



St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

28 December 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas is not just one day on the calendar; Christmas is an entire season of the Church's liturgical year. The season of Christmas Time or Christmastide begins with Vespers on Christmas Eve and ends with Vespers on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, this year on Sunday 11 January. And along the way, Christmastide includes the Solemnities of the Maternity of Mary and the Epiphany and, among others, the memorials of the first martyrs: the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem and St. Stephen, murdered at the feet of St. Paul.

Moreover, as with Easter, Christmas Day is not simply one 24 hour period; rather, Christmas Day is celebrated for eight consecutive days, an Octave, from 25 December to 1 January, on which we rejoice that blessed Mary, Ever Virgin, is the Mother of God. And when the Octave of Christmas includes a Sunday, as it does this year, then that Sunday is kept as the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and one of the places he visited was the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth. There he gave an address which spoke about the theme of today's celebration:

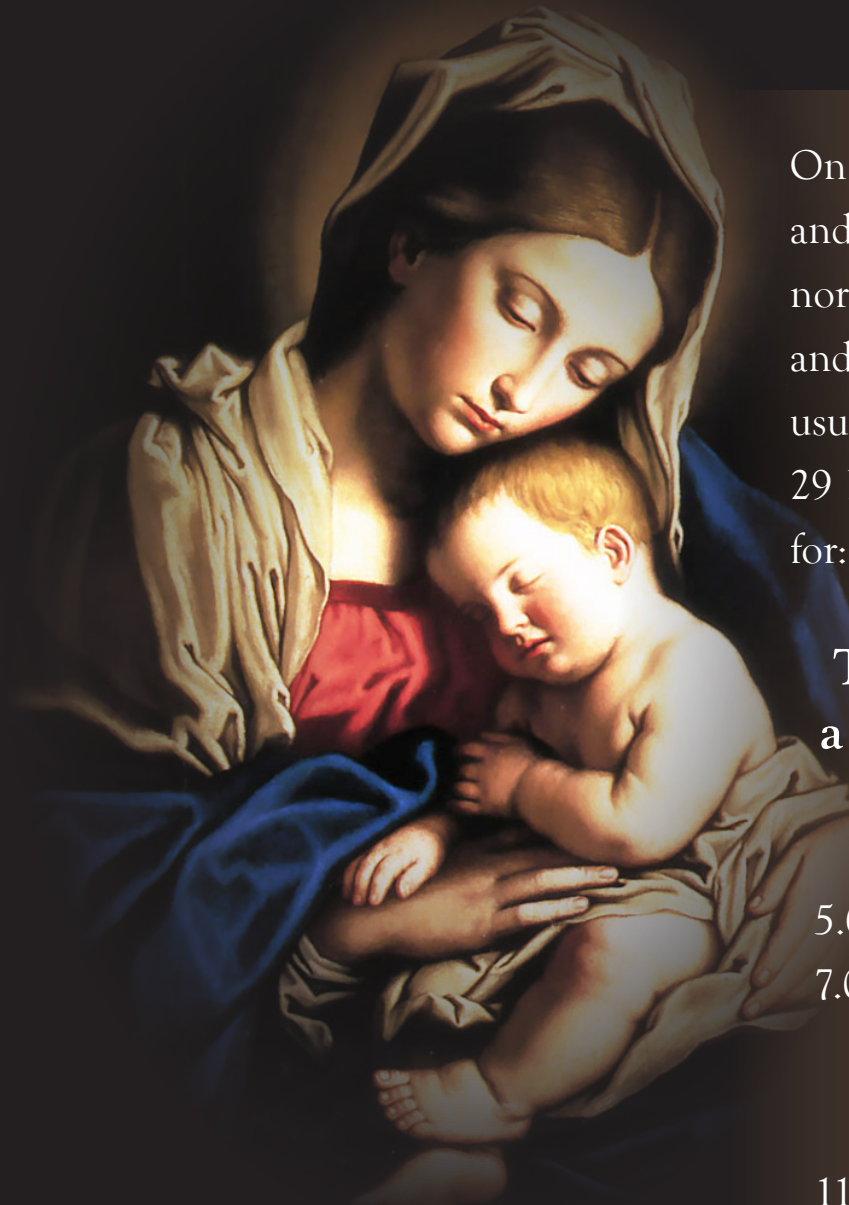
"Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand his Gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God's Son came to be known, profound and full of hidden meaning. And gradually we may even learn to imitate him.

