

St. Mary's Church

Bedford & North Castle



ST. MARY'S CHURCH 2021 – CELEBRATING COMMUNITY & RESILIENCE

Constructed in 1852 by local farmers and tradesmen in need of a place to worship in their rural neighborhood, today St. Mary's Church carries on this tradition of community and fellowship. Through last year's difficult circumstances, St. Mary's enduring presence provided comfort, connection and calm. Like everyone, we look forward to once again congregating in person in 2021!

In May, we're delighted to welcome back Mark Weigel for our traditional music service, to be held outdoors on the lawn. Mark grew up playing music in school and with his family and friends. In college, he played in acoustic groups and rock bands at clubs for extra spending money. Mark now sings and plays in bands around Bedford.

In June, we welcome two members of St. Mary's Church Vestry, Bill Foulke and Holly Brown, who will gather neighbors of several generations and share their silver linings from the past year.

In September, Rod Christie, longtime Executive Director of Mianus River Gorge will discuss how our local natural environments are changing, affecting how they are valued.

October ushers in two services. First, on the 17th, our traditional joint service with St. Matthew's and the Antioch Baptist Church in Bedford Hills, hosted by our friends at Antioch, and led by their Pastor Merle McJunkin. The second service, a week later, we welcome back the Reverend Susan Wyper, who currently serves as Associate Rector of Saint Luke's Parish in Darien, CT. Rev. Wyper spent her prior nine years at St. Matthew's Church and has a strong attachment to Bedford.

We're delighted to have the Reverend John Zahl, Rector of both St. Mary's and St. Matthew's, lead our traditional Thanksgiving Eve service on November 24th.

Finally, we close out the year with our annual Christmas service on December 23rd, where we will be led in service by Antioch's Pastor Merle McJunkin and joined by members of the wonderful Antioch Baptist choir. This year we will host two separate Christmas services - one outdoors on the lawn (or snow) at 3pm, followed by a second indoors at 5:30pm.

OUR 2021 SERVICES

Sunday, May 23, 5:30 pm

*Annual Music service: Mark Weigel
Singer & Songwriter*

Sunday, June 13, 5:30 pm

*Holly Brown &
Bill Foulke: Reflections on Covid's Silver Linings*

Sunday, September 19, 5:30 pm

*Rod Christie
Exec. Director, Mianus River Gorge*

Sunday, October 17, 10:45 am

*Joint Service at Antioch Baptist Church
Bedford Hills*

Sunday, October 24, 5:30 pm

*Susan Wyper
Associate Rector, St. Luke's, Darien*

Wednesday, November 24, 5:30 pm

*Thanksgiving Eve
The Reverend John Zahl*

Thursday, December 23, 3:00 pm & 5:30 pm

*Christmas Service – Two services this year!
Pastor McJunkin*

Our Address:

197 Hickory Kingdom Road, Bedford, NY
at the junction of
Hickory Kingdom & East Middle Patent Roads

ST. MARY'S CHURCH – STEWARDSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

In late spring 2021, St. Mary's will embark on a major restoration of our magnificent double-hung wood windows. The 20-over-20 windows, original to the 1852 structure, are in deteriorated condition. Restoration work will entail temporary removal of the windows off site for repair which will include replacing missing wood muntins and glazing putty, installing period-correct historic glass where it is missing; and replacing failing hardware. In addition, the original exterior louvered wood shutters will be restored and repainted.

Also later this spring, look for St. Mary's website, www.stmaryschurchbedfordny.org, to go live. There you will find our 2021 Calendar of Services, a brief history of the church, information about booking private services, and opportunities to support and contribute to St. Mary's.



ANNUAL MUSIC SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 23—5:30 P.M. OUTSIDE ON THE LAWN

Mark Weigel, well-known singer/songwriter, performs with bands around town and is a regular musician at St Matthew's services.

This will be Mark's first public performance in nearly a year, so be ready for an explosion of energy! He'll bring some of his original music--including a new song he wrote for his wife's 50th birthday-- as well as some of his classic favorites. Please come and bring your singing voices for some sing-alongs and foot stompin' fun.



MULTI GENERATION PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON THIS PAST YEAR

SUNDAY, JUNE 13—5:30 P.M.

