



St Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

16 February 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Hatch. Match. Dispatch.

Those are the slightly irreverent terms used by clergy to describe baptisms, weddings, and funerals - three of the Church's sacred rituals in which those who regularly practice our faith interact in the pews with those Catholics who seldom if ever participate in divine worship and with those who are not Catholic at all. For practicing Catholics, casual Catholics, and non-Catholics alike, expectations about these rituals - particularly weddings and funerals - are often formed more by popular culture than by Catholic doctrine and discipline, and when those unfounded expectations are mixed with intense emotions like jubilation at weddings and grief at funerals, the results can be explosively inappropriate in the public worship of the Church. And that is why clear and constant catechesis is needed to help everyone understand what these rituals are, what they are not, and what is required by divine precept or ancient discipline for the proper administration of baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

While baptisms, weddings, and funerals are deeply personal, they are not private actions in any way. They are all public celebrations of the sacred liturgy of the Church, and so the first point to understand is that these three ways of praying are planned and administered by the ministers of the Church in keeping with liturgical law and local custom. Particularly for weddings and funerals, this means that while the families involved may have requests or preferences, all decisions about the celebration of the sacred liturgy are made by the parish pastor or his representative, and those decisions must be in keeping with the doctrine and discipline of the Catholic Church. Bridal magazines and shows, movies about weddings and funerals, and experiences of the same events in non-Catholic settings all contribute to unrealistic expectations about what weddings and funerals should be and how they should be celebrated, and when these impossible expectations collide with the reality of what is possible in the Church, all too often the result is bruised feelings and disappointment.

For example, a funeral Mass is not a celebration of the life of the deceased; it is, rather, a pleading of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the salvation of the immortal soul of the deceased, and for that reason, eulogies about the departed are not possible at Mass. And weddings, while moments of great joy, are not an opportunity for being irreverent in church, and so every part of the sacred liturgy (music, clothing, conduct) must be appropriate to the occasion. To many of you these things will seem self-evident, but the great distance opening in our time between Christianity and the ambient culture makes it necessary to explain over and over again what once needed no explanation. Please bear that in mind as your own families and friends may bump into frustrations surrounding weddings and funerals, and let patience and generosity prevail!

Father Newman

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 16 February

7.30 am ✱ Philip H Scriber
 9.00 am ✱ Patti Waters
 11.00 am Pro populo
 1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday 17 February

7.00 am ✱ Rush Limbaugh

Tuesday 18 February

7.00 am ✱ Mary Gore

Wednesday 19 February

7.00 am ✱ Stephen Urban

Thursday 20 February

7.00 am ✱ Fr Larry Kutz

Friday 21 February

7.00 am Cassian Nielsen

Saturday 22 February

5.00 pm ✱ Fred Owens

Meetings & Events *

Sunday 16 February

Parish Breakfast: After 7.30 & 9 am Masses (P)
 Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass
 9.00 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
 11.00 am Spanish Bible Class (G)
 6.00 pm High School Youth Group (P)
 6.00 pm Women of Grace Bible Study

Monday 17 February

Presidents' Day - Parish Office Closed

Tuesday 18 February

10.00 am SMCCW Sewing Group
 6.30 pm Fidelis (P)

Wednesday 19 February

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 20 February

7.00 pm Spanish Adoration

Friday 21 February

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)
 10.00 am Friday Morning Bible Study
 7.00 pm Spanish Rosary

Saturday 22 February

3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)
 6.30 pm Young Adults Dance (G)

G - Gallivan Hall
 P - Pazdan Hall

M - McGrady Hall
 C - Clinkscales
 Family Center

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

Financial Report

Weekend of 8/9 February

Needed	40,100
Received	43,420
Surplus	+ 3,320

Poor Box	192
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	1,323,300
Received	1,348,946
Surplus	+ 25,646

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@smcgv1.org.

