



St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

25 December 2016

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 Monday 9 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

MASS COLLECTS FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Vigil Mass

O God, who gladden us year by year
as we wait in hope for our redemption,
grant that, just as we joyfully welcome
your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer,
we may also merit to face him confidently
when he comes again as our Judge.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Mass During the Night

O God, who have made this most sacred night
radiant with the splendor of the true light,
grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his
light on earth,
may also delight in his gladness in heaven.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Mass at Dawn

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word,
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,
may also shine through in our deeds.
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.

Mass During the Day

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature
and still more wonderfully restored it,
grant, we pray,
that we may share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.
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, 25 December 2016

Nativity of the Lord

9.00 am Kelly Dietz
11.00 am Pro populo
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, 26 December 2016

No Mass today

Tuesday, 27 December 2016

7.00 am Dan & Victoria Burnos
12.00 noon ✕ Dr. Gerardo Vergara

Wednesday, 28 December 2016

7.00 am ✕ Geraldine Wheadon
12.00 noon ✕ Jean-Louis Brouillard

Thursday, 29 December 2016

7.00 am ✕ Jean Dickensheets
12.00 noon Brooklyn Rose Thompson

Friday, 30 December 2016

7.00 am Special Intention

Saturday, 31 December 2016

5.00 pm ✕ Ellena

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 25 December 2016

No Nursery or Preschool this week

Monday, 26 December 2016

Parish office closed

Tuesday, 27 December 2016

1.00 pm Senior Men's Club

Wednesday, 28 December 2016

No Holy Hour & Confessions
No faith formation for children or adults

Thursday, 29 December 2016

Friday, 30 December 2016

Parish office closes at noon.

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, 31 December 2016

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

Financial Report

Weekend of 17/18 December

Needed	33,150
Received	37,776
Surplus	4,626

Poor Box	1,120
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	828,750
Received	825,154
Shortage	3,596

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.

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

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 (<i>Youth Choir</i>)
5.00 pm	Sung Mass in the church (<i>Schola</i>)
7.00 pm	Sung Mass in the church (<i>Schola and Brass Ensemble</i>)
9.00 pm	Choir Program in the church (<i>Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble</i>)
10.00 pm	Solemn Mass During the Night (<i>Adult Choir and Brass Ensemble</i>)

*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.*

Thank You

Fr. Newman, Fr. Duncan, 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.

Christmas Afternoon Television Special in the Upstate featuring the Diocese of Charleston

For your Christmas afternoon viewing in the Upstate, please tune in at 1 pm to Fox Carolina Television Channel 21 (check your satellite/cable listings for FOX Carolina/WHNS-TV) for "An Afternoon in the Upstate with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston." Good Christian entertainment for the entire family. There will be a traditional Christmas story told by, Fr. Patrick Tuttle, OFM, "If I Were A Goose". Musical selections by The Heritage Choir and St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School Mixed Choir. You will be surprised at Bishop Robert Guglielmone's culinary skills as he shares an Italian secret pasta recipe. Fr. Jay Scott Newman will also provide words of Faith, Wisdom and Hope for a Blessed New Year. Join us to share the Christmas Spirit.

2016 Tax Statements

Tax statements are available upon request. Please contact Jennifer Anderson in the church office at 864.679.4102 or jennifer.anderson@stmarysgvl.org if you would like a copy of your contribution statement for 2016. Please allow us several days to process and mail your statement. Thank you.

Women of Grace Bible Study

The Women of Grace Bible Study will resume on Sunday 15 January after the Christmas season.

Caritas Counseling Services, LLC

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

No class. Class resumes 8 January 2017.

Religious Education Grades 1-8

No classes. Classes resume 4 January 2017.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 24/25 December

Support of the Parish & St. Mary's Capital Campaign

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:

25 December and 1 January

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Ms Christian Navarre, Mr & Mrs Michael Doerfler, Mr & Mrs Jefferson Packard, Dr Melissa Buchanan and Mr & Mrs Roc Farré.

Thank You

"The Board of Governors, staff, and volunteers of Project Host thank you for your donation. Contributions like yours help The Project Host Soup Kitchen offer a balanced, nutritious meal each day in a safe, clean, and loving environment to all who are hungry."

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, Leonard Kuczewski and Fred Henning.

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.





Women of Upstate Greenville Catholic Parishes

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US!

**"Catholic Women United in Spirituality,
Service and Leadership"**

A Leadership Workshop Sponsored by The South Carolina Council of Catholic Women

WHERE: Gallivan Hall, St. Mary's Church Campus,
111 Hampton Avenue, Greenville 29601

WHEN: Saturday, January 7, 2017

TIME: 9:30 A.M.—Registration and Coffee
10:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.—Workshop

Lunch provided by the women of the Greenville Deanery
No Cost

Workshop Topics:

- Embracing Our Past As We Ensure Our Future (The Council of Catholic Women)
- Developing Good Leadership Practices and Skills
- Building a Better Foundation for Membership Growth
 - Organizing and Developing New Affiliates
- Finding a "New" Way — What Can We Do Better?

The workshop will be facilitated by Joan Mack and Barbara Birds, Past Presidents of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women, and is sponsored by the Greenville Deanery.

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2017

Contact Greenville Deanery President, Susanne Wolfe at 864-313-5866
or susanne.wolfe12@gmail.com



Mass Intentions

If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, contact Vickie Acosta in the church office at 864.271.8422 or vickie.acosta@stmarysgvl.org.

Thank You

Birthright of Greenville is so very grateful for the generous support from St. Mary's during our annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Thank you for your on-going commitment to helping moms and babies, helping Birthright continue to provide loving alternatives to abortion, and helping save babies... one life at a time!

