

Third Sunday of
ADVENT



DECEMBER 17, 2023

WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

We welcome all who are visiting. If you attend regularly and consider St. Mary's your parish, we encourage you to register as a member. You may fill out and submit the form online, or print the form from the website and return it to the parish office.

CONTACT US

St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church

Parish Office: 203 Park Avenue SE

Aiken, SC 29801

Ph: 803.649.4777 Fax: 888.552.1016

email:

ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdioocese.org

Website: www.stmarys-aiken.org

LOCATIONS

St. Mary's Church: 138 Fairfield St. SE

Old St. Mary's: 125 Park Ave. SE

Ste Claire Chapel: 125 Park Ave. SE

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:00PM - Church

Sunday 8:30AM, 11:00AM, 5:00PM - Church

Domingo Misa en español, 1:00PM - Iglesia

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 5:30PM - Old St. Mary's

Wednesday 8:20AM - Church

Miércoles 7:00PM - Old St. Mary's

Thursday Nursing Home 10:00AM - Call before attending

Saturday Morning Mass 8:00AM - Old St. Mary's

CONFESSIONS

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 4:45 - 5:15PM - Old St. Mary's

Wed. 6:15–6:45PM - Old St. Mary's

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30PM - Church

Sunday 12:30PM - Spanish - Church

PERPETUAL ADORATION - Ste Claire Chapel

ROSARY - Before Daily Mass

LIVE STREAM MASS (ON YOUTUBE)

Sunday 11:00AM Mass

SUNDAY HOMILIES ONLINE

Audio versions of all the weekend homilies are available on the parish website. Go to St. Mary's website at www.stmarys-aiken.org. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on "Listen to Homilies".

NURSERY

Available during 8:30 & 11:00AM Sunday Masses in Mother Teresa Conference Room - Ages 6 months to less than 5 years.

The Most Rev. Jacques E. Fabre-Jeune, CS
Bishop of Charleston

PARISH CLERGY

Very Rev. Richard C. Wilson, VF, Pastor

Rev. Orlando Serrano Ardila, Parochial Vicar

Dcn. Alejandro Leguizamon

Dcn. Al Matousek

Dcn. Robert Pierce

Dcn. Stephen Platte

STAFF

Mr. Patrick Wray, Director of Administration
803.649.4777 ext. 112

pwrap@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Kimberly Gaynor, Administrative Assistant
to Fr. Wilson 803.649.4777 ext. 114

kgaynor@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Laura Webster, Principal of St. Mary's School
803.649.2071 lwebster@stmaryschoolaiken.com

Ms. Phyllis Waters, Business Manager
803.649.4777 ext. 102

pwaters@charlestdioocese.org

Ms. Katherine More, Bookkeeper
803.649.4777 ext. 104

kmore@charlestdioocese.org

Ms. Frances Gledhill, Parish Secretary
803.649.4777 ext. 113

fgledhill@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson, MA
Director of Religious Education

803.642.2676/803.507.1060 (C)

mjackson@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Joan LaBone, Director of Youth Formation
and Ministry

803.215.7040 (C)

jlaborne@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II, Parish Musician
706.550.5047 (C)

fdeese@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Karen Van Deren, Sacristan
803.979.3181 (C)

kvanderen@charlestdioocese.org

Safe Environment

803.649.4777 ext. 114

AikenSEC@charlestdioocese.org

Sr. Ana Gema Villafaña Ruiz, HCJC
803.989.9440 (C)

Sr. Maria Bertha (Martha) Zuniga, HCJS
803.645.3666 (C)

A Map of St. Mary's Campus can be found at:

<https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/campus-map>



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL

"Could you not keep watch for one
hour?" Mk. 14:37

COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

A great way to love Jesus is to give Him our time and attention. Put Him first in your life by putting a weekly holy hour on your calendar. God will not be outdone in generosity!

