

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
CATHOLIC CHURCH — AUGUST 24, 2025



21st Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Lk 13:24

WELCOME TO ST. MARY 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 Help of Christians 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 Street/Mailing Address:

203 Park Avenue SE, Aiken, SC 29801

Phone: 803.649.4777

email:

ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdiocese.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, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

8:30AM - 12NOON - 1:00PM - 4:30PM

Closed for lunch from 12NOON - 1:00PM

Wednesday: 8:30AM - 1:30PM

(by appointment only after 1:30PM on Wednesdays)

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:00PM - Church

Sunday 8:30AM, 11:00AM - 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

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 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. Michael Ghattas, Parochial Vicar

Dcn. Alejandro Leguizamon

Dcn. Robert Pierce

Dcn. Al Matousek

Dcn. Stephen Platte

STAFF

Mr. Patrick Wray, Director of Administration

803.649.4777 ext. 112

pwrap@charlestdiocese.org

Mrs. Kimberly Gaynor, Administrative Assistant

to Fr. Wilson 803.649.4777 ext. 114

kgaynor@charlestdiocese.org

Mr. Carlos Overstreet, Principal, St. Mary's School

803.649.2071 coverstreet@stmaryschoolaiken.com

Mr. Richard Yarshen, Finance Manager

803.649.4777 ext. 104

ryarshen@charlestdiocese.org

Ms. Frances Gledhill, Parish Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 113

fgledhill@charlestdiocese.org

Mrs. Adriana Galvan, Hispanic Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 100

agalvan@charlestdiocese.org

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson, MA

Director of Religious Education

803.649.4777 ext. 103

mjackson@charlestdiocese.org

Mrs. Hannah Dickason, Director of Youth Ministry

615.638.7137 (c)

hdickason@charlestdiocese.org

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II, Parish Musician

706.550.5047 (c)

fdeese@charlestdiocese.org

Mrs. Colleen Snyder, Sacristan

518.524.4464

csnyder@charlestdiocese.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

A Map of St. Mary's Campus can be found at:
<https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/campus-map>

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

ENVELOPE/CASH OFFERTORY	AUG. 17	\$ 18,362
ONLINE OFFERTORY FOR	AUG. 17	\$ 11,925
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		\$ 2,118,675

August 15

Feast of the Assumption \$ 4,773

UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

TODAY – August 24 – St. Vincent De Paul (outside)

August 31 – Miscellany

PLEASE NOTE: For on-line giving the entire amount offered will be posted to the fund selected. Donations for St. Vincent de Paul and Catholic Education Maintenance Fund **cannot** be made via on-line giving. They must be placed in the offering basket, mailed in, or dropped by the office.

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.

GIFT SHOP WILL REOPEN

**SATURDAY, 9/6 AFTER THE 5PM VIGIL MASS
& AFTER ALL MASSES ON SUNDAY 9/7**

AA OPEN MEETING

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

STRIVE TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I've been a priest now for just over ten years. I cannot recall being asked the question that Jesus was asked in our Gospel. Is it because people are afraid of the answer? Or is it that many believe that our Lord is just a "Lord of mercy" and that in the end, all will be saved? A sort of universalism. I'm not sure....I just don't get the question.

Most people have some level of concern about their salvation, about what must come after this life. Jesus was asked "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" And his answer is for people of every age. Saint Paul wrote to Timothy: "God wants all men to be saved." Notably, he doesn't say, "all men will be saved." If a USC Aiken student were to say, "I want to pass my history exam," that desire doesn't mean he will pass. He needs to study. He needs to prepare himself if he wants to pass.

What are we doing to gain eternal life? What matters to Christ is not how many are saved, but that all might be saved. In other words, everyone can be saved, but it depends on each person individually. That is why Christ, in his answer, tells him how to be saved. He tells him that he needs to work hard to get in, to fulfill God's Will always, even though it's difficult, even though it hurts, because what is this present life compared to eternity?

