

# St. Mary's Episcopal Church

39TH AVENUE & MARYLAND PHOENIX, ARIZONA

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 14 DECEMBER 2025, 10:30 A.M. Sung Mass

### Welcome to St. Mary's!

We are very glad you are with us today. No matter who you are, where you have come from, or where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here. If you are new to Episcopal liturgy, we hope this leaflet will be helpful in your participation, and that over time this liturgy and our service to God will become more familiar to you. Please participate as you feel comfortable. If you have any questions about our liturgy, the Episcopal Church, or St. Mary's, please speak with Mother Samantha.

# Preparing for Worship

Please silence all cellular devices as we prepare to enter this time of communal prayer. The complete Order of Mass is found in this leaflet including readings from Holy Scripture. Portions spoken by the people are in bold print.

If you are a visitor today, we invite you to fill out a welcome card and introduce yourself to one of the clergy following Mass today. You are welcome at St. Mary's every day. If you are looking for a parish home, we hope you will find one here.

The rose vestments worn at today's Mass are a gift to the parish by Br. Jeffrey Shy cos, to the glory of God and in memory of his mother, Eileen Marie Henderson Shy.

MUSIC OF THE MASS

The setting of the Ordinary of the Mass is the *Missa Marialis (Mass IX)* adapted by Charles Winifred Douglas (1867-1944).

We invite all to keep a prayerful atmosphere in the Church before Mass.

# The Word of God

At the sound of the bell, all rise as the choir sings the

Introit: Gaudete in Domino

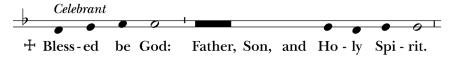
Tone VII

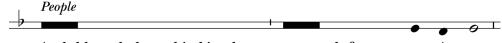
+ Rejoice ye in the Lord, and again I say, rejoice ye; let your moderation be known unto all men, the Lord is at hand: be careful for nothing, nor troubled; but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving; let your requests be known unto God. *Ps.* Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land: thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. Glory be. Rejoice ye in the Lord.

IN PROCESSION: HYMN 640

Aberystwyth

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION





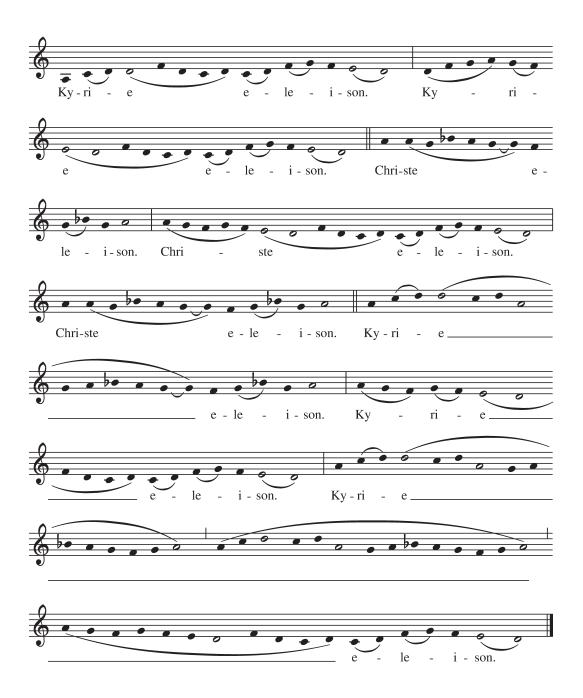
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

### THE COLLECT OF PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come

among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and

glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The People are seated for the Readings and the Psalm.

#### THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4-9

sung by Schola Cantorum

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \* whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \* who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \* and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*

the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous;

the Lord cares for the stranger; \*

he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign for ever, \*

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

Hallelujah!

THE EPISTLE James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble, brethren, against one another, that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the doors. As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The People stand for the Gradual Hymn and the Gospel.

For the Gradual, Hymn 76

Winchester New

Alleluia Excita, Domine

Tone VI

Alleluia. Alleluia. V. Stir up thy strength, O Lord: and come and help us. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant ++ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Celebrant Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent

word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or

shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses. Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,who shall prepare thy way before thee.' Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Celebrant People The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated for the Sermon.