To sign up for a holy hour, please go to the parish website at <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration>, or contact one of the Divisional Leaders below:

12 MDNT-6AM: Tom Henry 803.642.6893 (no text) tphenr@bellsouth.net

6AM-12NOON: Ken Boucher 803.226.4639 kboucher@atlanticbb.net

12NOON-6PM: Janice Suhrer 803.645.6105 jcskid.suhrer@gmail.com

6PM-12MDNT: Joan Pate 803.226.0263 jandjate@gmail.com

THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Traditionally, Advent has been about preparing for the second coming of Christ through retracing the steps by which God prepared the Jewish people for his first coming. This longing is meant to characterize our approach to Jesus really, substantially and truly present in the Eucharist. But over the last several centuries, it has also taken on the dimension of stoking our longing for Christ's daily advent in prayer, in the sacraments and in providential diurnal occurrences. Advent is a time to look at that love and make it practical, turning Advent hymns, familial prayers around a domestic Advent wreath and even growing darkness and decreasing temperatures into a summons to pray spiritual communions and become a living flame. [Fr. Roger Landry]

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH



This week pray the O Antiphons. The 9 days leading up to Christmas, starting today, the Church includes what has become known as the O Antiphons as the Gospel Alleluia verse, calling Our Lord (by various titles) to come. Monday's is: O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people, Come to save us without

delay! You can find these antiphons easily by doing a search. Plan to attend at least one daily Mass this week, and you'll hear the antiphon before the Gospel. Perhaps make an ornament representing each title to put on your Christmas tree.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 17 – 24, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a,
5-6ab,16-17 Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3,
11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10
and 14 Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

©LPI

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 17

8:30AM Reid Bohning
11:00AM Tom Heenan
1:00PM Pedro Arreguin
5:00PM For All the People
of the Parish

Monday, December 18

5:30PM Penny Goergen

Tuesday, December 19

5:30PM Elizabeth Polchinski

Wednesday, December 20

8:20AM John Rodgers (L)
7:00PM Peter Bibea

Thursday, December 21

10:00AM Benton House
Ana Diederich

5:30PM Virginia Mae
Hoey Loftis

Friday, December 22

5:00PM Louis E. Mango

Saturday, December 23

8:00AM Ronald Krenta
5:00PM Vera Wilcox
Harry & Steven Dassau
Joyce Murphy
Tom Heenan
George A. Wilson, Sr.
Maddux, Kuehn,
Haggerty Family (L) & D

Sunday, December 24

8:30AM Thomas Shelley
11:00AM **NO MASS**
1:00PM For All the People
of the Parish

Christmas Eve – December 24

4:00PM Eva & Keith Darr (L)
6:00PM Beverly McElwain
8:00PM For All the People
of the Parish

(L) Denotes Living



JANUARY 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT
9:00AM IN OLD ST. MARY CHURCH.
THERE WILL NOT BE A 5:30 PM ON
JANUARY 1

**PLEASE NOTE: FOR 2024 THE
SOLEMNITY OF MARY IS NOT A HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION**

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

ENVELOPE/CASH OFFERTORY	Dec. 3	\$ 25,172.00
ONLINE OFFERTORY FOR	Dec. 3	\$ 16,783.00
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		\$ 1,924,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER		
Thanksgiving		\$ 2,940.00

NOTE: Financial updates for December 10 were **not** available at the time the bulletin was sent to print.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR ONLINE GIVING WITH OUR PARISH?

Here are some ways Online Giving benefits you:

- Secure and Confidential – Adheres to banking security standards
- Flexible – Start, stop, or change your contributions at any time
- Simple to sign up:
 1. Go to St. Mary's website at www.stmarys-aiken.org
 2. Click on "GIVING" and then "SUNDAY"
 3. Make your selections
 4. You can also make special collection choices online
- Contributions are via direct withdrawal or credit online

If you need assistance, or to discontinue online giving, please call 1.800.348.2886.

The Parish Finance Council recommends monthly frequency for the Sunday offering to minimize transaction fees.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Formed is a platform that has movies, audio, e-books, kids' shows, and more - all free to parishioners, but not free for the parish. Please consider donating \$50 to support this parish resource. Put donations in the Sunday basket in an envelope marked FORMED. Not on FORMED? Sign up at www.formed.org/signup, enter Aiken, SC, then choose St. Mary Help of Christians

WHEELCHAIR EXPRESS

Drivers will be **available** for the **4:00PM and 6:00PM Masses on December 24th, and for the 10:00AM Mass on December 25th.** Drivers will be available 30 minutes before each Mass.

PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

LIVE FULLY...REJOICE IN THE LORD!

Dear Friends in Christ,

We want to celebrate Christ's coming with a new heart and enormous joy. That is one of principal meanings of Advent. We should ask ourselves if we have done all that we were supposed to: Have I announced the good news of the Gospel to the poor? Have I mended broken hearts? Have I proclaimed pardon to the captive ones? Have I brought liberty to prisoners? We run the risk of living in a world of light and yet, not see, because of pure routine. Saint John reminds us to be on guard: "Among you stands one whom you do not know..."

Advent invites us to live the same joy and enthusiasm that Mary proclaimed in the *Magnificat* because of all the beautiful work God had performed in her. "**Happiness is the gigantic secret of a Christian,**" said Chesterton. In this world there are loud but false laughs that don't last very long. Christian happiness surfaces from a very deep and serene joy that resides in the soul. The root of our happiness lies in the certainty that we have been rescued from the evil one and brought over to a world inundated with grace.

St. Paul has told us in the Second Reading "Rejoice always." This means that **happiness is possible. And we are called to live it - with our feet on the ground and aware of the problems around us.** Both happiness and sadness are contagious. As Christians we must make happiness fashionable because we believe and are hopeful. And our faith is not artificially grounded. We know who has won the victory!

We are now just one week away from...the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. They fall on the same Sunday this year. So, you might be asking, what are the obligations for Catholics when the Fourth Sunday of Advent is on Sunday and Christmas Day is on Monday? Well, both days are holy days of obligation. So, you need to plan to attend a Fourth Sunday in Advent Mass and a Christmas Mass. To reduce the number of Masses to a reasonable level, we decided to eliminate the 11:00AM Mass on Sunday for the Fourth Sunday in Advent. So, for the Fourth Sunday in Advent your choices are: 5:00PM Vigil on Saturday, 8:30AM on Sunday and 1:00PM (Spanish). To celebrate Christmas your options are Sunday, 4:00PM; 6:00PM; 8:00PM (Spanish) and Midnight and on Monday, Christmas Day: 10:00AM. Please look at your schedule, talk with your family and plan now to worship our Lord on the Fourth Sunday in Advent and Christmas. I wish you a Blessed Christmas season!

All the best...in Christ,
Father Wilson

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

HOLY BAPTISM

The birth of your child is such a gift! Let St. Mary's parish help you give the gift of new birth through the waters of Holy Baptism. For a child to receive Baptism at St. Mary's, please note that at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, regularly attend Holy Mass, participate in the life of the parish, and be registered at St. Mary's at least three months prior to requesting the date for Baptism. In this, you become part of our wider parish family! Parents must attend our Baptismal Preparation session prior to the Baptism. The next session is **Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 10:00AM** in Smith Hall. Registration is necessary so that we can prepare for you. Please contact Chris Ascherman at 803.845.0568. Godparents are encouraged to attend a Baptismal Preparation session as well. Since godparents promise to help raise your child in the practice of the Catholic faith, godparents must be practicing Catholics at whatever parish they attend.

HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

These incredible Sacraments nourish and strengthen us in our Catholic faith so that we can live as "the light of the world" (St. Matthew 5:14). *Please note:* Parents and children must be registered with St. Mary's and faithfully attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Children who are not enrolled in our Catholic school must attend a minimum of two years of Christian Formation classes and satisfy the attendance policy. For more information contact: Joan LaBone at 803.215.7040 or jlabone@charlestdiocese.org.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Congratulations! The world truly needs strong, faithful couples. Our parish stands ready to help prepare you for your life together in Christ. The Diocese of Charleston **requires a minimum of six months preparation** for the Sacrament of Marriage. Please contact us as soon as you are engaged so that we can share your joy and begin the process of reserving a date for your special day. Please understand that not all dates at the church may be available. For information, call 803.649.4777 ext.114 to leave a message for Kimberly Gaynor.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you seriously ill, facing surgery, or of advanced age? Receive grace and strength from the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, the Church's Sacrament of healing. Call 803.649.4777 ext. 113.

