



St Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

21 December 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Advent Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” took shape in France in the 17th century, and in the 19th century it was translated into English and set to the beautiful melody we still sing. But the text of the hymn dates from at least the 9th century and is taken from the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church’s daily prayer of adoration and praise.

Each evening in the Divine Office, the Church sings Mary’s great hymn of thanksgiving recorded by St Luke (1.46-55) and called the Magnificat from the first word of the text in Latin. Every day of the year, the Magnificat is preceded and followed by a sung verse called an antiphon, and from December 17th to 23rd, these Magnificat antiphons invoke the Lord Jesus by a different Old Testament title. The Great O Antiphons, so called because each begins with the vocative “O”, are a summary of the prophecies about the Messiah and are chanted to a sublime Gregorian melody.

+ O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High. You fill the universe and hold all things together with your strong yet gentle care. O come to teach us the way of truth.

+ O Lord of Might and Leader of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai. O come and save us with your mighty power.

+ O Stock of Jesse, you stand as a signal for the nations; kings fall silent before you whom the peoples acclaim. O come to deliver us, and do not delay.

+ O Key of David and Sceptre of Israel, what you open no one can close; what you close no one can open. O come to lead the captive from prison; free those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

+ O Rising Sun, you are the splendor of eternal light and the sun of justice. O come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

+ O King of the Nations, whom all peoples desire, you are the cornerstone which makes all one. O come and save man whom you made from clay.

+ O Emmanuel, you are our king and judge, the One whom the nations desire and the Savior of all people. O come and save us, Lord our God.

Thus is the New Testament concealed in the Old, and the Old Testament revealed in the New. Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever!

Father Newman



MASS COLLECTS FOR THE Fourth WEEK OF ADVENT

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

Sunday 21 December

Hear in kindness, O Lord,
the prayers of your people,
that those who rejoice
at the coming of your Only Begotten Son in our flesh
may, when at last he comes in glory,
gain the reward of eternal 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.

Monday 22 December

O God, who, seeing the human race fallen into death,
willed to redeem it by the coming of your Only Begotten Son,
grant, we pray,
that those who confess his Incarnation with humble fervor
may merit his company as their Redeemer.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Tuesday 23 December

Almighty ever-living God,
as we see how the Nativity of your Son
according to the flesh draws near,
we pray that to us, your unworthy servants,
mercy may flow from your Word,
who chose to become flesh of the Virgin Mary
and establish among us his dwelling,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Wednesday 24 December

Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus,
and do not delay,
that those who trust in your compassion
may find solace and relief in your coming.
Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Advent Week 4

Candle Name: Angel's Candle

Candle Symbolizes: Peace

Reminds us: The message of the angels

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will’ - Luke 2.10-11

The Nativity of the Lord Thursday 25 December

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 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.

Join us for the singing of Solemn Vespers on 21 December & 4 January at 5 pm.

holiday liturgical schedule

❖ CHRISTMAS EVE ❖

WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2025

5.00 pm *Mass in the Clinkscales Center for families with children*

5.00 pm *Sung Mass in the church*

7.00 pm *Sung Mass in the church*

8.40 pm *Choir Program in the church (Streamed on Facebook)*

9.00 pm *Solemn Mass During the Night (Streamed on Facebook)*

(The Mass During the Night takes the place of the Mass at Midnight)

❖ CHRISTMAS DAY ❖

THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER 2025

11.00 am *Mass in the church*

1.00 pm *Spanish Mass in the church*

No Holy Hour or Confessions on 24 December and 31 December

No Mass on Friday 26 December 2025

❖ SOLEMNITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD ❖

WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER 2025

5.00 pm *Sung Mass*

THURSDAY 1 JANUARY 2026

9.00 am *Sung Mass*

11.00 am *Solemn Mass*

1.00 pm *Spanish Mass*

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 21 December

7.30 am ✕ Sean Michael Hirt
9.00 am Debbie Devereaux
11.00 am Pro Populo
1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday 22 December