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate." Christ refers to the attitude we should have in the face of life's difficulties. Which of us hasn't run across some rock in our path that could make us stumble? For some these could seem insurmountable obstacles, for others just a steppingstone they needed to be saved. Saint Augustine reflects as follows: "Tribulation will come, but you make of it what you want: either an exercise of virtue or a cause of condemnation. Your attitude will determine the outcome." And he adds, "Tribulation is fire. Are you like gold? Then it will cleanse you! Are you like straw? Then you will be turned to ashes!"

In our days there are men and women that are finding the "narrow gate." Through it shall enter those who work to live love faithfully, who live to serve their neighbor, who know how to live with a sense of solidarity. Who will be saved? When the moment of truth comes there will be many surprises. Many of those who were last will be first, and vice versa. Dear brothers and sisters, this is a warning, a call to commitment, a gut check. May we follow the example of St. Paul and "work out our salvation with fear and trembling." (Phil 2:12)

All the best...in Christ,
Father Wilson



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL

Want to try a weekly holy hour with Jesus?
"Could you not keep watch for one hour?"
Mk. 14:37

Try sharing your time with Jesus in a weekly holy hour, and you'll understand why 400 fellow parishioners have one or more hours every week! To find your hour, please visit: <https://www.stmarysaiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration>, or contact the appropriate Divisional Leader:

12 MDNT.- 6:00AM	Tom Henry	803.642.6893
6:00AM -12 NOON	Ken Boucher	803.226.4639
12 NOON - 6:00PM	Janice Suhrer	803.645.6105
6:00PM - 12 MDNT.	Joan Pate	803.226.0263

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

We will begin a 15-week grief support group beginning **Tuesday, September 16**. We use the GriefShare program, a special, lay-led weekly seminar and support group that embraces a biblical, Christ-centered approach to grief. (www.griefshare.org).

Please join us for help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. We provide a safe and loving environment to encourage sharing and exchanging of concerns and feelings, as you feel comfortable.

This group is open to all grieving people in our community, regardless of religious affiliation. Please pass the information along to anyone you know who might need it. People may join the group at any point.

The meetings are held **Tuesdays, 3:30–5:00PM** in Mother Teresa Hall (125 Union Street, SE).

September 16 - Loss of Spouse. This program addresses those people who have experienced the death of a spouse.

September 23 – we begin the regular 13-week GriefShare program.

November 18 – we will have a one-time session on **Surviving the Holidays**.

The workbook fee is \$20 and scholarships are available. The registration form is available at St. Mary's parish office or you can register at www.griefshare.org/findagroup.

Please contact Karen at kvanderen@charlestdiocese.org for additional information.

"I will turn their mourning into joy; I will console and gladden them after their sorrows" Jer. 31:13

READINGS FOR August 24 – August 31, 2025

Sunday, August 24 readings begin on **page 922** of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Is 66:18-21 11-13	Ps 117:1, 2	Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 9b	Ps 149:1b-6a and 9b	Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8	Ps 139:1-6	Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13	Ps 139:7-12ab	Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13	Ps 128:1-2, 4-5	Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8	Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10-12	Mk 6:17-29
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11	Ps 98:1, 7-9	Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29	Ps 15:2-5	Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a
	Lk 14:1, 7-14	©LPI

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 24

8:30AM Frank Jordan
11:00AM Pro Populo
1:00PM Janice Doerflein
Monday, August 25
5:30PM James R. Hunter
Tuesday, August 26
5:30PM Gruszczycka &
Lepianka Families (L) & D
Wednesday, August 27
8:20AM Jay Carey
7:00PM John Bowers &
Chuck Boklage

Thursday, August 28
5:30PM Margret Smith

Friday, August 29

5:30PM Orlando Serrano
Ardila (L)

Saturday, August 30

8:00AM Richard A. Perkins
5:00PM Juanita Salasar
Richard Griffis
Richard A. Perkins
Michael A. Pantuso, Jr.
Geraldine Walker
Nader Elraheb