More information about the Sacraments can be found on our parish website:
www.stmarys-aiken.org

NEXT SCHEDULED BAPTISM DATE (ENGLISH)

JANUARY 6, 2024 – 11:00AM in the church on Fairfield

- Baptism preparation class must have been completed.
- All paperwork must be submitted to the office one month prior to the date of Baptism.

For more information or to schedule a Baptism, please call the parish office at 803.649.4777

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

The Church teaches that living the Christian life will lead to happiness. Come learn about happiness and the moral life this week at RCIA - and bring a friend! Tuesdays, 6:00 - 7:30PM in Mother Teresa Hall (125 Union St. SE). For more information, contact Mary Ellen at mjackson@charlestdiocese.org or 803.642.2676. All are welcome!

CATHOLIC YOUTH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone
jlabone@charlestdiocese.org
803.215.7040

Registration forms for the 2023/24 school year are still available online.

Dec. 17-Sunday Morning CCD 9:45-10:45AM

6-8 Formation Class in Bosco 9:45-10:45AM

Dec. 17-Middle School and LifeTeen Christmas Party

6:15-8:00PM

Dec. 19-NO CLASSES CHRISTMAS



Thank you to everyone who helped the youth participate in the National Catholic Youth Conference, Nov. 15-19 in Indianapolis. They joined 12,000 teenagers from all over the US in prayer, worship conversation and FUN!

God is Great! Don't hesitate!



THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, December 17

8:30AM	Mass	Church
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church
5:00PM	Mass	Church

Monday, December 18

9:30AM	Prayer Shawl	Smith Hall
12:00PM	Book Club	No Class
1:00PM	Rosary Makers	Mother Teresa
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's

Tuesday, December 19

6:30AM	Rosary	Old St. Mary's
7:00AM	Men's Prayer Group	Smith Hall Down
3:30PM	Grief Share	Mother Teresa
3:30PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Church
6:00PM	RCIA-English	Mother Teresa

Wednesday, December 20

8:20AM	School Mass	Church
9:30AM	Adult Bible Study	No Class
3:00PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall
4:00PM	Millions of Monicas	Old St. Mary's

Thursday, December 21

11:15AM	Adult Bible Study	No Class
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:00PM	Newman Club	St. Michael Hall
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's

Friday, December 22

6:00AM	That Man is You	Mother Teresa
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:00PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's

Saturday, December 23

8:00AM	Mass	Old St. Mary's
3:30PM	Confessions	Church
5:00PM	Vigil Mass— Fourth Sunday of Advent	Church

Sunday, December 24

8:30AM	Mass Fourth Sunday of Advent	Church
11:00AM	No Mass	
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish Fourth Sunday of Advent	Church
4:00PM	Christmas Vigil Mass	Church
6:00PM	Christmas Vigil Mass	Church
8:00PM	Christmas Vigil Mass (Spanish)	Church

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

2024 Jan. 18 & 24 Feb. 18
 Mar. 17 Apr. 14
 2:30 – 4:00PM in the church
 Contact: Greg Hightower, at 803.292.2457 or
 email Hightower@bellsouth.net

PARISH PERKS!

Join us for coffee and fellowship after the
 Sunday 8:30AM Mass in St. Michael Hall

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We will **not** meet December 20, 27 & January 3.
 Please enjoy the Advent/Christmas season with
 family and friends and rejoin us Wednesday, January
 10, 2024 at 9:30AM (after the 8:20AM School Mass. in
 St. Michael Hall to continue studying the Blessed
 Virgin Mary in Scripture. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

FRIDAY BOOK CLUB

Will **not** meet in December. We look forward to
 seeing you again on Friday, January 5th at 10AM in
 St. Michael Hall as we continue reading *Saintly
 Women of Modern Times*.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Will **not** meet in December. We look forward to
 seeing you again on Thursday, January 11th at
 11:15AM in Smith Hall. We will begin reading the
 Gospel of John.

AN ADVENT WREATH PRAYER FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT:

*Light the first and second purple candles and the
 rose colored candle.

