

# The Magnificat



The Liturgical Church year ends on Christ the King Sunday. Then we enter into the four Sundays of Advent followed by the Christmas season which ends on Epiphany. The Sunday after Epiphany we gather to celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. These important Liturgical events, Christ the King, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany usher us into a rededication of our own Baptismal Vows as we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Baptism is one of the most important and sacred sacraments of our Christian faith. In the early church, candidates for baptism underwent a rigorous process of education, formation, and preparation for their Baptism. Sometimes this time of preparation would last 2-3 years!

While we could hold a baptism service at any time during the year, it is traditional to baptize on the following days: The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, the Easter Vigil, Pentecost, and All Saints Day. It is also traditional to celebrate baptisms during the visitation of the Bishop.

Many of us were baptized as an infant or small child. This was an act of faith and dedication, in which our families presented us to the Church and agreed to raise us in the Christian faith and life. Some of us were baptized as older children, youth, or adults; an act of commitment to our own Christian testimony.

However, whether you were baptized as an infant and cannot remember the event, or you were baptized when you were older and entered into this covenant with Christ by your own testimony, there is one part of the Baptismal Covenant that connects us to the early church, to each other, and to all Christians around the world.

After the candidates repeat their vows, or the parents do on behalf of the infant, the celebrant turns to the congregation and ask this question, "Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?"

And we as the Body of Christ respond, "We will."

Then we, the Church, join with our newly baptized brothers and sisters in renewing our own Baptismal Covenant. It is a holy moment. A moment in which we dedicate our lives to Christ once more and we dedicate our hearts to helping the newly baptized and all Christians in their journey in Christ. This communal affirmation of faith is one of the main reasons that Baptisms are not private events. We join together to celebrate, affirm, and dedicate our hearts anew to Christ and to each other.

That is the beauty of the Body of Christ.

May 2026 bring us all into a deeper awareness of our familial bonds as children of our Heavenly Father at St Mary's. And may these bonds of faith strengthen our love, respect, and support of each other and our beautiful parish home.  
Amen.

In Christ,  
Mother Leanne+



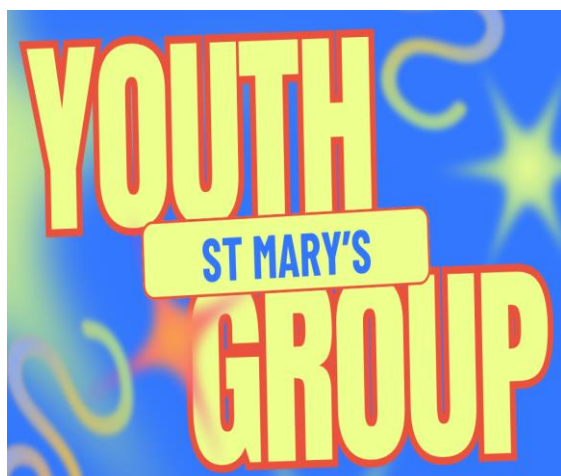


**UTO**--The Episcopal Church's United Thank Offering is a personal discipline of thanksgiving and gratitude that supports God's mission throughout the world. The goal of UTO is to give thanks always, everywhere and in all things by placing coins or bills into your UTO box; remembering the things you are thankful for throughout the day.

St Mary's in-gathering will be held Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at both services.

Bring your filled box with loose change as we offer our 'thankfulness' by means of a noisy offering! Checks may be made out to the "St. Mary's" with UTO on the memo line.