7.00 am ✕ Barbara A Sanfilippo

Tuesday 23 December

7.00 am Mitchell & Elisa Bianco

Wednesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

No 7.00 am Mass

Clinkscapes Family Center

5.00 pm ✕ Patti Waters

Church

5.00 pm Devereaux Grandchildren
7.00 pm Angela Thompson
9.00 pm Pro Populo

Thursday 25 December

Christmas Day

11.00 am Pro Populo

Friday 26 December

No 7.00 am Mass / Church Closed

Saturday 27 December

5.00 pm Chris Sufczynski

Meetings & Events *

Sunday 21 December

Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass
9.00 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
11.00 am Spanish Religious Education (G)
5.00 pm Solemn Vespers (church)
6.00 pm High School Youth Group (P)
6.00 pm Women of Grace Bible Study

Monday 22 December

Tuesday 23 December

Parish Office Closes at 12.00 Noon

Wednesday 24 December

Christmas Eve - Parish Office Closed

No Holy Hour & Confessions

Thursday 25 December

Christmas Day - Parish Office Closed

Friday 26 December

Parish Office Closed

Saturday 27 December

3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)

Financial Report

Weekend of 13/14 December

Needed	41,300
Received	45,262
Surplus	+ 3,962

Poor Box	744
----------	-----

Offertory Year to Date

Needed	991,200
Received	1,032,973
Surplus	+ 41,773

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@smcgvl.org.

2025 Capital Improvement Fund

Goal	1,000,000
------	-----------

Donations Received	1,155,701
--------------------	-----------

Surplus	+ 155,701
---------	-----------

Mass Attendance

Weekend of 13/14 December

5.00 pm	376
7.30 am	379
9.00 am	469
11.00 am	481
1.00 pm	439

Total	2,144
-------	-------

G - Gallivan Hall
P - Pazdan Hall

M - McGrady Hall
C - Clinkscapes
Family Center

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

Liturgical Schedule Changes

No Holy Hour and Confessions on
Wednesdays 24 & 31 December, 21 January.

No 7.00 am Mass on Friday 26 December
and the church will be closed all day.

Holiday Office Closures

The parish office will close at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 23 December for the Christmas holiday and reopen on Monday 29 December at 9.00 am.

The parish office will close at 12.00 noon on Wednesday 31 December for the New Year holiday and reopen on Monday 5 January at 9.00 am.

Lost & Found

As of 1 January 2026, we will be cleaning out the Lost & 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@smcgv1.org with a description of the item(s). We have several books, 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.

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, James Smith, 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, 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, Steve Hughes, Albert Normandin, Angelo Bautista Campos, Karen Krings, Michael Venerdi, Joan Greenaway, Dean Zimmermann, Mel Fitzpatrick, Chris Howard, Anna Roman, Edward Stone, Valentina Hernandez, Barbara Redding, Molly Fitzpatrick, Helena Howard, Paul Norman, Daniel McGee, Jennifer Swyer, Patrick McLeod.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 20/21 December

Catholic Appeal of South Carolina
Support of the Parish

Collection for 24/25 December

Christmas Gift
Support of the Parish

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

*Today a light will shine upon us,
FOR THE LORD IS BORN FOR US;
AND HE WILL BE CALLED WONDROUS GOD,
PRINCE OF PEACE, FATHER OF FUTURE AGES:
AND HIS REIGN WILL BE WITHOUT END.*

Entrance Antiphon, Christmas Day



2025 Tax Statements

Tax statements are automatically generated through your Flocknote account. Please contact Jennifer Anderson, Director of Finance, at jennifer.anderson@smcgv1.org or 864.679.4102 with questions. Thank you.

Thank You!

Fr Newman, Fr Duncan, Fr Damask and the office staff would like to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity to them this holiday season and throughout the past year.

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@smcgvl.org to have your information updated in Flocknote. Thank you!

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 linda.jackson@smcgvl.org or 864.679.4110.

High School Youth Group

St Mary's High School Youth Group meets on Sundays at 6.00 pm in Pazdan Hall. All high school youth and 8th graders who have been confirmed are welcome. Contact Chris Ortiz at chris.ortiz@smcgvl.org for more information.

