

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
CATHOLIC CHURCH — SEPTEMBER 7, 2025



23rd Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:27

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@charlestandioocese.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@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Kimberly Gaynor, Administrative Assistant

to Fr. Wilson 803.649.4777 ext. 114

kgaynor@charlestandioocese.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@charlestandioocese.org

Ms. Frances Gledhill, Parish Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 113

fgledhill@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Adriana Galvan, Hispanic Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 100

agalvan@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson, MA

Director of Religious Education

803.649.4777 ext. 103

mjackson@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Hannah Dickason, Director of Youth Ministry

615.638.7137 (c)

hdickason@charlestandioocese.org

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II, Parish Musician

706.550.5047 (c)

fdeese@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Colleen Snyder, Sacristan

518.524.4464

csnyder@charlestandioocese.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 24, 2025

ENVELOPE/CASH OFFERTORY	AUG. 24	\$ 13,500
ONLINE OFFERTORY FOR	AUG. 24	\$ 12,390
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		\$ 2,118,675

NOTE: The financial updates for **August 31** were not available at the time the bulletin was sent to print.

If you make an annual contribution payable to the parish from an IRA or Securities account, please call 803.649.4777 option 4 and let the parish bookkeeper know. Thank you!

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 REOPENS THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY, 9/6 AFTER THE 5:00PM VIGIL MASS AND
SUNDAY, 9/7 AFTER ALL MASSES

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+

CARRY YOUR CROSS EVERY DAY!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend we heard one of the most severe and clear Gospel passages. Christ doesn't beat around the bush, but from the first moment he states the conditions for following him. People were surprised to hear such words from Christ, yet the evangelist tells us that his followers were many. For Christ the quality of his followers is more important than the quantity. That is why many walked away after hearing these demands. They were afraid.

Christ is the Lord of our heart; that is why he demands everything. Sometimes we seek to fill it with the things of this world, and not those of God. We are also afraid of being empty. We are creatures of a fallen culture, and we prefer to settle down in comfort, and that is why Christ's demands surprise us. Every day we hear ads on the television and radio telling us what we need to do "to make life easier and more comfortable." But we already know that what is easy is expensive, and what is good is costly.

Christ invites us to take up our cross, but the world makes us eliminate the cross from our lives. Is there suddenly an unexpected and inconvenient child? Our culture says you can abort him or her! Are you no longer able to take care of your elderly father or mother? Put them into a home as soon as possible. Is business going badly and do you have lots of problems? Find consolation in alcohol! Take refuge in drugs! Are you having problems with communication and intimacy in your marriage? Flee to the seductive life of pornography!

We are not used to taking up our cross, yet Jesus tells us we cannot run away from it. Experience has taught us that most people who have committed sins like those I just mentioned end up worse off than they were before. Sadder, more heartbroken. Why? Because that was not the answer. They were afraid of carrying their cross.

But our Lord says, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matt 11:30) May we not be afraid of carrying our cross because Christ carried it first. "Be not afraid!" St. Pope John Paul II told us again and again to not run away from problems. We need to carry our cross because Christ is on it. Behind any great masterpiece there are difficult paths and tiring labors. Following Christ will not be easy or effortless, but His cross will be a source of peace and serenity, of joy and enthusiasm. I invite you to carry your cross every day with love. Jesus is at our side, carrying his cross to save the whole world.

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

The 15-week grief support group starts **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. The group is open to all grieving people in our community, regardless of religious affiliation. Meetings are held **Tuesdays, 3:30–5:00PM** in Mother Teresa Hall (125 Union Street, SE).

Sept. 16 – Loss of Spouse. **Sept. 23** – The regular 13-week GriefShare program begins.

Nov. 18 – Surviving the Holidays. A one time class. Workbook fee is \$20. Register in person at St. Mary parish office or at www.griefshare.org/findagroup. Contact Karen at vanderen@charlestondiocese.org.
"I will turn their mourning into joy; I will console and gladden them after their sorrows" Jer. 31:13

THAT MAN IS YOU

Plan to join us on Friday mornings at 6:30AM (doors open at 6AM) for our 2025 Fall Semester in Mother Teresa 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.

ON THE MASS "If we knew the value of Holy Mass, what a great effort we would make to attend it!"
– St. John Mary Vianney

READINGS FOR September 7 – 14, 2025

Sunday, September 7 readings begin on [page 930](#) of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b	Ps 90:3-6, 12-17
Phlm 9-10, 12-17	Lk 14:25-33
Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30	Ps 13:6
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23	
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15	Ps 62:6-7, 9 Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11	Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab
Lk 6:20-26	
Thursday: Col 3:12-17	Ps 150:1b-6 Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14	Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17	Ps 113:1b-5a and 6-7
Lk 6:43-49	
Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9	Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38
Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17	

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HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Sept. 7

8:30AM Fr. Dennis Klein (L)
11:00AM Pro Populo
1:00PM All the Souls in Purgatory

Monday, Sept. 8

5:30PM Claudia Valdez Muro (L)

Tuesday, Sept. 9

5:30PM Fr. Dennis Klein (L)

Wednesday, Sept. 10

8:20AM Ted Killian, Jr.
7:00PM David Galvan Hernandez (L)

Thursday, Sept. 11

10:00AM – Cumberland Lillian Musich

Thursday, Sept. 11 Cont.