Sunday, August 31

8:30AM Pro Populo
11:00AM James R. Hunter
1:00PM Concepcion Arriaga
& Juan Pinacho

DEATHS/DIFUNTOS:

August 13 Keith Adelbert Gilmore
August 17 Charles Spainhour

That Man Is You

Our **2025 Fall Semester** starts on **September 5 at 6:30AM in Mother Theresa Hall**. Join us for "The Light of Men": There is but one source of all light – Jesus! He is the light shattering the darkness of our day. To be in the light is to allow God's light to shine through you and become manifest in abundant virtue. "In him was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1: 4-5). Please contact Chris Ascherman @ 803.845.0568 or Derron Judd @ 803.439.2229 for more information.

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, September 21, 2025 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 about First Holy Communion contact Mary Ellen Jackson at 803.649.4777 ext. 103 or mjackson@charlestandioocese.org.

For more information about Confirmation contact Hannah Dickason at 615.638.7137 or hdickason@charlestandioocese.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.

NEXT SCHEDULED BAPTISM DATE (ENGLISH)

September 6 – 11:00AM in the church on Fairfield St.

- 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

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

OCIA meets on Tuesday at 6:00 – 7:30PM in Mother Teresa Hall at 125 Union Street. This Tuesday the topic is Prayer and the Sacraments. All are invited. Attending OCIA is a great way to re-connect with your faith, to re-learn all the things you have forgotten, or to ask questions. Bring a friend! For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestandioocese.org

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

CONTACT: MRS. HANNAH KATHERINE DICKASON
HDICKASON@CHARLESTONDIocese.ORG
615.638.7137

FORMATION

Please sign up for our Confirmation Program on the parish website by selecting "Confirmation" under the Formation tab. **Classes will begin Sunday, September 14th.**

YOUTH MINISTRY

August 24 – Catholic Trivia Night
August 31 – No Regular Meeting
September 5/6 – NCYC Fundraiser
September 14 – Youth Group Meeting

CCD 4K–GRADE 6 BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14

Classes meet in the school buildings, 9:45 – 10:45AM starting Sunday, September 14th.

Make sure you register for CCD! 4K – 6th grade:
<https://web4u.forms-db.com/view.php?id=2550037>

And ... we can always use volunteers. There are various levels of commitment, from weekly teacher to occasional help, we need it all. Sign up here: <https://web4u.forms-db.com/view.php?id=2617850>

Questions? Contact Mary Ellen Jackson at
mjackson@charlestandioocese.org

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, August 24

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Parish Perks	St. Michael Hall
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, August 25

9:30AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Smtih Hall Down
11:45AM	Lunch & Learn	St. Bosco
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary

Tuesday, August 26

3:30PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary
6:00PM	OCIA	Mother Teresa

Wednesday, August 27

8:20AM	School Mass	Church
3:00PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
7:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Old St. Mary

Thursday, August 28

4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Daily Mass	Old St. Mary

Friday, August 29

4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:00PM	Mass	Old St. Mary

Saturday, August 30

8:00AM	Mass	Old St. Mary
3:30PM	Confessions	Church
5:00PM	Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, August 31

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Parish Perks	St. Michael Hall
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

You won't want to miss the Columbus Club Annual Rummage Sale, August 29/30 and September 5/6 from 8:00AM to 12NOON. We have it all: furniture, clothing, electronics, toys, tools, appliances, and more. Come check it out! 1003 Spaulding Dr., Aiken, SC 29803. All proceeds will go to Special Olympics.

ON THE MASS

During the Mass, "The lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayers, and work, are united with those of Christ and with His total offering and so acquire a new value." (CCC1368) This reminds us of the importance of sacrifice in each individual's life. (United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, USCCB)

PARISH PERKS!

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The parish is in need of a servant's heart for our Director of Religious Education position to continue the vital responsibility of educating the community in the Faith.