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. This year we are studying *Acts, The Spread of the Kingdom* by Ascension Press. Please contact Dorothy Whalen at dorothy.whalen@smcgvl.org for more information.

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 5.45 am and the late group meets at 7.30 am. The ministry is focused on helping men to live out their vocation as Catholic Christian men in every aspect of their lives, be it home, work, church, or social. By it, men develop and grow in their personal relationship with Christ, His Church, and with other like minded men so as to be equipped in the battle against the temptations and immoral structures that surround us. If interested in joining our ministry, please contact Peter Mathern (early group) at peter.mathern@gmail.com or 864.363.5658 or Mike Munafò (late group) at mmunaf01950@gmail.com or 864.313.5356.

Stock Donations to St Mary's Church

With the end of the year approaching, consider a gift of appreciated stock for your year-end giving. This method can offer significant tax benefits while providing crucial support to our parish. For more information on how to give stock and updated transfer instructions, please contact Jennifer Anderson at jennifer.anderson@smcgvl.org.

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new members to our parish family: Cole Yorston, Robert Ritchie & Janneke Pieters, Abigail Potticary, Terri Buch, Abbey Doherty, Jacqueline Baska, Maritza Acatitlan, Brandon & Adrienne Malonee, Aaron & Amy Burke, Patrick & Kimberly Reilly, Abel Gonzalez De Anda & Blanca Perez.

Word on Fire Digital



Word on Fire Digital is a subscription website paid for by St Mary's for all registered members.

It is filled with an amazing array of Bishop Barron's video series which you cannot find anywhere else on the internet. To gain free access follow these instructions:

1. Visit <https://smcgvl.flocknote.com/login>
2. Enter the email address you have registered with St Mary's
3. Flocknote will send a 4 digit pin to your email. Enter that pin to log in.
4. This will take you to the St Mary's Flocknote page. You'll see on the right a block showing that the church is paying for Word on Fire. Click on the link to **Word on Fire Digital** and that will take you to the site.

You can add the Word on Fire App to your phone, computer, most smart televisions, etc. One of the best known video series you'll see here is the Word on Fire series **Catholicism** which aired on PBS several years ago.



This year's event will feature a silent and live auction, gourmet food by Table 301, open bar, live music by Randomonium, and more! We invite you to review this year's Gala sponsorship opportunities and prayerfully consider providing an anchor of support. Visit <https://smgvl.org/wp-content/uploads/St-Marys-2026-Gala-Sponsorship-Opportunities.pdf> to learn more.

Sponsorships may be paid via check payable to "St Mary's Catholic School" or online at <https://smgala2026.givesmart.com/> (please consider covering the credit card fee). Please contact Gala Chair Sarah Ratcliff at sarah.ratcliff@smcgvl.org with questions. Thank you for supporting our school!

Nationwide Mass Times

If traveling this Christmas season, find Mass times at a parish near you.

<https://masstimes.org>
<https://www.catholicdirectory.com>

Bulletin Submissions

The deadline for items is twelve days prior to the bulletin date. To submit items for the eBulletin, contact Jenni Dillard at jenni.dillard@smcgvl.org.

please join us for

solemn vespers

sundays
5.00 pm

23 november
30 november
7 december
14 december
21 december
4 january

prayer * plainchant * polyphony



Respect Life

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Week 13

As the first trimester comes to an end, tiny bones are beginning to form in the arms and legs of the precious 1.5 ounce baby. Vocal chords are also starting to form this week.



Prayer by Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the pre-born baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."



Oratorio de Noël

by Camille Saint-Saëns

Christmas Oratorio
Sunday 11 January at 5.00 pm
The Baptism of the Lord



*Sung by the Choir and Soloists of
St Mary's Church with strings, organ, and harp*

338 West Washington Greenville, SC

Dr Adam Pajan, Director of Sacred Music ♦ Fr Jay Scott Newman, Pastor



St Mary's Religious Education



Religious Education Grades 1-8

Christmas Break - Classes resume 7 January 2026

Classes meet on Wednesday from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

Next Monthly Parent Meeting is this week - 7 January

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

Christmas Break - Classes resume 4 January 2026

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

For More Information

Contact Linda Jackson

linda.jackson@smcgv.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.