"Here we can learn to realize who Christ really is. And here we can sense and take account of the conditions and circumstances that surrounded and affected his life on earth: the places, the tenor of the times, the culture, the language, religious customs, in brief everything which Jesus used to make himself known to the world. Here everything speaks to us, everything has meaning. Here we can learn the importance of spiritual discipline for all who wish to follow Christ and to live by the teachings of his Gospel.

"The silence of Nazareth should teach us how to meditate in peace and quiet, to reflect on the deeply spiritual, and to be open to the voice of God's inner wisdom and the counsel of his true teachers. Nazareth can teach us the value of study and preparation, of meditation, of a well-ordered personal spiritual life, and of silent prayer that is known only to God."

In the midst of this Christmastide, let us all learn from the Holy Family how to live together in forgiveness, mutual understanding and loving-kindness, and how to place the living God at the center of our lives – as individual disciples, as families, and as a parish, a spiritual family in the Lord Jesus.

Father Newman



On the weekend of 27 December and 28 December, we will have the normal schedule of Confessions and Masses, and we will keep the usual weekday schedule between 29 December and 2 January except for:

**The Solemnity of Mary,
a Holy Day of Obligation**

Wednesday 31 December

5.00 pm Mass in the church

7.00 pm Spanish Mass in the church

Thursday 1 January

11.00 am Mass in the church

On Wednesday 31 December 2014, there will be no Holy Hour at 5 pm.

The church office will close at noon on Wednesday 31 December and reopen on Monday 5 January.

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, 28 December 2014

7.30 am ✱ Genevieve Murtaugh
9.00 am ✱ John Narduzzi
11.00 am Pro populo
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, 29 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Joseph & Irene Konczal

Tuesday, 30 December 2014

7.00 am Gilma Palacio
12.00 noon Ingo Esser Family

Wednesday, 31 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Alex & Irene Stamm
12.00 noon ✱ Thomas Gahan

Holy Day Masses

5.00 pm Pro Populo
7.00 pm Spanish Mass

Thursday, 1 January 2015

11.00 am Special Intention

Friday, 2 January 2015

7.00 am ✱ Deceased Members /
Palacio Arango Family

Saturday, 3 January 2015

5.00 pm ✱ Deceased Members /
Bussemey Family

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 28 December 2014

No Coffee & donuts
3 & 4 Year Olds: No class
No Nursery
No High School Youth Group
No Morning Prayer
9.00 am Scripture Study

Monday, 29 December 2014

Tuesday, 30 December 2014

Wednesday, 31 December 2014

No Holy Hour and Confessions
No Religious Education
No RCIA

Thursday, 1 January 2015

2.30 pm Cenacles/Rosary
3.30 pm Prayer Meeting

Friday, 2 January 2015

6.15 am Morning Prayer (church)
6.30-8.00 am Pillars of Christ
10.00 am Scripture Study Class
3.10-4.45 pm Youth Choir Practice

Saturday, 3 January 2015

8.00-9.00 am Rosary at Grove Road
abortion clinic
3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)

Financial Report

Weekend of 20/21 December

Needed	32,000
Received	32,284
Surplus	284

Poor Box	674
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	832,000
Received	795,953
Shortage	36,047

Electronic Giving: If you want to have direct management of your Electronic Fund Transfer online, you can now do so through the "Manage Your EFT" link on the homepage of our website. For more information or if you have any questions please contact Jennifer Doiron at jennifer.doiron@stmarysgvl.org.



Facebook

'Like' us on Facebook at
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Greenville SC.

* All events in Sacred Heart Hall
unless a location is listed.

Visit us on the web at
www.stmarysgvl.org

Prayer Requests

Please pray for all those who are hospitalized and for all those who are shut-ins, ill or recuperating at home, especially Alan Howard, Alice Howard, Ronald Labbe, Andrew Brett, Cassandra Gomes, Paulina Cruz, Brett Gervais, Judy Byrum, Charles Moran and Susan Sullivan.

