

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Greenville, South Carolina

13 December 2015

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Jubilee of Mercy began five days ago on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, but today in Rome Pope Francis is opening the Holy Door of his cathedral church, the Basilica of St. John Lateran. And for the first time in our history, the pope has also asked every diocesan bishop in the world to open a Holy Door in his own cathedral church. Even more, however, is the pope's request that each bishop designate several station churches throughout his diocese so that people everywhere will be reminded during the Jubilee of Mercy that anywhere in the world we can all make the journey to the Lord Jesus and in him find the forgiveness of our sins. It is our privilege at St. Mary's to have the Holy Door for the Greenville Deanery, and before the 11 am Mass today a brief ceremony will take place at the bell tower door of the church to designate it as our Holy Door for the Jubilee of Mercy.

Pope Francis has convoked this extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy because of his conviction that more than anything else, the human race is need of mercy - mercy from God and mercy for each other. Our English word mercy comes from the Latin misericordia which comes from the words meaning pity and heart. To have pity in our hearts for others leads us to treat them with compassion and understanding, and it is Christ's love for us that leads to the piercing of his Sacred Heart, from which the cleansing blood and water of the New Covenant pour forth upon the world. The Fourth Eucharistic Prayer of the Roman Missal sets forth the ways in which God's mercy changes the world, and as the Jubilee of Mercy begins, we would do well to ponder these words:

"We give you praise, Father most holy, for you are great, and you have fashioned all your works in wisdom and love. You formed man in your own image and entrusted the whole world to his care, so that in serving you alone, the Creator, he might have dominion over all creatures. And when through disobedience he had lost your friendship, you did not abandon him to the domain of death. For you came in mercy to the aid of all, so that those who seek might find you. Time and again you offered them covenants, and through the prophets taught them to look forward to salvation. And you so loved the world, Father most holy, that in the fullness of time you sent your Only Begotten Son to be our Savior. Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin. To the poor, he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; and to the sorrowful of heart, joy. To accomplish your plan, he gave himself up to death, and rising from the dead, he destroyed death and restored life. And that we might live no longer for ourselves but for him who died and rose again for us, he sent the Holy Spirit from you, Father, as the first fruits for those who believe, so that bringing to perfection his work in the world, he might sanctify creation to the full."

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.



Jubilee Year of Mercy 8 December 2015 - 20 November 2016

Indulgences and the Year of Mercy

Definition of and Conditions for an Indulgence

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#1471)

"An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.

An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin." The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead."

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#1478)

"An indulgence is obtained through the Church who, by virtue of the power of binding and loosing granted her by Christ Jesus, intervenes in favor of individual Christians and opens for them the treasury of the merits of Christ and the saints to obtain from the Father of mercies the remission of the temporal punishments due for their sins. Thus the Church does not want simply to come to the aid of these Christians, but also to spur them to works of devotion, penance, and charity."

Conditions for Gaining a Partial Indulgence

- Be baptized, not excommunicated, and in a state of grace.
- Have the intention of gaining the indulgence
- Perform the work or offer the prayers required
- May be obtained more than once per day

Conditions for Gaining a Plenary Indulgence

In addition to the above:

- Go to sacramental Confession
- Receive the Holy Eucharist
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father
- Free of all attachment to sin, even venial sin
- May only be obtained once per day

Several indulgences may be gained on the basis of a single confession but only one may be gained after a single good reception Communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions.

If you are not correctly disposed or if you don't fulfill the prescribed works and/or the three conditions then the indulgence will be partial and not plenary.

How to Receive the Jubilee Year of Mercy Indulgence

Make a Pilgrimage to a designated Holy Door

"Make a brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door, open in every Cathedral or in the churches designated by the Diocesan Bishop, and in the four Papal Basilicas in Rome, as a sign of the deep desire for true conversion. Likewise, I dispose that the Indulgence may be obtained in the Shrines in which the Door of Mercy is open and in the churches which traditionally are identified as Jubilee Churches. It is important that this moment be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy. It will be necessary to accompany these celebrations with the profession of faith [Creed] and with prayer for me and for the intentions that I bear in my heart for the good of the Church and of the entire world."

