Rector's Reflections

During this time of staying at home to flatten the curve of coronavirus infection, I have been thinking a lot about the geography of our lives, particularly the landmarks we rely on in constructing a sense of normalcy. Over the last eight weeks, we have passed by so many of these landmarks- in my family, we have celebrated two birthdays and an anniversary, in our church life we have marked Holy Week, Easter Day, vestry meetings, and now graduations and an annual meeting, all regular touchstones in a landscape that is barely recognizable. The fact that we have and continue to celebrate these important occasions in our common life is a testament to the spirit of persistence that suffuses the Church. We Christians are survivors. Our faith gives us strength, and our church calendar gives us regular and rhythmic reminders of our perseverance.Last year for our Annual Meeting we met in the parish hall, and we dreamed about the capital campaign and construction project we were planning this year to transform that space into something more elegant, with cleaner lines and discreet storage, everyday clutter hidden from view so that it was a space of graceful welcome to all those who gathered in it for meals, community meetings or classes, and fellowship events. Instead, those plans are on hold, today the parish hall sits empty and we gather in our homes, around our screens or on our phones, and remember with fondness the dishes we would be enjoying- Martin's ham or pulled pork, maybe, colorful salads and all sorts of desserts- and look forward with anticipation for when we are able to gather together again, share a meal again, see each other’s faces again.I am reminded that our own parish has survived wars- founded barely over a decade after the War of 1812, the Civil War, two world wars, Vietnam- famines like the Great Depression, and plague like the flu of 1918 that hit Philadelphia with particular ferocity. Through it all, St. Mary’s flourished. In the 1960s, 70s, and 80s when many urban parishes were closing their doors permanently, we were thriving, finding our mission in a life centered around activism, radical welcome, and outreach. No one knows exactly when we will be able together again, or what those gatherings will look like, but we have just shy of 200 years of proof that this parish is a survivor, that we, St. Marians, find our strength in the times that try us the most. I am so proud of the meals that we have continued to serve our homeless and food-insecure neighbors through the University City Hospitality Coalition during this time, that while other churches around us were closing their doors,
canceling all programming, we expanded our meals from two to three days a week, figured out how to prepare and distribute food safely to those who need the sustenance the most, found donors for masks and hand sanitizer, got new volunteers from our parish to work on the new small teams making and packaging the food every Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. It is very easy in tough times to look back on all that seems lost, but I hope you will look instead at all that we have achieved in this time. We have adapted our parish life, moving quickly online for worship and fellowship, deployed a parish prayer circle model-led by our vestry members to ensure pastoral care and connection between all members of this parish, have regularly checked in and assisted with the needs of our members with health concerns, limited incomes, limited mobility. Survival is in our DNA as Christians and as members of this parish community, and though we don’t yet know exactly what the future will look like, we know we will enter our third century rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ, dedicated to Mary his Mother, finding our strength in serving the poor, the needy, the outcast, the stranger, service which we will offer as our continual praise and thanksgiving to God.

Mariclair+

The Rev. Mariclair Partee Carlsen  |  rector@stmarysatpenn.org
Deacon's Notes

Up until the Universe put the brakes on our lives in early March, we had a busy year once again. I feel so privileged to belong to this congregation of St. Mary’s and grateful for Mother Mariclair, all the staff including amazing Brittany, Michael, the choir and all who attend and fulfill their ministries here and outside the church. The coronavirus has drastically and unexpectedly changed our ways of “doing church” now. Trying to get anywhere near up to speed with technology has been a challenge to say the least. Besides the liturgical role of preaching monthly and serving at the table, the deacon is to be the bridge between the world and the church. Together, we have participated in advocacy, service, and education ministries. I also do some pastoral visits as needed.

Advocacy
- Voter registration in September
- Our second Memorial to those Lost by gun violence in October
- Episcopal Community Services Justice Conference in October
- Third Sunday Advocacy letter writing for justice issues
- Women’s March in January 2020
- Attended Anti-Racism training in February. Encourage parishioners to attend once we start up again. Attend Tuesdays with Toomey about twice a month (we are now doing them on Facebook page every week from 12:20 until 1 pm.)
- We receive information about upcoming bills and actions that benefit the marginalized and protest government actions as needed.

Service
- University City Hospitality Coalition. I serve on the board and am host for the serving of dinners every Thursday.
- Penn student and parishioner Sia Lebbis helped before she went abroad to study. When I became unable to attend because of the COVID-19, parishioners Sara Forrest and Juan Ocampo stepped up and have been valued helpers.
- I lead a Bible Study/Prayer Group for UCHC guests every Thursday after dinner with attendance of 1 to 6.
- Coordinated Christmas gift and gift card drive for 25 children (up from 20 last year)
- Personally, I volunteer at Broad Street Ministry hospitality center for people experiencing homelessness weekly. If you are interested please let me know. At present they are not using volunteers because of the virus but will be open once we can be “social” again.

(Continued on following page.)
Educational

- Planned and led Advent multi-generational activity of Advent wreath making.
- Collaborated with Mother Mariclair to lead The Good Book Club discussion on the Gospel of John.