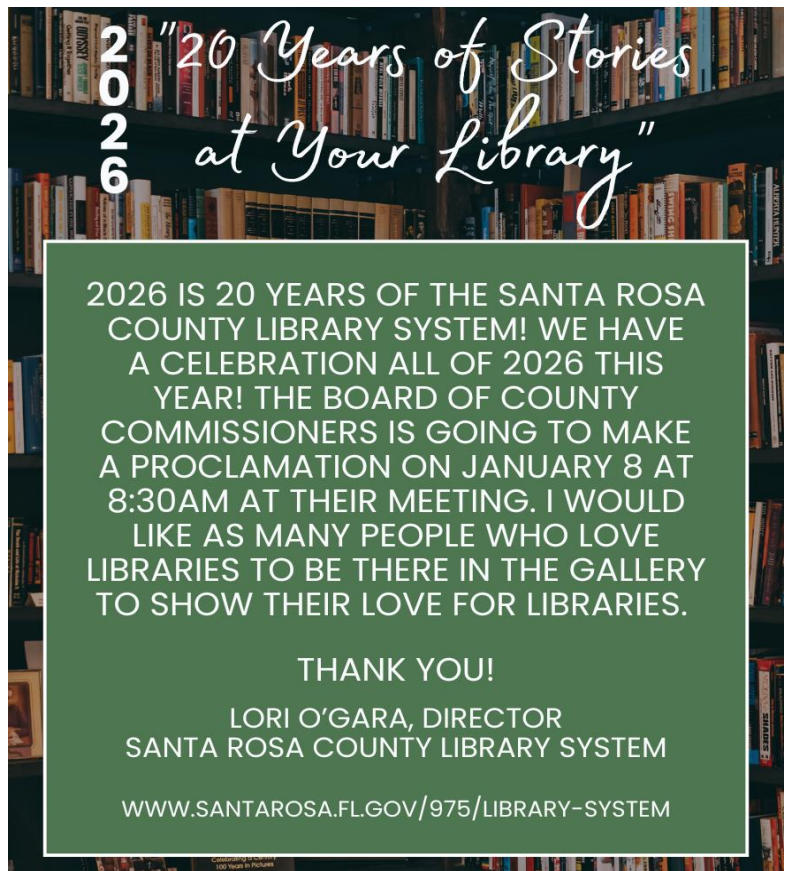
Find more information on UTO at the [Episcopal Church Ministries website](http://www.episcopalchurchministries.org).



**YOUTH GROUP starts back up January 7<sup>th</sup>!** All Youth ages 10 to 17 are invited to attend St. Mary's Youth Group every Wednesday evening with snacks/food at 5:30pm followed by activities and a lesson discussion.

**How can you help support the youth of St. Mary's?** Kids love to gather and eat! Donations of snacks, chips, soda, bottle water, desserts, pizza, or financial donations to provide a meal, are very much appreciated.





2026 "20 Years of Stories  
at Your Library"

2026 IS 20 YEARS OF THE SANTA ROSA COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM! WE HAVE A CELEBRATION ALL OF 2026 THIS YEAR! THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IS GOING TO MAKE A PROCLAMATION ON JANUARY 8 AT 8:30AM AT THEIR MEETING. I WOULD LIKE AS MANY PEOPLE WHO LOVE LIBRARIES TO BE THERE IN THE GALLERY TO SHOW THEIR LOVE FOR LIBRARIES.

THANK YOU!

LORI O'GARA, DIRECTOR  
SANTA ROSA COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

[WWW.SANTAROSA.FL.GOV/975/LIBRARY-SYSTEM](http://WWW.SANTAROSA.FL.GOV/975/LIBRARY-SYSTEM)

**Community Event**—Join Santa Rosa County Libraries in the celebration of “20 years of Stories at Your Library”.

For more information visit the [Library website](#) or speak to Lori O’Gara  
[lorileighogara@outlook.com](mailto:lorileighogara@outlook.com)



St Mary's  
**Medical  
and Safety  
Training**

**Join Us!**

Training provided by  
the Santa Rosa County  
Sheriff's Office.

Learn CPR, First Aid,  
Stop Trauma Bleeds,  
and AED application  
and use.

A discussion on church  
campus safety will  
also be included.

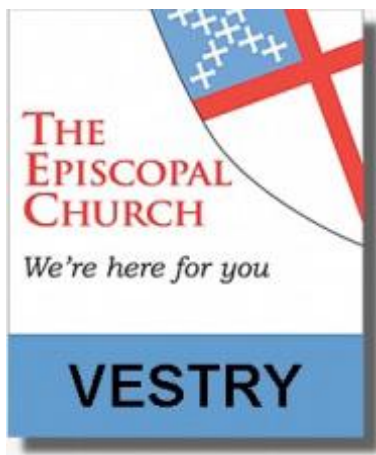
**Saturday,  
January 24th,  
8:30am to 1:00pm  
in Parish Hall**

**Sign-in & Breakfast at 8:30am  
Program 9:00am - 1:00pm**

Register at:  
[https://StMarysSafetyMedical  
Training.eventbrite.com](https://StMarysSafetyMedicalTraining.eventbrite.com)  
or contact the St Mary's office  
[stmarysmiltonflorida@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmiltonflorida@gmail.com)  
or 850-623-2905

Doors open at 8:30am with the training starting at 9am sharp.