For the sick, elderly, and home-bound

"For them it will be of great help to live their sickness and suffering as an experience of closeness to the Lord who in the mystery of his Passion, death and Resurrection indicates the royal road which gives meaning to pain and loneliness. Living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial, receiving communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through the various means of communication, will be for them the means of obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence."

For those in prison

"They may obtain the Indulgence in the chapels of the prisons. May the gesture of directing their thought and prayer to the Father each time they cross the threshold of their cell signify for them their passage through the Holy Door."

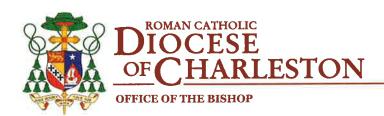
For the dead

"The Jubilee Indulgence can also be obtained for the deceased."

Holy Doors in South Carolina:

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist - Charleston
The Oratory - Rock Hill
St. Mary - Greenville
St. Peter - Columbia
St. Mary - Aiken
St. Anthony - Florence
St. Gregory the Great - Bluffton
St. Michael - Murrels Inlet

Shrine of Our Lady of SC - Kingstree



December 2015

Dear Friends in Christ,

Soon our parishes will be conducting the *Retirement Fund for Religious*, collection. This annual appeal benefits some 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests – women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

During this Year of Consecrated Life, Pope Francis calls on the faithful to recognize the special witness that consecrated women and men offer our Church and world. In a letter marking the inauguration of this special year, he says, "I ask the *whole Christian People* to be increasingly aware of the gift which is the presence of our many consecrated men and women." He goes on to note the spiritual influence that religious such as Saint Benedict and Saint Teresa of Avila continue to have on our Church and faith today.

As we reflect on the saints of the past, many of us may also recall women and men religious whom we would consider saints in our day. With gratitude, we remember the sister who patiently helped us learn our multiplication tables or the brother who coached our high school team, teaching us that faith must been lived out even on the basketball court.

Today, many of these sisters, brothers, and religious order priests – these saints in our midst-are elderly. While some continue in volunteer ministry, others are frail and need care. Most worked for years for small stipends, leaving their religious communities without adequate savings to meet growing retirement and eldercare needs.

So I ask you to join with Pope Francis in acknowledging the gift of consecrated life. Please pray for God's blessing on all religious and give generously to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

In the Lord's Peace,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone

Bishop of Charleston

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 13 December 2015

7.30 am ★ Catherine "Kitty" Francis Norman

9.00 am Anastasia Smith 11.00 am Pro populo Spanish Mass 1.00 pm

Sunday, 13 December 2015

No coffee & doughnuts this week

3 & 4 Year Olds (K4 classroom of 9 00 am Sacred Heart Hall)

Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass Scripture Study 9.00 am

Solemn Vespers (church) 5.00 pm 6.00 pm High School Youth Group (M) Women of Grace

6.00 pm

Monday, 14 December 2015

7.00 am ♣ Anarita Desoroches

Monday, 14 December 2015

6.30 pm Boy Scouts (M)

Tuesday, 15 December 2015

7.00 am ♣ Rev. James Tully 12.00 noon Beth & Marvin Hambleton

Tuesday, 15 December 2015

1.00 pm Senior Men's Club

Wednesday, 16 December 2015

♣ Alvina Aubuchon 12.00 noon ★ Robert A. Dowling, Sr.