Scripture Reflection: "And the shepherds returned,
 glorifying and praising God for all they had heard
 and seen, as it had been told them." Luke 2:20

(silent pause) Dear Jesus, help us focus on you
 during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy
 you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the
 everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude
 to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

~ Week 3 prayer from Dynamic Catholic

CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN DOWNTOWN AIKEN

All are welcome to join the Aiken chapter of Life
 Runners in singing Christmas carols on Wednesday,
 December 20th, at 6:00PM in The Alley (across from
 TakoSushi). Christ-centered carols will be sung for
 about 30 minutes, and then we will go for
 dinner. Family, friends, and guests are welcome. If
 you have not yet joined, please try to wear a
 matching royal blue shirt. For questions contact
 Deacon Bob at bpierce@charlestandiocese.org. To
 join and get a jersey, go to www.liferunners.org.

SAVE THE DATE

The **Catholic Women's Association** Card & Game Party
 is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 2024. More to come
 as the date draws near.



ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL
 118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801
 Mrs. Laura Webster, Principal
 Ph: 803.649.2071 Fax: 803.643.0092
 www.stmaryschoolaiken.com

OFFICE HOURS: MON – FRI 7:30AM–3:30PM

CHRISTMAS BREAK–DEC 21 THRU JAN 1
The School Office will be closed



**Merry Christmas from St. Mary Help of
 Christians Catholic School!**

RETROUVILLE (PRONOUNCED RETRO-VI)

Retrouville simply means 'rediscovery'. The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10's of 1000's headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouville is not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering, but is anchored in Christian reconciliation, communication and healing. For confidential information about the program, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 19-21st in the Charlotte area, call Bill & Lyn Folsom at 727.343.6701 or email: 3062ac@helpourmarriage.org or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.org

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH & AIKEN SHEPARD BLOOD
 CENTER WILL HOST A BLOOD DRIVE**

Hitchcock Place
 353 Fabian Drive, Aiken, 803.643.7996
 Tues. – Sat. Dec. 19 – 23
 Closed Sunday & Monday

- Call 803.643.7996 for an appointment.
- All registration is now being completed electronically at the center.
- Please tell the center that you are donating for St. Mary's of Aiken.

Shepard Community Blood Center and the Knights of Columbus Council No. 3684 are offering 20 gift certificates for the Metro Diner on Whiskey Rd. All donors will be entered into a drawing for a certificate. The certificates are for \$20.00 each.

Please donate!

GIFT SHOP

Our fudge and coffee is in stock! This year's St. Mary's Christmas ornament is the Presentation Stained Glass Window from Old St. Mary's church. We have lovely gift bags if you are looking for that special gift. We will not be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, so today is the last day to shop at the Gift Shop in 2023. Come on in and visit us!

Hours: Every Sunday 9:00AM–1:00PM and the first weekend of every month after Saturday 5:00PM Mass and Sunday 1:00PM & 5:00PM Masses.

STRAW FOR JESUS

As a parish family, let's make a comfortable bed for the Savior. When you arrive for Mass, place a piece of straw (provided) in the heart-shaped container found at any entrance of the church for each "Act of Love" you have done during the week. The priest will bless the straw at the Offertory, and it will be placed in the empty manger awaiting Our Lord's birth. The straw prepares the manger, and our acts of love prepare our hearts: Forgive someone, random acts of kindness, make a good confession, pray more often, read Scripture daily, and more.

PARISH MISSION IN JANUARY!

Kyle Clement, rancher and horseman, will be here January 22 - 26 to give a five-day parish mission on **Living the Catholic Faith**. The talks will include many practical ways to change the trajectory of your life. The mission will include morning and evening talks. Make sure you put it on your calendar! For more information contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestdioese.org or 803.642.2676

VOCATIONS

MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Ages 18 - 49
 January 12 - 14, 2024
 Cost: \$25 (Scholarships available)
 Camp Gravatt, Aiken, SC
 To register or for more information:
vocations@charlestdioese.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For food or financial assistance call 803.642.3211
 Open Monday – Thursday 9:00AM – 1:00PM
 Closed On Fridays.

CLOSED DECEMBER 22, 2023 – JANUARY 1, 2024

AA MEETING

AA open meeting at 7:00AM Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in Smith Hall (next to Old St. Mary's church). Newcomers are welcome!