Classes for Easter 2026 meet at 6.15 pm on Wednesdays in McGrady Hall (church undercroft).

Visit <https://smcgv.org/christian-formation/intro-to-catholicism/> for more information.

Contact Deacon John at john.heuser@smcgv.org for details 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@smcgvl.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 16 March at 6.30 pm.** Contact Patrick Ford at patrick.ford@smcgvl.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.whelen@smcgvl.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://vocations.charlestdiocese.org>

Formed.org

Online resources are available to every member of our parish including books, movies, podcasts and more. Sign up at <https://formed.org/individuals> using zip code 29601 and click on our parish. Register with your name and email address to access the library.

Diocesan News

PERPETUAL Eucharistic Adoration

Prince of Peace

"By standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy." ~St Carlo Acutis

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!):

Thursday 2 am*

Friday 12 pm

Saturday 11 am

Sunday 4 am & 10 am



MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

January 16-18, 2026

Camp Gravatt | 1006 Camp Gravatt Rd. Aiken, SC

For more information, email vocations@charlestandiocese.org
Scan or click the QR Code to fill out an interest form



Walking With Moms In Need



Our Lady of the Rosary's Walking with Moms in Need program assists expectant moms in need of resources in Greenville. Our

volunteers connect with moms via our private and confidential email or phone/text line. We especially need Spanish/English translators as well as drivers. Contact wwmin@proton.me or text 864.618.6814.



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

Early Bird Tickets on sale for
5th Annual Pink & Blue Gala

FEB 7 6PM

Flour Dining Venue
100 Fluor Daniel Dr, Greenville, SC 29607

St. Clare's Home is a maternity home for expectant mothers who choose life and are in need of shelter, safety and security. Please help us support our mission by attending the gala. We will have a delicious meal provided by New Southern Way Catering, great speakers, and a live and silent auction.

We can't host a successful event without your help! Please consider becoming a sponsor or donating auction items today.
Scan QR code or visit PBGC2026.givesmart.com for tickets & more info.