Wednesday, 16 December 2015

No Holy Hour & Confessions No Introduction to Catholicism

6.30 pm Religious Education

Program of Catholic Studies (M) 6.30 pm 6.30 pm Program of Catholic Studies

Thursday, 17 December 2015

7.00 am ♣ Steve Brown 12.00 noon ★ Argemira Palacio

Thursday, 17 December 2015

2.00-4.00 pm Prayer Meeting

Friday, 18 December 2015

7.00 am ♣ Luis Carlos Restrepo

Friday, 18 December 2015

6.15 am Morning Prayer (church) 6.30-8.00 am Pillars of Christ

3.30-5.00 pm Youth Choir Practice

Saturday, 19 December 2015

Fr. Jay Scott Newman 5.00 pm

Saturday, 19 December 2015

8.00-9.00 am Rosary at Grove Road

abortion clinic

3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)

G - Gallivan Hall M- McGrady Hall P - Pazdan Hall Dining Room

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

Financial Report

Weekend of 5/6 December

Needed 32,500 Received 32,961 Surplus 461

Poor Box 978

Offertory Year to Date

Needed 747,500 Received 730,767 16,733 Shortage

Electronic Giving: If you want to have direct management of vour 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.

> Visit us on the web at www.stmarysgvl.org



2015 Holiday Liturgical Schedule

Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 December

4.30 pm	Choir Program in the Baum Center
5.00 pm	Mass in the Baum Center for families with children (Youth Choir)
5.00 pm 7.00 pm	Sung Mass in the church (Schola) Sung Mass in the church (Schola and Brass Ensemble)
9.00 pm 10.00 pm	Choir Program in the church (Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble) Solemn Mass During the Night (Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble)

The 10.00 pm Mass During the Night takes the place of the Mass at Midnight.

Christmas Day, Friday 25 December

11.00 am	Sung Mass in the church
1.00 pm	Spanish Mass in the church

The schedule of Confessions and Masses on 26 and 27 December is as usual. The weekday Mass schedule from 28 to 30 December is as usual, but there is no Holy Hour on Wednesday 30 December. And on Thursday 31 December there is no Mass at 7 am or 12 pm.

The Solemnity of the Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday 31 December	5.00 pm 7.00 pm	Sung Mass in the church Spanish Mass in the church
Friday 1 January	11.00 am	Sung Mass in the church

The church office will close at noon on Thursday 24 December and reopen on Tuesday 29 December. The church office will close at noon on Thursday 31 December and reopen on Monday 4 January.

Parish News

Christmas Flowers

Please print your name and the names of those whom you wish to honor. Memorial requests must be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday 13 December for the names to appear in the Christmas Flower list.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Women of Grace Bible Study

The Women of Grace Bible Study will not meet on Sunday 13 December or 27 December. We will resume study on 10 January 2016, @ 6.00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. For questions, please contact Dorothy Whalen at 363.4483.

Changes to Holy Hour & Confessions

Only Father Newman will regularly hear Confessions on Saturday afternoon and during the Holy Hour on Wednesdays. Father Cruz hears Confessions on Sunday morning in Spanish in Sacred Heart Hall, beginning at 11.30 am.

> And on the following Wednesdays, the Holy Hour and Confessions are canceled:

16 and 30 December 2015

St. Mary's Senior Fellowship

Join us to celebrate the season of Christmas on Saturday 12 December at 12.00 noon in Sacred Heart Hall to celebrate this Christmas season. New members and guests are always welcome! Bring a covered dish or dessert to share. For more information contact Patricia Wellham at 864.294.9270.



Bulletin Submissions

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

Collections for 12/13 December

1st: Support of the Parish 2nd: Retirement Fund for Religious

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

The K. of C. Monthly Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday 20 December in the Pazdan Hall Dining Room after all the morning Masses. All are welcome to share breakfast with the parish family.

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, Paulina Cruz, Brett Gervais, Judy Byrum, Celine Brouillard, Michael Pinto, Jim Sponsler, Joseph Srp, Neal Campbell, IV, Rose and Anne Eassy, Marie-Therese Isidore, Thomas Thomason and Judy McColl.

Requiescat in pace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Bill Becker (father of Amy David) and Henrietta Ebener (mother of Connie Jackson), who died recently. We extend our prayers and sympathy to their family and friends.

