



St Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

11 January 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

The vast majority of Christians, including almost all Catholics, are baptized when they are infants, and this is most fitting. The sacraments are instruments of God's grace, and even newborn babies need the grace of God. Moreover, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it, "The sheer gratuitousness of the grace of salvation is particularly manifest in infant Baptism," and for this reason "The practice of infant Baptism is an immemorial tradition of the Church." (CCC 1250, 1252). But along with the indisputable benefits of baptizing infants comes a special danger: those who are baptized before the beginning of memory will have no recollection or understanding of the most important day in their lives, and unless the fact and meaning of their Baptism is explained to them as they grow and receive the Gospel with saving faith, then they will not know that they have been born again of water and the Holy Spirit and have been made children of God, members of Christ, and heirs of the Kingdom.

Today the Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord Jesus by his kinsman and herald, John the Baptist. Jesus received the Baptism of John not for the forgiveness of sins (because He had none), but in order to transform a religious ritual washing of the Old Covenant into the first sacrament of the New Covenant. The Baptism of Jesus is also the acceptance of His mission as the Father's suffering servant, and Jesus allows Himself to be numbered among sinners in order to free us from our slavery to sin. In the waters of the Jordan, the Son of Mary is anointed with the Holy Spirit and is thus revealed to be the eternal Son of God and in His sacred humanity to be the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One of God. Finally, by accepting Baptism from John, the Lord Jesus is also accepting and anticipating His own suffering and death. For this reason, each Christian is united to the death of the Lord Jesus through Baptism so that we can live the life of the new creation by grace through faith in Jesus the Christ.

All of this makes our Baptism the single most important event in our entire lives; it is the original sacrament of faith and the beginning of the life of grace. But unless we understand the meaning of this supernatural second birth, we risk misunderstanding the whole of the Christian life. For this reason, parents and godparents have the sacred duty to teach children who are baptized about the day of their Baptism and lead them to mature faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. As part of this mission to give the Gospel to all the baptized, I encourage every parishioner to find out when and where and by whom you were baptized. Resolve to keep the anniversary of your Baptism each year as a day of special celebration, and evaluate your relationship with the Lord Jesus in the light of the promises of your Baptism, which we are each asked to renew every year on Easter Sunday. And with St. Paul, I "urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call — one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4.1-6)

Father Newman

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday 11 January	
7.30 am	Joe & Claudia Stine
9.00 am	* Ruthe Paul
11.00 am	Pro Populo
1.00 pm	Spanish Mass
Monday 12 January	
7.00 am	* Mitch Johnston
Tuesday 13 January	
7.00 am	Mae Fisher
Wednesday 14 January	
7.00 am	* Thelma Lauzon
Thursday 15 January	
7.00 am	* Nelly Restrepo
Friday 16 January	
7.00 am	Truman Lane
Saturday 17 January	
5.00 pm	Fr Jay Scott Newman

Meetings & Events *

Sunday 11 January	
Nursery: During 9.00 am Mass	
9.00 am	Sunday Morning Bible Study
11.00 am	Spanish Bible Class (G)
5.00 pm	Christmas Oratorio (church)
6.00 pm	High School Youth Group (P)
Monday 12 January	
6.30 pm	Fraternus (P)
6.30 pm	Fidelis
6.30 pm	Cub Scouts (M)
Tuesday 13 January	
10.00 am	SMCCW Meeting
6.30 pm	KofC Meeting (M)
Wednesday 14 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 15 January	
1.00 pm	St Anne's Stitchery
7.00 pm	Spanish Adoration
Friday 16 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 17 January	
3.30-4.30 pm	Confessions (church)

Financial Report

Weekend of 3/4 January

Needed	41,300
Received	45,036
Surplus	+ 3,736

Poor Box	245
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	1,115,100
Received	1,168,549
Surplus	+ 53,449

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.

2026 Capital Improvement Fund

Goal	1,000,000
Donations Received	66,611
Still to Go	933,389

Mass Attendance

Weekend of 3/4 January

5.00 pm	393
7.30 am	413
9.00 am	464
11.00 am	404
1.00 pm	409
Total	2,083

G - Gallivan Hall M - McGrady Hall
P - Pazdan Hall C - Clinkscates
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!