POSITION SUMMARY: The Director of Religious Education is a full-time position responsible for the growth and management of the religious education program within the community. The right candidate will have experience with maintaining and organizing records of students as they move through the program. The right individual will also need to have experience with development and implementation of curriculum across multiple ages. The ability to find guest speakers, organize retreats, penance services and volunteer opportunities is also ideal. The ability to offer resources for individuals to foster religious education and practices within the home is also very important in this role. Moreover, the candidate will need to exude joy in their faith to foster an environment that families want to be part of at St. Mary Help of Christians parish.

Job Responsibilities:

- CCD Director
- Adult Formation Coordinator
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults Director

Call the parish office for more details 803.649.4777 Ext. 103 or visit

<https://charlestandiocese.org/job/director-of-religious-education/>

CATECHISTS NEEDED! DO YOU LOVE THE FAITH?

Please prayerfully consider joining our team of religious education catechists. All baptized Catholics are called to share the faith and we need teachers, assistants, teen helpers, and on occasion-substitutes. Opportunities exist for all levels of experience or no experience. 4K – Grade 6. Your own faith will grow along with the students'. Contact Mary Ellen at mjackson@charlestandiocese.org or 803.507.1060

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

This Friday, August 29 we remember the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist. Read aloud the story of his beheading (Matt 14 & Mark 6). Talk about the story; any one of the three people involved could have prevented the beheading. New St. Mary's has a window of him; there is a platter with a bloodstained towel near his feet – see if you can find it.



ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL
 118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801
 Mr. Carlos Overstreet, Principal
 Ph: 803.649.2071 Fax: 803.643.0092
 excelatstmarys.com

Office Hours: 7:30AM to 3:30PM Monday–Friday
 (when school is in session)

STUDENTS ARE BACK AT SMS!



It brings us so much joy to see our hallways filled with smiles once again! We are excited for the new year ahead and the ability to fulfill our mission.



The mission of St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic School, in partnership with parents, is to form Christian leaders who are faithful, prepared, and courageous.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Has your life taken some unexpected turns? Are you having difficulty adjusting to the new 'normal'? Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. It's free. It's confidential. And it will make a difference in your life! To learn more, email Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestandiocese.org or 803.507.1060.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE: A ONE-DAY RETREAT FOR THOSE GRIEVING PREGNANCY LOSS

St. Mary on the Hill Parish is hosting a one day retreat for healing for anyone who has experienced a pregnancy loss. Whether your loss was recent or long ago, this gentle, grace-filled day is a sacred space for anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, infertility, infant loss or contraceptive use. All are welcome—individuals, couples, and those who wish to come in memory of a loved one.

September 20, 2025 8AM -4:30PM St. Mary on the Hill Parish Hall \$30/per person - Lunch is included

For more information, contact Theresa Christie at 706.399.2670; tlcsouth@me.com or Susan McArthur at 706.231.7003; mcarthurofs2015@gmail.com.

A TEACHING MASS SEPTEMBER 20 AT 11:00AM

The Eucharistic Sacrifice (the Mass) is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. (Lumen Gentium 11, quoted in CCC 1324) Have you wondered about all those gestures the priest makes at Mass? Or about the vestments he wears? Fr. Richard Wilson will explain the Mass in his talk: *A Teaching Mass*, to be held in Old St. Mary's on Saturday, September 20 at 11:00AM. Mark your calendars! It is sure to be enlightening.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

If you or a family member are in the hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or have someone pray with you, contact the parish office at 803.649.4777. Because of confidentiality, the hospital cannot tell us you're there without your permission. Please help us bring you the healing power and strength of Jesus!

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGES

Plan to join other parishioners on day-trips to visit the Jubilee Pilgrimage churches in our diocese. We'll leave from Aiken in the morning, carpool, tour the church, go to lunch together, and return home.