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 1/1/17) at St. Mary's Gym on Saturday 14 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 John McGrath at 864.292.0475.



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 meets on Friday mornings from 6.00-8.00 am for prayer in the church and then in Sacred Heart Hall for study. Find out more at PillarsofChrist.org.

EFT Donation

We would like to remind everyone that St. Mary's offers Electronic Funds Transfer through the parish website as a way to automate your regular weekly offertory donation.

EFT donation options include:

Direct Debit Donation that allows you to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account.

Credit & Debit Card Donation that allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

EFT donation lets you establish an automatic donation plan, change your plan, make a one-time donation and view your online donation history. To get started, visit the 'Manage Your EFT' link on the homepage of our parish website.





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



St. Mary's Basketball

(Home games in bold)

6 January Prince of Peace
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

9 January Legacy Charter
Girls 5.00 pm / Boys 6.00 pm

10 January Bridgeway Christian
Girls 4.00 pm / Boys 5.15 pm

Virtue & Saints for December

Patience: waiting or
enduring without complaint

K3-2nd St. Monica
Grades 3 - 5 St. Isaac Jogues
Grades 6 - 8 St. Rita of Cascia



Christmas Parties and Charities

St. Mary's students finished up Advent and approached Christmas with a lot of bustle. The Middle School concluded 2016 with their annual Christmas party – complete with breakfast, Mrs. Chapman's DJ skills, karaoke, and a student dance off.

In the midst of the excitement and parties, we remembered to serve people who are most in need. The 7th grade led classes in praying for the homeless with special classroom Advent calendars. K4 & 5th grade hosted their annual baby shower for Jesus and donated items to Birthright of Greenville to help women in crisis pregnancies. Through their classroom Chores for Charity, 3rd grade students were able to raise enough money to donate 13 heaters to Catholic Charities for families in need. Band, orchestra, and Show Choir performed for the elderly at Shepherd's Care Nursing Home and also performed for students at the Washington Center. 2nd grade invited police officers to their Christmas party on Wednesday morning. Students sang to the officers and gave them homemade goodies and a poinsettia.



Merry Christmas from

St. Mary's Faculty and Staff



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books, booklets, and pamphlets!

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LIGHTHOUSE
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Free Catholic Bible Study App Ignatius - Lighthouse Edition



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Description:

The entire Catholic Bible (RSV-2CE) available for FREE – now packed with additional content from Lighthouse, Ignatius Press, and other Catholic Apostolates that unlock the beauty and richness of Scripture.

Features:

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Over 10 hours of FREE Audio Commentary from Dr. Scott Hahn and St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology.

Dramatized Audio version of the Gospel of John – FREE selections from the Truth and Life Dramatized Audio New Testament.

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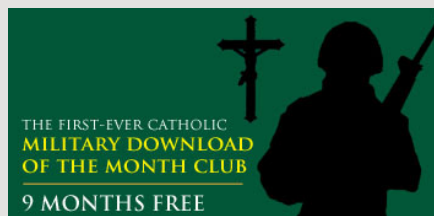
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Free Military Download of the Month Club

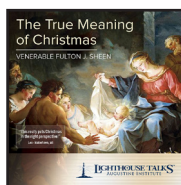
Lighthouse is proud to offer a free 9-month subscription of faith-filled presentations from the world's best Catholic speakers for all veterans, military personnel, and their families!

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Featured Talks

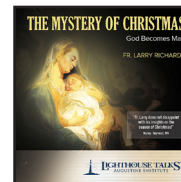


The True Meaning of Christmas

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite! Available in [English](#).

The Mystery of Christmas

In this inspiring talk, renowned preacher and retreat master Fr. Larry Richards illuminates how the true joy of Christmas is found in the greatest gift ever given – the gift of Jesus Christ to the whole world. With humor, compassion, and clarity, Fr. Larry gets to the heart of the true meaning of Christmas and helps us to better appreciate the immensity of God's love for us as His children. Available in [English](#).



www.LighthouseCatholicMedia.org

PROUDLY PRO-LIFE WEEKEND

January 6-7, 2017

South Carolina Citizens for Life

Will host the

Proudly Pro-Life Weekend

January 6-7, 2017, Columbia SC



Proudly Pro-Life Dinner Friday, January 6, 2017

Featured Speaker **Evangelist Dr. Alveda King**

Pastoral Associate, Priests for Life
Director, Civil Rights for the Unborn

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 5:30pm, beginning with a silent auction
Dinner Served at 6:45pm

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
Available through December 3, 2016

Stand Up for Life March and Rally

Saturday, January 7, 2017

- 11:00 a.m. Line Up for the March
USC Russell House, Greene Street
- 11:30 a.m. March steps off led by Knights of Columbus
- 12:00 p.m. Rally begins State House, Gervais Street side

FOLLOWING STAND UP FOR LIFE MARCH AND RALLY
GRAND OPENING – DAYBREAK PREGNANCY CENTER
1601 ST. JULIAN PLACE, COLUMBIA, SC

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:

Sunday 1 pm	Wednesday 2 am*
Monday 1 am* & 12 pm*	Friday 4 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

6 January - Happy Hour: 6 - 7 pm at Upstate Craft Beer Co. (400 Augusta St, Greenville 29601).

12 January - Toolbox Study: 7-9 pm at St. Francis Eastside (125 Commonwealth Dr, Greenville 29615). Join Sarah P for this 4-week study.

22 January - Monthly Meal: 6-8 pm at Topsy Taco (215 Pelham Rd Ste B206, Greenville 29605).

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



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 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.

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.

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