

St Mary's Catholic Church

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Greenville, South Carolina

9 May 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

Between the second lesson and the Gospel appointed for today (both written by the Apostle John), the word love appears seventeen times in sixteen sentences, so the message could not be clearer: the Gospel of Jesus Christ is about love. The centrality of love in Christian faith and life often comes as a surprise to those who do not share our faith because they regard the Church as merely an old scold intent on keeping people shrouded in the darkness and misery of superstition and priestcraft so that the Church can control their lives and behavior with an outdated moral code that should have been left behind with the bubonic plague and the Spanish Inquisition. But given the centrality of love in the Gospel, I think we need an explanation of the failure of so many people to see love in the Church, even allowing for the blinders of bigotry and the human inclination to hold in contempt those whose worldview we do not share. So what might that explanation be? I think one part of it might be the limitations of the English word love and the ways in which those limitations impoverish our imagination.

Think of the many ways in which we use the same word. I love my husband or wife. I love my parents. I love my children. I love my friends. I love sports. I love to travel. I love to read. I love my pets. I love God. Languages other than English often have several words to carry the weight that we force upon one word, and this is especially odd given the comparatively vast size of the useful vocabulary of English which was cobbled together from Greek and Latin through Germanic and Romance languages alike. But for several reasons love has become a word that serves many disparate purposes, and the very multiplicity of its uses diminishes its effectiveness.

One way to sort through the fog of this field of meanings is to read a magnificent slim volume by C.S. Lewis called "The Four Loves." Lewis explores affection, friendship, erotic love, and the love of God as they were understood in classical antiquity and in the Holy Scriptures and helps clarify these different meanings of love for a modern English speaker. If our culture today is marked by loneliness, that surely is a sign of our diminished capacity for friendship. And if marriage has been strained to the breaking point by infidelity and impermanence, that certainly is an indication of unrealistic expectations for what erotic love and sexual friendship can mean in our lives. And these deficits are, in turn, the result of our confused and diminished understanding of love in general. And if the lesser loves are misunderstood, then how can the higher loves possibly be attained, especially the love of God?

In addition to Lewis's "The Four Loves," I also recommend another slim volume called "Spiritual Friendship" by St Aelred of Rievaulx, who was a Cistercian abbot in the north of England in the 12th century. This little treatise by a master of the interior life is a splendid guide to living as a disciple in life-giving friendship with other disciples. Both of these little books can help us fulfill the command of Christ: love one another as I love you.

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions Meetings & Events *		Financial Report		
Sunday 9 May	Sunday 9 May		Weekend of 1/2 May	
 7.30 am 9.00 am ✓ The Norungolo Family Joseph & Christine Sufczynski 11.00 am 1.00 pm Spanish Mass 	Mother's Day 9.00 am Sur	nday Morning Bible Study	Needed Received Surplus	35,900 38,624 + 2,724
Monday 10 May	Monday 10 May		Poor Box	308
7.00 am ♣ Daniel Welch	6.00 pm Bo	y Scouts (P)		
Tuesday 11 May 7.00 am ★ Emily Rose Gomes	1	ights of Columbus (M) anish Bible Class	Offertory Needed Received Surplus	<u>Year to Date</u> 1,543,700 1,580,715 + 37,015
Wednesday 12 May	Wednesday 12 M	lay	Electronic Giving: If you want	
7.00 am ♣ Lillian Sasso	9.30 am We Bit 5.00-6.00 pm Ho	IS Mom's Bible Study ednesday Morning ble Study bly Hour and nfessions (church)	your Electronic online, you ca through the "M on the homepag	management of Fund Transfer an now do so take a Gift" link e of our website.
Thursday 13 May	6.30 pm "Return" Study Thursday 13 May		For more information or if you have any questions please contact Jennifer Anderson at jennifer.anderson@stmarysgvl.org.	
7.00 am 🛛 🛪 Raymond Martin Gore	7.00 pm Spa	anish Adoration	jenniter.anderson	austinarysgvi.org.
Friday 14 May	Friday 14 May		<i>Forward in Faith</i> Capital Campaign	
7.00 am Elizabeth Armaly	6.15-6.30 am Mo 6.30-8.00 am Pil 10.00 am Frid	lars of Christ (early group) orning Prayer - Lauds (church) lars of Christ (late group) day Morning Bible Study anish Rosary Gathering		
			Donations Received	3,484,948
Saturday 15 May	Saturday 15 May			
5.00 pm ♣ Raymond Ignatius Gore		sary - Grove Rd ortion clinic onfessions (church)	Pledge Balance	918,467
G - Gallivan Hall M - McGrady Ha	Il * All events in Sa	acred Heart Hall	Still to Go	2,596,585

