



# St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

11 December 2016

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Lord Jesus teaches us to expect opposition, rejection, and even hatred and persecution from “the world” simply because we are his disciples. But, by “the world”, the Christ does not mean the universe he created or this planet which is his handiwork; rather, by “the world”, the Messiah means that part of his creation which is in rebellion against its Creator. And in every age from his Resurrection to our day, the solemn warning of Jesus has been fulfilled – even if the nature of the opposition and persecution have changed in different times and places.

As we prepare to celebrate with joy the Birth of the Messiah, we must be mindful that all over the world today, Christian men, women, and children are in real danger of poverty, persecution, and even death simply because they believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and want to shape their lives by that belief. In nations where militant Islam, fanatical Hinduism, or godless Communism are the dominant force in culture, government, or both, Christians do not enjoy the protection of law, cannot exercise the natural human right of freedom of religion, and are under constant threat of imprisonment, torture, forced conversion to other religions, and violent death either from judicial murder or mob violence.

But we do not have to look to foreign prisons to find such persecution. Here in the United States of America, Catholics are systematically being denied our freedom of religion in the name of the dictatorship of relativism. In different parts of our country, the Church has been forced to abandon placing children for adoption, and every Catholic institution in the nation (hospitals, colleges, universities, etc.) is under threat right now from the Federal Government of being obliged to cooperate with and pay for abortion, sterilization and contraception as “health care.” Unless this trend is resisted, then in due course, ministers of the Catholic Church will no longer be permitted to witness marriages with effects in civil law and Catholic schools may well be forced to hire persons who do not believe and are not living according to the Catholic Faith.

If we are to worship the Kings of kings with our lives as well as with our words, we have a solemn moral obligation to resist these injustices – at home and abroad – with every available means and to bear witness to our faith no matter the cost. Three days after Christmas, on 28 December, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the children who were martyred by King Herod in his vain effort to prevent the true Son of David from taking the Throne of Israel. From that first Christmas until the Day of the Lord, following Jesus Christ will always require from his disciples the readiness to endure opposition and persecution for the sake of proclaiming that Jesus Christ is Lord. May God give us the grace to bear witness to the truth of the Gospel this Christmas and every day of our lives.

Father Newman



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
**OF CHARLESTON**  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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November 2016

Dear Parishioners,

Reflecting on the fruits of the Year of Mercy, I cannot help but recall the example of thousands of now elderly women and men religious who, for so many, were a living sign of God's mercy. These women and men — Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests — were indeed the hands of Christ as they educated the young, cared for the sick, and ministered to the neediest among us. Through their service and witness, they modeled the compassionate love of Jesus and showed us that we, too, could be instruments of peace and mercy.

Today, many senior religious continue to be vessels of mercy, serving in a wide range of volunteer and prayers ministries. Others are frail and need assistance. Most of the older religious ministered for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. With the ever rising cost of health care and the increased number of those needing care, many religious communities struggle to provide for aging members.

The Retirement Fund for Religious is an annual collection that benefits nearly 33,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift provides vital support for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious communities implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure both quality eldercare and continued service to the people of God.

I recognize that this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of support, and I ask you simply to give what you can. In thanksgiving for the lessons of mercy that senior religious have shared with us, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious.

In the Lord's Peace,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo  
Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston

Collection date in the Diocese of Charleston: December 11<sup>th</sup>

# Calendar of Events

## Mass Schedule & Intentions

### Sunday, 11 December 2016

7.30 am ✕ Alexis Quartararo  
9.00 am ✕ Emily Rose Gomes  
11.00 am Pro populo  
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

### Monday, 12 December 2016

7.00 am Anastasia Smith

### Tuesday, 13 December 2016

7.00 am ✕ Joseph & Donielle Dietz  
12.00 noon ✕ Marie Rose Nielsen

### Wednesday, 14 December 2016

7.00 am ✕ Jennette Pelicano  
12.00 noon ✕ Joseph Ranghelli

### Thursday, 15 December 2016

7.00 am Special Intentions  
12.00 noon ✕ Christina Smith

### Friday, 16 December 2016

7.00 am ✕ Robert Dowling, Sr.