Deanery

We belong to a wider group of churches in the area and meet every other month with clergy and lay representatives (ours are Janet Dietrick and John Ash). I am co-chair of our Health Committee and parishioner Janet Dietrick is on the committee. We planned on having 5 educational sessions this year but the virus had other plans. We have not had as much parishioner attendance as we hoped but are grateful for those who attended.

The sessions we had were:
- Philadelphia Corporation on Aging (speaker about services and caregiver burden) at St. Mary’s in September.
- Gun Violence and Grief panel discussion at the Cathedral in November.
- ABLE center which offers community and youth support in West Philadelphia and Center City (homeless shelter at St. Clements) at Holy Apostles and the Mediator.
- Planned for the April 28th update on the opioid crisis in the city from the Department of Health and Human Services, which was cancelled. We are now planning for an online series.

Diocesan Diaconal Activities

- Bishop Gutierrez oversees deacons. We are all required to attend quarterly meetings as a group. In January, I organized a meeting at St. Mary’s with a speaker from the Diocese of Maryland, Deacon Chris McCloud and a supper. Mother Mariclair graciously set up the audio visual for the speaker and lead a beautiful candlelight Compline service.
- I also serve on the Deaconess Board which provides scholarships for women who are studying for ministry.

Peace and Blessings to All of You,

The Rev. Deacon Barbara Tobin  |  deacon@stmarysatpenn.org
Hello, St. Marians! Welcome to our Summer 2020 newsletter! Admittedly, it has been a challenging few months for all of us. As a huge extrovert, event coordinator, and a Theatre artist, I’ve been struggling with stagnation and solitude: A huge portion of what I do revolves around community engagement and personal interactions. It is work I adore because I love the opportunity to hear and appreciate stories; there is something so wholesome and fulfilling in my interactions with all of you, even if it is just strictly business.

In isolation, I thought I’d revisit Thoreau's *Walden* (since we’ve had so much time to read as of late) and the above quote resonated with me. It spoke to me in the reflection of all our community has done to adapt to current circumstances and the fact that we are literally keeping away from each other out of love for one another. Our physical access has been limited, but through our perseverance and tenacity, we have been able to reach out in different, innovative ways. Though there is a narrow and crooked path that’s stretched before us in this pandemic, as a community we have been able to walk it with love and reverence.

Thank you all for your patience, innovation, and compassion as our community experiments with different ways to remotely reach out and engage. I look forward to a wider, more direct path for us to walk in the coming weeks. Above all, I can hardly wait to see all of you once it is safe to meet again in person. Until we can meet again, I hope you’ll continue to join us for our daily remote worship services, for Sunday morning prayer with sermon and music, and our Sunday Zoom Coffee Hours. And as always, the purpose of our quarterly newsletters is to improve and maintain enthusiasm within our vibrant community of St. Mary’s! They are a wonderful resource to find other information on all of our upcoming events and outreach opportunities, scholarly articles on St. Mary’s history and music, spiritual reflections and calls to action, and even delicious recipes! There is something for everyone! Another great way to engage with the St. Mary’s community is to contribute to our newsletter. We’d love to hear from you! After all, there wouldn’t be a St. Mary’s newsletter without the voices of St. Marians! Please feel free to direct any content suggestions and submissions to me by our next deadline, August 15th.

I invite you to take a glimpse at all of our upcoming remote community events and opportunities for outreach this season. Happy Reading!

Brittany Holdahl | administrator@stmarysatpenn.org
JOIN US FRIDAY, JUNE 5TH

Wear Orange Day

For National Gun Violence Awareness

Plan to wear orange to participate in the day to display and promote your desire to end gun violence

To learn more, visit www.wearorange.org
Sunday School and Nursery

From Our Nursery/Sunday School Report 2019–2020

Staff: Sara Macro Forrest; Ann Farnsworth; Vanessa Albert Lowry; Kristen De Paor; Andre Houslin (replaced Kia Da Silva so that she could focus more on school—Kia, a big thank you); we welcome volunteers and will shepherd them through the necessary clearances and training.

Number of Children Served each Sunday: 1–8
Age Range: 0–9 years

Activities: free play; reading of/engagement with Bible-related story (usually based on the readings for the week); art or other activity; snack as a shared meal; if possible, bring children to communion.

Goals: Develop a faith community; read bible stories; get the children thinking, asking questions about God, about loving one’s neighbor, and about life. Expose children to the Church Service at communion and during processions and other appropriate events.

Activity Corner

Did You Know?

Our church, St. Mary’s, is named after Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We celebrate her during special times of the year called Marian holidays.

You can ask a grown-up to help you print this page to color!

For family-friendly learning resources and activities, please visit: stmarysatpenn.org/education-for-all

To learn more about our Sunday School and Nursery please visit: stmarysatpenn.org/sunday-school/
People's Warden Corner

As People’s Warden, my role on the Vestry is to serve as the ears and voice of the people of the Parish. I am responsible for listening to the people of the Parish, voicing the needs of the people to the Rector and the Vestry and making sure that the people of the Parish know what decisions and actions the Vestry is taking to serve the Parish and meet the needs of God’s people. For this reason, the People’s Warden serves on the Finance and Property Committee and is charged with understanding what resources are available to the Parish and what needs must be met. But the Finance and Property concerns really only tell a small part of the story. This past Fall we, as a Parish, completed the Holy Cow survey at Mother Mariclair’s recommendation and request. The report that resulted from this survey showed the depth of other, more intangible and more important, resources in this Parish.