2025 Capital Improvement Fund

Goal	1,000,000
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Donations Received	285,977
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Still to Go	714,023
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Mass Attendance

Weekend of 8/9 February

5.00 pm	413
7.30 am	356
9.00 am	429
11.00 am	376
1.00 pm	483

Total	2,057
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Requiescat in pace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Carole Boysen, who died recently. We extend our prayers and sympathy to her 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.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for all those who are hospitalized and for all those who are shut-ins, ill or recuperating at home, especially Mary Stillmock, Juliet Roy, James Smith, Anna Deehan, Nancy Laliberty, Marilyn Postell, Sofia Alvarez, Ann Howard, Carl Lee Cooke, Konta & Laman Patel, Sloane Perkins, George Cortes, Diane Hickey, Michael Tierney, Jaxson Rivera, Helen Carter, Anthony Harris, Katerina Puig, Lucero Rubiano, Aurelia LaValley, Sheila & Barry Garrison, Richard Murtaugh, Anthony Gomes, Chet & Dorothy Jaskwhich Sobol, Lisa Myer, Sandy Miros, Terry Gurn, Mitchell & Elisa Bianco, Barbara Dresser, Caroline Henson, Betty Jo Brown, Bridget Fitzpatrick, Ellie O'Connell, Gary Redding, Eddie Collins, Steve Hughes, Albert Normandin, Angelo Bautista Campos, Karen Krings.

Parish Office Closure

The parish office will be closed on Monday 17 February for the Presidents' Day holiday.

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Yesenia Silos Negrete, Alexander Guillen, Lawrence & Rebecca Bullock, Maika Duarte, Rihselina Barnabas, Patrick & Katrina Palleschi, Ronald & Rowena Flowers, Cliff & Maure Bauer, Ryan O'Leary, Mary Nash, Jose Sarria & Fatima Gonzalez.

Congratulations to

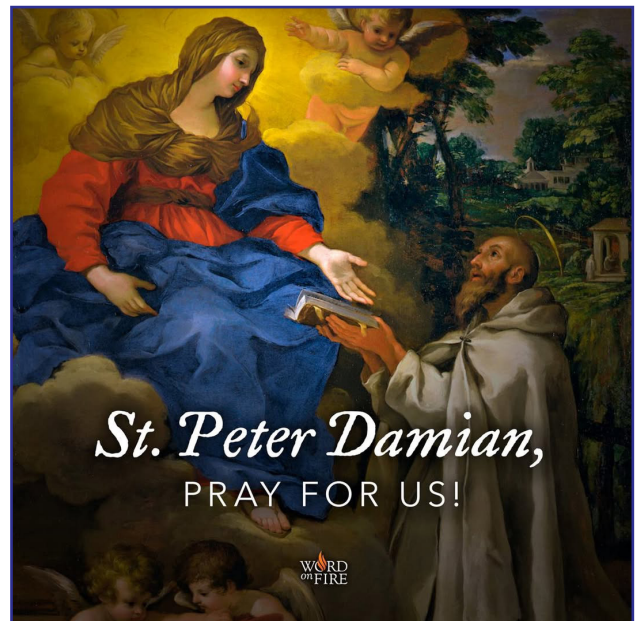
Andrew Roger Clinkscales and Aidan Ambrose O'Malley who were baptized last weekend.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 15/16 February

Catholic Appeal of South Carolina
Support of the Parish

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



2024 Tax Statements

Tax Statements are available through your Flocknote account. Please log at <https://smcgvf.flocknote.com/login>. Enter your email address and you will have access to your account. Open up a new window in your browser with your profile. Select the Giving tab to view your giving information and tax statements. At the bottom of that tab, you'll see a section called *Donor Summaries for Taxes*. Click on the summary that you'd like to have automatically downloaded to your computer. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jennifer Anderson, Director of Finance, at jennifer.anderson@smcgvf.org. Thank you.

Monthly Parish Breakfast



All are welcome to join us for breakfast!