Update Your Parish Record

Have you moved recently? Have you changed your phone number and/or disconnected your land line? If either of these is the case for you, please visit the Update Your Parish Record page under Our Parish on the St. Mary's website or call the parish office at 864.271.8422.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

No class. Classes resume 11 January 2015.

Religious Education Grades 1-8

No classes. Classes resume 7 January 2015.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 27/28 December

Support of the Parish & Bishop's Appeal

Wednesday Holy Hour & Confessions

Please Note These Changes

We will not hear Confessions on

Wednesday 31 December 2014

St. Mary's Prayer Chain Ministry

St. Mary's Prayer Chain is a network of parishioners who receive prayer requests by telephone and then pray for those requests. Please call the office at 864.271.8422, ext 127 to submit your requests. Information received will be kept confidential.

Bulletin Submissions

To submit items for the e-bulletin, contact Lisa Watkins at lisa.watkins@stmarysgvl.org. The deadline for items is 12 days prior to the bulletin date.

st. mary's school news

2015-2016 Admissions Testing

St. Mary's School has begun the 2015-2016 *new* family application process for grades K3-8. Admissions testing is required for grades K5-8 and the priority testing dates are:

Saturday 24 January at 9.00 am

Saturday 28 February at 9.00 am

Applications and registration for testing are required.

Please see our website for more information:

www.stmarysgvl.org/our-school/admission-overview/
or

contact Nelle Palms, Director of Admissions
at nelle.palms@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4117

St. Mary's Annual Fund

Give the Gift of a St. Mary's Education!

We are excited to announce that 100% of the Annual Fund donations received by the school will now be directed toward Tuition Assistance.

Please read Sister Mary Sheila's letter to learn more details about our Tuition Assistance programs and how the generous donations of those in our community can provide a Catholic Education to families in need as well as sustain current school families in the case of job loss or illness. To contribute, make checks payable to "St. Mary's School" with "Annual Fund" in the memo line.

To read Sister's letter, visit the "Donations" page on the school website, and select the "Annual Fund Appeal" pdf on that page.

Catholic Days at the Capital

Join Catholics from across South Carolina as they gather in Columbia for Catholic Days at the Capitol on 28 January 2015 from 8 am to noon. This annual event will provide an opportunity to put into action our faith's call to political responsibility and gives the faithful a voice in shaping our state laws.

Location: South Carolina State House
Gervais Street, Columbia, SC 29201

Pre-Registration is required:
Visit sccatholicconference.org.

March for Life

The March for Life in Washington DC will be Thursday 22 January 2015. This is a gathering of people from all over our country who march, pray and educate for the Sanctity of Human Life. There are buses leaving from several locations to attend. If you would like to join us, please contact the Office of Family Life at 803.547.5063 or FamilyLife@catholic-doc.org.

St. Joseph's Catholic School

Admissions Testing
High School Applicants

Priority admissions testing for fall 2015 enrollment is either Saturday 10 January 2015 or Saturday 7 February 2015. A completed application must be on file in the school office prior to testing. For more information, visit www.sj catholic school.org/admissions.

Free Adult Computer Class
Saturday 31 January

A Free Adult Computer Class, sponsored by St. Joseph's Catholic School National Honor Society students, will be held on campus Saturday 31 January 2015 from 10.00 am to 12 Noon. The seminar, which is limited to twenty participants, will help teach adults and senior citizens the basic use of the Internet and computer programs. Call SJCS staff member Melissa Broering, at 234.9009, ext. 120, to register. A student will return the call in mid-January to confirm your spot.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship

Monsignor Charles J. Baum Council #13112 will hold its Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for Boys and Girls ages 9-14 (as of 1/1/15) at St. Mary's Gym on Saturday 17 January at 3.30 pm. Entry forms can be obtained from Miss Megan Soulsby and John McGrath. Secondary school athletes should check with their school athletic director about eligibility. For more information, please contact Mr. John McGrath at 864.292.0475.