### Saturday, 17 December 2016

5.00 pm ✕ Steve Brown

## Meetings & Events \*

### Sunday, 11 December 2016

Coffee & doughnuts: After the 9.00 am Mass (P)  
Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass  
9.00 am Scripture Study  
5.00 pm Solemn Vespers (church)  
6.00 pm High School Youth Group (M)

### Monday, 12 December 2016

6.30 pm Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts (M)

### Tuesday, 13 December 2016

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

### Wednesday, 14 December 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, 15 December 2016

2.00-4.00 pm St. Mary's Prayer Group

### Friday, 16 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, 17 December 2016

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

## Financial Report

### Weekend of 3/4 December

Needed	33,150
Received	33,914
Surplus	764

Poor Box	1,123
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### Offertory Year to Date

Needed	762,450
Received	753,720
Shortage	8,730

**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](mailto:jennifer.anderson@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](http://www.stmarysgvl.org)

# 2016 Holiday Liturgical Schedule

## Christmas Eve, Saturday 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      Sung Mass in the church (*Schola*)  
7.00 pm      Sung Mass in the church (*Schola and Brass Ensemble*)
- 9.00 pm      Choir Program in the church (*Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble*)  
10.00 pm     Solemn Mass During the Night (*Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble*)

*No Confessions will be heard on 24 December.  
The 10.00 pm Mass During the Night takes the place of the Mass at Midnight.*

## Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December

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

*On Monday 26 December there is no Mass at 7 am. The weekday Mass schedule from 27 to 30 December is as usual, but there is no Holy Hour on Wednesday 28 December.*

## The Solemnity of the Mother of God

The Mass schedule for 31 December and 1 January is as usual.  
Confessions are scheduled for Saturday 31 December.

*The church office will close at noon on Friday 23 December and reopen on Tuesday 27 December.  
The church office will close at noon on Friday 30 December and reopen on Tuesday 3 January.*



## 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.

## 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.

## St. Mary's Senior Fellowship



Join us to celebrate this jolly season on Saturday 10 December at 12.00 noon. in Sacred Heart Hall. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share. New friends and guests are always welcome!

## Mass Intentions

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

## Knights of Columbus Breakfast



The K. of C. Monthly Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday 18 December in the Pazdan Hall Dining Room after all the morning Masses. All are welcome to share breakfast with the parish family.

## Caritas Counseling Services, LLC

Counseling services available at St. Mary's. Contact Dorothy Whalen at [dorothy.whalen@stmarysgvl.org](mailto:dorothy.whalen@stmarysgvl.org) or 864.679.4122.

# PARISH NEWS

## Collections for 10/11 December

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

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

## Nursery Schedule

The nursery will be closed on the following dates:

- 18 December
- 25 December
- 1 January

## Women of Grace Bible Study

The Women of Grace Bible Study will not meet on Sunday 18 December. Study will resume on Sunday 15 January after the Christmas season.

## Bulletin Submissions

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

## 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](mailto:timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org)  
864.679.4114



## MASS COLLECTS FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

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

### Sunday 11 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 12 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 13 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 14 December

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that the coming solemnity of your Son may bestow healing upon us in this present 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 15 December

Unworthy servants that we are, O Lord, grieved by the guilt of our deeds, we pray that you may gladden us by the saving advent of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### Friday 16 December

May your grace, almighty God, always go before us and follow after, so that we, who await with heartfelt desire the coming of your Only Begotten Son, may receive your help both now and in the life to come. 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.

### Saturday 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.



# 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.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

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

11 December is the final class for 2016.  
Class resumes 8 January 2017.

## Religious Education Grades 1-8

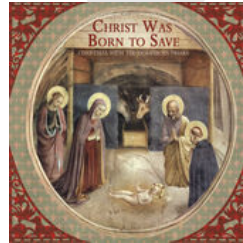
Wednesday 6.30-7.30 pm

14 December is the final class for 2016.  
Classes resume 4 January 2017.

## 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/>



### New Recording:

Christ Was Born to Save:  
Christmas with  
the Dominican Friars

## 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.

**Advent Ember Days: 14, 16 & 17 December**





# st. mary's catholic school

2016-2017  
The Year of Hope



## St. Mary's Catholic School

864.271.3870  
school.office@stmarysgvl.org



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**Pat Lanning**  
Safe Environment Coordinator  
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**Lisa Lyvers**  
Director of St. Mary's Classic & Gala  
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[www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool](http://www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool)



## St. Mary's 101 - The Bishop's Visit

Bishop Guglielmone celebrated the School Mass on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. During his homily, he spoke about how St. Mary's stained glass windows represent two of the day's Mass readings: Adam's and Eve's "no" in the Garden which was countered by Mary's "yes" in the Annunciation. He reminded us that she was conceived without sin and never chose to sin, but she still had a free choice to make when He asked her to be Jesus' mother.