Prayer Requests

Please pray for all those who are hospitalized and for all those who are shut-ins, ill or recuperating at home, especially Paulina Cruz, Brett Gervais, Michael Pinto, Joseph & Sandy Srp, Marie-Therese Isidore, Carlton Carpenter, Jim Barber, Mauren Lukovic, Christine Tancrell, Celsea Patry, John Tyler, Hunter Conant, Lori Wylie, Kenneth & Nancy Tessier, Patricia O'Leary, Robert Brown, Juliet Roy, Chris Papademitriou, Jeannine Harvey, Ellen Plowden, Mary Stillmock, Shelby Gaschler, James Smith, Anna Deehan, Nancy Laliberty, Julie Birello, Fr Louis Marie Leonelli, Amal Long, Marilyn Postell, Sofia Alvarez, Marilyn Gleaton and Ann Howard.

Offertory Envelopes and the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Marriage

If you no longer receive weekly stewardship envelopes in the mail, you may have been marked as **Inactive** within our parishioner database. No matter how often you come to Mass at St Mary's, you are not considered an **Active** member of the parish unless you are registered here, attending Mass here each Sunday, and using the stewardship envelopes to fulfill two separate purposes: a) making your offertory contributions and other gifts, and b) establishing an attendance record.

Active member status in our database is essential for requesting the following:

- Parishioner tuition in the school
- Endorsement to serve as a sacramental sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation
- Baptism, Confirmation, or Marriage (for oneself or for one's children, either here at St Mary's or in another parish)

If you use electronic transfer to make your offertory contribution and other gifts, simply check the box for EFT on the empty envelope and then drop it in the collection plate. All envelopes in the collection are recorded in our parish database.

Once six months elapses without any envelopes or online donations received, the account is marked as <u>Inactive</u> and envelopes are no longer distributed. To begin receiving stewardship envelopes again, please email Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@stmarysgvl.org

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Mr Garon Lee, Mr Alvis Martin Rojas Marin & Mrs Roxana Rojas, Mr Oscar Jose Hernandez Palacios & Mrs Nolvia Lizeth Ramos Escobar.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 8/9 May

Catholic Charities Support of the Parish

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

Happy Mother's Day



Congratulations to

Blakely Anne Sieber who was baptized last weekend.

Requiescat in pace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Dullea who died recently. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his 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.

Helping New Mothers This May



In observance of the merry Marian, motherly month of May, St Mary's Respect Life ministry will be collecting new baby items for Birthright to give to mothers with crisis pregnancies who have chosen Life for their babies.

Collection baskets will be located on the first floor of Sacred Heart Hall during the entire

month of May. This is one small way to offer gratitude to the Lord Jesus for giving us His Mother, and to our own birth mother for giving us life.

Most needed items: Diapers - sizes 3, 4 & 5 Infant board books Maternity clothes Maternity belly bands Gauze blankets Teethers, rattles, & toys Diaper bags

Please contact stmarys4lifegvl@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/stmarys4lifegvl/

Weekend Masses & Streaming Mass in Gallivan Hall

Gallivan Hall is open during every weekend Mass to provide plenty of room for everyone. Mass is clearly visible and audible in Gallivan Hall thanks to our cinema screen and sound system, and the rest rooms to the left of the stage will be open.

** Help us keep Gallivan Hall ready for the next Mass:

While you are welcome to move chairs to allow your family to sit closer together, please return them to their original location after Mass. Thank you for your cooperation. **

All pews in the church are now open for seating; however, we continue to encourage social distancing and the wearing of a face mask. Our cry rooms remain closed because proper distancing is not possible in those spaces, and for now Confessions are being heard in the cry rooms on Saturday from 3.30 - 4.30 pm. The Wednesday afternoon Holy Hour has returned from 5.00 - 6.00 pm.

Finally, the dispensation from the Sunday obligation remains in force, which means that no one is required to attend Mass, even though all must find a way to keep the Lord's Day holy, and the best way to do that is by joining in the sacred liturgy live-streamed on Sunday morning at 11 am. If you are at risk of the severe symptoms possible from exposure to SARS-CoV-2, then please stay home and join us in prayer remotely.

Supporting Infertility and Pregnancy Loss on Mother's Day

This Mother's Day, let us also remember the women who are suffering with infertility and those who have lost their children through miscarriage, stillbirth, and early infant loss. These times are especially difficult for them.

Mother's Day Blessing

• Loving God, we lift up to you all those who are hurting today especially those who are yearning to have a child. May this longing be filled with hope and desire to seek ways to bear fruit and be a channel of your grace. We also lift up those who are mourning and have lost a child. May they be healed mind, body and soul.

