



St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

27 November 2016

Dear Friends in Christ,

"It was December, and another Christmas was at our throats." The English humorist P.G. Wodehouse thus described the unholy frenzy that too often accompanies the approach of December 25th, and it is a sentiment most of us can readily understand. To avoid succumbing to that feeling, we need to see what the Grinch perceived with wonder from the summit of Mt. Crumpit: That Christmas "came without ribbons; it came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags." And the very best way to arrive at this insight is to keep a holy Advent.

The twin peaks of the liturgical year are Easter and Christmas, and both of these celebrations are preceded by a period of preparation. The purple of penance must come before the gold of glory revealed in Christ's Birth and Resurrection, and this is where the cultural and secular observance of Christmas can get in the way of a good Advent. On the radio and at the mall, Christmas has already been at our throats for some time, but today is only the first Sunday of Advent. And on December 26th when the Church is just beginning to celebrate the liturgical season of Christmas, evergreen trees will pile up on the curb and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer will disappear until next Halloween. Let's just say STOP!

We now have four weeks in which to ponder the profound mystery of Christ coming to us for our salvation. In the past he did come to suffer and die for us. In the present he does come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. And in the future he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead. All three of these "advents" are part of this beautiful season of the liturgy, and if we attend to the Church's rhythm of prayer, penance and preparation, then when Christmas Eve arrives, we will not be exhausted; we will be elated.

So, how to do this? 1) Get an Advent wreath and light it at home each night while praying the Collect from Mass that day. 2) Pray the Liturgy of the Hours, particularly each Sunday afternoon at 5 pm here in the church. 3) Come to Mass on weekdays as often as possible during Advent. Weekday Mass has a quiet, meditative quality that steals into our hearts and minds, and Advent is deeply enriched by Mass each day. 4) Encourage your family and friends to think of things other than packages, boxes or bags. Make a donation in someone's name to Catholic Charities or Catholic Relief Services. Write a letter to someone you love to tell them so. Volunteer to serve someone in need. 5) Go to Confession so that your Christmas Communion will truly be holy.

December is upon us, but another Christmas need not be at our throats. It can be in our hearts with joy beyond all telling if we prepare with a worthy Advent.

Father Newman

MASS COLLECTS FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

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

Sunday 27 November

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
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 28 November

Keep us alert, we pray, O Lord our God,
as we await the advent of Christ your Son,
so that, when he comes and knocks,
he may find us watchful in prayer
and exultant in his praise.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Tuesday 29 November

Look with favor, Lord God, on our petitions,
and in our trials grant us your compassionate help,
that, consoled by the presence of your Son,
whose coming we now await,
we may be tainted no longer
by the corruption of former ways.
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 30 November

Prepare our hearts, we pray, O Lord our God,
by your divine power,
so that at the coming of Christ your Son
we may be found worthy of the banquet of eternal life
and merit to receive heavenly nourishment from his hands.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Thursday 1 December

Stir up your power, O Lord,
and come to our help with mighty strength,
that what our sins impede
the grace of your mercy may hasten.
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.

Friday 2 December

Stir up your power, we pray, O Lord, and come,
that with you to protect us,
we may find rescue
from the pressing dangers of our sins,
and with you to set us free,
we may be found worthy of salvation.
Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saturday 3 December

O God, who sent your Only Begotten Son into this world
to free the human race from its ancient enslavement,
bestow on those who devoutly await him
the grace of your compassion from on high,
that we may attain the prize of true freedom.
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.

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, 27 November 2016

7.30 am ✱ Arthur Heidrich
9.00 am ✱ Judy Franzen
11.00 am Pro populo
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, 28 November 2016

7.00 am Marzee Horn

Tuesday, 29 November 2016

7.00 am ✱ Dr. Gerardo Vergara
12.00 noon Roger Konczal

Wednesday, 30 November 2016

7.00 am ✱ Edwin Tully
12.00 noon ✱ Mary Ellen O'Connor

Thursday, 1 December 2016

7.00 am ✱ Nannette & Walter Santy
12.00 noon In Thanksgiving to
the Holy Trinity

Friday, 2 December 2016

7.00 am ✱ Louie & Violet Howayeck

Saturday, 3 December 2016

5.00 pm Grayson Walworth

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 27 November 2016

No coffee & doughnuts this week
No nursery or preschool this week
9.00 am Scripture Study
5.00 pm Solemn Vespers (church)
6.00 pm High School Youth Group (M)

Monday, 28 November 2016

6.30 pm Cub Scouts
6.30 pm Boy Scouts (M)

Tuesday, 29 November 2016

8.30 am Program of Catholic Studies
1.00 pm Senior Men's Club

Wednesday, 30 November 2016

5.00-6.00 pm Holy Hour &
Confessions (church)
6.30 pm Religious Education
6.30 pm Program of Catholic Studies (M)
6.30 pm Introduction to Catholicism