At the end of Mass, Bishop Guglielmone spoke to the students about his miter (bishop's hat) and why he takes it on and off during Mass. It represents his teaching authority. When he is teaching the people, a bishop wears his miter, but Bishop Guglielmone takes it off during his homily because he's afraid it will fall! He also takes his miter off when he is leading the people in prayer and when he is listening to the Gospel, which contains the words of Jesus. This is an acknowledgement that the bishop learns from Jesus who is always the highest teacher.

Following Mass, Bishop Guglielmone had an opportunity to visit several classrooms and answer some of the students' questions. He granted the students a Bishop's Holiday – an extra day off school (TBD) to celebrate his visit!



## St. Mary's Ducks Basketball

*(Home games in bold)*

12 December Legacy Charter  
Girls 5.00 pm / Boys 6.00 pm

15 December **Christ Church**  
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

You are cordially invited to the  
**St. Mary's Gala "Mardi Gras"**  
Friday, February 17, 2017  
6:30pm-Midnight

Embassy Suites Greenville, South Carolina Festive Attire See back for further details

To purchase tickets visit:  
<http://smsGalal7.gesture.com>



# st. mary's catholic school

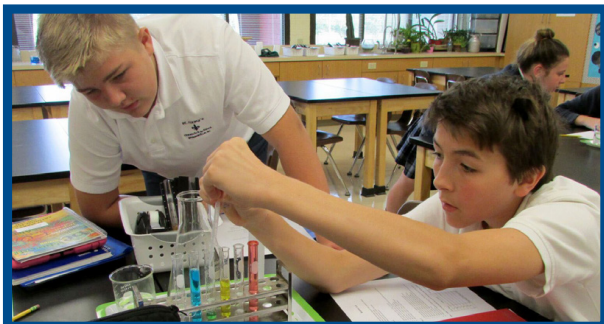
TRADITION



VIRTUE



EXCELLENCE



Priority Testing Dates at 9 am:  
28 January 2017  
25 February 2017

Call to schedule your school tour: 864.679.4117

## Grades K3-8



✿ SACS Accredited  
✿ National Blue  
Ribbon School



101 Hampton Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601 ✿ [www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool](http://www.stmarysgvl.org/theschool)

# 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](mailto: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\*                      Thursday 1 pm\*  
Wednesday 2 am\* & 12 pm      Saturday 11 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

12 December - Annual Anticipation of Christmas Party:  
7-10 pm at Connolly's Irish Pub.

18 December - Carols & Gift Giving: 1-2 pm at Pendleton  
Manor (414 Summit Dr, Greenville 29609). Contact  
Maureen with questions at 864.345.5526.

[Facebook.com/LVGreenville](https://www.facebook.com/LVGreenville)  
[www.LVGreenville.com](http://www.LVGreenville.com)  
[LVGreenville@gmail.com](mailto:LVGreenville@gmail.com)

## 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.

## Natural Family Planning

A free, introductory session of the Creighton Model Fertility Care System, a modern, effective method of NFP, will be held on Thursday 15 December at 7.00 pm at St. Francis Hospital - Eastside in Greenville in Classroom 301. To register, please contact Nancy McGrath, RN, CFCP at [NaProNurse@aol.com](mailto:NaProNurse@aol.com) or 864.292.0475.



[www.CharlestonVocations.com](http://www.CharlestonVocations.com)

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

**I Have Called  
You By Name.**

*Isaiah 43:1*

## 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 your 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.

Father Jay Scott Newman, VF  
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864.679.4101

Father Francisco Cruz  
Parochial Vicar  
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864.679.4116

#### Assisting Priests

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

#### Permanent Deacons

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#### Staff

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