This month the Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast for the Parish Family after the 7.30 am and 9.00 am Masses on **Sunday 16 February**. For those that go to Mass virtually or on Saturday evening, you can still come to our breakfast as we serve from 8.00 - 8.45 am and 10.15 - 11.00 am. Besides serving for the dining hall, we also have to go boxes.

Also, for all you men out there, consider joining our fraternal organization. Contact John Paluszak at 864.497.4804 or email jpaluszak@bellsouth.net for more information.

Friday Morning Bible Study

Join us in studying the Book of Exodus. We meet at 10.00 am in Bishop England Room (second floor of Sacred Heart Hall) and also pray the Rosary. Contact Pat Webb at 864.419.0467 or patwebb1010@charter.net for more information as books are being ordered now.

Nursery Help Needed

Our nursery is open each Sunday morning to provide child care during the 9.00 am Mass, and we need some more adult help. If you are interested in this essential service to the children of St Mary's, please contact Linda Jackson at 864.679.4110 or linda.jackson@smcgv1.org.

Women of Grace Bible Study

Women of Grace Bible Study meets the first and third Sunday of each month at 6.00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. For more information about joining please contact Dorothy Whalen at dorothy.whalen@smcgv1.org.

Winter Weather

Please be aware that this time of year has unpredictable weather. All closings due to inclement weather will be announced through Flocknote emails/texts. If you do not receive the weekly emails/texts on Friday morning with the links to the eBulletin and Mass programs please email jenni.dillard@smcgv1.org to have your information updated in Flocknote. Thank you!

A vibrant poster for the Mardi Gras 4th Annual Dance. The background is dark purple with gold and green accents. It features several ornate Mardi Gras masks, green and purple feathers, and brass instruments like trumpets. The text is centered and reads: 'SMYA PRESENTS FEBRUARY 22, 2025 MARDI GRAS 4th Annual Dance SCHEDULE 6:30 PM - DOORS OPEN 7:00 PM - DINNER SERVED HOT 7:30 PM - SWING DANCE LESSON 8:15 PM - SWING DANCING 9:00 ON - OPEN DANCE FLOOR BYOB 21+ ONLY SWING DANCE LESSON BY PAUL MILLER GALLIVAN HALL SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPUS'.

Pillars of Christ Men's Ministry

Pillars of Christ small group men's ministry meets in person every Friday throughout the year. The early group meets at 5.30 am and the late group meets at 7.30 am. If you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact Robert Sullivan (early group) at rsulli42@gmail.com or 864.561.9600 or Mike Munafa (late group) at mmunafa1950@gmail.com or 864.313.5356.

Daily Mass Readings

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

St Mary's Council of Catholic Women

Sewing Ministry

The group will meet Tuesday 18 & 25 February from 10.00 am - 12.00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Please contact Judith Hogg at 864.438.1017 or judyh75@att.net for details.



Join us Saturday 1 March at 6.00 pm in the Baum Center and Clinkscales Center featuring a silent and live auction, catered food from Table 301, an open bar, dancing, and live music by local band Randomonium

Tickets at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/EPP/>

**Save the Date for VBS
9-13 June 2025**



Registration Opens 1 March

St Mary's School Job Openings



St Mary's Catholic School is accepting applications for the following positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

St Mary's Catholic School is a two-time National Blue Ribbon School with a 125 year history of academic excellence and currently serves 316 students in grades K3 through 8. St Mary's is served by both the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia as well as a team of experienced, dedicated lay teachers, and offers a wonderful work environment and a welcoming, familial atmosphere.

Full-time Kindergarten Teacher - The ideal candidate would be a practicing Catholic, highly experienced, very organized, passionate for elementary education, comfortable with a rigorous and traditional curriculum, with excellent classroom management and high expectations for student achievement. Salary is highly competitive and is based on years of experience and level of education completed.

Highly-Qualified Middle School History / Social Studies Teacher - The ideal candidate would be a practicing Catholic, highly experienced with teaching History and Social Studies to middle school students, very organized, passionate for elementary education, comfortable with a rigorous and traditional curriculum, with excellent classroom management and high expectations for student achievement. Compensation is highly competitive and scales with experience. This position is available as either full-time or part-time.

