



St Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

4 January 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is one of the richest feasts in the Christian liturgy, and for this reason, it is also among the most easily misunderstood. The Greek word which we translate epiphany simply means “appearance” or “manifestation,” and in the Western liturgical tradition the Epiphany is linked most strongly to the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child.

But in the Eastern liturgies, the Epiphany is focused not only on the visit of the Magi but on every early event by which Christ is revealed to the world as the Messiah: His birth, the visit of the Magi, His presentation in the Temple, His instruction of the elders in the Temple, His Baptism in the Jordan, and His first miracle at the wedding feast in Cana. For this reason, ancient liturgies refer to the Epiphany as a festival of illumination, declaration, and theophany, and in many Eastern Christian Churches (like the Armenian), January 6th is the primary or only celebration of the Birth of Jesus, not December 25th.

This helps us understand the profound link between the feasts of Christmas and Epiphany and why this celebration is the traditional Twelfth Day of Christmas. The revelation of the Son of God to the world begins with His birth, continues with the visit of the Magi, expands with His presentation in the Temple, is intensified at His Baptism, and finds its first miraculous expression at the wedding feast in Cana.

The stained glass window above the main entrance of our church on Washington Street depicts four of these mysteries in sacred images: the birth of Christ, His Presentation in the Temple, His teaching of the elders in the Temple, and the wedding feast at Cana. This window is hard to see from the main floor of the church, but it bears witness to the beauty of all the manifestations of Christ to the human race.

Though separated by thirty years, the events at Bethlehem and Cana are truly but one continuous unfolding of the eternal plan of salvation, and of all these mysteries we can speak with equal force the words of the Preface of the Epiphany from the Roman Missal: “Father ... today you have revealed the mystery of our salvation in Christ as a light for the nations, and when he appeared in our mortal nature, you made us new by the glory of his immortal nature.”

The Epiphany is an older Christian feast than Christmas, and from antiquity it has been kept on January 6th. The first recorded mention of this feast was in 361, and by 385 the Epiphany was celebrated in Jerusalem for eight days, like the present Octaves of Easter and Christmas and the old Octave of Pentecost. All of this points to the supreme importance of the sacred mysteries we celebrate today: by His incarnation and birth, by His revelation to the Magi and His presentation in the Temple, by His Baptism and the miracle at the wedding feast of Cana, the Son of Mary is gradually shown to be “God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.”

Father Newman

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 4 January

7.30 am	✧ Maria Clarke
9.00 am	Gevaert Godchildren
11.00 am	Pro Populo
1.00 pm	Spanish Mass

Monday 5 January

7.00 am	Tony Perkins
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Tuesday 6 January

7.00 am	✧ Col Jerry Morris
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Wednesday 7 January

7.00 am	✧ Bob McKnight
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Thursday 8 January

7.00 am	Adelheid Covington
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Friday 9 January

7.00 am	✧ Will Hand
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Saturday 10 January

5.00 pm	✧ Eileen & Gerry Steele
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Meetings & Events *

Sunday 4 January

Coffee & Doughnuts: After 9.00 am Mass (P)	
Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass	
11.00 am	Spanish Bible Class (G)
5.00 pm	Solemn Vespers (church)
6.00 pm	High School Youth Group (P)
6.00 pm	Women of Grace Bible Study

Monday 5 January

1.00 pm	St Anne's Stitchery
6.30 pm	Fraternus (P)
6.30 pm	Fidelis

Tuesday 6 January

Wednesday 7 January

8.00 am	Wit & Wisdom Bible Study
9.30 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
5.00-6.00 pm	Holy Hour & Confessions (church)
6.15 pm	Introduction to Catholicism (M)
6.30 pm	Religious Education

Thursday 8 January

1.00 pm	St Anne's Stitchery
7.00 pm	Spanish Adoration

Friday 9 January

5.45-6.45 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 10 January

3.30-4.30 pm	Confessions (church)
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Financial Report

Weekend of 27/28 December

Needed	41,300
Received	45,971
Surplus	+ 4,671

Poor Box	585
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	1,073,800
Received	1,123,513
Surplus	+ 49,713

2025 Capital Improvement Fund

Goal	1,000,000
Donations	
Received	997,744
Dec Capital Campaign	
Donations	309,905
Christmas	
Donations	82,991
Total Raised	1,390,640

Mass Attendance

Christmas 24/25 December

5.00 pm Church	476
5.00 pm Clink	801
7.00 pm	346
9.00 pm	512
11.00 am	366
1.00 pm	291

Total	2,792
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Weekend of 27/28 December

5.00 pm	371
7.30 am	297
9.00 am	384
11.00 am	459
1.00 pm	396

Total	1,907
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G - Gallivan Hall
P - Pazdan Hall

M - McGrady Hall
C - Clinkscals
Family Center

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

Liturgical Schedule Changes

No Holy Hour and Confessions on
Wednesday 21 January.