Saturday, September 20: Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Charleston at 11:00AM (leave Aiken 8:00AM).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448AAA62BABFA7-56522578-pilgrimage#/>

Questions? Contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestandiocese.org

JOURNEY OF HOPE

Are your separated or divorced? St. Mary's divorce support group using the Journey of Hope program will be starting up in September, check back for more information. We will meet in St. Michael Hall on Wednesdays at 6:00PM. All are welcome. Questions? contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestandiocese.org



ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

¡ESFUÉRCENSE POR ENTRAR POR LA PUERTA ESTRECHA!
Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Llevo poco más de diez años como sacerdote. No recuerdo que me hicieran la misma pregunta que a Jesús en nuestro Evangelio. ¿Será porque la gente tiene miedo de la respuesta? ¿O es que muchos creen que nuestro Señor es simplemente un "Señor de misericordia" y que, al final, todos se salvarán? Una especie de universalismo. No estoy seguro... simplemente no entiendo la pregunta.

La mayoría de las personas tienen cierta preocupación por su salvación, por lo que vendrá después de esta vida. A Jesús le preguntaron: "Señor, ¿se salvarán solo unos pocos?". Y su respuesta es para personas de todas las edades. San Pablo escribió a Timoteo: "Dios quiere que todos los hombres se salven". Cabe destacar que no dice: "Todos se salvarán". Si un estudiante de USC Aiken dijera: "Quiero aprobar mi examen de historia", ese deseo no significa que lo aprobará. Necesita estudiar. Necesita prepararse si quiere aprobar.

¿Qué estamos haciendo para alcanzar la vida eterna? A Cristo no le importa cuántos se salven, sino que todos se salven. En otras palabras, todos pueden salvarse, pero depende de cada persona individualmente. Por eso Cristo, en su respuesta, le dice cómo salvarse. Le dice que necesita esforzarse para entrar, para cumplir la voluntad de Dios siempre, aunque sea difícil, aunque duela, porque ¿qué es esta vida presente comparada con la eternidad?

"Esforzaos por entrar por la puerta estrecha". Cristo se refiere a la actitud que debemos tener ante las dificultades de la vida. ¿Quién de nosotros no se ha topado con alguna piedra en el camino que podría hacernos tropezar? Para algunos, estos obstáculos podrían parecer insuperables; para otros, solo un peldaño que necesitaban ser salvados. San Agustín reflexiona así: «La tribulación vendrá, pero tú haz de ella lo que quieras: o un ejercicio de virtud o una causa de condena. Tu actitud determinará el resultado». Y añade: «La tribulación es fuego. ¿Eres como el oro? ¡Entonces te purificará! ¿Eres como la paja? ¡Entonces te convertirás en ceniza!».

En nuestros días hay hombres y mujeres que están encontrando la «puerta estrecha». Por ella entrarán quienes se esfuerzan por vivir el amor con fidelidad, quienes viven para servir al prójimo, quienes saben vivir con sentido de solidaridad. ¿Quiénes se salvarán? Cuando llegue el momento de

*ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO CONTINÚA EN LA
PÁGINA NUEVE, COLUMNA DOS.*

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 24 de agosto al 31 de agosto, 2025

Las lecturas para domingo, 24 de agosto comienzan en la **pagina 923** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo:	Is 66, 18-21	Sal 116, 1. 2
	Heb 12, 5-7. 11-13	Lc 13, 22-30
Lunes:	1 Tes 1, 1-5. 8-10	Sal 149, 1-6 y 9
	Mt 23, 13-22	
Martes:	1 Tes 2, 1-8	Sal 138, 1-3. 4-6
	Mt 23, 23-26	
Miércoles:	1 Tes 2, 9-13	Sal 138, 7-12
	Mt 23, 27-32	
Jueves:	1 Tes 3, 7-13/Sal 127, 1-2. 4-5/Mt 24, 42-51	
Viernes:	1 Tes 4, 1-8	Sal 96, 1 y 2. 5-6. 10. 11-12
	Mc 6, 17-29	
Sábado:	1 Tes 4, 9-11	Sal 97, 1. 7-9
	Mt 25, 14-30	
Domingo siguiente:	Eclo 3, 17-18, 20, 28-29	
	Sal 14, 2-5	Heb 12, 18-19. 22-24
	Lc 14, 1. 7-14	

©LPi

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

TE INVITAMOS A NUESTRA CLASE DE FORMACIÓN CATÓLICA!