THE SERMON Heaven and Hell Mtr. Christopher

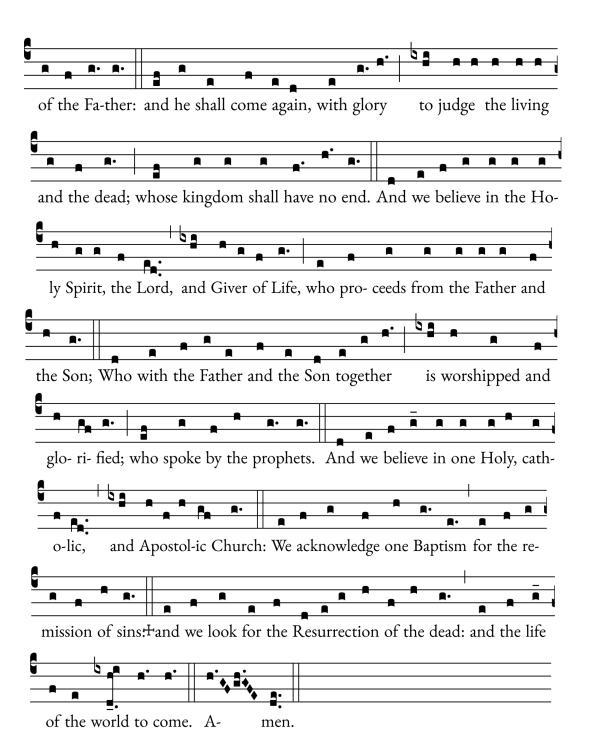
All stand to sing the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed Credo I



en and earth, and of all things vis-i-ble and invis-i- ble. And in one Lord





#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

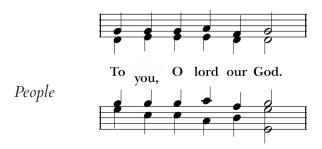
Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

After each petition, the People respond,



Intercessor

In the communion of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.



The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel, as able.

People Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we

have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, + forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The People stand to exchange the peace.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All may greet each other in the name of the Lord. All are seated for the welcome and notices.

# The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says an offertory sentence. As the Altar is prepared, a collection is taken to support the work and ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. An offering may be made via PayPal via the QR code below. Thank you for supporting God's mission in this parish.



Offertory Benedixisti, Domine

Tone II

O Lord thou art become gracious unto thy land; thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob: thou hast forgive the offence of thy people.

# At the Offertory, Anthem Come, Lord Jesus

- Come Lord, Jesus, great Redeemer, Light of Morning, Prince of Peace. We will be Thy children ever. Dry our tears; may weeping cease. Come in glory; come again. Come to us to rule and reign. Ready us to kneel and greet Thee. Come, Lord Jesus, come!
- Come, Lord Jesus, to the wounded—Broken heart and bended knee. Worthy Lamb, Thy love unbounded, Bid our souls to rest in thee. Grant us mercy, Savior, King; Come with healing in Thy wings. Come, Lord Jesus, to the wounded. Come, Lord Jesus, Come!
- Come, Lord Jesus, to the manger. May we see Thy tender face—Great Creator, here a stranger, Infant in this humble place. Darkness scatter; morning swell. Come, dear Lord Immanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, to the manger. Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Text: Savior of the World: His Birth and Resurrection, 2000; alt. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Music: David A. Zabriskie, 2000.

The People stand.

At the Offertory, Hymn 615

St. Flavian

The people remain standing

### ORATE, FRATRES

Celebrant Pray siblings, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to the Lord our

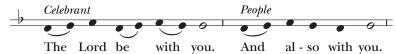
God.

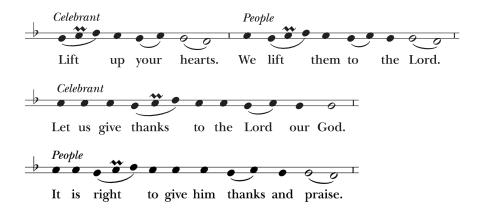
People May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise

and glory of his Name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church.

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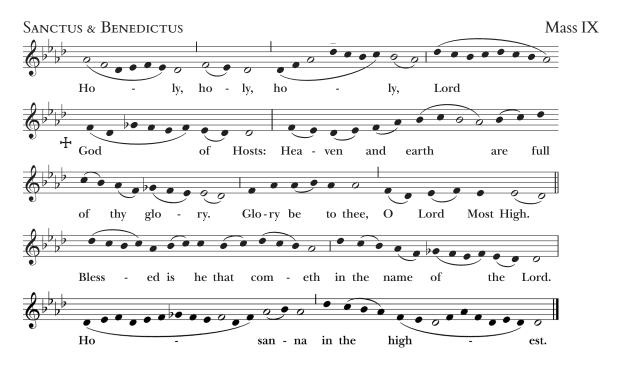
# Sursum Corda





The Celebrant continues with the appointed preface. The People sing the Sanctus & Benedictus.