5:30PM Alberta Killian

Friday, Sept. 12

5:30PM Doloris Clavenna

Saturday, Sept. 13

8:00AM Mary Daly
5:00PM Alberto Gonzalez
Anne Flanagan
Thomas John Casciotta
Penny Goergen
Nader Elraheb
Madeline Lednappier

Sunday, Sept. 14

8:30AM Paul Strycharz
11:00AM Anne Flanagan
1:00PM Pro Populo

HISPANIC FOOD BAZAAR (KERMES)

Come! Enjoy your favorite Mexican foods!

SUNDAY, SEPT. 14 12–3PM IN ST. ANGELA HALL

Cost depends on food selected. Please join us!
All proceeds support the parish.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST

All 8th – 12th grade students are invited to enter an essay contest. Topic: "The 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution and What it Means to Americans Today." Essay should include the reasons for the revolution, how the new nation dealt with these issues, and whether they are valid today. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each grade. Contact Deputy Grand Knight, Robert Anzuoni, at robert.p.anzuoni@gmail.com

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)

October 4 – 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)

Interested in learning about the Catholic faith? This coming Tuesday we will be covering Creation and Fall. We meet Tuesdays at 6:00 – 7:30PM in Mother Teresa Hall at 125 Union Street. Come to learn about the faith, or come to re-connect with your faith, to re-learn all the things you have forgotten, or to ask questions. All are invited....and 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

September 5/6 – NCYC Fundraiser

September 7 – No Meeting

September 14 – Youth Group Kick-off

September 21 – Youth Group Meeting

September 28 – Youth Group Meeting

CCD 4K–GRADE 6 BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14

CCD starts next Sunday Sept 14...don't be late! Classes for grades 4K – 6th grade will be held in St. Mary's School classrooms on Sunday, 9:45 – 10:45AM. We look forward to seeing you then! Questions? Contact Mary Ellen at mjackson@charlestandioocese.org

SAVE THE DATE! - CWA Kick-Off Dinner

The Catholic Women's Association will be holding its annual **Kick-Off Dinner on Thursday, September 18 in Mother Teresa Hall. Doors open at 5:30PM**, with dinner served after the 5:30PM Mass. All women of the parish are invited to join us for some food, fellowship, and FUN! More details to come.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, September 7

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Café	Mother Teresa
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, September 8

9:30AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Smith
11:45AM	Lunch & Learn Book Club	Bosco
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary
6:00PM	Cursillo Ultreya	St. Michael Hall

Tuesday, September 9

1:30PM	Cards for Christ	Mother Teresa
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, September 10

8:20AM	School Mass	Church
9:30AM	Bible Study	St. Michael Hall
3:00PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
6:00PM	SHE	Mother Teresa
6:00PM	Journey of Hope	St. Michael Hall
7:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Old St. Mary

Thursday, September 11

11:15AM	Bible Study	Smith Hall Down
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Daily Mass	Old St. Mary

Friday, September 12

6:30AM	That Man is You	Mother Teresa
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:00PM	Mass	Old St. Mary

Saturday, September 13

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

Sunday, September 14

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Café	Mother Teresa
9:30AM	Parish Perks	St. Michael Hall
11:00AM	Mass	Church
12:00PM	Kermes	St. Angela
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Millions of Monicas

Join other Catholic women, who like St. Monica, pray for our children and grandchildren to return to the practice of their Catholic faith. Our mission is to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children, to grow in holiness and humility, and to help our children return to the faith. We meet on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 1:00PM in Old St. Mary's. If you have not signed up for Flocknote, please do so, and join the Millions of Monicas group to receive a monthly reminder of our prayer meeting.

PARISH PERKS!

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

PARISH RECEPTIONIST – FULL TIME

Must be proficient in MS Office 365 and have a strong working knowledge of Canva and Publisher. Performs all secretarial duties related to the efficient functioning of the parish office including but not limited to: create the weekly bulletin; create all sacramental certificates and insure that sacraments received are recorded accurately in the sacramental register; print ordos (worship aides) as needed; receive all new parishioner registration forms and enter them in the parish data system; order offering envelopes for new parishioners; enter event/activity reservation requests into the data base as requested; support our priests with routine secretarial/clerical requests; assist paid staff and ministries; answer phones and redirect calls to appropriate staff; and respond to walk-in requests. Must be a self-starter and function independently in the fulfillment of duties in the parish office.