[Register HERE](#)



The St. Mary's Vestry will meet  
January 27, 5:30pm in the Rectory.

## January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday
				<sup>1</sup> New Year's Day Office Closed	<sup>2</sup> Office Closed	<sup>3</sup>
<u>Epiphany</u> <sup>4</sup> <u>9am</u> H. E. Rt. II <u>10am</u> Breakfast Men's Group <u>11am</u> H. E. Rt II  <u>1pm</u> Evangelism Lay School	<sup>5</sup> <u>9am</u> Food Pantry Volunteer Morning	<sup>6</sup> <u>10am</u> Rectory Cleanup!	<sup>7</sup> <u>9am</u> Pantry Vols. <u>10:15am</u> Centering Prayer <u>11am</u> Bible Study <u>Noon</u> H.E. Rt II & Prayer <u>5:30pm</u> Choir <u>5:30pm</u> Youth <u>6:30pm</u> Bell Choir	<sup>8</sup> <u>8am</u> Food Pantry Distribution	<sup>9</sup> Office Closed	<sup>10</sup>
<sup>11</sup> <u>Baptism of Our Lord</u> <u>9am</u> H. E. Rt. II Daughters of the King meeting <u>10am</u> Breakfast ECW <u>11am</u> H. E. Rt II <u>Noon</u> Creative Ministry Mtg-Hall <u>1pm</u> Lay School	<sup>12</sup> <u>9am</u> Food Pantry Volunteer Morning	<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup> <u>9am</u> Pantry Vols. <u>10:15am</u> Centering Prayer <u>11am</u> Bible Study <u>Noon</u> H.E. Rt II & Prayer <u>5:30pm</u> Choir <u>5:30pm</u> Youth <u>6:30pm</u> Bell Choir	<sup>15</sup> <u>8am</u> Food Pantry Distribution	<sup>16</sup> Office Closed  School for Ministry	<sup>17</sup> School for Ministry  Pastoral Care Lay School
<sup>18</sup> <u>9am</u> H. E. Rt. II <u>10am</u> Breakfast Potluck ECW & Men's mtg <u>11am</u> H. E. Rt II &	<sup>19</sup> <u>Office Closed</u> in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr Day  <u>9am</u> Food Pantry Volunteer Morning	<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup> <u>9am</u> Pantry Vols. <u>10:15am</u> Centering Prayer <u>11am</u> Bible Study <u>Noon</u> H.E. Rt II & Prayer <u>5:30pm</u> Choir <u>5:30pm</u> Youth <u>6:30pm</u> Bell Choir	<sup>22</sup> <u>8am</u> Food Pantry Distribution	<sup>23</sup> Office Closed	<sup>24</sup> <u>9am</u> -Safety & Medical Training  <u>10-Noon</u> Dr. Campbell
<sup>25</sup> <u>UTO Noisy</u> <u>Offering</u> <u>9am</u> H. E. Rt. II <u>10am</u> Breakfast Vestry & DOK ECW & Men's mtg <u>11am</u> H. E. Rt II &	<sup>26</sup> <u>9am</u> Food Pantry Volunteer Morning	<sup>27</sup>  <u>5:30pm</u> Vestry meeting	<sup>28</sup> <u>9am</u> Pantry Vols. <u>10:15am</u> Centering Prayer <u>11am</u> Bible Study <u>Noon</u> H.E. RtlI & Prayer <u>5:30pm</u> Choir <u>5:30pm</u> Youth <u>6:30pm</u> Bell Choir	<sup>29</sup> <u>8am</u> Food Pantry Distribution	<sup>30</sup> Office Closed	<sup>31</sup>

H. E =Holy Eucharist Rt.II=Rite Two



## Episcopal Church Women

All women of St. Mary's are invited  
to meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month  
for the ECW meeting.