In some ways last Fall seems like an eon ago but the work of the Vestry and the Parish continues. The needs of the world around us are still there and we continue to work to discern and serve these needs.

This past year I have focused on working with the other members of the Finance and Property Committee (Frank Innes, Scott Wilds and Mother Mariclair) on strengthening the financial reporting and management systems of the Parish so that we will be ready to properly account for the use of grants and gifts we were expecting for work on the organ and the Parish Hall. The organ-related grants and donations were received and work on the organ has begun, despite the lockdown. Work on the Parish Hall renovations must wait given the lockdown, but planning continues. In addition, in March 2020, as the lockdown began, Vestry determined to keep all employees on payroll at least through April, and the Finance and Property Committee, on behalf of the Vestry, applied for a special forgivable loan made under the federal economic relief measures, to assure that we can pay our employees in the next two months despite lower space use revenue. We just received this loan. To the extent the loan is spent in the next two months on salary and related expenses, the loan will not need to be repaid. Finance and Property will be responsible for the proper accounting for this loan.

Finance and Property is also responsible for overseeing and reporting on the investments of the Parish, including various endowment funds. We had an excellent year last year and a bad first quarter 2020. April was a little better in all likelihood but we do not have the statements yet. Our investment report is enclosed.

My other focus this year has been on listening to and reflecting on how to serve the children and youth of the Parish and their families, and how the presence of children and youth enhances our community. Serving families is a particular challenge right now both for the Sunday School and for the St. Mary’s Nursery School that shares our space. Please keep the children and youth of the Parish and the Sunday School and Nursery School in your prayers.

(Continued on following page.)
Most of all I believe we should keep on building on our strengths: reaching out to one another, asking for and offering encouragement and assistance. It just takes a note or email to make someone’s day and to connect. We all need to hear from one another right now. Together we will continue to be the Church, to build God’s kingdom, here in this time on this campus and in this City.

Thank you.

Vanessa Albert Lowry | lowryv@gtlaw.com

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The Swell division of our historic Aeolian-Skinner organ is now at Emery Bros. awaiting restoration under the direction of Steve Emery. Steve actually took some of the work home before the governor’s shutdown order took effect, so work has not been at a complete standstill the past few months. Although there will still be more to do when this phase is finished, this portion of the project will increase the reliability of the organ and also bring it still closer to its original tonal design. This is a tribute both to Steve and to St. Mary’s for their persistence through the years, the history of which has included such setbacks as the ceiling falling in on the Great division.

For our recorded services, I have still been using the Great and Pedal divisions of the organ. Although this is adequate on its own, one unforeseen benefit of having recorded services is that I can use certain production tricks to make the organ sound even louder than it is!

While there are few firm conclusions, I’ve been researching safety protocols for group singing and musical alternatives to that, should we need them. Right now the worst case prediction is that safe group singing is 18–24 months away, but this could easily change at some point. One thing I’m trying to keep in mind along the way is the importance for many people of making music themselves—hearing and feeling themselves sing. But it may be some time before that is actually possible. I’m in touch with colleagues about this issue, and the diocese is issuing guidance as well.

A special thanks to those singers who have braved the microphone and submitted recordings of themselves for the various soundtracks I’ve been making, whether it’s in the role of cantor or it’s for one of the choir soundtracks I’ve mixed. This takes particular courage on their part, as microphones are very unforgiving pieces of equipment. Moreover, the setup involved is not easy: they have to listen to a clip of the organ with headphones on while making their own recording that does not have any organ sound in it, and they have to be precise in their rhythm so that I can match up all the files in the digital audio workstation on my computer. In addition, they have to take care not to be too close or too far away from the mic, as this can render the recording unusable. The process is time-consuming for everyone involved. I think they’ve done a great job!

Unfortunately the pandemic brought an early end to the year for our choral scholars, Elle Rothermich and Tise Ogunmesa. Many thanks to them for their work with us this year. I hope they will be back next year and that we’ll also have two more choral scholars as well. If anyone knows of any potential additions, please let me know.

(Continued on following page.)
In other areas of my life, I'm continuing to release music, and with my other workplace inaccessible I have taken that time and devoted it to making a new website, michaellawrencesound.com. A publisher I work with has asked me for more compositions, so I've been putting those together. In addition to that I've been devising home workouts and doing lots of walking to stay active.

Michael Lawrence  |  music@stmarysatpenn.org
Agape Meals
WITH ST. MARY'S, HAMILTON VILLAGE

An Agape Meal is a regular meal that takes on the stylized form and shape of the Eucharist. It is not a Eucharist, but a holy meal presided over by the hands that are present, whether those hands are ordained or not. It is a service of Scripture, prayer, song, and at its center is food. All it requires is bread, a cup, and the regular nourishment of a meal at your table. Individuals who live alone and are feeling isolated during this time, as well as families or roommates who are in this isolation together, are all welcome to join as a congregation in our own homes at the same time, in the knowledge that similar celebrations are happening all over our neighborhood.