Prayer For The Faithful Departed

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Baptism Class

Prior to having a child baptized at St. Mary's, you must have been registered in the parish for at least six months, attending Sunday Mass each week, using the stewardship envelopes, and participating in the life of the parish. Baptisms take place on Saturdays at 6.15 pm after the 5.00 pm Mass. Attending a Baptism Preparation Class is required and may be attended prior to birth of child.

The next class is scheduled for Monday 25 January 2016 at 6.30 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Pre-registration in the Church office is required. Contact T.J. Nielsen at timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4114.



MASS COLLECTS FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

(May be used at home when lighting your Advent Wreath)

Sunday 13 December

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Monday 14 December

Incline a merciful ear to our cry, we pray, O Lord, and, casting light on the darkness of our hearts, visit us with the grace of your Son.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Tuesday 15 December

O God, who through your Only Begotten Son have made us a new creation, look kindly, we pray, on the handiwork of your mercy, and at your Son's coming cleanse us from every stain of the old way of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Wednesday 16 December

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that the coming solemnity of your Son may bestow healing upon us in this presesnt life and bring us the rewards of life eternal.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Thursday 17 December

O God, Creator and Redeemer of human nature, who willed that your Word should take flesh in an ever-virgin womb, look with favor on our prayers, that your Only Begotten Son, having taken to himself our humanity, may be pleased to grant us a share in his divinity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Friday 18 December

Grant, we pray, almighty God,

that we, who are weighed down from of old by slavery beneath the yoke of sin, may be set free by the newness of the long-awaited Nativity of your Only Begotten Son.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Saturday 19 December

O God, who through the child-bearing of the holy Virgin graciously revealed the radiance of your glory to the world, grant, we pray, that we may venerate with integrity of faith the mystery of so wondrous an Incarnation and always celebrate it with due reverence. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Religious Education News

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

Class meets at 9.00 am in the K-4 classroom of Sacred Heart Hall

13 December is the final class for 2015. Classes resume 10 January 2016.

Religious Education Grades 1-8

Wednesday 6.30-7.30 pm

RE Christmas program at 6.30 pm. Parents welcome to attend.

16 December is the final class for 2015. Classes resume 6 January 2016.

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.

Close the Mill Prayer Campaign

Please continue to pray and fast for the intention of closing the Greenville Abortion Mill on or before 12 December, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe; including the conversion of the abortionists and staff.

On 12 December at 7.00 pm, please come mark the day with the singing of Christmas carols and prayer at the Greenville Women's Clinic, 1142 Grove Road, Greenville. God can do everything with our prayers. Call Ingrid 864.329.0044 or Jo Ann 864.248.0264 for more information.

St. Mary's Catholic School www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool

864.271.3870 school.office@stmarysgvl.org



Nelle Palms

Director of Admissions nelle.palms@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4117

Pat Lanning

Safe Environment Coordinator patricia.lanning@stmarysgvl.org

Lisa Lyvers

Director of St. Mary's Classic & Gala lisa.lyvers@stmarysgvl.org

St. Mary's Ducks Basketball

(Home games in bold)

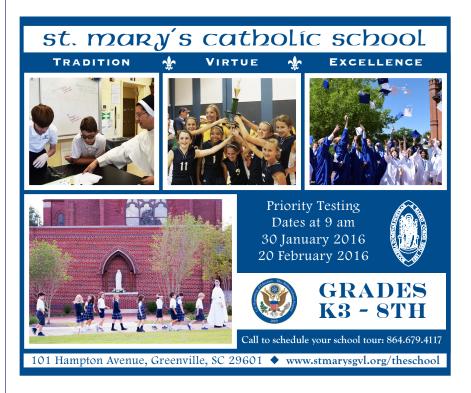
11 December Hampton Park Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