Este miércoles 20 de Agosto después de Misa en español en Smith Hall, tendremos una clase especial de formación abierta para toda la comunidad. Será una excelente oportunidad para crecer en nuestra fe y compartir juntos como familia. No importa si ya has participado antes o si es tu primera vez, todos son bienvenidos.

¡NECESITAMOS MONAGUILLOS!

¿Te gustaría servir en el altar y estar más cerca de Jesús durante la Misa?

Estamos buscando niños que deseen ser monaguillos.

Requisitos:

- Tener al menos 10 años
- Haber recibido su Primera Comunión

Para más información o para inscribirte, comunícate con: Karina Bonilla - 803.262.5185

¡Anímate a servir al Señor con alegría!

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Teléfono: 214.903.1812

7:00PM

Todos los domingos.

SAGRADO SACRAMENTOS

SANTO BAUTISMO

¡El Bautismo es un regalo de vida nueva!
Para bautizar en Sta. María, al menos uno de los padres debe ser católico practicante, asistir a Misa y estar registrado en la parroquia por lo menos 3 meses antes de pedir fecha. Ambos padres deben tomar clases pre-bautismales. Los padrinos deben ser católicos practicantes.

Próximas clases: el 7 y 15 de septiembre 2025

Registro requerido.

Contacto: Reyna Salas - 404.886.5653

SAGRADA COMUNIÓN Y CONFIRMACIÓN

¡Los Sacramentos fortalecen nuestra fe!
Padres y niños deben estar registrados en Sta. María y asistir fielmente a Misa.
Niños fuera de la escuela católica deben completar al menos dos años de formación cristiana y cumplir con la asistencia.

Para más información sobre la Primera Comunión, contactarse con Mary Ellen Jackson al 803.649.4777 ext. 103 o a mjackson@charlestandiocese.org.

Para más información sobre la Confirmación, contactarse con Hannah Dickason al 615.638.7137 o a hdickason@charlestandiocese.org.

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. Para registrarse y obtener más información por favor comuníquese con Sonia Jimenes 803.508.5370.

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

SÍGUENOS EN NUESTRO CANAL DE WHATSAPP

Santa María Auxilio de los Cristianos
WhatsApp channel



¡Escanea el código y activa las notificaciones para recibas las actualizaciones más recientes en español de nuestra parroquia!

PRÓXIMA FECHA DE BAUTISMO (ESPAÑOL)

13 de septiembre 2025 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 803.649.4777

RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS (RICA) MARTES A LAS 7:00PM

Todos están invitados a las Clases de RICA. Nos reunimos los martes en el Salón Smith Hall a las 7:00PM. Para más información, contacte a Omar o Mercedith Cardona 706.231.5253. Este espacio está abierto a toda la comunidad.

MINISTERIO CATÓLICO PARA JÓVENES

CONTACTO: SRA. HANNAH KATHERINE DICKASON

HDICKASON@CHARLESTONDIIOCESE.ORG

615.638.7137

FORMACIÓN

¡Inscríbete en el Ministerio Juvenil y la Confirmación después de cada misa y conoce nuestros programas!
Las clases comenzarán el 14 de septiembre.

MINISTERIO JUVENIL

24 de agosto – Noche de trivia católica

31 de agosto – No hay Reunión Regular

5 y 6 de septiembre – Recaudación de fondos para NCYC

14 de septiembre – Reunión de Grupo de jóvenes

CCD

Comienzan las Clases de Catecismo el 14 de septiembre de 9:45 a 10:45 las clases se llevaran acabo en los salones de la escuela catolica.