All are welcome to use these Agape Meals to mark the upcoming Principle Feast Day of our calendar: Trinity Sunday on June 7th!

We will be sending out the service sheets for our Agape Meals in our weekly e-blasts and on our website so that we can celebrate these home liturgies together albeit apart. All are invited to gather around our own tables, maybe even with screens stowed elsewhere, to pray for each other, read words of scripture, give thanks for the bread and the wine, and find the comfort of spiritual communion in the knowledge that even if we are alone at our tables, we are gathered in spirit. While this is not a Eucharist in the sacramental sense, it is a holy shared meal and will nourish our spirits until we can gather together again at the altar.

Visit stmarysatpenn.org/worship for additional info
I’m not sure you remember, but my last column ended with a cliff-hanger! To refresh the memories of those who have forgotten, my last recipe last issue was for Coquilles St. Jacques which would work any time of the year. However the dish is particularly good in summer when you can get fresh cherry tomatoes, and I did tease you with the promise of a dish that went perfectly with the Coquilles. So just in time here comes the starch for your scallops that Chef Franey recommends: Riz au Four avec Pignolats (Baked rice with pine nuts)

You will need: 2 ½ Tbsp. butter, 2 Tbsp. minced onions, ¼ tsp. minced garlic, 1 cup uncooked rice, 1 ½ cups chicken broth, 2 sprigs parsley, 1 sprig fresh thyme or ¼ tsp dried, ½ bay leaf, 1/8 tsp. cayenne of Tabasco sauce to taste, ¼ cup toasted pine nuts.

Preheat your oven to 400 degrees. Melt 1 Tbsp. butter in a heavy, oven-proof saucepan and cook the onion and garlic, stirring with a wooden spoon, until translucent. Add the rice and stir briefly over low heat until all the grains are coated with butter.

Stir in the chicken broth, making sure there are no lumps in the rice. Add the parsley, thyme, bay leaf and cayenne. Cover with a close fitting lid and place in the oven. Bake the rice exactly 17 minutes. Remove the cover and discard the parsley and thyme sprigs and bay leaf. Using a fork, stir in the remaining butter and pine nuts. If the rice is not to be served immediately, keep covered in a warm place. This rice cooks perfectly every time!

In keeping with the season here comes a vegetable dish perfect for that part of the summer when green beans and tomatoes are at market together. It’s String Bean Vinaigrette and you’ll need: 1 lb. fresh green beans, ½ medium onion, 1 clove garlic, 1/3 cup fresh grated Parmesan, 6 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil, 2 Tbsp. white wine vinegar with tarragon, ½ tsp. salt and fresh ground pepper to taste. Wash the beans, snip off the ends, and cut them French style (though I never bother with that, I just cut them in half!). Drop them into boiling salted water and cook until just tender. Finely chop the half onion and mince the garlic, combine them with the other ingredients, toss in the green beans, and mix well. Serve warm, at room temperature, or chilled with tomatoes, olives, or other marinated vegetables.

You can also add 1 Tbsp. lemon juice and 1 tsp. Dijon mustard to the vinaigrette if you like; they are strictly optional.

(Continued on the following page.)
A final suggestion for the summer. You will need 3 Tbsp. white wine vinegar, kosher salt and pepper, ¼ cup EVOO, 6 ears fresh corn, 2 cups grape tomatoes, halved, 8 oz. fresh mozzarella cut in small cubes, 1 bunch scallions, thinly sliced, 1 ½ cups fresh basil. Whisk together the vinegar, 2 tsp. salt, and some pepper then gradually whisk in the oil. Shear off the corn kernels with a sharp knife (cut the ear in half with the flat side down first for safety’s sake) and toss in a bowl with the tomatoes, mozzarella, and scallions. Pour the vinaigrette over and toss. Cover and let stand for 15 minutes to 2 hours. Before serving tear the basil over the salad and stir.

Bon appetit!

Martin Bodtmann  |  marbodt@aol.com

Treasurer's Report

2019 was a very good year for the parish’s finances. Cash plate donations were 146% of the expected amount and pledge income also exceeded the budgeted amount. Personnel expenses were a bit lower than expected due to the retirement of our beloved Sexton for decades, Gonzalo Vizuete and the expansion of Patrick O’Brien’s responsibilities but with fewer hours than Gonzalo worked.

Thank you for your generosity in pledging and other giving to St. Mary’s in 2019. Below is the summary of our budget performance in 2019 followed by a report on the 1st quarter of 2020. The 1st quarter was essentially on target compared with the same quarter in recent years.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in loss of facility rental income due to cancelled events and no cash donations since we can’t worship in the church. The efforts to keep up with your pledge via mailed check or via the fee-free PayPal Donate button on stmarysatpenn.org/donate are greatly appreciated. The Vestry decided to apply for a Payroll Protection Program forgivable loan through PNC Bank, and our loan was approved on May 8th. We expect to receive the funds soon. The $27,000 loan must be used for payroll and benefits (75% or more of the loan) and utilities, telephone and internet access (no more than 25%).
# St. Mary’s Hamilton Village, Operating Budget, 2019 Actuals

## Statement of Revenue and Expenses

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<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>YTD Total</th>
<th>As % of 2019 budget</th>
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<td>Other - Surplus/Grant Support</td>
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**2019 YTD Balance (Deficit)**

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Frank Innes | finnes.alum@drexel.edu
After our Annual Meeting last year, we celebrated Pentecost on June 9th. Pentecost is always a glorious Sunday with its red vestments and the joy in the founding of the Christian church. It was also the beginning of our quiet summer life at St. Mary’s. Our students are gone and many regular members are often away for vacations.