Holly Brown, a member of St. Mary's Vestry, is an educational consultant at Dunbar Consultants, a part time barre instructor, and a mom of three children: 21, 18 and 15. Vestry member Bill Foulke is a retired international banker. He works with two nature preserves and an ecologically-focused college. He and his wife Wendy have 9 grandchildren ranging from ages 10 to 22. Holly and Bill will be joined by three additional neighbors of different generations to share their stories as well.



ROD CHRISTIE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT MIANUS RIVER GORGE

*HOW OUR LOCAL NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS ARE CHANGING,
AND HOW DOES THIS AFFECT HOW THEY ARE VALUED?*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19—5:30 P.M.

Rod heads up the Mianus River Gorge, the not-for-profit nature preserve and conservation organization that protects and manages over 1,100 acres of land in the Mianus River Watershed. The ecosystem processes occurring here help maintain clean, abundant drinking water for over 130,000 people in Greenwich, Stamford, CT, and Rye, Rye Brook, and Port Chester, NY. He has more than 40 years of experience leading not-for-profits and incorporating science, research and education into land, wildlife, and natural resource protection efforts.



SUSAN WYPER

ASSOCIATE RECTOR OF SAINT LUKE'S PARISH IN DARIEN, CT.

OCTOBER 27—5:30 P.M.

The Rev. Susan Wyper currently serves as Associate Rector of Saint Luke's Parish in Darien, CT. However, her prior nine years at St. Matthew's in Bedford carved deep and lasting grooves in her soul. Susan is looking forward to following those grooves back to the church at the intersection of Middle Patent and Hickory Kingdom. Like a big X that marks treasure, St. Mary's is written in red letters on her heart's map.



TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE- THE REVEREND JOHN ZAHL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24—5:30 P.M.

For our traditional Thanksgiving Service, we welcome again the Reverend John Zahl, the Rector of both St. Matthew's and St. Mary's. A strong spiritual leader in our community, John will lead this historic service, filled with seasonal readings and hymns. He has been an innovator throughout Covid, opening up new technology that provided a continuity of uplifting, supportive messages throughout this difficult time and is definitely the perfect person to preside over this thankful service.



*St. Mary's is available for
weddings, baptisms,
memorial services and
community meetings.*

*Please Call:
Tina Foster
914-282-3054*

*A calendar of services at
St. Mary's is always posted
on the bulletin board in
front of the church.*

OUR FESTIVE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23—

3:00 P.M. OUTSIDE ON THE LAWN (DRESS WARMLY)

5:30 P.M. INSIDE

There is no better way to get into the holiday spirit than to attend the traditional St. Mary's annual Christmas service of lessons and carols. St. Mary's welcomes back Merle McJunkin, Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, our own Earl Brown on the organ, and Earlena Thevenin leading the congregation in holiday song. A marvelous and moving service, and a strong celebration of spirit.





St. Mary's Church
 P.O. Box 701
 Bedford, NY 10506

**Your Community Church
 Around the Corner
 Services Start May 23**



**A Beautiful
 Community Church**

St. Mary's is supported entirely by voluntary contributions which are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Checks payable to "St. Mary's Church" may be mailed to St. Mary's Church, PO Box 701 Bedford, NY 10506

**THE ANNUAL JOINT SERVICE -
 ST. MARY'S, ST. MATTHEW'S & ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCHES
 ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH,
 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 10:45 AM**

Join us for a wonderful celebration of true community spirit, as three churches gather together for a joy-filled, music-filled service! The congregations of St. Mary's, St. Matthew's and the Antioch Baptist Church worship side-by-side in a special service at Antioch in Bedford Hills. The energy of fellowship that arises from these gatherings fills us with joy and is a highlight of our spiritual year. Reverend Merle McJunkin from Antioch and Reverend John Zahl from St. Matthew's will lead the service together; however, it is the Antioch choir that isn't to be missed!



OUR ST. MARY'S VESTRY

The Rev. John A. Zahl	Christine P. Foster	Terry Long
Stacy Albanese, Senior Warden	William G. Foulke, Jr.	John Needham
Piers MacDonald, Junior Warden	Emily Grand	Mike Paletta
Earl Brown	Anthony C. Godino	Christopher Robinson
Holly Brown	Margaret C. Gregg	Nancy Steiner
Mary Farley	Katherine Hall	John Stockbridge
Nicholas Firth	Andre A. Hunter	Melissa Vail