¡Asegúrate de inscribirte en el CCD! 4K - 6.º grado:
<https://web4u.forms-db.com/view.php?id=2550037>
Y... siempre necesitamos voluntarios.

Hay varios niveles de compromiso, desde maestros semanales hasta ayuda ocasional; lo necesitamos todo. Inscríbete aquí: <https://web4u.forms-db.com/view.php?id=2617850> ¿Preguntas? Contacta con Mary Ellen en mjackson@charlestandiocese.org

SOCIEDAD DE SAN VICENTE DE PAÚL

Para alimentos o asistencia financiera, llame al 803.642.3211. Abierto de lunes a jueves de 9:00AM a 1:00PM. Cerrado los viernes.



ESCUELA PARROQUIAL DE SANTA MARÍA
118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801
Sr. Carlos Overstreet, Director
803.649.2071 Fax: 803.643.0092
excelatstmarys.com

Horario de Oficina: 7:30AM a 3:30PM lunes a viernes
(cuando la escuela está en sesión)

¡LOS ESTUDIANTES HAN REGRESADO A SMS!



¡Nos llena de alegría ver nuestros pasillos llenos de sonrisas una vez más! Estamos entusiasmados con el nuevo año que se avecina y con la posibilidad de cumplir nuestra misión.



La misión de la Escuela Católica Santa María Auxiliadora, en colaboración con los padres, es formar líderes cristianos fieles, preparados y valientes.

¡UNIDOS EN ORACIÓN!

Te invitamos a ser parte del Grupo de Oración que se reúne todos los jueves a las 7:30PM en la Iglesia Antigua. Este es un espacio especial donde nos unimos como comunidad para orar, reflexionar y fortalecer nuestra relación con Dios.

Ven con un corazón dispuesto a recibir bendiciones. No importa si es tu primera vez, todos son bienvenidos. Un momento para la paz y la esperanza. ¡Te esperamos con los brazos abiertos!

¡NECESITAMOS MONAGUILLOS!

¿Te gustaría servir en el altar y estar más cerca de Jesús durante la Misa? Estamos buscando niños que deseen ser monaguillos.

Requisitos:

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Para más información o para inscribirte, comunícate con: Karina Bonilla - 803.262.5185

¡Anímate a servir al Señor con alegría!

LA TIENDA DE REGALOS

Estará cerrado hasta el 6 de septiembre.

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 24 de agosto

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

Lunes, 25 de agosto

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
6:00PM	Legión de María	Smith Hall
7:00PM	Pequeña Comunidad	Santa Teresa

Martes, 26 de agosto

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

Miércoles, 27 de agosto

8:20AM	Misa escolar	Iglesia
6:15PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
7:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia Antigua

Jueves, 28 de agosto

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
7:30PM	Grupo de Oración	Iglesia Antigua

Viernes, 29 de Agosto

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
7:00PM	Grupo de Matrimonio	Smith

Sábado, 30 de agosto

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

Domingo, 31 de agosto

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

APROVECHA FORMED

Tiene mucha buena programación familiar. ¿No estás en FORMED? Regístrese en www.formed.org/signup, ingrese Aiken, SC, luego elija St. Mary Help of Christians

CONTINUACIÓN DEL ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO DE LA PÁGINA SIETE, COLUMNA UNO

la verdad, habrá muchas sorpresas. Muchos de los que fueron últimos serán primeros, y viceversa. Queridos hermanos y hermanas, esto es una advertencia, una llamada al compromiso, una prueba de fuego. Que sigamos el ejemplo de San Pablo y "trabajen por su salvación con temor y temblor" (Fil 2,12).

Les deseo lo mejor... en Cristo,
Padre Wilson



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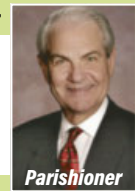
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