But each Sunday in summer a small group showed up to celebrate our life in Christ around the altar with fans whirring at top speeds. The Altar Guild prepared the altar, beautiful flowers appeared at the foot of the table, the service with inspiring sermon went on as always, and then we went outside for coffee hour in the summer sunlight. Our parish work continued with Vestry and Ad hoc meetings to discuss our plans for our Parish Hall renovation, our historic organ’s refurbishment, and how to plan for our 200th anniversary year. We reflected on the results of our Holy Cow survey and worried about our budget.

Autumn arrived with beautiful weather and the return of students. We also welcomed new church members and sent our fall Newsletter. Third Sunday brunch started up again with fabulous food and lovely conversations with each other. Our University City Hospitality Coalition continued to feed the food-challenged among us. Our Foyer Groups organized dinners together in each other’s homes. We started to gather bids for the church renovations. This process took more time than we anticipated. We continued to discuss the size and scope of work with all of the St. Mary’s stakeholders. Our restroom problems seemed to intensify with each passing week.

Winter arrived with Advent, Christmastide, and the Epiphany Season. We were busy with more Vestry meetings, church services, UCHC meals, Third Sunday brunches, the winter newsletter, and many artistic events in our church. Our Foyer Group meals continued. We made plans for Mother Mariclair’s sabbatical in summer. In December, there was news of a new virus in China. News coverage about the virus grew in January, but it seemed far away from our lives in Philadelphia.

February arrived like any other before it. With a February 15th deadline, we worked on the spring newsletter as we had for five years. Reading the spring newsletter that was published March 1st, I am reminded how much has changed since the start of Lent. I was struck by the number of planned events with many people invited to assemble at St. Mary’s. Attendance in church started to contract the first week of March. By mid-March, we were told not to gather in our beautiful church. All of our well-planned events came to a close. Covid-19 was among us.

(Continued on following page.)
But what has amazed me during this deadly spring is the strength of the St. Mary’s community! While we cannot physically be together, we are together now in many new ways. While Zoom is not the same as face to face conversations, it is a God-given tool to give us strength in this extraordinary time. Our Sunday Morning Prayer services and virtual coffee hours are the highlights of my weeks in quarantine. Our prayer chain emails and phone calls have given me an excuse to get to know people in deeper ways. And we still continue to have many meetings as we do God’s work on earth.

St. Mary’s is a progressive and extraordinary community! Our small but mighty church will come out of this once in lifetime crisis even stronger. I have no doubt. I will pray for and miss all of you more than words can express. By June 1st, my husband, Marty, and I will have retired to our home in Seven Lakes, North Carolina.

God bless you!

With deep affection,

Sally Hillman Redman  |  sally.h.redman@gmail.com
JOIN US FOR
Remote Worship
VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

MONDAYS
MORNING PRAYER @ 9 AM

TUESDAYS
MORNING PRAYER @ 9 AM

WEDNESDAYS
MORNING ROSARY @ 9 AM

THURSDAYS
MORNING PRAYER @ 9 AM

FRIDAYS
MORNING PRAYER @ 9 AM

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER
WITH MUSIC AND SERMON @ 11 AM
Join St. Mary's, Hamilton Village for...

Sunday Coffee Hour
VIA ZOOM

All are welcome following our remote Sunday Morning Prayer with Sermon and Music!

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://zoom.us/j/95445081781
Meeting ID: 954 4508 1781
Password: 19104

One tap mobile
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Dial by your location
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US
+1 301 715 8592 US
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
Meeting ID: 954 4508 1781

Find your local number:
https://zoom.us/u/adkyeAfxvo
Under quarantine, arts and cultural organizations have struggled to navigate the new landscape of social distancing. Many have adapted to virtual performances, classes, and lectures; sadly, not all organizations have had the means or tech support to do so.

In this unprecedented time of corona virus, we all need to be there for local businesses and cultural organizations. To emerge from this with our communities intact and able to flourish after re-entry, we need to ensure that what makes them special stays afloat. While we may not be able to give them our patronage in person right now, there is much we can do to show our support. You can visit your favorite local businesses or organizations' websites and purchase gift cards for yourself and others to keep some money flowing to their bottom lines. If your local favorites sell their merchandise online, you can make purchases to support, as well. Enroll for future classes and enjoy virtual lectures, tours, classes, and performances in the interim. Others have been using these newfound platforms to raise funds for the outreach ministries of unaffiliated, charitable organizations to offer patrons a two-for-one opportunity: Enjoy the art of their favorite organization and support the humanitarian efforts of another!

At a time when much feels out of our control, there’s plenty we can do to help our local businesses and organizations return to their original vibrancy, if not help them become even more vibrant. This goes not just for the wonderful organizations that fulfill their missions under our roof, but for all organizations and businesses that make our community incredible.

