



St Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

11 December 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

After more than nine years of service to Saint Mary's Church, my pastoral associate Timothy Nielsen is departing this week for a job that offers many fewer consolations but much better compensation than church work, and his large and growing family are grateful for the blessings that will attend this move. I, however, am losing the best of colleagues, and the parish staff is losing a man who has been an effective instrument of grace for so many of you. The Nielsen family will remain parishioners at Saint Mary's, and T.J. will continue to serve as the director of the Center for Evangelical Catholicism and as a volunteer catechist for RCIA. But his daytime duties now pass to a new pastoral associate who is already very well known here.

Deacon Joe Sanfilippo was ordained to the diaconate in 2016 after completing a master's degree in sacred theology, and he has served this parish in many capacities since he and his wife Barb became members here in 1986. Sadly, Barb died in 2020, but Deacon Joe remains hearty and hale and will take up all of T.J.'s duties in the parish office. These duties include sacramental preparation for Holy Baptism and Holy Matrimony, the coordination of all weddings and funerals, working with anyone in need of pastoral care to see that they have companions on the Way of the Cross, responding to inquiries about the Catholic Faith and organizing adult catechesis of many kinds, and being present to groups in the parish and to individuals who are working through difficulties of any sort, including those who need an annulment for a previous marriage. Deacon Joe's contact information is printed each week at the back of our liturgy booklet and is available on the parish website, and you will continue to see him at the altar each week as a minister of Word and Sacrament. I am deeply grateful both to T.J. as he departs and to Deacon Joe as he arrives for their invaluable help as my associate in the pastoral care of this congregation.

Another change of clergy assignments in our community took place just before Thanksgiving. Father Bart Leon has been on staff at Memorial Hospital for more than sixteen years, during which the identity of the hospital changed several times while healthcare systems grew and morphed into major enterprises. In recent weeks, Prisma Health, which operates throughout the Midlands and the Upstate, has laid off hundreds of employees because of changing economic conditions, and one of the positions eliminated in Greenville was Father Bart's post as chaplain at Memorial Hospital. Father Bart remains the pastor of Saint Rafka Church and will continue to assist Saint Mary's with weekday Masses, but his position at the hospital no longer exists. This means that Catholic patients at Memorial Hospital may or may not be able to receive the sacraments from a priest, depending on the availability of clergy on a given day.

So, please be mindful that the best way to receive the Anointing of the Sick is to request it before you go to the hospital by making an appointment. To see me for this or any other purpose, please contact my assistant Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@stmarysgvl.org.

Father Newman

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 11 December

7.30 am ✱ Salvatore Provenzano
 9.00 am ✱ John Blessing
 11.00 am Pro populo
 1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday 12 December

7.00 am Gabriel Boyd

Tuesday 13 December

7.00 am ✱ US National Guard Soldiers

Wednesday 14 December

7.00 am ✱ The Norungolo Family

Thursday 15 December

7.00 am ✱ Alvina Aubuchon

Friday 16 December

7.00 am ✱ Luz Marina Soto

Saturday 17 December

5.00 pm ✱ All Souls in Purgatory

Meetings & Events *

Sunday 11 December

Coffee & Doughnuts: After 9.00 am Mass (P)
 Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass
 9.00 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
 11.00 am Spanish Bible Class (G)
 5.00 pm Advent Vespers (church)
 6.00 pm High School Youth Group (M)

Monday 12 December

6.30 pm Baptism Class

Tuesday 13 December

Wednesday 14 December

7.30 am SMS Moms' Bible Study
 9.30 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study
 5.00-6.00 pm Holy Hour &
 Confessions (church)
 6.30 pm Introduction to Catholicism (M)
 6.30 pm Religious Education

Thursday 15 December

7.00 pm Spanish Adoration

Friday 16 December

5.30-6.30 am Pillars of Christ (early group)
 6.30-6.45 am Morning Prayer (Lauds) (church)
 7.30-8.30 am Pillars of Christ (late group) (M)

Saturday 17 December

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	37,725
Received	42,051
Surplus	+ 4,326

Poor Box	714
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	867,675
Received	886,509
Surplus	+ 18,834

Electronic Giving: If you want to have direct management of your Electronic Fund Transfer online, you can now do so through the "Make a Gift" 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.

Forward in Faith **Capital Campaign** **\$7 Million to Raise** **2019 to 2023**

Donations	
Received	4,827,260

Pledge	
Balance	535,577

Still to Go	1,637,163
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G - Gallivan Hall M - McGrady Hall
 P - Pazdan Hall

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



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.

