



St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

27 December 2015

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 10 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



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 Mary,
the Holy Mother of God,
a Holy Day of Obligation**

Thursday 31 December

5.00 pm Sung Mass in the church

7.00 pm 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 31 December and reopen on Monday 4 January.

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, 27 December 2015

7.30 am ✱ Ellena
9.00 am Leonard & Laura Kuczewski
11.00 am Pro populo
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, 28 December 2015

7.00 am ✱ Bernard Desoroches

Tuesday, 29 December 2015

7.00 am ✱ Jean Dickensheets
12.00 noon William Butler

Wednesday, 30 December 2015

7.00 am ✱ Geraldine Wheadon
12.00 noon ✱ Harriett Healey McAfee

Thursday, 31 December 2015

Holy Day Masses

5.00 pm ✱ Paul Desoroches
7.00 pm Spanish Mass

Friday, 1 January 2016

Mary, Mother of God

11.00 am Pro populo

Saturday, 2 January 2016

5.00 pm ✱ Walter Woodman

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 27 December 2015

No coffee & doughnuts this week
No 3 & 4 Year Olds class this week
No Nursery this week

Monday, 28 December 2015

Tuesday, 29 December 2015

Wednesday, 30 December 2015

No Holy Hour & Confessions
No Faith Formation for children or adults

Thursday, 31 December 2015

2.00-4.00 pm Prayer Meeting

Friday, 1 January 2016

6.15 am Morning Prayer (church)
6.30-8.00 am Pillars of Christ
3.30-5.00 pm Youth Choir Practice

Saturday, 2 January 2016

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

Financial Report

Weekend of 19/20 December

Needed	32,500
Received	32,197
Shortage	303

Poor Box	661
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	812,500
Received	800,371
Shortage	12,129

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.

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

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

Visit us on the web at
www.stmarysgvl.org

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 Wednesday 30 December 2015,
6 January 2016 and 13 January 2016
the Holy Hour and Confessions are canceled.

Requiescat in pace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mable Lema (mother of Jerry Lema), 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.

Women of Grace Bible Study

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

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.

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.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 26/27 December

Support of the Parish & Bishop's Appeal

Collection for 31 December/ 1 January

Support of the Parish

*St. Mary's is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners.
Thank you for your generosity and support.*

Thank You

Fr. Newman, Fr. Chalmers, Fr. Cruz, Fr. Leon and the office staff would like to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity to them this holiday season and throughout the past year.

2015 Tax Statements

Tax statements are available upon request. Please contact Jennifer Doiron in the church office at 864.679.4102 or jennifer.doiron@stmarysgvl.org if you would like a copy of your contribution statement for 2015. Please allow us several days to process and mail your statement. Thank you.

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.

Lectors Needed

We will soon be needing a number of lectors to replace our Deacon Candidates who have been serving in this capacity over the past 3 years. If you are interested in serving as a lector, please plan on attending one of our two assessment meetings to be held in the church on 18 & 19 January, from 6.30 - 8.00 pm. Questions may be directed to Deacon John Heuser at john.heuser@stmarysgvl.org.



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.
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

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 1/1/16) at St. Mary's Gym on Saturday 16 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.



Family Honor *Leading & Loving*

Parents, we know that raising children in today's secular society is challenging and raising holy and virtuous kids seems almost impossible some days! Would you like to learn practical principles and time-tested techniques to help you to raise the next generation of saints?

Join us on

Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm
and

Saturday 20 February 2016 8.30 am – 1.30 pm
for Family Honor's unique program, *Leading & Loving*,
designed for parents of young children, newborn through
5th grade.

We will discuss ideas on being a good role model, look at how the virtue of chastity is developed in our children, and help you to be better able to answer some of your children's challenging questions – all while cultivating Catholic virtues and values. Here, one parent shares what they liked most about the program, *"The celebration of sexuality and the positive message. Quite different from the negative, fear-based content we grew up with."*

There is no charge for this program (though donations will be requested). Deadline for registering is Wednesday 3 February 2016. Space is limited so register online now at www.familyhonor.org.

For more information, contact

Sr. Mary Sheila at smarysheila@stmarysgvl.org or

Joann Miller at joann.miller@stmarysgvl.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Grades 1-8

Classes resume 6 January 2016.