Early Bird: \$100
Regular: \$125

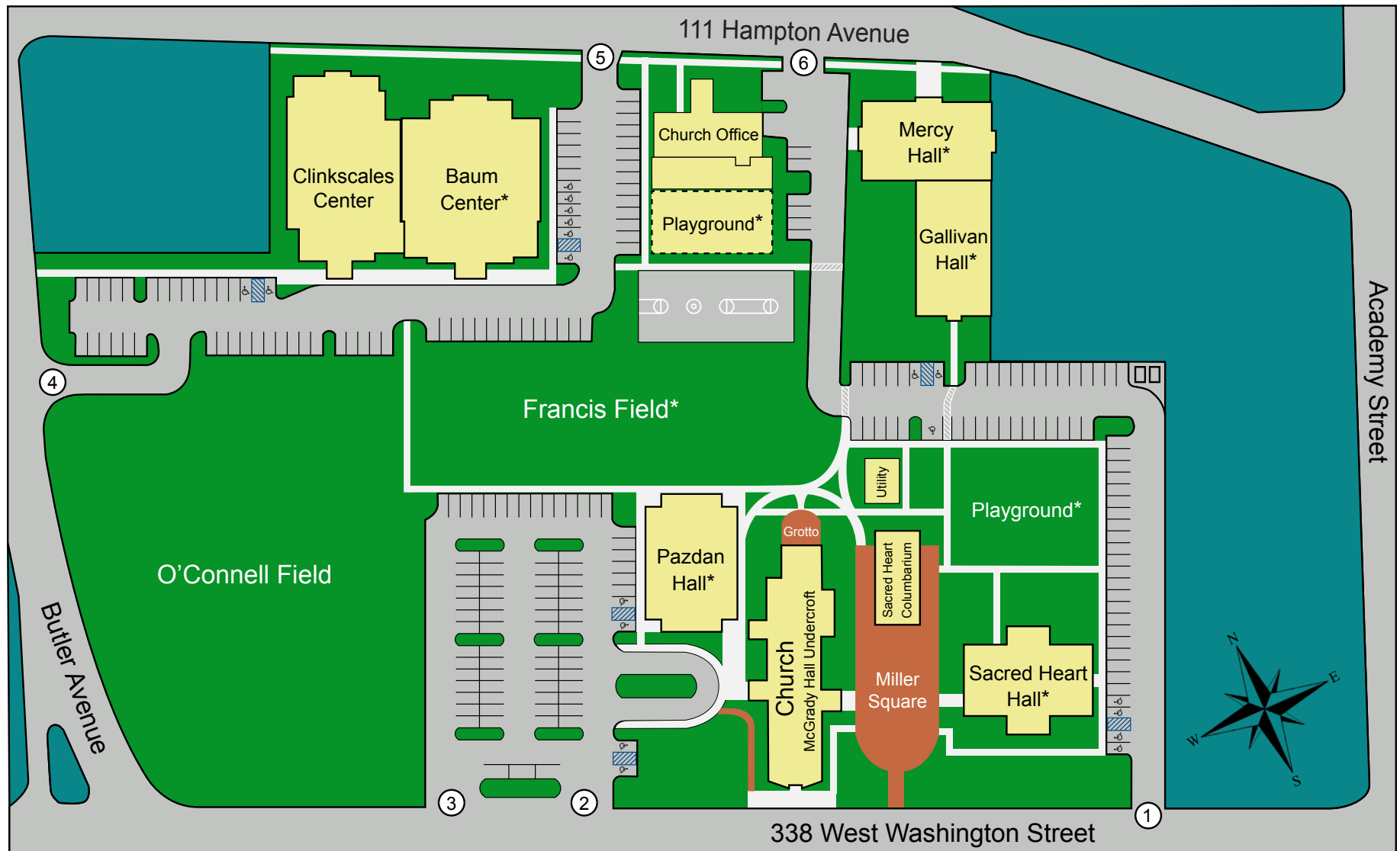
Find out more here!

Contact Colleen Chmiel for Questions
StClaresvolunteer@charlestandiocese.org
843-259-1108

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

Father Jay Scott Newman
Pastor of St Mary's Church
Diocesan Chancellor
pastor@smcgvl.org

Father Jonathan Duncan
Parochial Vicar of St Mary's Church
Bon Secours Director of Mission
fatherduncan@smcgvl.org

Father Justin Damask
Parochial Vicar of St Mary's Church
fatherdamask@smcgvl.org

Father Bartholomew Leon
Pastor of St Rafka Church
Assisting Priest at St Mary's Church
bleon@charlestdiocese.org

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Diego Ferro
diego.ferro@smcgvl.org

Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
joe.sanfilippo@smcgvl.org

Deacon Alex Garvey
alex.garvey@smcgvl.org

Deacon George Tierney
george.tierney@smcgvl.org

Deacon John Heuser
john.heuser@smcgvl.org

Deacon Tom Whalen
thomas.whelen@smcgvl.org

Staff

Jennifer Anderson
Director of Administration
jennifer.anderson@smcgvl.org

Linda Jackson
Director of Catechesis
linda.jackson@smcgvl.org

Emily Cortes
Assistant Director of Sacred Music
emily.cortes@smcgvl.org

Chris Ortiz
Director of Youth Ministry
chris.ortiz@smcgvl.org

Jenni Dillard
eBulletin Editor
jenni.dillard@smcgvl.org

Dr Adam Pajan
Director of Sacred Music
adam.pajan@smcgvl.org

Patrick Ford
Pastoral Associate & Director of Operations
patrick.ford@smcgvl.org

Sarah Perkins
Office Manager & Assistant to the Pastor
sarah.perkins@smcgvl.org

Megan Holliday
Parish Athletic Director
megan.holliday@smcgvl.org

Steven Zimmerman
Principal of St Mary's School
principal@smcgvl.org