Celebrant ...who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

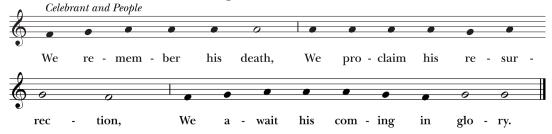


The People kneel as able.

#### THE CANON OF THE MASS

The Celebrant continues with Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP 367-369). At the appropriate time following the words of institution, the people sing the Memorial Acclamation.

Celebrant Therefore, according to his command, O Father,



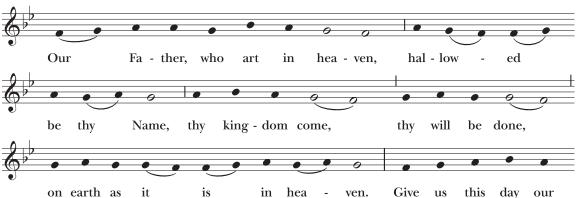
The Celebrant continues the prayer, concluding with:

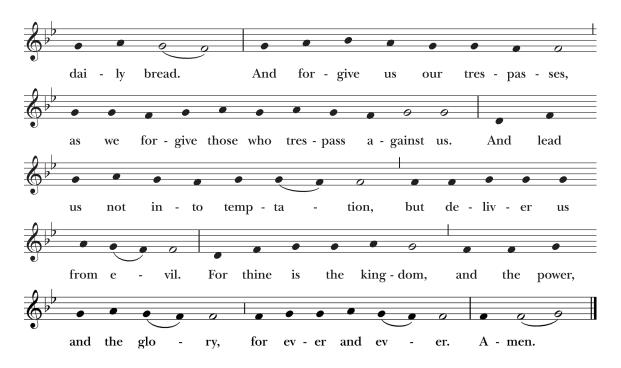
Celebrant ...by him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



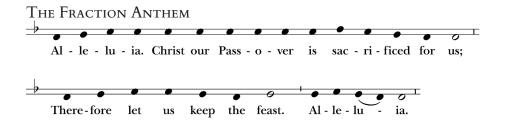
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

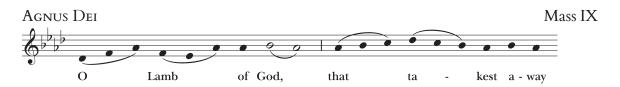


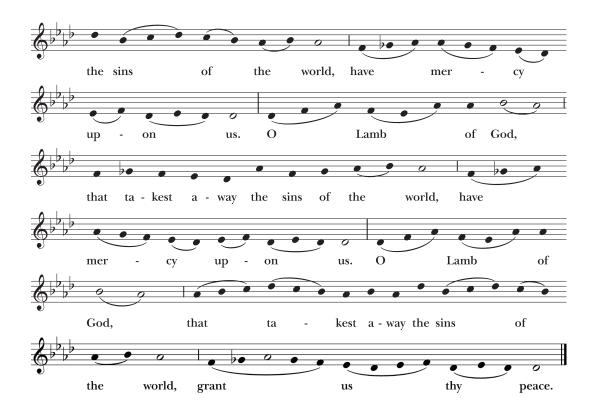


The consecrated Bread is broken, and a moment of silence is kept. Then, the Priest and People sing responsively



As the second Chalice is prepared, the Priest and People sing





The Celebrant then invites the people to communion with the following.

Celebrant + Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.

People Lord, I am not worthy to receive you; but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you are not receiving the Sacrament, cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will offer a blessing. To receive the Bread, please place one hand on the other and raise them so that the Priest may place a Host in your open palm. To receive the Wine, please gently guide the chalice to your lips. Please do not intinct (dip) the Host in the Chalice. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your hands over your chest as the minister with the Wine approaches. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please notify one of the ushers so that the Priest may bring the Sacrament to you. Healing prayer is available in the Chapel.

At the Communion, Antiphon: *Dicite: Pusillanimes*Say to them that are of a fearful heart: be strong, fear not, behold your God will come and save you.

Mode I

### At the Communion, Prose Rorate, cæli

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

- Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. *Drop down*.
- We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Drop down*.
- 3 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that you may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Drop down*.
- 4 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Drop down*.

### At the Ablutions, Hymn 437

Birmingham

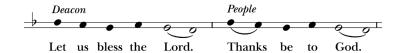
After the hymn, the People kneel and pray together.

### THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

#### The Blessing and Dismissal

Following the blessing, all stand for the dismissal.