• May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as spiritual mothers. Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

<u>Resources</u>

• Virtual Mother's Day Retreat for Infertility & Loss. Register at https://www.springsinthedesert. org/belonging

• Catholic Counseling https://catholiccounselors. com/online-videos/marriage-sexuality/infertility

• Learn Creighton Model & Naprotechnology (IVF alternative) https://charlestondiocese.org/marriage/ natural-family-planning/fertilitycare-practitioners

• More Infertility Resources at Natural Family Planning Diocese of Charleston https://www. facebook.com/NFPSC

Saint Matthias, PRAY FOR US!

Do you have adult children that have fallen away from the church? Do you need help in drawing them back?

Join me in a 6-week study on the newly released book Return by Brandon Vogt. Return offers practical steps of how to draw your child back to Christ and His Church.

Click here for a preview: <u>Return trailer</u>

This will be a 6 week study meeting once a week (Wednesday evenings) starting on Wednesday, 12 May 2021 and running through Wednesday, 16 June from 6:30 -7:30 pm in SHH.

There will be a \$20 registration fee which includes study materials and book. I have a limited number of books available on a first come first serve basis. Purchase your own book and pay a \$5 registration fee.

To register or find out more contact:

Linda Jackson Director of Catechesis and Congregational Care <u>linda.jackson@stmarysgvl.org</u> 864.679.4110 *** Book study begins this week! No more books are available at this time, but you can still register for \$5 as long as you purchase your own book.







Religious Education 2021-22 - Grades 1-8

Volunteer Opportunities Available We are looking for Catechists and helpers for our Religious Education Program for grades 1-8 for the upcoming year of 2021-2022. We plan on going back to weekly in person instruction for the new year with monthly parent instruction.

To register click the link here: <u>https://form.jotform.com/210974563283158</u> To learn more about being a Catechist click here: <u>https://charlestondiocese.org/catechesis-and-christian-initiation/</u> <u>catechist-formation/</u>

FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact Linda Jackson linda.jackson@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4110



For programming information, visit CatholicRadioinSC.com.

Daily Mass Readings

For the daily Mass readings, visit https://bible.usccb.org

Spiritual Direction

St Mary's has two certified Catholic Spiritual Directors available for individual spiritual direction. Contact Deacon Tom Whalen at thomas.whalen@stmarysgvl.org.

Formed.org

Online resources are available to every member of our parish including books, movies, podcasts and more at Formed.org. Register using our parish code: **8B7VRM**.

Church Donation Information

EFT Donation

St Mary's offers Electronic Funds Transfer through the parish website as a way to automate your regular weekly offertory donation.

EFT donation options:

Direct Debit Donation - automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account.

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

Visit the 'Make a Gift' link on the homepage of our parish website.

Mail-In Donation

Contributions can be mailed to the parish office:

St Mary's Catholic Church 111 Hampton Avenue Greenville, SC 29601

Thank you for your generosity and support.

St Mary's School Job Opening for the 2021 - 2022 School Year

St Mary's School is accepting applications for a highlyqualified **middle school Science teacher**. The ideal candidate would be a practicing Catholic, highly experienced with teaching Science to middle school students, and possess a valid teaching certification. Compensation is dependent upon years of experience.

Please email cover letter, resume, and references to principal@stmarysgvl.org.

St Mary's Catholic School is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Baptism Class



Prior to having a child baptized at Saint 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. For questions, contact T.J. Nielsen at 864.679.4114 or timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org.

Caritas Counseling Services, LLC

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

St Mary's School - AmazonSmile

amazonsmile Sign into your Amazon account, and select St Mary's Catholic School as your organization of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products. you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile.

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/57-0426237

Encourage your friends and family to help SMS by signing up for AmazonSmile!

Nationwide Mass Times

If traveling this Spring, find mass times at a parish near you at https://masstimes.org or https://www.catholicdirectory.com





Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers! Allow Jesus to be Lord of your marriage relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are 16-18 July in Beaufort, SC and 28-30 January 2022 in North Myrtle Beach, SC. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at https://SCMarriageMatters.orgor contact us at applications@scmarriagematters.org or 803-810-9602.

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Prince of Peace

"It is the Lord!" John 21:7

To share a Holy hour with the Lord, contact Lisa Buss at adoration@princeofpeacetaylors.org or 864.508.7123. All hours are available for adoption, but <u>please consider</u> <u>one of the following hours of need:</u>

Sunday 12 pm, Monday 12 am, Tuesday 11 pm, Wednesday 12 pm, Thursday 6 am, Saturday 2 pm

Natural Family Planning Classes

Register for May Introductory Sessions by email.