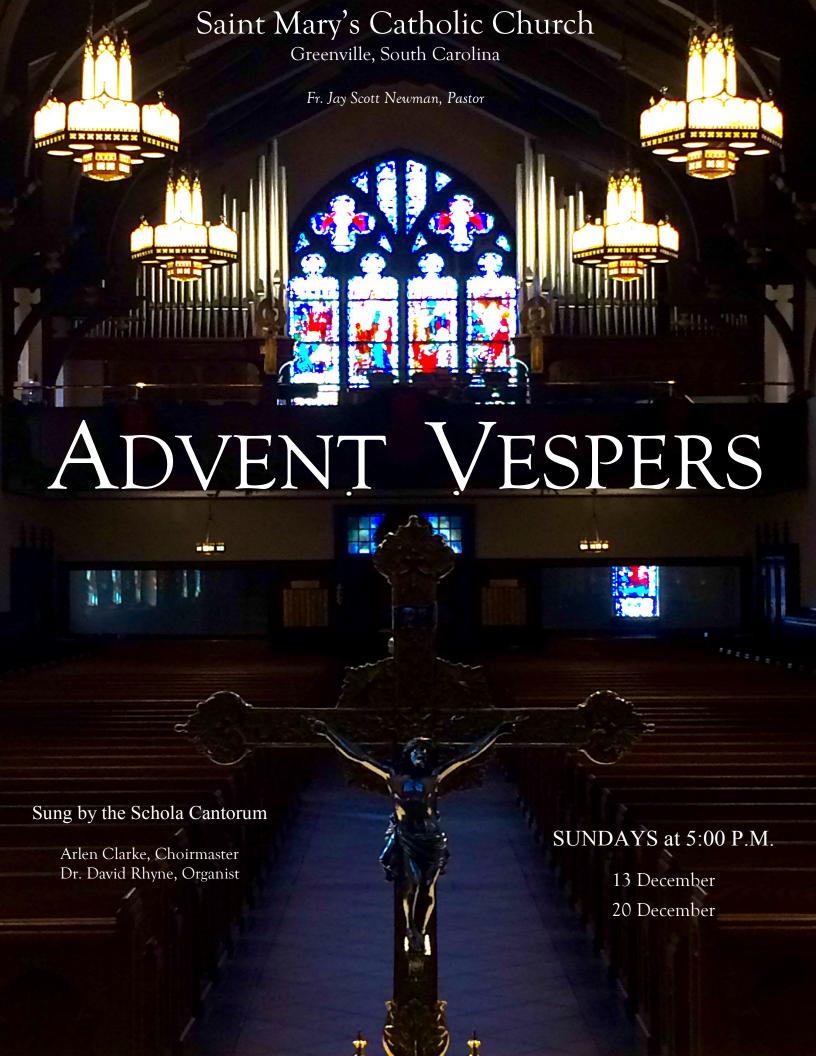
15 December OLR Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

Upcoming Events

18 December Christmas Pageant21 Dec. 1 Jan. Christmas Holidays







Dominicana Records

The Dominican Friars have recorded several records of plainchant, the sale of which helps support their work of training new priests and preachers of the New Evangelization. Have a look here:

http://www.dominicanajournal.org/records/



Website: www.charlestonvocations.com Facebook: Charleston Vocations

If you are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocations Office.

I Have Called You By Name.

Prayer for Vocations

Loving and gracious God, Father of all, you bless your people in every time and season and provide for their needs through your providential care. Your Church is continually in need of priests, sisters and brothers to offer themselves in the service of the Gospel by lives of dedicated love. Open the hearts of your sons and daughters to listen to your call in their lives. Give them the gift of understanding to discern you invitation to serve you and your Church. Give them the gift of courage to follow your call. May they have the spirit of young Samuel who found fulfillment in his life when he said to you, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Advent Penance Services