St Anne's Stitchery Ministry Classes



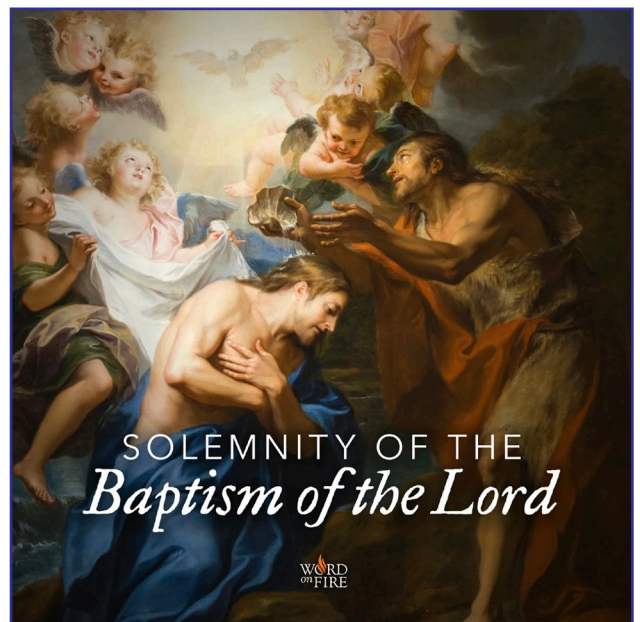
Join the fun and learn to crochet or knit! St Anne's Stitchery Ministry of St Mary's Council of Catholic Women will be offering *Learn to Crochet / Knit* classes starting Thursday 15 January from 1.00-3.00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Experienced members of the ministry will be available to share their skills with those who would like to learn. Supplies will be provided. Please contact Maggie Simons at maggie.simons54@gmail.com or 612.695.0903 with questions.

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 10/11 January

Capital Improvement Fund
Support of the Parish

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



Parish Office Closure

The parish office will be closed on Monday 19 January for the Martin Luther King Jr holiday.

Congratulations to

Bernadette Rose Headley and Olive Kathryn Moeller who were baptized last weekend.

2025 Tax Statements

Tax statements are automatically generated through your Flocknote account. Login to your account at <https://smcgvl.flocknote.com/login>. Please contact Jennifer Anderson at jennifer.anderson@smcgvl.org or 864.679.4102 with questions. Thank you.

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



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@smcgv.org with questions. Thank you for supporting our school!

ST. MARY'S COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Happy New Year

ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH ARE
CORDIALLY INVITED

JANUARY MEMBERS MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

10:00AM WELCOME • 10:10AM ROSARY • 10:30AM MEETING

SACRED HEART HALL

Our speaker this month is Kathy Schmugge, Diocese of Charleston, The Important Role of Grandparents & Mental Health Awareness

OUR LADIES FOOD PANTRY DONATION:
CANNED VEGETABLES, FEMININE HYGIENE, DIAPERS & BABY WIPES

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT:
SMCCWGV@gmail.com


 

Respect Life

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Week 16

Nostrils, eyelids, and eyebrows are developing at sixteen weeks. The baby can feel the vibrations in the mother's body and hear her voice.



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
Matthew 19:14

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."

The St. Jerome Society

Reading excellent literature in community.

This month we will be reading and discussing...

The Brothers Karamazov

by Fyodor Dostoevsky

January 27th, 2025 | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Second-floor conference room, Sacred Heart Hall
The first half hour will be reserved for fellowship and light refreshments.

To learn more and subscribe to the newsletter, please visit
stjeromesociety.substack.com

St. Mary's Catholic Church | Greenville, SC



St Mary's Religious Education



Religious Education Grades 1-8

Classes meet on Wednesday from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

Next Monthly Parent meeting is 4 February

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@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.