No 7.00 am Mass on
Tuesday 20 & Wednesday 21 January.

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.

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!

Lost & Found

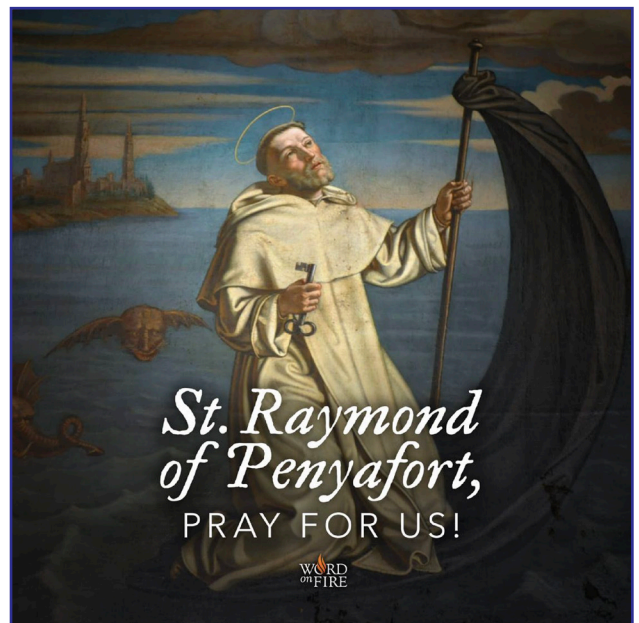
As of 1 January 2026, we will be cleaning out the Lost & Found box in the church office and the unclaimed items will be given to charity. If you (or your children) have forgotten any item in the church, please email Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@smcgvl.org with a description of the item(s). We have 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.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 3/4 January

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: Dolly Durham, Max Feltes.

Congratulations to

Ann Marie Joseph, Cooper Lang Palms and Benjamin Thomas Reneau who were baptized last weekend.



This year's event will feature a silent and live auction, gourmet food by Table 301, open bar, live music by Randononium, 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@smcgv.org with questions. Thank you for supporting our school!

St Anne's Stitchery Ministry



St Anne's Stitchery Ministry of St Mary's Council of Catholic Women are knitters and crocheters who make gifts of love for charitable organizations. Our experienced members of these skills also share with those who would like to learn. After email confirmation we meet together the first Monday of each month from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. We also have stitchers who work at home and contribute to our projects. Please contact Maggie Simons at maggie.simons54@gmail.com or 612.695.0903 with questions.



House Blessing Kits for Feast of the Epiphany

Epiphany House Blessing Kits will be available at no charge to all families during the weekend of January 3-4 for the Feast of the Epiphany. Pick up your kit from volunteers outside the church's three entrances after Mass. These kits include Holy Water, blessed chalk and the prayers of blessing in both English and Spanish. They are a gift to the parishioners of St. Mary's from St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women.

Epiphany marks the occasion of the centuries old Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the blessing is simple: With blessed chalk write the following above the entrance of your home or on the front door: 20 + C + M + B + 26 and pray the blessing prayers.

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "May Christ bless the house." The + signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "26" at the end mark the current year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless the home and that He stay with those who live there throughout the entire year.

The chalking of the doors is a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset. The inscription over the door can remind us that all who dwell there belong to Christ and it can be an evangelization tool when others come visit.



Respect Life

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Week 15

At fifteen weeks, the baby is about the size of an apple. The mother may begin to feel baby's movements inside her body. The baby's skeleton is starting to ossify.



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

Classes meet on Wednesday from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

Monthly Parent meeting this week 7 January

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@smcgv1.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://smcgv1.org/christian-formation/intro-to-catholicism/> for more information.