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

Classes resume 10 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.

Pillars of Christ

Pillars of Christ is a men's ministry led by a group of St. Mary's men who are on fire with the love of Christ and His Church. The group meet on Friday mornings from 6.15–8.00 am for prayer in the church and then in Sacred Heart Hall for study.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization with principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism. Our service programs are Church, Community, Youth and Pro Life. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm in McGrady Hall.

Women's Club

We invite all women of the parish to join us for our Tuesday 12 January Monthly Meeting. We will pray the Rosary at 9.30 am followed by the meeting at 10.00 am.



Catholic Radio in South Carolina

WCKI 1300 AM

For programming information, visit catholicradioinnc.com



st. mary's catholic school

2015-2016
The Year of Faith



St. Mary's Catholic School

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

www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool



st. mary's catholic school

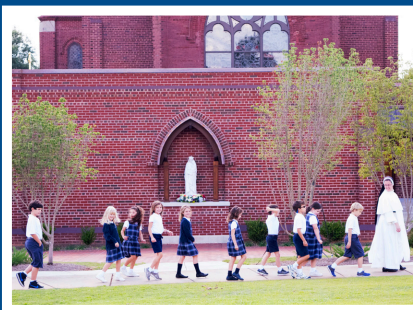
TRADITION



VIRTUE



EXCELLENCE



Priority Testing
Dates at 9 am
30 January 2016
20 February 2016



**GRADES
K3 - 8TH**

Call to schedule your school tour: 864.679.4117

101 Hampton Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601 ♦ www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool

Family Prayer Corner

Life Lessons: Feeding Body and Soul

Perhaps the easiest way to introduce family prayer into daily life is to begin with Grace at meals. We all need to eat, so we can use this simple bodily necessity to remind us of our equally real spiritual need. We need to pray. God has provided us with the earth and all that is in it - the food that we eat is God's gift to us, even though it may pass through many hands between the field and the table. By accompanying our meal times with short prayers of blessing and thanksgiving, God's goodness to us and our dependence on Him is impressed on our minds and the minds of our children.

In modern society, fewer and fewer people enjoy the daily experience of gathering together with their own family to share a meal. Nevertheless, a family meal is an opportune time for children to learn manners and begin to practice virtues such as patience and gratitude. They learn the art of communication as they listen to others at table and are given the opportunity to share their own thoughts and stories. The preparation and clean-up which accompany family meals are an opportunity for the child to learn the value of work and the meaning of service, which brings joy when it is done out of love for others. Whenever we spend this time as a family - not simply eating at the same time, but truly partaking of this meal together and praying together - we find that it nourishes both body and soul.

St. Mary's Ducks Basketball

(Home games in bold)

5 January Greenville Home School
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.00 pm

7 January Oakbrook
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

8 January St. Joes
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

12 January Spartanburg Prep
Girls 4.30 pm / Boys 5.45 pm



Tradition - Virtue - Excellence



PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC 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 4 am* & 11 pm
Tuesday 7 pm*
Thursday 3pm*
Friday 4 am* & 6 pm*
Saturday 3 am & 3 pm
Sunday 11 am*

Marriage Anniversary Celebration Mass

The Diocese of Charleston Office of Family Life is sponsoring the Annual Marriage Anniversary Celebration Mass at 3.00 pm on 21 February at St. Mary Help of Christians in Aiken, SC with Most Reverend Robert Guglielmo as the main celebrant. The Marriage Anniversary Celebration is an opportunity to honor all married couples especially those in long-term marriages. To register, please email FamilyLife@catholic-doc.org, fill out the form on our website at sccatholic.org/family-life, or call 803.547.5063.

Save the Date & Early Registration

20 February - Diocese of Charleston's 2016 Faces of Mercy, Catholic Conference for Moms at St. Joseph's High School in Greenville from 8.30 am - 4.40 pm. For more details, visit CatholicConference4Moms.com.

27 February - 6th Annual Charlotte Catholic Men's Conference: "Step Up, Find Your Strength". To register, visit CatholicMenOfTheCarolinas.org.

5 March - SC Catholic Men's Conference: "Building Men of the Family of God" at Immaculate Conception in Goose Creek, SC. Visit SCCatholicMensConf.org.