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

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

Contact Deacon John at john.heuser@smcgvl.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@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 16 March at 6.30 pm.** Contact Patrick Ford at patrick.ford@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.whelen@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://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 EUCCHARISTIC 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!):

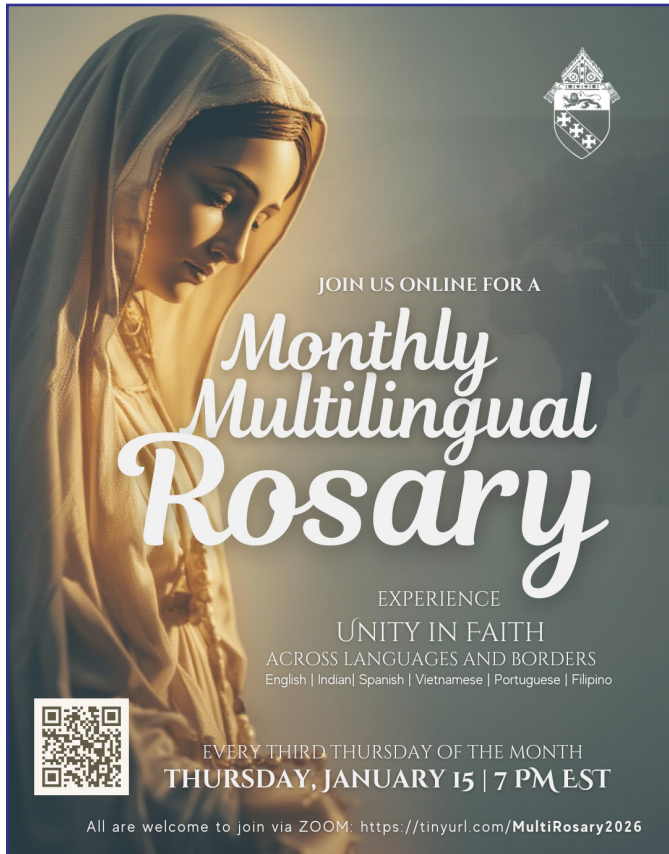
Thursday 2 am

Saturday 5 am* & 11 am

Sunday 4 am, 9 am & 10 am

Nationwide Mass Times

If traveling, find mass times at a parish near you.
<https://masstimes.org>



JOIN US ONLINE FOR A

Monthly Multilingual Rosary

EXPERIENCE
UNITY IN FAITH
ACROSS LANGUAGES AND BORDERS
English | Indian | Spanish | Vietnamese | Portuguese | Filipino

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15 | 7 PM EST

All are welcome to join via ZOOM: <https://tinyurl.com/MultiRosary2026>



Join us for our 5th Annual
Pink & Blue Gala
Flair Dining Venue • Feb. 7, 2026 • 6:00 pm

St. Clare's Home is a maternity home for expectant mothers who choose life and are in need of shelter, safety and security. Please support the home by joining us for our 5th annual Pink & Blue Gala. We will have dinner provided by New Southern Way Catering, great speakers and live & silent auctions.


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 PBGG2026.givesmart.com for tickets & more info.

Early Bird Tickets: \$100
Regular Ticket: \$125

Find out more here!

Contact Colleen Chmiel for Questions
StClarevolunteer@charlestdiocese.org
843-259-1108



Catholic Charities of South Carolina

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>.



The Daughters of the Visitation Hosts:

The Path to Healing Broken Hearts

All are invited—both men and women!

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
Forest City, NC

Valentine's Day Weekend
FEB 13TH 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
FEB 14TH 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

In person!

Our Speaker
Father Shawn Monahan OMV

Father Shawn Monahan was ordained a priest for the Oblates of the Virgin Mary in 2002. He has a passion for helping others heal the wounds that come from living in a broken world so that they may experience Jesus's deepest desire to live a more abundant life. This retreat offers a message of hope and healing, helping you to recognize and overcome heart-breaking events in your life and accept God's love. You'll take away an awareness of your own brokenness, devoid of any shame or discouragement. Beyond that awareness, Fr. Shawn will show you how to leverage your emotional and spiritual wounds as a path to the Lord's compassionate love, which is the source of deep penetrating healing.