**Volunteer Opportunities for Feeding the 5000** ministry include helping to unload, sort, and pack food every Monday and Wednesday at 9am, in the hall or help every Thursday with the food distribution to the community members who come to our drive through food pantry. For more information speak with Wayne Keen or call the church office. 850-417-5918

## FEEDING THE 5,000

The St Mary's Food Pantry is projected to feed 5,000 people this year!

**How you can help:**

Prayers, Volunteering,  
Food Donations, and Monetary Gifts



The first Sunday of each month at St Mary's will now be honored as "**Feeding the 5,000 Sunday**".

Please help those we serve by bringing nonperishable food items to our worship services on the first Sunday of each month. All food items are welcome and appreciated! We will also offer one "greatly needed" item each month. **This month it is canned meats.**

Please fill our little red wagon with food items on the first Sunday of the month so that our children can bring the wagon forward for Prayers of Blessings during the 11:00am service.

Thank you for helping to serve those most in need in our community.





**The Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast**  
*The Rt. Rev. James Russell Kendrick,*  
*Bishop*

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
 The Rev. Leanne Beaumont, Rector  
 850-623-2905  
[prieststmarys@gmail.com](mailto:prieststmarys@gmail.com)

Vestry:  
 Heather Lindsay--Sr. Warden-  
 850- [dragonflypuma@gmail.com](mailto:dragonflypuma@gmail.com)

Ann Cole—2027  
 850-516-1775 [sailo328@yahoo.com](mailto:sailo328@yahoo.com)

Julia Hotmer-Drao—2027  
 518-596-4000 [hottermurphy@gmail.com](mailto:hottermurphy@gmail.com)

Melodie Rowland—2028  
 850-291-4694 [musicodiemel@gmail.com](mailto:musicodiemel@gmail.com)

### January Birthdays

1/04 Angel Zandikarimi  
 1/06 Jennifer Reeves  
 1/07 Chuck Sturtevant  
 1/08 Mimi Hamilton  
 1/08 Beverly Samuelson  
 1/08 Shirley Henning  
 1/09 Joel Hamilton  
 1/13 Christopher Palmer  
 1/17 Jane Martin  
 1/25 Joe Xenos  
 1/28 Heather Lindsay

### January Anniversaries

1/07 Mimi & Joel Hamilton  
 1/07 Rudman & Mimi Stevens  
 1/16 Nikki & David Presley

If we missed your special day, please  
 email the church office to be added to  
 the Birthday/Anniversary list.

### Prayer Requests

#### Family

Alec Garza  
 Beverly Younce  
 Carol Culton  
 Dotty Johnson  
 Glenda Artinger  
 Gina Braswell  
 Jack Bilbo  
 Jim Longshore  
 Jesse & Jennifer Reeves  
 Janette Grey-Cusack  
 Kimberly Olafson  
 Robert Lenzo  
 Sam Klauss  
 Scott DeLoatch  
 Sylvia Stern  
 Vicki Blackmon

#### Our Friends

George Morado  
 Kelley & Pam Edding  
 Mary Raisler  
 Mike Schele

#### Military

Bradley James  
 Cade Campbell  
 Gabriel Bustillo  
 Caleb Parks  
 Christopher Vance  
 Edward Estrada  
 Fischer Morgan Lay  
 Gage  
 Kevin Murphy  
 Lena Ryan  
 Leo  
 Lou Andrade  
 Joshua Krause  
 Nick Rinaire  
 Phillip Holmes  
 Taylor Emerson  
 Tyler Hart  
 Tom Ryan

Names are kept on  
 the prayer list for 30  
 days. If a name needs  
 to stay on the list,  
 please submit a  
 prayer card found in

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
 6841 Oak Street, Milton, Florida 32570  
 Office: 850-623-2905

Sunday Services at 9am & 11am. Wednesday Service at Noon  
*"To build up one another in Christ."*

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:30am to 1pm  
 email: [stmarysmiltonflorida@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmiltonflorida@gmail.com)  
 website: <http://www.stmarysmilton.org>

*All are welcome!*