To learn more ways to help the national arts community at this time, I recommend you check the Philadelphia Performance Artists’ Fund (www.gofundme.com/f/philly-performance-artist-fund), to support either financially or by spreading the word! I also encourage your ongoing support of St. Mary's so that we can continue our mission of supporting local artists and arts organizations: stmarysatpenn.org/donate

**Our St. Marian Resident and Visiting Organizations**

| Annenberg Center of the Performing Arts | Jazz Sanctuary  |
| Argent Combat                        | Penn Band      |
| Astral Artists                       | Penn Chorale   |
| Bearded Ladies                      | Penn Collegium Musicum |
| FaSoLa Shape Note Sing              | Philadelphia Sci-Fi Society |

![Brittany Holdahl](http://example.com/brttnyholdahl.png) | [administrator@stmarysatpenn.org](mailto:administrator@stmarysatpenn.org)
St. Mary's Graduates 2020

Folasade Lapite
Health and Societies
CAS, 2019, Masters 2020
As an undergraduate, Folasade majored in Health and Societies, with a concentration in bioethics and society, and minoring in Chemistry and Africana Studies, focusing on women's health and wellness and how it coincides with cultural norms and education. She was actively involved in Synchronized Swimming, Student Hospice Organization of Penn, and Penn's Pre-Medical Association, and enjoyed being a Residential Advisor (RA) for Riepe College House. She also volunteered with CHOP's child life support and HUP's hospice patients, and participated in research related to women's health and psychiatric issues. Folasade spent her final year at Penn pursuing a Master’s degree while also serving as Clinical Research Director at the Palliative and Advanced Illness Research (PAIR) Center, earning a Master's degree.

Folasade plans to start medical school in the fall in her home state of Louisiana.

Catherine Campbell
Health & Societies
CAS, 2020
Catherine Campbell majored in Health and Societies with a concentration in the history of medicine, with minors in Urban Studies and English. She is especially interested in the history of care work, both formally and informally, as well as in religion and theology, pastoral care, and social action. Her homes on campus were at Kings Court English College House, where she was an RA for first-year students; among the stacks at Van Pelt; or in performing arts spaces, dancing, creating choreography, and singing with Penn Ballet and the Collegium Musicum choir– and participating in our Thursday night Candlelight Compline at St. Mary’s.

Catherine will be headed to the Earlham School of Religion, in Indiana, to start their new M.A. in Peace and Social Transformation in the Fall.

(Continued on following page.)
Allie Schreffler
CAS '16, VMD '20

Allie has been a St. Marian for the longest of all of our 2020 graduates—she came to Penn as an undergraduate in 2012, graduating from the College in 2016. She then started her veterinary studies, and graduated this week as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine! During Allie’s time at Penn she has been active in all of St. Mary’s campus ministry activities, served two terms on the vestry, and was active in campus bible studies.

Allie grew up at St. Thomas, Whitemarsh, and brought the love of holy scripture instilled in her there to all that she did at St. Mary’s.

Allie is headed to New York City, where she has joined a practice with clinics in Midtown Manhattan and Brooklyn.
Opportunities for Outreach

Anti-Racism Training: Race and Institution
Join us! Lailah Dunbar-Keeys, M.S., M.Ed, Adjunct Professor of Sociology at the Community College of Philadelphia leads the second of four pieces of training presented this year by the Anti-Racism Commission.
Participating in all four training sessions constitutes completing Anti-Racism Training. We consider this “complete training” to be a good foundation and the beginning of a lifetime of learning about racism and racial healing. This will be a virtual event.
June 13th, 9 AM–12 PM
Register here: bit.ly/AntiRacismTraining2020

Love God, Love Neighbor: Episcopal Month of Action
In the month of June, join The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations and Episcopal Migration Ministries for Love God, Love Neighbor: Episcopal Month of Action, a series of webinars to learn and advocate with and on behalf of immigrants, DACA recipients, refugees, and asylum seekers. Newcomers contribute greatly to U.S. communities, enriching our common life, strengthening the U.S. economy, and bringing joy as they join and reunite with families and friends. And yet, immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees face a wide array of challenges, including federal policies and legislation that are outdated and do not address the realities of immigrants in America today. As the Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement, we are called to advocate with and for our siblings seeking safety and a better life in the United States.
To learn more and register for events, please visit bit.ly/EpiscopalMonthofAction2020

Take action so that PA kids receive health coverage!
Episcopal Community Services is partnering with Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY), and we hope you will consider joining us by taking action. Send an email to your legislators urging them to expand public health insurance to all Pennsylvania children!
This initiative, Dream Care, will extend public health insurance to the children across Pennsylvania who are not insured because of where they are being raised.

The Mass Poor People’s Assembly and Moral March on Washington
This will be the largest digital gathering of poor, dispossessed and impacted people, faith leaders, and people of conscience this June.
This 2-hour program will be broadcast on Saturday, June 20th at 10:00 am EST and 6:00 pm EST and again on Sunday, June 21st at 6:00 pm EST.
Visit June2020.org to tune in.