At the Procession, Hymn 54 Voluntary:

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

We invite all to join us for light refreshments in the Parish Hall following Mass.

#### Parish Calendar

Meetings

Bible Study Tuesday at 6 p.m., online Vestry February 8, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.

UBE Saturday, January 2 at 10 a.m., online.

Email ubeaz.exec@gmail.com for the meeting link.

Twelve-Step Meetings

NA Nightly at 10:00 p.m.
AA Mon-Sat at Midnight
CMA Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
MA Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

# Monday, December 15-Nino of Georgia, Missionary, c. 332

The Diocese of Saint Helena: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa Morning Prayer at 9 a.m.

Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.

### Tuesday, December 16-Feria

The Diocese of Saint Mark the Evanglist: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.

# Wednesday, December 17-Ember Day

The Diocese of Saldanha Bay: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.

# Thursday, December 18-Feria

The Diocese of Salisbury: The Church of England

Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.

# Friday, December 19-Ember Day

The Diocese of El Salvador: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America Morning Prayer at 9 a.m.

Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.

# Saturday, December 20-Ember Day

The Diocese of Sambalpur: The Church of North India (United)

Low Mass, Rite I at 9:30 a.m.

#### Notices

# Advent and Christmas at St. Mary's

Advent is here! Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

Sunday, December 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Children's Pageant with Holy Communion

Monday, December 22 at 6 p.m.

Low Mass for St. Thomas, Apostle

### Wednesday, December 24

Musical Prelude at 9 p.m.

First Mass of the Nativity of our Lord at 9:30 p.m. (Sermon by Mtr. Christopher)

Thursday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Mass of the Nativity of our Lord (Sermon by Canon Clark)

#### 2025 Donations

If you would like your contribution to be deductible on your 2025 taxes, please ensure it is in the parish office by December 31.

#### Parish Office Nominations

Nominations for the offices of Junior Warden, Vestry Member, and Delegate to Diocesan Convention are now open. Please see the *Angelus* for more details.

### Parish Prayer List

We pray for the Church; for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury-elect; Sean, our Primate; Jennifer, our Bishop; Samantha, our Priest-in-Charge; and for Frank, our Priest Associate. We pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil; Saint Anthony on the Desert, Scottsdale; the Diocese of Navajoland, and for our companion dioceses, the Diocese of Western Mexico and the Diocese of Upper Southern Nyanza-Kisii.

We pray for the people of St. Mary's; for the Congregation of Santa Maria and their vicar, Susana; for the members of the Society of Catholic Priests and their parishes; for monastics and their communities, especially Jeffrey and the Community of Solitude, Lee and the Anglican Order of Preachers, the Community of Francis and Claire, and the Oblates of the Servants of Christ; and for all discerning a vocation to religious life, especially Robin.

We pray for our leaders, for Donald, President; J.D., Vice-President; Katie, Governor of Arizona; Kate, Mayor of Phoenix; and the courts and legislature; We pray for peace among the peoples of the earth.

We pray for those who have asked for our prayers, especially Emilia, Susan, Michelle, Franklin, Amber, Darren, Hugh, Maggie, Anna May, Joe, Phyllis, Pat, Cheak, Carol, Lynn, Mary, Junie, Lorraine, Jacqueline, Phillip, Betty, Liz, Erfel, Harrison, Bruce, Jacob, Eric, Rachel, Scott, Nana Lupe, Kaymalin, Patricia, Kalli, and members of the recovery groups which meet at St. Mary's.

We pray for those facing the end of life, especially Kim; those on death row, especially Stacey and Frank; and for an end to the death penalty. We pray for all who have died, especially Mark and Harold.

### THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, PHOENIX

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Phoenix, AZ 85019
(602) 354-7540 + stmarysphoenix.org
e-mail: office@stmarysphoenix.org

#### THE PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Samantha J. Christopher scp, *Priest-in-Charge clergy@stmarysphoenix.org* 

Karen Dura, Parish Administrator and Treasurer karen@stmarysphoenix.org

The Rev. Canon Frank Clark, Priest Associate
Br. Lee Hughes op, Homiletical Associate
Br. Jeffrey Shy cos, Organist & Choirmaster
Lynn Boddy, Children's Minister
Michael Gaines, Sexton

#### THE VESTRY AND WARDENS

Adam Sanders, Senior Warden
Renée Zambuto, Junior Warden
Paula Street
Br. Lee Hughes op
Mary Kellerman
Robin Drain
Gerica Rayas, Building and Grounds Chair