Elementary & Early Childhood Teaching Assistants - The ideal candidate would be a practicing Catholic with prior experience working with children. Candidates must be able to work well with children, accept supervision and guidance from the lead teacher, and possess the enthusiasm and energy necessary to help young students thrive. This position is paid hourly and no teaching license or certification is required.

Please email cover letter, resume, and references to Principal Steven Zimmerman at principal@smcgvl.org.



St Mary's Religious Education



Religious Education Grades 1-8

Classes meet on Wednesday from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.
Next Monthly Parent meeting 12 March

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

NO Preschool Classes this week

Class meets Sunday at 9:00 am in the K-4 Classroom in Sacred Heart Hall

For More Information

Contact Linda Jackson

linda.jackson@smcgvl.org or 864.679.4110

Adult Christian Formation

An Introduction to Catholicism

What is Catholicism? Is the Catholic Faith in the Bible? Did the Lord Jesus found the Catholic Church? *An Introduction to Catholicism* is designed to answer these and many other questions about the origins of Catholic Christianity and the shape of Christian faith and life within the Catholic Church. **It is also the perfect course for any Catholic who has non-Catholic or fallen away family members or friends, and wish to be able to better explain the Church's teachings.** All are invited to come and discover what it means to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus in His holy Catholic Church.

Learn more on the parish website at <https://smcgvl.org/christian-formation/intro-to-catholicism/>
Contact Deacon John at john.heuser@smcgvl.org for more information on becoming a Catholic.

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@smcgv1.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. **The next class is Monday 10 March at 6.30 pm.** Contact Deacon Joe Sanfilippo at 864.679.4119 or joe.sanfilippo@smcgv1.org to register.

Spiritual Direction

St Mary's has three certified Catholic Spiritual Directors available for individual spiritual direction. Contact Deacon Tom Whalen at thomas.whalen@smcgv1.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. Sign up at <https://formed.org/signup> using zip code 29601 and click on our parish. Register with your name and email address to access the library.



LET'S BE TOGETHER.

Pledge Weekend

Please make your commitment to the 2025 **Catholic Appeal of South Carolina** today!

How to Participate

In the spirit of Christian stewardship, giving back a portion of our gifts to God, we ask each family to prayerfully consider a contribution in one of the following ways:

ONE TIME GIFT

Payable by cash, check, credit and debit card, securities, or direct debit.

A PLEDGE

A pledge may be paid over a period of ten months. Pledges may include down payments, but they are not required. Pledge reminders and a special payment envelope will be mailed to you in accordance with your payment plan.

DIRECT DEBIT

A monthly debit from your checking account. Please complete the information on your pledge card or visit charlestdiocese.org.

CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

A one-time or monthly charge to your credit or debit card for the amount of your gift. Please complete the information on your pledge card or go online.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Gifts of appreciated stock/mutual funds may afford significant tax advantages. Please contact the Office of Stewardship and Mission Advancement for details: catholicappeal@charlestdiocese.org or 843-261-0438.

IRA MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION

Direct transfers to charitable organizations offer significant tax advantages. To learn more, contact us: 843-261-0438 or catholicappeal@charlestdiocese.org.

AS YOU MAKE YOUR PLEDGE, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Payments may be made over a period of ten (10) months.
- Pledges need to be completed by **Dec. 31, 2025**.
- Payment reminders will be mailed to you in accordance with your payment plan. You may also use the CASC envelopes you have received from your parish.
- All contributions to the Catholic Appeal of South Carolina are fully tax deductible.
- Donations and pledges may now be made online at charlestdiocese.org/donate.
- Please make checks payable to: **Catholic Appeal of South Carolina**.