Contact Deacon John at john.heuser@smcgv1.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

"O Come let us adore Him! O come let us adore Him! O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!"

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 7 am*

Thursday 2 am*

Friday 12 pm

Saturday 5 am* & 11 am

Sunday 4 am, 9 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!





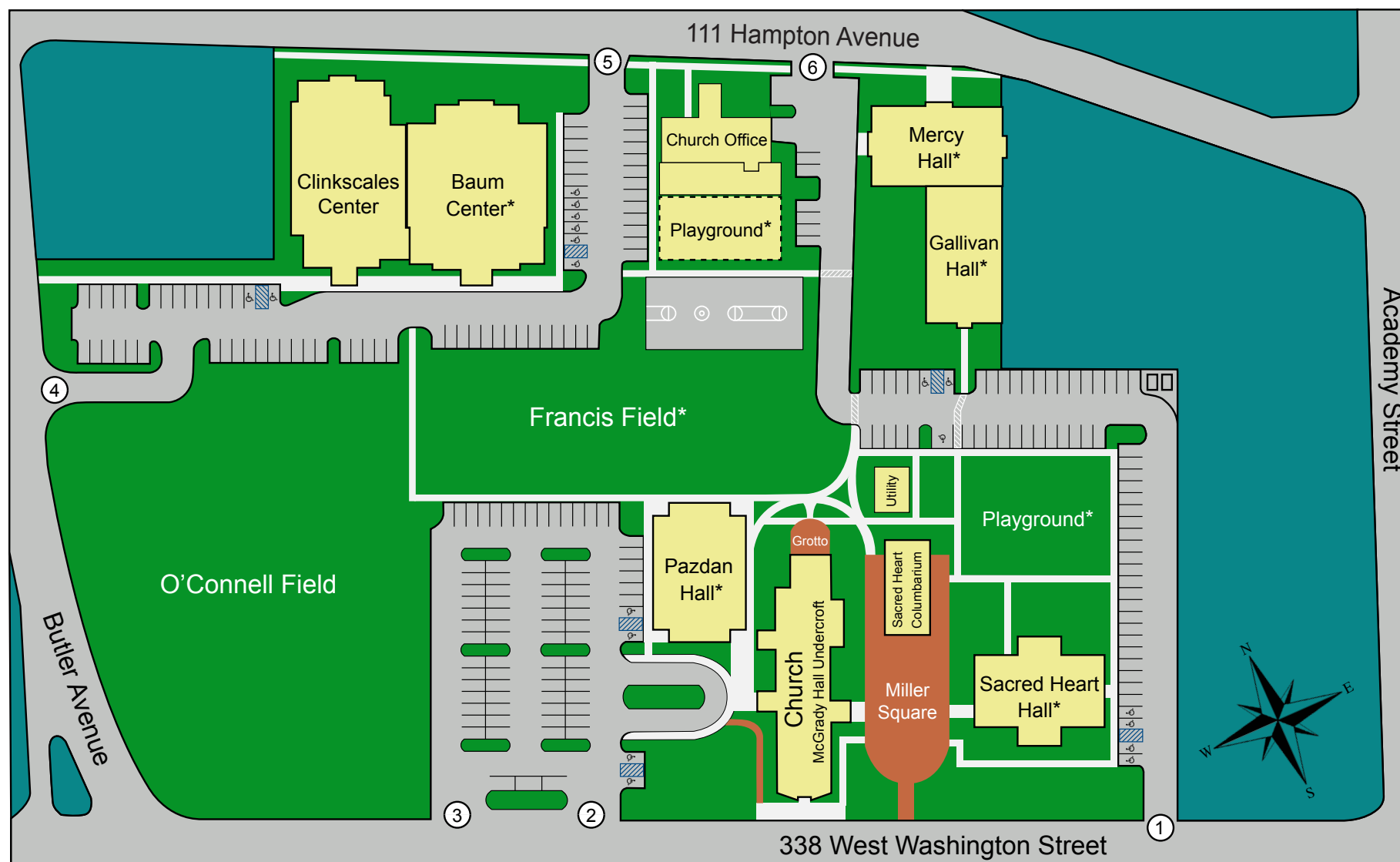


Contact Colleen Chmiel for Questions
StClaresvolunteer@charlestandiocese.org
843-259-1108

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
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Father Justin Damask
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