Virtual Sessions

Thursday 13 May at 7 pm - lexiesawonik@gmail.com Thursday 18 May at 6.30 pm - janellenapro@gmail.com

In Person Sessions

Tuesday 11 May at 7 pm at St Mary Magdalene Catholic Church (Simpsonville) - karenmeyer.napro@gmail.com Wednesday 19 May at 6.30 pm at St Joseph Catholic Church (Columbia) - naprogal@gmail.com





Charleston: **May 14-16** Greenville: **July 30-Aug. 1**

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is a supportive, confidential, nonjudgmental weekend retreat for women and men who have had an abortion experience and would like to encounter God's love, mercy and forgiveness.

Por information or to register

Christy **803.554.6088** Kathy **803.546.6010** grace4healing@gmail.com

Catholic Charities

Our Lady's Food Pantry

Our Lady's Pantry Our Lady's Food Pantry is looking for volunteers! The pantry aims to uphold the dignity and wellness of our poor and

homeless neighbors and is currently operating like a drivethrough. Volunteers are needed to fill food bags for pantry clients on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12.00 pm to 3.00 pm. If you are interested, please contact April Bittner at abittner@charlestondiocese.org or 864.331.2629.

Upstate Job Opening

We are seeking a dynamic and engaging Site Administrator to serve as the local, public representative of Catholic Charities in the Upstate. The Site Administrator will be responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day operation of the office including Our Lady's Pantry (food pantry), the Save a Smile program (denture program), the Clothing Closet and the Mobile Clean of Heart (showers for homeless), and other potential programs. That includes operational implementation of programming, facilities management, staff supervision, recruitment/management of volunteers, volunteer engagement, budget support, fundraising, and community relations. Additionally, the Site Administrator will be responsible for collaborating and communicating with donors and local parishes to create new stewardship events, implementing the strategic vision of the agency and operational priorities to find new ways to serve the poor and marginalized.

This role requires:

• Bachelor's degree in business, liberal arts, social work, or another related social service field

• Applicant to have significant experience in social services, human service delivery, program oversight, and community relation

• The ability to supervise staff and volunteers but also help them to be a part of the mission of the center

• Basic knowledge of budgeting and accounting

• Excellent technical computer skills in Microsoft Office with advanced competency in Microsoft Excel

Valid driver's license

• Bilingual English-Spanish a plus

The Site Administrator must accept and promote Catholic Social Teaching and understand the spirituality of serving the poor to facilitate an encounter with Christ for all who come: the poor, staff, volunteers, donors, or community members. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to apply@charlestondiocese.org.

Vocations Camps in North Carolina



Quo Vadis Days is a five-day vocations discernment camp for young men at Belmont Abbey College. The camp includes talks by local priests, seminarians, and others on the vocations to the priesthood, marriage, and fatherhood.

Ultimately, the goal of our Quo Vadis Days is to challenge young men to ask the fundamental question "quo vadis" or "where are you going?", while equipping them with the tools and opportunity to discern God's will for their life.



At the Annunciation, was she not presented with an invitation for the rest of her life that she could either refuse or accept? Saying yes would have incredible consequences, would literally turn the world upside down and inside out. Her youthful heart was ready for the adventure, and in authentic femininity, her active receptivity was the catapult toward the greatest Romance and the most amazing adventure. She spent more time than any other with our Lord. What did she see and how did she move and respond to the God-man in a perfect and womanly response? These are the questions we want to ponder on our retreat. By forming our young women in authentic femininity after the role model of Mary Immaculate, we desire to assist them and open their hearts to responding to good and holy vocations within the Church as wives/mothers, Consecrated Religious, and Consecrated lay faithful. Additionally, we wish to help them cultivate and maintain a firmly rooted spiritual life of prayer and receptivity to the grace of God.

The Clergy of St Mary's Catholic Church

Father Jay Scott Newman Pastor of St Mary's Church Dean of Greenville pastor@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4100

Father Orlando Cheverría Parochial Vicar of St Mary's Church Priest of San Sebastian jcheverria-jimenez@charlestondiocese.org 864.526.8384 Father Jonathan Duncan Parochial Vicar of St Mary's Church Bon Secours Director of Spiritual Care fatherduncan@stmarysgvl.org 817.475.6909

Father Bartholomew Leon Administrator of St Rafka Church Assisting Priest at St Mary's Church fatherbart@stmarysgvl.org 864.469.9119

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Nestor Acosta nestor.acosta@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4118

Deacon Clark Brittain clark.brittain@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4120

Deacon Diego Ferro diego.ferro@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4112 Deacon Alex Garvey alex.garvey@stmarysgvl.org 864.255.1096

Deacon John Heuser john.heuser@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4113 Deacon Joe Sanfilippo joe.sanfilippo@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4119

Deacon George Tierney george.tierney@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4115

Deacon Tom Whalen thomas.whalen@stmarysgvl.org 864.679.4108

<u>Staff</u>

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