Tuesdays with Toomey
Join us for a virtual rally every Tuesday via our live feed on Twitter or Facebook as we focus on COVID bills.
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tuesdayswithtoomey
Twitter: www.twitter.com/TuesdaysToomey
St. Mary’s Church, Hamilton Village Vestry Minutes
February 18, 2020, 7 PM-8:30 PM

Present:  Jonathan Ashton, Mariclair Partee Carlsen, Vanessa Albert Lowry, Sally Hillman Redman, Cassandra Royall, Sophia Reeder, Barbara Tobin, Aaron Todd

Absent:  Frank Innes, Karen Stachek

I. Spiritual Practice – Mariclair

II. Information:
Approval of January minutes – Sally moved, Sophia seconded.  Unanimously approved.

Rector’s Update:
Parish Hall Renovation
Mariclair emailed the Renovation Committee with the final two proposals, both came in higher than expected.  The lowest bid is $160,000 (including all the bells and whistles) and is from Al Panaccio.  Bluestone was $230,000.  Thanks to Marty Redman for his help and expertise.  We’ll need to raise more funds to achieve the full amount for the renovation.

Penn is adding A/C to the dorms.  To do this, they must close Irving Street for the summer.  St. Mary’s won’t be able to access the parking lot.  The parish hall project will be pushed to the fall.  The diocese has assured us that the $30K grant is still intact.  Sarto is meeting with subcontractors this week to get together engineering drawings for L&I.

Organ
We finally got an updated estimate from the company who traditionally services the organ, and it was substantially higher than we expected.  The company is under new management.  Michael Lawrence got a second estimate from another company unknown to us, and we are waiting for references for their work.

Summer Sabbatical
March 15 is Mariclair’s 7-year anniversary.  She is due for a sabbatical.  Mariclair spoke with the church wardens who agreed that this summer is a good time for her to take the sabbatical.
**Wednesdays in Lent.** UniLu partnership. Seeking more St. Mary’s participation. It’s always a lively and fun time. Designed so there’s no homework. Hamilton, half-truths. Potluck style dinners. Martin providing main dish for March 11 date. Diverse group of attendees.

**Sundays in Lent.** Lenten conversations after mass, same format as the good book club but going through the book of common prayer instead, how to use it on your own. Mariclair hopes this will continue with the guest preachers while she is on summer sabbatical.

**Deacon’s Update:**

**Third Sunday Letter Signing**

Going really well. People have actively signed all of the letter to Senators introduced so far.

**Anti-racism training** – Barbara would like people to sign up for this quarterly training session that takes place over the next year.

**March 15 Host for Hospitals** – Representative is coming during coffee hour to explain how we can get involved. This organization provides housing for families that travel to Philadelphia for their medical care.

**Deacon Barbara is leaving for vacation tomorrow.** To see the northern lights! She returns March 4-5.

**III. Discussion**

**Mariclair’s Sabbatical Planning Discussion**

Mariclair is applying for funding from the diocese. The only cost to the parish associated with Mariclair’s sabbatical will be to pay for the Sunday guest preachers, hopefully the diocese will pay for this. She hopes to engage in a project regarding holy motherhood using St. Anselm and his writings/prayers which are beautiful. Retreat to Georgia to spend time on her parents’ farm with her children. She’ll produce a forum and some written reflections about this project.

**Introduction to Strategic Planning**

Postponed to the March meeting

**IV. Action**

**Treasurer’s Report**– In Frank’s absence, Vanessa provided a report through January. Aaron moved to approve, Sally seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Finance Committee Overview**– Vanessa presented an updated FY20 budget. She then presented the status of the church’s investments. They did well in the market over the last year.
Cassandra Royall appointment to serve the duration of Robin Foster Drain’s term— 

Urinal Purchase Approval— $2300 to move the plumbing lines and replace the urinal. Vanessa made a motion to approve up to $2300 for the urinal replacement. Jonathan seconded. Unanimously approved.

Sabbatical Proposal Approval— May 19 – August 21. 
Sophia moved, Vanessa seconded. Unanimously approved.

V. Closing Prayer – Mariclair
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting  
March 24, 2020, 7 PM–8:30 PM

Present: Jonathan Ashton, Mariclair Partee Carlsen, Frank Innes, Vanessa Albert Lowry, Sally Hillman Redman, Sophia Reeder, Cassandra Royall, Karen Stachelek, Barbara Tobin, Aaron Todd (*due the coronavirus pandemic, the Vestry met virtually using teleconference software.)

I. Spiritual Practice – Mariclair

II. Information:

Approval of February minutes – Frank moved, Sally seconded. Unanimously approved.

Rector’s Update:

Worship
New services, 8 PM sung Compline, listing at the end of the agenda. Please reach out to Mariclair with feedback about this.

Mariclair’s Sabbatical is postponed
To a TBD later date

Organ
Organ project is under way. They came and removed everything last week and got started in their workshop. Steve Emory doing most of the work, and we think he is working from home on this. The official deadline is late August if not sooner. Only half the organ ranks are available.

Directory
None of directory updates have been saving. Now recreating the directory by hand. Mariclair will submit a draft to the vestry. Please send corrections.

UCHC doing to-go meals now.

Brittany working from home. Michael is only coming in on Sundays. Patrick is there every other day and he checks the mail.