Thursday, 1 December 2016

2.00-4.00 pm St. Mary's Prayer Group

Friday, 2 December 2016

6.00 am Morning Prayer (church)
6.15-8.00 am Pillars of Christ
10.00 am Scripture Study Class
3.30-5.00 pm Youth Choir Practice

Saturday, 3 December 2016

Women's Club Bake Sale: After Mass (P)
8.00-9.00 am Rosary - Grove Rd
abortion clinic
3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)

Financial Report

Weekend of 19/20 November

Needed	33,150
Received	31,934
Shortage	1,216

Poor Box	704
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Campaign for Human Development	2,988
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	696,150
Received	688,461
Shortage	7,689

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 Anderson at jennifer.anderson@stmarysgvl.org.



Facebook

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

Visit us on the web at
www.stmarysgvl.org

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

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



Advent Vespers

at

Saint Mary's Church

Sundays at 5 PM

27 November

4 December

11 December

18 December

Thirty minutes of prayerful silence and chant in the rich beauty of the St. Mary's nave.
Come. And bring a friend.

Immaculate Conception - 8 December

Holy Day of Obligation

We will celebrate three Masses on Thursday 8 December for the Immaculate Conception - the patronal feast of the Church in the United States - at 7 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm.

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, Paulina Cruz, Brett Gervais, Judy Byrum, Michael Pinto, Joseph & Sandy Srp, Marie-Therese Isidore, Thomas Thomason, Carlton Carpenter, Jim Barber, Jordan A. Upham, John Hever, Bob Stewart, Alfred Smith, Mauren Lukovic, Sr. Louiselle Gagnon, Sr. Simone Baril, Christine Tancrell, Dcn. John & Irene Karandisevsky, Ted Karalekas, Lenore Cole and Leonard Kuczewski.

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Dr. & Mrs. Tom Lindsey.

Congratulations to

Charlotte Grace Warren who was baptized last weekend.

Mass Intentions

If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, contact Vickie Acosta in the church office at vickie.acosta@stmarysgvl.org or 271.8422.

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.

Caritas Counseling Services, LLC

Counseling services available at St. Mary's. Contact Dorothy Whalen at dorothy.whelen@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4122.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 26/27 November

Support of the Parish

St. Mary's is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Christmas Flowers

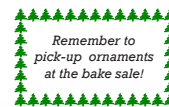


St. Mary's parishioners are encouraged to participate in helping to decorate our church and gym for the Christmas liturgies. Each year we set up a Christmas Flower Fund for that purpose. If you wish to honor a loved one, living or deceased, please send in your donation in the Christmas Flower envelope available in your envelope packet or use a plain white envelope).

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 11 December** for the names to appear in the Christmas Flower list.

Christmas Bake Sale

After all English Masses
December 3rd and 4th, 2016
in the Dining Room of Pazdan Hall



2016 Ornament - 'The Angel'

- Cakes
- Candies
- Cookies
- Jams
- Pies
- Christmas Cards
- Note Cards
- More!

Sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club

Your purchases enable us to support our church and various Catholic charities.
Thank you for your continued support!

Advent Resources



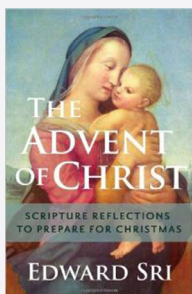
Magnificat Advent Companion



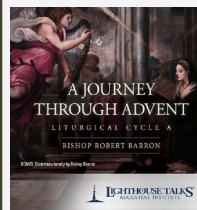
A perfect way to live Advent to the full this year. This pocket-sized Companion follows a practical, page-a-day format featuring original meditations on the Gospel reading of each day.

Ebooks available
kindle nook kobo 

The Advent of Christ by Edward Sri



Perhaps the Christmas story has become almost too familiar. A virgin giving birth. A child laid in a manger. Shepherds greeted by angels. The Christmas story has become so familiar that the profound, even shocking, nature of the incarnation might be overlooked. But what if we had never heard the story before? What if we were hearing it for the first time, like the first-century Jews? These events certainly would not be taken for granted—they would signal something new: the dawning of the long-awaited Messiah. Available at [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#)

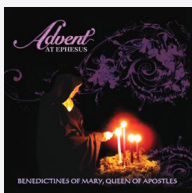


Journey Through Advent Liturgical Cycle A

Get the most out of Advent by following along with Bishop Robert Barron's homilies as he unpacks these profound Scripture readings. The homilies presented on this CD will correspond to the Scriptures for Sunday Masses throughout Advent and Christmas 2016.

Available at LighthouseCatholicMedia.org
in CD and MP3 formats.