SUGGESTED GIVING PLANS

CAN YOU SACRIFICE	TOTAL PLEDGE	10 MONTHLY PAYMENTS
\$32.68 /day	\$10,000	\$1,000
\$16.34 /day	\$5,000	\$500
\$8.17 /day	\$2,500	\$250
\$5.00 /day	\$1,000	\$150
\$2.50 /day	\$750	\$75
\$1.67 /day	\$500	\$50
\$0.83 /day	\$250	\$25

PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Prince of Peace

"Prayer is the silent path that leads us straight to God's Heart; it is the breath of the soul that restores peace to us in the storm of life." ~Pope Benedict XVI

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!):

Monday 12 am,* 10 am* & 12 pm*

Tuesday 6 am* & 6 pm

Wednesday 6 pm & 11 pm

Saturday 8 pm

Natural Family Planning Classes

In Person Sessions

17 February at 6.00 pm at Jesus Our Risen Savior (Spartanburg) - monicalara.fertilitycare@gmail.com

Virtual Sessions

20 February at 6.30 pm - janelleapro@gmail.com
24 February at 6.00 pm - monicalara.fertilitycare@gmail.com

NFP Education Program

The Diocese will co-host the Creighton Model FertilityCare Practitioner Education Program in Simpsonville for those interested in teaching others how to use the natural family planning method. Applications are currently being accepted for the 13-month program. Education Phase I will be 5-12 April and Education Phase II will be 10-15 October. The Creighton Model FertilityCare System is highly effective to postpone pregnancy and offers hope for couples who are experiencing infertility to achieve their dream of pregnancy with the assistance of Medical Consultants who practice NaProTechnology. This system also assists in monitoring gynecologic conditions while being consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church and empowers single women to monitor and appreciate the gift of their fertility. **Apply by 1 March.** Contact Program Director Margaret Howard, MAM, CFCE at mphoward.cfce@protonmail.com or 402.320.9268 for application and program materials.

Icon Painting Workshop

St. Rafka Catholic Church, Greenville, South Carolina

Experience the unique spiritual world of the Byzantine Era through icon painting



July 7-12, 2025
St. Rafka Catholic Church
Greenville, South Carolina

Join us on this six day intensive course under the direction of visiting master iconographer and expert instructor Theodoros Papadopoulos from Greece. This Saint Gabriel icon will "come alive" as he will guide you step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Let us journey together, discovering anew, this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality often called the "meeting place of the Divine". Whether you are beginner or a professional, this workshop offers the opportunity to learn or refine your techniques. It is a great opportunity for everyone to experience first hand the painting of an icon.

Your tuition fee of \$800 includes all materials including boards brushes, pigments etc.

Space is limited and early registration is suggested.

For enrollment and more information, visit the website <https://theodoreicons.com/sc>

or contact the instructor Theodoros Papadopoulos at: theodoreicons@gmail.com

February 22 in Greenville

Dum Spiro Spero
WHILE I BREATHE
I HOPE



BELONGING '25
Catholic Conference for Women
www.HeartRidgeMinistries.com/Belonging



Please contact Jessica Thrall at jthrall@charlestdiocese.org if you're interested in volunteering, donating or learning more about any of our programs. Visit our website at <https://charitiessc.org>.