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURA del 17 al 24 de diciembre 2023

Domingo: Is 61, 1-2. 10-11 Lc 1, 46-50. 53-54

1 Tes 5, 16-24 Jn 1, 6-8. 19-28

Lunes: Jr 23, 5-8 Sal 71, 1-2. 12-13. 18-19
Mt 1, 18-25

Martes: Jue 13, 2-7. 24-25 Sal 70, 3-6. 16-17
Lc 1, 5-25

Miércoles: Is 7, 10-14 Sal 23, 1-6 Lc 1, 26-38

Jueves: Cant 2, 8-14 o Sof 3, 14-18 Sal 32, 2-3.
11-12. 20-21 Lc 1, 39-45

Viernes: 1 Sm 1, 24-28 1 Sm 2, 1. 4-8
Lc 1, 46-56

Sábado: Mal 3, 1-4. 23-24 Sal 24, 4-5. 8-9. 10 y
14 Lc 1, 57-66

Domingo siguiente: 2 Sm 7, 1-5. 8-12. 14. 16
Sal 88, 2-5. 27. 29 Rom 16, 25-27 Lc 1, 26-38

©LPi

Las intenciones para las Misas diarias se encuentran en la pagina tres (3)

ACTO DE COMUNIÓN ESPIRITUAL

Mi Jesús, Creo que estás realmente presente en el Santísimo Sacramento. Te amo por encima de todas las cosas y deseo poseerte dentro de mi alma. Ya que soy incapaz en este momento para recibirte sacramentalmente, ven al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón. Te abrazo como si ya estuvieras allí, y unirte totalmente a Ti. Nunca permitas que me separe de Ti. Amén



SOLEMNIDAD DE SANTA MARÍA, MADRE DE DIOS 1 DE ENERO 2024

PARA 2024 LA SOLEMNIDAD DE
MARÍA NO ES DÍA DE OBLIGACIÓN
SE CELEBRA MISA EN INGLÉS A LAS
9:00AM EN LA IGLESIA ANTIGUA.

NO HABRÁ MISA EN ESPAÑOL

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO CONTINÚA EN LA
COLUMNA UNO DE ESTA PÁGINA

el domingo a las 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm; 8:00 pm (español) y medianoche y el lunes día de Navidad: 10:00 am. Por favor revise su agenda, hable con su familia y planea ahora adorar a nuestro Señor el Cuarto Domingo de Adviento y Navidad. ¡Les deseo un bendecido tiempo de Navidad!

Todo lo mejor... en Cristo,
Padre Wilson

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

¡VIVE PLENAMENTE... REGOCÍJATE EN EL SEÑOR!

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

Queremos celebrar la venida de Cristo con un corazón nuevo y una alegría enorme. Ése es uno de los principales significados del Adviento. Deberíamos preguntarnos si hemos hecho todo lo que se suponía que debíamos hacer: ¿he anunciado la buena nueva del Evangelio a los pobres? ¿He reparado corazones rotos? ¿He proclamado perdón a los cautivos? ¿He traído libertad a los prisioneros? Corremos el riesgo de vivir en un mundo de luz y sin embargo, no ver, por pura rutina. San Juan nos recuerda que debemos estar en guardia: "Entre ustedes está uno a quien no conocen..."

El Adviento nos invita a vivir la misma alegría y entusiasmo que María proclamó en el *Magnificat* por toda la hermosa obra que Dios había realizado en ella. "**La felicidad es el gigantesco secreto de un cristiano**", dijo Chesterton. En este mundo hay risas ruidosas pero falsas que no duran mucho. La felicidad cristiana surge de una alegría muy profunda y serena que reside en el alma. La raíz de nuestra felicidad está en la certeza de que hemos sido rescatados del maligno y llevados a un mundo inundado de gracia.

San Pablo nos ha dicho en la Segunda Lectura "Estén siempre alegres". Esto significa que **la felicidad es posible. Y estamos llamados a vivirla, con los pies en la tierra y conscientes de los problemas que nos rodean.** Tanto la felicidad como la tristeza son contagiosas. Como cristianos debemos poner de moda la felicidad porque creemos y tenemos esperanza. Y nuestra fe no tiene una base artificial. ¡Sabemos quién ha conseguido la victoria!