Retreat Fee: \$30 in person / \$20 via Zoom
REGISTRATION ENDS JANUARY 31ST

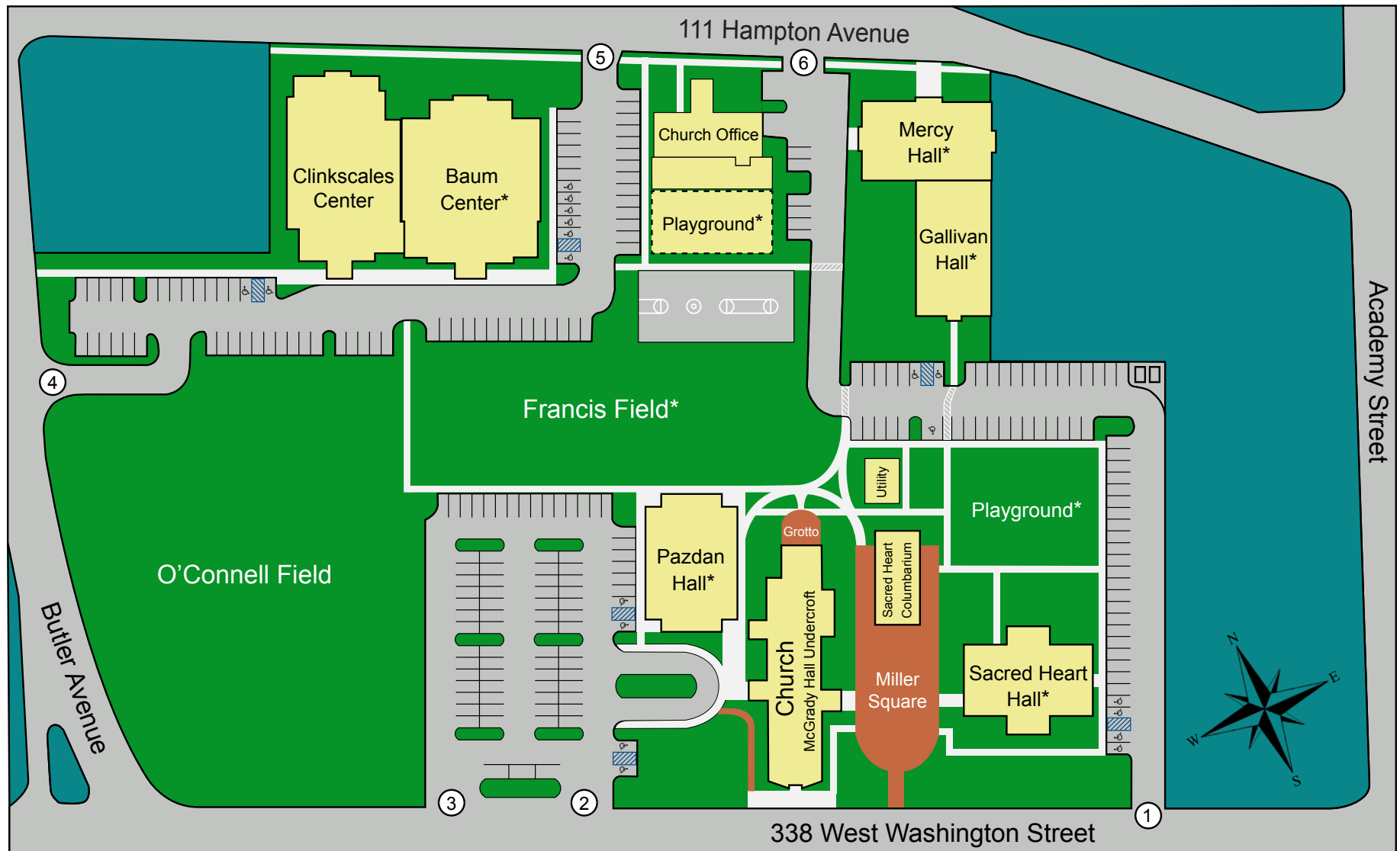
- Light breakfast, including coffee and tea, a provided lunch on Saturday, and additional snacks and refreshments throughout the retreat
- Concluding with Mass to entrust everything received to Jesus, offering gratitude and sealing the grace of the retreat

Visit us at daughtersofthevisitation.org to learn more.

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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Father Justin Damask
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