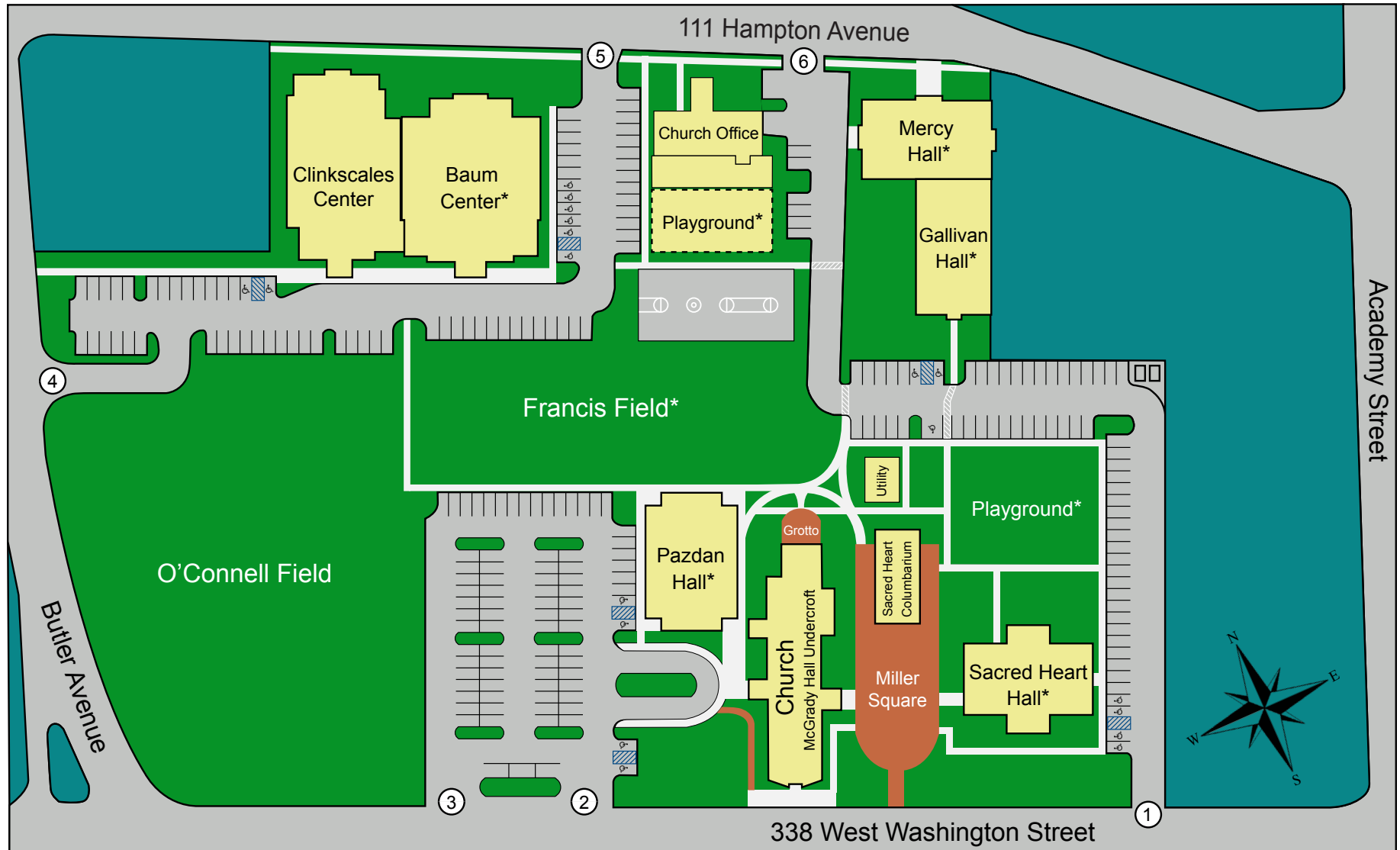
Volunteers Needed

Catholic Charities is looking for volunteers to help unload a truck and help restock our shelves on Mondays from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm. Please contact Silvia Loaiza at sloaiza@charlestdiocese.org or 864.331.2629 for more information.

SAINT MARY'S CAMPUS MAP

Saint Mary's Church has nine buildings on nine acres of land, so this map is offered to help you find your way on our campus.

Please note that during the school day, it is not permitted for anyone to walk through the interior section of our campus in order to safeguard the children in our care. So if you are visiting the church during a school day, please park in the Washington Street lot at entrances 2 or 3. And if you are visiting the church office, please park beside the Baum Center at entrance 5 and walk on Hampton Avenue to our front door. On weekends and any day when school is not in session, please park and walk anywhere you like.



*No access during school hours.

The Clergy of St Mary's Catholic Church

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Diocesan Chancellor
Dean of Greenville
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Father Pedro Gomez Baraja
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Father Bartholomew Leon
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Assisting Priest at St Mary's Church
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