Advent at Ephesus

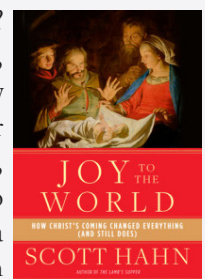


This unique CD is recorded by the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles: a young, monastic order of Sisters located in rural Missouri, dedicated to prayer for priests. Advent at Ephesus includes an amazing variety of traditional Latin and English hymns, polyphony, Gregorian Chant, medieval harmonies and an original piece to prayerfully lead you through the sacred season in preparation for Christmas.

Available at [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#)

Joy to the World: How Christ's Coming Changed Everything (and Still Does) by Scott Hahn

What could be more familiar than the Christmas story — and yet what could be more extraordinary? The cast of characters is strange and exotic: shepherds and magicians, an emperor and a despot, angels, and a baby who is Almighty God. The strangeness calls for an explanation, and this book provides it by examining the characters and the story in light of the biblical and historical context. Bestselling author Scott Hahn who has written extensively on Scripture and the early Church, brings evidence to light, dispelling some of the mystery of the story. Yet Christmas is made familiar all over again by showing it to be a family story. Christmas, as it appears in the New Testament, is the story of a father, a mother, and a child — their relationships, their interactions, their principles, their individual lives, and their common life. To see the life of this “earthly trinity” is to gaze into heaven.



Available on [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#).

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

No class today

Religious Education Grades 1-8

Wednesday 6.30-7.30 pm

Confirmation Practice

St. Mary's Confirmation students and their sponsors will have a dinner and practice for Confirmation on Monday 5 December at 6.00 pm. Please meet in Pazdan Hall.

Confirmation

Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone will confirm the candidates at St. Mary's on Tuesday 6 December at 7.00 pm. Please keep our Confirmandi in your prayers.



USHERS NEEDED

St. Mary's needs a few good men to serve as ushers at each of our Sunday Masses.

If you are willing to serve in this important ministry please email or call T.J. Nielsen to apply.

timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4114

Dedication of Two Churches

On Saturday 26 November, Bishop Guglielmone will dedicate not one but two new Catholic churches in the Greenville Deanery. At 11 am this Saturday, our bishop will dedicate the first permanent home of the newly established Our Lady of La Vang Church. The site of this new parish for the Vietnamese community is a former Protestant church at 2020 Gibbs Shoals Road in Greer, not far from Highway 14. Then at 5 pm this Saturday, our bishop will dedicate the new church at Our Lady of the Rosary on Augusta Road. Although OLR was established in 1952, this will be the first time they have a building in which to worship which was designed exclusively as a church rather than adapted from other uses, and it is a beautiful edifice in the Romanesque style.

Greenville County is now home to nine Catholic churches, and with the year of their founding they are: St Mary's (1852), St Anthony's (1939), Our Lady of the Rosary (1952), St Elizabeth Ann Seton (1972), Blessed Trinity (1974), Prince of Peace (1976), St Mary Magdalene (1989), St Rakfa (2002), San Sebastian (2012), and Our Lady of La Vang (2016). More Catholics live in Greenville County than any other county in South Carolina, and more Catholics live in the Greenville Deanery than any of the six other deaneries in the Diocese of Charleston. The remarkable growth of our Catholic population in the past few decades is both a blessing and a challenge for all of us to work together for the spread of the Gospel and the service of others.

Bulletin Submissions

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

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 the birth of your child. The next class is scheduled for Monday 30 January 2017 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.



st. mary's catholic school

2016-2017
The Year of Hope



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 101 - Parts of the church

When you stand in the main body of St. Mary's Church, in the pews or the aisles, you are in the **nave** of the church. This name comes from the Latin for ship (*navis*) and symbolizes Noah's Ark and the Barque of St. Peter. During Mass, the congregation is here for worship.

Walk up the two steps and you will find yourself in the **sanctuary**. Typically only the priest and the people who assist him (deacons, lectors, sacristans, and altar servers) go in this area.

In the center of the sanctuary is the **altar**. After hymns, readings from Scripture, and other prayers, the sacrifice of the Mass takes place at the altar. The priest, with a power handed down from the Apostles, stands in the person of Christ and repeats the words of the Last Supper, "This is My Body... This is My Blood" and what was once bread and wine is now Jesus Christ - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

The golden box behind the altar is the **tabernacle**. After Communion, any remaining hosts are reserved here. Since the bread has changed into Jesus, we say that "Jesus lives in the tabernacle". Jesus is also present in the Scripture and among the people at worship - but in a special, fuller, and more physical way in the Eucharist. This is why it is amazing to receive Him into our bodies during Communion, and why we genuflect (kneel on one knee and make the sign of the cross) toward the tabernacle when we enter church: to acknowledge the Presence of Christ Our King in the Eucharist.