No estamos a solo una semana del... Cuarto Domingo de Adviento y Nochebuena. Este año caen el mismo domingo. Entonces, quizás se pregunte, ¿cuáles son las obligaciones de los católicos cuando el Cuarto Domingo de Adviento es domingo y el día de Navidad es lunes? Bueno, ambos días son días santos de obligación. Por lo tanto, debe planear asistir a una Misa del Cuarto Domingo de Adviento y a una Misa de Navidad. Para reducir el número de Misas a un nivel razonable, decidimos eliminar la Misa de las 11:00 am el domingo para el Cuarto Domingo de Adviento. Entonces, para el Cuarto Domingo de Adviento tus opciones son: Vigilia a las 5:00 pm el sábado, 8:30 am el domingo y 1:00 pm (español). Para celebrar la Navidad tus opciones son

← *Espacio de Nuestro Párroco continúa en la columna una de esta página*

SAGRADO SACRAMENTOS

SANTO BAUTISMO

¡El nacimiento de un hijo es un gran regalo que necesita renacer a través de las aguas del Bautismo! Para bautizar a un niño en Sta. María, tenga en cuenta que al menos uno de los padres debe ser católico practicante, asistir regularmente a la Santa Misa, participar en la vida de la parroquia y estar registrado en Sta. María al menos tres meses antes de solicitar la fecha para el bautismo. Ambos padres **deben** asistir a las sesiones prebautismales. Dado que los padrinos prometen ayudar a criar a su hijo en la práctica de la fe católica, ellos deben ser católicos practicantes en la parroquia que asisten y se les anima a asistir a las sesiones de preparación bautismal también. **Las próximas clases se llevarán a cabo el 7 y 14 de enero.** Es necesario registrarse para que podamos prepararnos para usted. Comuníquese con Luz Londoño al 803.480.6865.

SAGRADA COMUNIÓN Y CONFIRMACIÓN

Estos increíbles Sacramentos nos nutren y fortalecen en nuestra fe católica para que podamos vivir como "la luz del mundo" (San Mateo 5,14). *Tenga en cuenta:* los padres y los niños deben estar registrados en Sta. María, asistir fielmente a misa los domingos y los días de precepto. Los niños que no están inscritos en nuestra escuela católica deben asistir a un mínimo de dos años de clases de formación cristiana y cumplir con la política de asistencia. Para más información contactarse con: Joan LaBone al jlabone@charlestandiocese.org o 803.215.7040.

SANTO MATRIMONIO

¡Felicidades! El mundo realmente necesita parejas fuertes y fieles en Cristo. La Diócesis de Charleston requiere una preparación mínima de seis meses para el Sacramento del Matrimonio, así que comuníquese con nosotros tan pronto como se comprometa para que podamos compartir su alegría y comenzar el proceso de reservar una fecha para su día especial. Las siguientes fechas de preparación prematrimonial iniciarán el jueves el 24 de agosto a las 7:00PM en el Salón Smith Hall. Para registrarse y obtener más información por favor comuníquese con Sonia Jimenes 803.508.5370 o con la Hna. Ana Gema 803.989.9440

UNCIÓN DE ENFERMOS

¿Está gravemente enfermo, se enfrenta a una cirugía o es de edad avanzada? Reciba la gracia y la fuerza del Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos, el Sacramento de sanación de la Iglesia. Comuníquese con 803.649.4777 ext. 113.

Puede encontrar más información sobre los sacramentos en nuestro sitio web parroquial www.stmarys-aiken.org

PRÓXIMA FECHA DE BAUTISMO (ESPAÑOL)

13 de enero 2024 a las 11:00AM
en la iglesia en la calle Fairfield.

- Las clases de preparación para el bautismo deben haber sido completadas
- Toda la documentación deben presentarse en la oficina un mes antes de la fecha del bautismo.

Para obtener más información o si desea programar un bautismo, llame a la oficina parroquial al 802.649.4777

RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS (RICA)

El programa de formación para adultos que requieren los Sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión y/o Confirmación, será los martes de 7:00 a 9:00PM en el Smith Hall. Para registrarse puede acudir con las hermanas Ana Gema a 803.989.9440 or Martha a 803.645.3666 o el equipo de RICA.