Advent Week 3

Candle Name: Shepherd's Candle

Candle Symbolizes: Joy

*Reminds us: Joy the world experienced at
the coming birth of Jesus.*

*"And the angel said to [the shepherds], 'Be not afraid; for
behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to
all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a
Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'" - Luke 2.10-11*

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

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.

Saturday 17 December

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that we, who are weighed down from of old
by slavery beneath the yoke of sin,
may be set free by the newness
of the long-awaited Nativity
of your Only Begotten Son.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Join us for the singing of Solemn Vespers on 11 & 18 December at 5 pm.

Liturgical Schedule Changes

No Confessions on Saturday 24 December

No Holy Hour and Confessions on
Wednesday 28 December

Prayer Requests

Please pray for all those who are hospitalized and for all those who are shut-ins, ill or recuperating at home, especially Lori Wylie, Kenneth & Nancy Tessier, Juliet Roy, Chris Papademitriou, Mary Stillmock, James Smith, Anna Deehan, Nancy Laliberty, Marilyn Postell, Sofia Alvarez, Ann Howard, Carl Lee Cooke, Rose Cain, Joseph M Pazdan, Konta & Laman Patel, Timothy Potocki, Sloane Perkins, George Cortes, Diane Hickey, Rodney 'Butch' Artrip, Michael Tierney, Andrew Buckley, Jaxson Rivera, Helen Carter, Anthony Harris, Katerina Puig, Lucero Rubiano, Aurelia LaValley, Bonnie Clinbeard, Sheila Garrison and Shelby Gaschler.

Lost and Found

As of 1 January 2023, we will be cleaning out the Lost and Found box in the church office and the unclaimed items will be given to charity. If you (or your children) have forgotten any item in the church, please email Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@stmarysgvl.org with a description of the item(s). We have several books, umbrellas, eyeglasses, and children's clothes in the box, among other items. If you forget something in the church on a weekend, you may ask an usher to look for it in the sacristy, but come Monday morning, please send us an email so we can best locate the item and hold it for you.

Christmas Flower Memorials



St Mary's parishioners are encouraged to participate in helping to decorate our church, gym and Gallivan Hall 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 18 December** for the names to appear in the Christmas Flower list. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 10/11 December

Religious Retirement Fund
Support of the Parish

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



Please join us for
coffee, doughnuts &
fellowship in Pazdan
Hall dining room after
the 9.00 am Mass.

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Mary Beth Lovering, Julie Spitzmiller, John & Joye Burkhardt, James & Holly Meyerhoffer, Gerardo Hernandez & Norma Esparza, Rick & Dawn Carter.

Altar Guild Ministry

This ministry is currently recruiting members. The ladies meet on Friday mornings at 9.00 am. Members of the Altar Guild care for the implements of divine worship, including cleaning the sacred vessels used in the celebration of Mass. Please contact Nancy Criss at 864.834.1849 or 210.386.8970 or email nancycriss@msn.com if interested.

Daily Mass Readings

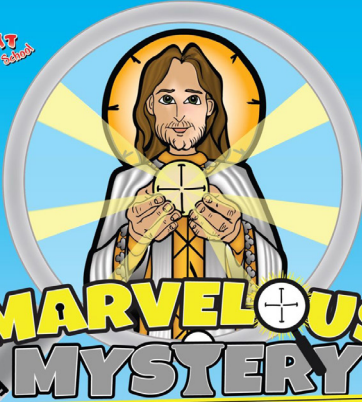

For daily Mass readings, visit <https://bible.usccb.org>

St Mary's School - 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>



**IBS
SAVE
THE
DATE**

MARVELOUS MYSTERY

THE MASS COMES ALIVE

AGES: Children Ages 4-11
WHERE: St. Mary's Catholic Church
WHEN: June 12-16, 2023 (Monday - Friday)
COST: \$35 per child/Max \$125 per family
CONTACT: Linda Jackson 864.679.4111
linda.jackson@stmarysgvl.org
REGISTER BEFORE: May 1, 2023

WWW.CATCHAT.CA

st. mary's catholic school

TRADITION VIRTUE EXCELLENCE



Priority Testing Dates
28 January &
25 February 2023

Call to schedule your
school tour: 864.679.4117

Grades
K3-8



SACS Accredited
National Blue
Ribbon School

101 Hampton Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601 smsgvl.org

JOIN ST MARY'S ADULT CHOIR



A Feast Day will be appointed in your honor.