Mother-Daughter Tea

You and your daughter are cordially invited to attend a mother and daughter tea on Saturday 30 January from 2.00-4.30 pm at St Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Simpsonville.

In this program designed for 10 - 12 year old girls, moms (or women who serve as mother figures) and their daughters together will learn to respect, understand and appreciate God's gift and design of femininity and fertility. Age-appropriate information on the function of the female reproductive system will be presented, as well as discussions about modesty and becoming comfortable with their changing bodies and personalities. The program seeks to foster a closer bond between mother and daughter to encourage continued communication about growing up.

Hosted by the Diocese of Charleston Office of Family Life. Presenters include medical professionals and Creighton Model FertilityCare practitioners. There will also be a confidential question and answer session. Cost is \$20 per Mother and Daughter + \$10 per additional Daughter. **Reservations are required by 24 January.** To register or for more information, please call the Office of Family Life at 803.807.0158 or email kball@catholic-doc.org. Come and celebrate that your daughter is beautifully and uniquely made!



**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.**

SAVE THE DATE

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

Follow us: [Facebook.com/LVgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/LVgreenville)

Visit us at: www.lvgreenville.com

Email us: LVgreenville@gmail.com



Website: www.charlestonvocations.com

Facebook: Charleston Vocations

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

From the Diocesan Vocations Prayer Card

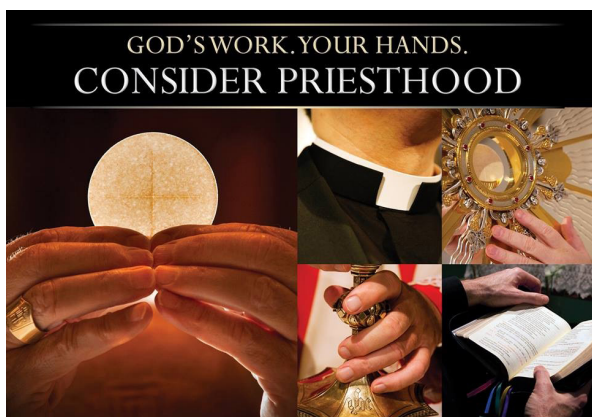
Please pray for the seminarians listed on each day of the month.

1 st & 16 th	All newly ordained priests
2 nd & 17 th	Andrew Fryml
3 rd & 18 th	Rhett Williams
4 th & 19 th	Francisco Oñate-Vargas
5 th & 20 th	Jimmy Touzeau
6 th & 21 st	Michael Cellars
7 th & 22 nd	William Frei
8 th & 23 rd	Patrick Judd
9 th & 24 th	Matthew Curley
10 th & 25 th	Matthew Bauer
11 th & 26 th	All priests serving in our diocese
12 th & 27 th	All women religious in our diocese
13 th & 28 th	All deacons & religious brothers
14 th & 29 th	All men called to the priesthood
15 th & 30 th	Bishop Robert Guglielmone

Catholic Diocese of Charleston, SC
I Have Called You By Name.
2015-2016 Seminarians *Isaiah 43:1*

 Andrew Fryml Third Theology Jesus, Our Road, Senior Spartanburg, SC	 Rhett Williams Second Theology St. John the Baptist Charleston, SC	 Francisco Oñate-Vargas Second Theology Our Lady of the Hills Columbia, SC	 Jimmy Touzeau First Theology Holy Cross Pickens, SC	 Michael Cellars Second Pre-Theology St. Mary of the Annunciation Charleston, SC
 William Frei Graduate Year St. Mary, Help of Christians Aiken, SC	 Patrick Judd Second College St. Mary, Help of Christians Aiken, SC	 Matthew Curley First College St. Catherine of Siena Lancaster, SC	 Matthew Bauer First College Prince of Peace Taylors, SC	

(843) 261-0532 • charlestonvocations.com • facebook.com/charlestonvocations



Prayer for Seminarians

O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, I pray that You call many worthy souls to Your holy priesthood.

Enlighten the Bishop in the choice of candidates, the Spiritual Director in molding them, and the professors in instructing them.

Lead the seminarians daily in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice; steeped in humility and aflame with love for God and man; apostles of Your glory and sanctifiers of souls.

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for our seminarians.



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