CHARLESTON VOCATIONS
Catholic Diocese of Charleston, SC

Website: www.charlestonvocations.com
Facebook: Charleston Vocations
Twitter: ChasVoc
YouTube: Charleston Vocations



Your Servant is Listening.
1 Samuel 3:10

Spring Men's Discernment Retreat
White Oak Retreat Center, SC
February 6-8, 2015

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Mary Magdalene

A key card is required to enter the chapel. If you would like to sign up as an adorer or regular visitor, or just visit for the day, please come to the St. Mary Magdalene parish office Monday - Friday, between 9.00 am and 3.30 pm.

Prince of Peace

Please contact Tom O'Donnell (POP parishioner and Guild coordinator) at 864.610.0588 if you would like to take one of these hours.

Hours in need of an adorer
Monday 4 am
Wednesday 2 am & 11 pm
Thursday 1 am
Friday 4 am & 12 pm
Saturday 3 am



PROUDLY PRO-LIFE WEEKEND

January 9-10, 2015

South Carolina Citizens for Life

Will host the

Proudly Pro-Life Weekend

January 9-10, 2015, Columbia SC

Come show your support for the inalienable right to life



Proudly Pro-Life Dinner

Friday, January 9, 2015

Featured Speaker

Melissa Ohden

Melissa was aborted at seven months and lived to tell about it.

For Ticket Information contact South Carolina Citizens for Life at sccl@sclife.org or (803) 252-5433

Seawell's
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC 29201
\$30 per ticket

Doors Open at 6:00pm, beginning with a silent auction; Dinner Served at 7:00pm

Overnight accommodations available at
Inn at USC Wyndham Garden
Call: (803) 779-7779

Request Special Rate listed under South Carolina Citizens for Life

Stand Up for Life March and Rally

Saturday, January 10, 2015

11:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
12:00 p.m.

Line Up for the March, USC Russell House, Greene Street
March steps off led by Knights of Columbus
Rally begins, State House plaza, Gervais Street side

Music provided by
Joyful Sound
North Greenville University

STUDY

Men's Book Study

Men of Greenville, join your brothers at The Community Tap in a book study of *Be A Man!: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be* by Fr. Larry Richards to rediscover the importance of the spiritual life. Meet at 6.30 pm with discussion from 6.45-8 pm. Contact Dan at 412.651.5333 with questions.

Remaining schedule:

30 December No meeting -Break for Advent

13 January Chapter 8

27 January Chapter 9

10 February Chapter 10

17 February Prayer in Perpetual Adoration Chapel in preparation for Lent, followed by Fat Tuesday Celebration

Women's Book Study

Tuesdays beginning 20 January

Father Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II) published *Love and Responsibility* in 1960, the fruit of his pastoral work, particularly among young people. His analysis of the true meaning of human love is life-transforming and practical, shedding light on real issues between men and women.

Edward Sri unpacks the contents of this great work, making it accessible to every reader. The author emphasizes the down-to-earth nature of *Love and Responsibility*, helping readers appropriate practical information.

Discussion led by Lorena R and Christina C. Questions? Call Christina - 443.986.5945 or Lorena - 843.833.3820.

SERVICE

In an effort to serve those in our community that have unmet technological needs, LVG is announcing an effort to collect your unused technology items. We will be refurbishing items, as needed, and donating them to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for use with those who demonstrate the need for a computer, printer, etc. As most of you are aware, we live in a world with increasing technological needs for education, training, job seeking, and more. This is a need that is out of the reach for many financially.



How to get items to LVG:

- bring your donation to any LVG event
- give your donation to any member of our Leadership Team



Lucis Via Winter Bible Study

The Gospel of Mark

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Upstairs conference room of Sacred Heart Hall

Mondays from 7.00 - 8.30 pm

January to March

Please plan to bring your Bible; many folks use the Ignatius Study Bible.

Readings/homework will be assigned.

Stay tuned to lvgreenville.com for more details as the time draws closer.

Giovanni Calise

"From Clubs to Christ"

Friday 23 January 2015

7.30 pm at Local Cue

30 Orchard Park Drive, Suite 7
Greenville, SC 29615

RSVP on the Facebook event.

National speaker Giovanni C. will share his testimony about why he left the nightclub industry and a \$100,000 job to follow Christ.



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