Contact the Choirmaster at
arlen.clarke@stmarysgvl.org for details.



St Mary's Religious Education



Religious Education Grades 1-8

Classes meet on Wednesday from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

Parent Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

Class meets Sunday at 9.00 am in the K-4 Classroom in Sacred Heart Hall

For More Information

Contact Linda Jackson

linda.jackson@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4110

Adult Christian Formation

An Introduction to Catholicism

Wednesdays 6.30-7.30 pm

7 September through Easter

McGrady Hall in the Church Undercroft

Free of charge but registration is required.

For more information or to register please visit

<https://smcgvl.org/christian-formation/intro-to-catholicism>

Advent Vespers

at

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Fr. Jay Scott Newman, Pastor

Sundays at 5:00 PM

November 27

December 4

December 11

December 18

Sung by the Schola Cantorum

Arlen Clarke, Choirmaster

Emily Cortes, Organist



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 **Inactive** and envelopes are no longer distributed. To begin receiving stewardship envelopes again, please email Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@stmarysgvl.org

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 TJ Nielsen at 864.679.4114 or timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org.

Spiritual Direction

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

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.



Diocese of Charleston PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, send the Diocese of Charleston more priests, deacons, sisters, and brothers. Choose faithful men and women from our homes, parishes, and schools to serve the people of God. Mary, Mother of the Church, help those who are called to offer a joyful "yes" to God's invitation.

Amen

<https://charlestdiocese.org/vocations>

Formed.org

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

PERPETUAL Eucharistic Adoration

Prince of Peace

"Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us."
~Alphonsus Liguori

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 please consider one of the following hours of need (*urgent open hour!):

Tuesday 1 pm*
Wednesday 3 pm
Thursday 12 pm
Friday 8 am
Saturday 7am, 12 pm* & 2 pm

New Year's Family Retreat

Celebrate the New Year at Heart Ridge with the Family Retreat from Friday 30 December (Feast of the Holy Family) to Sunday 1 January. We will celebrate these great Feast Days of the church, including a family friendly New Year's Eve party with games and a bonfire. The retreat will include lots of free time at this mountain retreat center as well as opportunities for reflections and prayer. Comfortable lodging with all meals provided make this a great mini-vacation for the family. Spaces are limited, so please register soon and learn more at <https://www.heartridgeministries.com/newyearsretreat.html>.

Walking With Moms In Need

Our Lady of the Rosary's new outreach *Walking with Moms in Need* will assist moms, especially those with unexpected pregnancies, by offering our support for the concerns and questions she has as she decides what she'll need to provide for herself and her growing baby. Once a mom contacts us, we can invite her to meet with us where she can receive comfort and a confidential, listening ear. Whether it's applying for Medicaid, finding a food bank, clothing closet, looking into prenatal care, delivery options or planning for childcare after delivery, WWMIN is there to help each mom navigate the support that is all around us. If you feel called to this important outreach for moms and can provide a couple of hours (once a week or bi-weekly), please contact wwmin@proton.me or 864.412.7101.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

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.

The retreats in South Carolina are:
December 9-11, 2022—Charleston
March 10-12, 2023-Greenville

For more information or registration

Christy 803 554 6088
Kathy 803 546 6010

Grace4healing@gmail.com

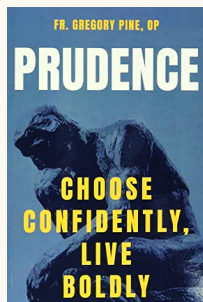
Now is the time

Study with the Sisters

January Book Club and Discernment Nights

For single women age 14-29

Friday, Jan. 6, 13, and 20, 2023 from 7:00-8:30pm
Friday, Jan. 27 from 6:00-8:30 (dinner and adoration)



Book for discussion:

**PRUDENCE:
CHOOSE
CONFIDENTLY,
LIVE BOLDLY**

Fr. Gregory Pine, O.P.

Please order your own copy.

RSVP by **January 2** for more details

Sr. Marie Celine, O.P. || greenville@op-tn.org



DOMINICAN SISTERS OF
Saint Cecilia
Founded in 1860—Nashville

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@charlestandiocese.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
Pastor of St Rafka Church
Assisting Priest at St Mary's Church
fatherbart@stmarysgvl.org
864.469.9119

Permanent Deacons

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864.679.4112

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864.679.4119

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864.255.1096

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