

October 29 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

October 29 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children are provided.

October 30 - November 2 - Strengthen With Prayer exercise Prayer (8:00 - 9:00 a.m.)
Parish Hall - bring a yoga mat and hand weights

October 31 - Walk the Block: Trunk or Treat (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.)

November 1 - All Saints Day Prayers for the Deceased cards are due

November 3 - Senior Citizen Center Country Store (1:00 - 4:00 p.m.)

November 4 - Senior Citizen Center Country Store (9 a.m. - noon)

November 5- Brotherhood (7:30 a.m.)

November 5 - All Saints Sunday Service - Holy Eucharist: Rite II (9:00 a.m.)
celebrant - the Reverend Paul Wehner
children's Sunday School during the service

November 5 - Hospitality and Fellowship (10:00 - 10:30 a.m.)

November 5 - Adult and Youth Sunday School (10:30 - 11:15 a.m.)
Activities for children provided

St. Mary's Leadership

Vestry

Rector: the Reverend Paul Wehner

Sr. Warden: Gwynne Olson

Jr. Warden: Dan Roddy

Clerk: Colleen Matocha

Outreach Chair: Jackie Walker

New email address for St. Mary's - stmaryswestcolumbia@gmail.com

New mailing address - 201 E. Clay Street, West Columbia, TX 77486

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