Monday 14 December 7.00 pm

St. Mary Magdalene 2252 Woodruff Road Simpsonville, SC 29681

Tuesday 15 December

7.00 pm St. Joseph 1200 Cornelia Road Anderson, SC 29621

Thursday 17 December

7.00 pm St. Paul the Apostle 290 E. Main Street Spartanburg, SC 29302

Wednesday 23 December

9.00 am - 6.00 pm St. Rafka 1215 S. Highway 14 Greer, SC 29650

Advent is here. What a marvelous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come - for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us:

> Ecce veniet! He is about to arrive! - St. Josemaria Escriva



PROUDLY PRO-LIFE WEEKEND

January 8-9, 2016

South Carolina Citizens for Life

Will host the

Proudly Pro-Life Weekend

January 8-9, 2016, Columbia SC

Come show your support for the inalienable right to life



Proudly Pro-Life Dinner

Friday, January 8, 2016

Featured Speakers

Stars of A&E's Duck Dynasty

Al and Lisa Robertson

To Reserve Your Tickets contact South Carolina Citizens for Life at sccl@sclife.org or (803) 252-5433

Venue Location

Seawell's 1125 Rosewood Drive Columbia, SC 29201 \$40 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 to make reservations

Request Special Rate for South Carolina Citizens for Life

Stand Up for Life March and Rally

Saturday, January 9, 2016

11:00 a.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

Joyful Sound North Greenville Universit



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

The Lord invites each of us to a weekly prayer hour with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Contact Lisa Buss at adoration@princeofpeacetaylors.org or call 864.508.7123 to schedule an hour. Choose an hour of your convenience or consider one of our EMPTY HOURS (*) or one needing a prayer partner:

Monday 4am* & 11 pm Thursday 3pm Friday 4 am* Saturday 3 am & 3 pm



All young adults (18-39)
are welcomed & encouraged to join
our ministry whose mission is to help
young adults answer the universal call to holiness.

FELLOWSHIP

11 December - Annual Anticipation of Christmas Party: 7.30 pm at Acropolis Resturant (3620 Pelham Rd, Ste 8, Greenville, SC 29615).

SAVE THE DATE

26-28 February - Diocese of Charleston Young Adult Ministry Lenten Retreat at Diakonia Retreat Center.

Follow us: Facebook.com/LVgreenville

Visit us at: www.lvgreenville.com

Email us: LVgreenville@gmail.com

From Our Tradition

Ember Days

Four times a year, the Church traditionally set aside three days to focus on God through His marvelous creation. These quarterly periods take place around the beginnings of the four natural seasons. "The purpose of their introduction, besides the general one intended by



all prayer and fasting, was to thank God for the gifts of nature, to teach men to make use of them in moderation, and to assist the needy."(Catholic Encyclopedia)

The fasts, known as "Jejunia quatuor temporum," or "the fast of the four seasons," are rooted in Old Testament practices of fasting four times a year:

Zechariah 8.19: "Thus says the Lord of hosts: The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth shall be to the house of Judah seasons of joy and gladness, and cheerful feasts; therefore love truth and peace." (RSV-CE)

These four times, each kept on a successive Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, are known as "Ember Days," or *Quatuor Tempora*, in Latin and occur as follows:

Winter: Advent Embertide after Gaudete Sunday (3rd Sunday of Advent). Also marked by feast of St. Lucy (13 December).

Spring: Lenten Embertide after Quadragesima Sunday (1st Sunday of Lent)

Summer: Whit Embertide after Pentecost Sunday

Autumn: Michaelmas Embertide after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (14 September)

The significance of the days of the week are that Wednesday was the day Christ was betrayed, Friday was the day He was crucified, and Saturday was the day He was entombed.

Observing the Ember Days is now a voluntary practice of fasting (no food between meals) and half-abstinence, meaning that meat is allowed at one meal per day. (If you observe the traditional Friday abstinence from meat, then you would observe complete abstinence on an Ember Friday.).

Priestly ordinations, prayer for priests, almsgiving and other charitable and penitential acts and prayer for the souls in Purgatory are all customary practices on Ember Days.

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