The tabernacle of the Old Testament was the tent which contained the ark of the covenant. The ten commandments, manna, and the staff of Aaron were inside the ark. These represented the law and promise of life that were a part of God's covenant with Israel. At times, this wandering tabernacle would fill with the very presence of God.

New life in Jesus Christ is at the center of the promises of the New Covenant: the Eucharist is both the sign of the New Covenant and the True Presence of God. This is why we also have a tabernacle.



St. Mary's Ducks Basketball

(Home games in bold)

Girls at 4.00 pm / Boys at 5.15 pm

29 November Shannon Forest
1 December Spartanburg Prep



Tradition - Virtue - Excellence



Compline at POP

Compline (also known as Night Prayer) is the final church service (or office) of the day in the Christian tradition of canonical hours. Prince of Peace will have Compline on all Sundays during Advent at 7.30 pm in the church.

Give blood today. Start saving lives. Earn TBC Rewards!

St. Mary's Catholic Church
BLOOD DRIVE
Sunday
December 4th
8:00am – 1:00pm
Carolina or Clemson Sweatshirt and 200
TBC Reward Points for all Donors!

The Blood Connection
Your Community Blood Donation Center

TheBloodConnection.org
facebook.com/BloodConnection
instagram.com/TheBloodConnection
@BloodConnection

To reserve a time, please contact
Rita Brown at Ritamb@aol.com or
Leslie Owens at lesowens1996@gmail.com

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

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee." ~ St. Augustine. Come REST with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Contact Lisa Buss at adoration@princeofpeacetaylors.org or call 864.508.7123. Choose an hour of your convenience or consider one of our EMPTY HOURS (*) or one needing a prayer partner:

Monday 12 pm*

Wednesday 2 am*



Advent Confessions

On Thursday 15 December, there will be several priests hearing Confessions at St Mary Magdalene, Simpsonville at 7 pm.

On Wednesday 21 December, Father Bart will hear Confessions at St Rafka, Greer from 9 am to 6 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.

Upcoming Events

27 November - Annual Friendsgiving: 6-10 pm at Kylee's house. Text 864.266.8843 for the address.

30 November - OLR:Mass & Guided Tour: Join us for Mass at 6 pm at Our Lady of the Rosary followed by a guided tour of the new church building with a talk on sacred architecture with Father Longenecker. Reminder: OLR offers Confession & Adoration from 4.45-5.45pm.

Join us for
A FALL 2016 SPEAKER
SERIES FOR
MARRIED + SINGLE
YOUNG ADULTS IN
THEIR 20s + 30s

presented by



Stay in touch:
www.lvgreenville.com
Instagram Facebook Twitter

MONDAY NIGHTS in NOVEMBER | 7 PM

CONNOLLY'S IRISH PUB

Grab a drink. Meet friends. Hear a message.

11/7 - Keith & Tami Kiser |
Catholicism in Marriage, Dating &
Family

11/14 - Gabe Lewis | Catholicism in
Friendship

11/21 - Father Chris Smith |
Catholicism thru Obstacles & Anxiety

11/28 - Pearlie Harris | Catholicism in
Community & Service

Facebook.com/LVGreenville
www.LVGreenville.com
LVGreenville@gmail.com

Father Jay Scott Newman, VF
Pastor of St. Mary's Church
pastor@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4101

Father Francisco Cruz
Parochial Vicar
fathercruz@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4116

Assisting Priests

Father Jonathan Duncan
Administrator of St. Anselm's Community
fatherduncan@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4121

Father Bartholomew Leon
Administrator of St. Rafka Church
bartleon@gmail.com
864.469.9119

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Nestor Acosta
nestor.acosta@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4118

Deacon John Heuser
john.heuser@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4113

Deacon Clark Brittain
clark.brittain@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4120

Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
joe.sanfilippo@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4119

Deacon Diego Ferro
diego.ferro@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4112

Deacon George Tierney
george.tierney@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4115

Deacon Alex Garvey
alex_garvey@bshsi.org
864.255.1096

Deacon Tom Whalen
thomas.whelen@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4108

Staff

Vickie Acosta
Executive Assistant to the Pastor
vickie.acosta@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4100

Timothy Nielsen
Director of Christian Formation
timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4114

Jennifer Anderson
Director of Finance and Human Resources
jennifer.anderson@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4102

Chris Ortiz
Director of Youth Ministry
chris.ortiz@stmarysgvl.org
305.216.6010

Arlen Clarke
Choirmaster
arlen.clarke@stmarysgvl.org
864.901.1250

Pat Perkins
Director of Administration
pat.perkins@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4109

Jaime Escobar
Director of Facilities
jaime.escobar@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4107

David Rhyne
Organist
david.rhyne@stmarysgvl.org
864.270.4689

Joann Miller
Director of Religious Education
joann.miller@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4110

Lisa Watkins
Director of Communications
lisa.watkins@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4105