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HORARIO DE OFICINA:

LUNES-VIERNES 7:30AM – 3:30PM

**VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD: DEL 21 DE DICIEMBRE
AL 1 DE ENERO**

LA OFICINA DE LA ESCUELA ESTARÁ CERRADA

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Abierto de lunes a jueves de 9:00AM a 1:00PM
Cerrado los Viernes

CERRADO 22 DE DICIEMBRE 2023 AL 1 DE ENERO 2024

FORMACIÓN CATÓLICA PARA JÓVENES Y MINISTERIO JUVENIL

CONTACTO: SRA. JOAN MARIE LABONE
JLABONE@CHARLESTONDIOCESE.ORG
803.215.7040

17 de diciembre—domingo por la mañana CCD de 9:45 a 10:45AM—grados de 6-8

Clase de Formación en Bosco 9:45-10:45PM

17 de diciembre—Fiesta de Navidad de la escuela secundaria y Lifeteen de 6:15 a 8PM

19 de diciembre—NO HAY CLASES / VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD

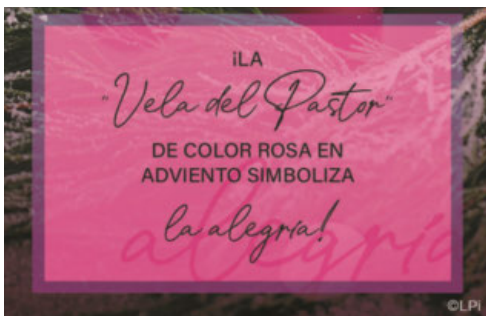


Gracias a todos los que ayudaron a los jóvenes a participar en la Conferencia Nacional de Jóvenes Católicos, del 15 al 19 de noviembre en Indianápolis. Se unieron en oración, conversación de adoración y DIVERSIÓN! a 12,000 adolescentes de todo Estados Unidos.

¡DIOS ES GRANDE! ¡NO LO DUDES!

PAJA PARA JESÚS

Como familia parroquial, hagamos una cama cómoda para el Salvador. Coloque un trozo de paja (provisto) en el recipiente en forma de corazón que se encuentra en cualquier entrada de la iglesia por cada "Acto de Amor" que haya hecho durante la semana. El sacerdote bendecirá la paja en el ofertorio y la colocará en el pesebre vacío a la espera del nacimiento de Nuestro Señor. La paja prepara el pesebre y nuestros actos de amor preparan nuestro corazón: perdona a alguien, haz una buena confesión, actos de bondad al azar, ora más a menudo, lee las Escrituras todos los días y más.



EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 17 de diciembre

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica de coro	Salón San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia
5:00PM	Misa	Iglesia
7:00PM	Posada Parroquial	Salón Santa Angela

Lunes, 18 de diciembre

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
6:00PM	Legión de María	Smith Hall

Martes, 19 de diciembre

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
6:30PM	RICA	Smith Hall
7:00PM	Ese Hombre Eres Tu	Salon San Miguel

Miércoles, 20 de diciembre

8:20AM	Misa	Iglesia
6:30PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
7:00PM	Misa en Español	Iglesia Antigua

Jueves, 21 de diciembre

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia

Viernes, 22 de diciembre

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia
5:00PM	Misa	Iglesia

Sábado, 23 de diciembre

8:00AM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
3:30PM	Confesiones	Iglesia
5:00PM	Misa Vigilia IV domingo de Adviento	Iglesia

Domingo, 24 de diciembre

8:30AM	Misa IV domingo de Adviento	Iglesia
1:00PM	Misa en español IV domingo de Adviento	Iglesia
4:00PM	Misa de Vigilia de la Navidad	Iglesia
6:00PM	Misa de Vigilia de la Navidad	Iglesia
8:00PM	Misa de Vigilia de la Navidad En Español	Iglesia

ACTIVIDADES DE DICIEMBRE

POSADAS – Sábado 16 a Sábado 23

7:00PM - Salón Madre Teresa

DOMINGO 17 – POSADA PARROQUIAL

5:00PM Salón Santa Ángela

DOMINGO 24: 1:00PM – Misa de IV Domingo de Adviento

8:00PM – Misa de Navidad

LUNES 25: NAVIDAD – (Sólo Misa en inglés).

HORARIO DE OFICINA DE LA PARROQUIA

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada en diciembre 25 y 26 para el Día de Navidad

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