Mariclair reached out to Penn Police to increase patrols around the church.
Deacon’s Update:

UCHC
Sara Forrest and Juan have volunteered. We need young, energetic folks to help out as volunteers. Reach out to Barbara if interested.

Washington DC African American History Museum trip has been cancelled.

Barbara will have Brittany send letters around for parishioners to sign and send to Senators (re: supporting communities in need during coronavirus issue.)

III. Discussion
Following the Bishop’s advice, we won’t return to in person service until at least May. The City has also recommended no public services aside from funerals.

Mariclair initiating small prayer groups of about 8 people. Asking each Vestry member to sending an email to continue to connect and touch lives.

IV. Action
Treasurer’s Report– Frank provided a report through February. Jonathan moved to approve, Sally seconded. Unanimously approved.

Finance Committee Overview– Finance Committee met twice, focused on the organ. Committee has been working very hard this month to secure the organ contract at a reduced rate. We’re going to have less building income due not being able to host events, nor renting parking spaces for the next few months. We’ve received requests from long-time building users (Beards and SMNS) asking if there will be rent relief. Beards plan to pay their full rent for April. There may be some state and federal programs to help with grants to help sustain these groups and meet their commitments to us. St. Mary’s is committed to paying all its personnel through April.

Motion to ratify the previous vote to approve the use of $2,000 from our capital funds for our organ restoration project. Cassandra moved, Sophia seconded. Unanimously approved.

V. Closing Prayer – Mariclair
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
April 28, 2020, 7PM-8:30PM

Present: Jonathan Ashton, Mariclair Partee Carlsen, Frank Innes, Vanessa Albert Lowry, Sally Hillman Redman, Cassandra Royall, Sophia Reeder, Karen Stachelek, Barbara Tobin, Aaron Todd (*Due the coronavirus pandemic, the Vestry met virtually using teleconference software.)

I. Spiritual Practice – Mariclair

II. Information:

Approval of March minutes – Frank moved, Sally seconded. Unanimously approved.

Rector’s Update:
New Worship ideas – Prerecorded for the last few weeks. Philly had asked that churches refrain from broadcasting live from the church building. We’ll stick with this for now.

Zoom coffee hour – Folks have enjoyed it. Nice to have some stability.

Organ – Steve is still working slowly from home. No updates available currently. But hopefully the organ work will be complete by the Fall. Nothing unexpected discovered.

Irving Street project – This work is considered nonessential, so is not yet underway. If the restrictions are relaxed by May, then they could start the work. We won’t know until there’s an official plan. We’ve had some parking checks come in. Yay!

Deacon’s Update:
UCHC – Still doing takeout meals for the guests. They are pretty good at distancing. Folks have provided masks. Juan and Sarah have been helping out consistently. Thank you!

Advocacy Letters – Barbara will be sending around letters to sign/campaigns to support

Deanery health committee meeting – supposed to host 4/28 meeting about the opioid crisis, but this was canceled. The committee is putting together info about the opioid crisis to distribute with numbers to call and resources. Adding a banner to the front of the church.

III. Discussion
Parish Prayer Circles Check-in – Mariclair did an email check-in earlier this week. #1 is praying for people. No right or wrong way of doing it. Mariclair doesn’t want it to feel like a burden. Interactive ideas for kids?
Annual Meeting via Zoom Discussion and by-law amendment?
May need to amend bylaws. Our bylaws give us leeway when it comes to when and how we host our annual meeting. So, as long as we announce it in advance and notify, we can do it via Zoom. We have to announce it at 3 Sunday services. May 17 is our tentative date.

- **Term Renewals/Departures** (Sophia, Sally stepping down, Aaron renewal)
- **Potential Vestry Member** Choral Scholar Elle Rothermich, Penn Law graduate student to consider. Mariclair is thinking of inviting Elle to join the Vestry. The Vestry encourages Mariclair to extend an invitation to Elle.

**Bishop Daniel’s requested discussion on the Phase-In plan.**
Lots of unknowns until we see what happens with the pandemic. Perhaps we’ll take our cues from the school districts with regard to hosting Sunday School. Outdoor coffee hours? Parishioners may not feel comfortable physically coming to church for a while. Our issue will be how we continue with diminished attendance.

We will keep the online live stream even once we’re meeting physically again. More thought on this is required (re: equipment needed, logistics.)

Our reality is going to be different. Neighborhood processions? Let’s ponder these things as time goes on.

**Issues with package delivery**— Sometimes substitute mail carriers leave letters and packages in strange places. Let’s consider adding signs to all of the doors at St. Mary’s indicating where the parish office is and instructions on how to get into the building.

**IV. Action**
**Treasurer’s Report**— Frank provided a report through March. Vanessa moved to approve, Jonathan seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Finance Committee Overview**— Vanessa PPP loan application submitted. The Finance Committee worked hard on this, as well as the parochial report. Thank you, Finance Committee!! Considering strategies to keep the church’s endowment strong.

**Motion to Certify Corrected Parochial Report**— Sally moved, Vanessa seconded. Unanimously approved.

**V. Closing Prayer**— Mariclair
A Prayer for Our Country

Almighty God, you have given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(1979 Book of Common Prayer, p. 820)

You can donate to the outreach ministries of St. Mary's securely online!!
Visit www.stmarysatpenn.org/donate