This individual works under the direct supervision of the Pastor and Parish Administrator. Bilingual is preferred but not required.

Contact Patrick Wray at 803.649.4777 ext. 112.

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. This includes being the CCD Director, Adult Formation Coordinator, and OCIA Director.

POSITION SUMMARY: The DRE is a full-time position responsible for the growth and management of the religious education program within the community. The successful candidate will have: experience with maintaining and organizing student records as they move through the program; experience with development and implementation of curriculum across multiple ages; and the ability to find guest speakers, organize retreats, penance services and volunteer opportunities. Offering resources to foster religious education and practices within the home is also very important. 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. For more details call the parish office, 803.649.4777 Ext. 103 or visit

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



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)

GIVE THE GIFT OF A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Did you know you can support Saint Mary's School students through the *Friends of SMS Tuition Assistance Fund*? Your generosity helps provide the gift of a Catholic education to families in need, ensuring that more children can grow in faith, knowledge, and service. Contributions may be made at any time throughout the year. Thank you for making a lasting difference in the lives of our students! To donate online, please visit

<https://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms/>

THANK YOU PARENTS AND PTO!

We are so grateful to our wonderful parents and the PTO for giving our cafeteria a fresh new look! Thanks to their time, effort, and generosity, the space has been deep cleaned, brightened with fresh paint, and decorated with new decor. Our students and staff are already enjoying the welcoming atmosphere – thank you for your continued support of our school!

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. All are welcome – individuals, couples, and those who wish to come in memory of a loved one. **September 20, 8AM–4:30PM St. Mary on the Hill Parish Hall – \$30/per person (includes lunch).** For more information, contact Theresa Christie at 706.399.2670 or tlcsouth@me.com or Susan McArthur at 706.231.7003 or mcarthurofs2015@gmail.com

PRAY & PLAY

Park Playdate: Tuesdays at 9AM: Parents & children (aged 0-5) are invited to a standing playdate at the Aiken County Library Tuesdays from 9AM-10AM. Questions? Text Grace Przywara: (706) 993-8004

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA - GLOVERVILLE

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matt. 25:40. Do you want to be a purposeful Catholic? We have an opportunity for you at Catholic Charities-Gloverville. We need volunteers to work in the office (front desk, phones, data entry) and in the food pantry. If you would like to help with the ministry or for more information, e-mail Joely Leguizamon, Site Administrator at joely@charlestandiocese.org or call 803-593-2623 and leave a message. You can also visit our website olvcenter.org All help will be appreciated.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY RETURNS THIS WEEK

We will continue our study of Pope Francis' final encyclical: "Dilexit Nos: On the Human and Divine Love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus" on **Wednesday September 10, 9:30 to 11:00AM** in St. Michael Hall. Come experience the joy of learning more about our Catholic faith. Newcomers and former attendees are always welcome. Contact Martha Whittingham at whittimp@gmail.com or 865-599-8473.

Come early to socialize before the class begins!

A TEACHING MASS SEPTEMBER 20 AT 11:00AM

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.

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGES

Plan to join other parishioners on day-trips to visit the Jubilee Pilgrimage churches in our diocese.

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

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.

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

¡CARGA TU CRUZ TODOS LOS DÍAS!

¡Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Este fin de semana escuchamos uno de los pasajes del Evangelio más severos y claros. Cristo no se anda con rodeos, sino que desde el primer momento establece las condiciones para seguirlo. La gente se sorprendió al escuchar tales palabras de Cristo, sin embargo, el evangelista nos dice que sus seguidores eran muchos. Para Cristo, la calidad de sus seguidores es más importante que la cantidad. Por eso muchos se alejaron después de escuchar estas exigencias. Tenían miedo.

Cristo es el Señor de nuestro corazón; por eso exige todo. A veces buscamos llenarlo con las cosas de este mundo, y no con las de Dios. También tenemos miedo de estar vacíos. Somos criaturas de una cultura caída, y preferimos acomodarnos en la comodidad, por eso las exigencias de Cristo nos sorprenden. Cada día escuchamos anuncios en la televisión y la radio que nos dicen qué hacer "para que la vida sea más fácil y cómoda." Pero ya sabemos que lo fácil es caro, y lo bueno cuesta.

Cristo nos invita a tomar nuestra cruz, pero el mundo nos lleva a eliminarla de nuestras vidas. ¿Hay de repente un hijo inesperado e inconveniente? ¿Nuestra cultura dice que puedes abortarlo! ¿Ya no puedes cuidar a tu padre o madre ancianos? ¡Mételos en un asilo lo antes posible! ¿Va mal el negocio y tienes muchos problemas? ¡Busca consuelo en el alcohol! ¡Refúgiate en las drogas! ¿Tienes problemas de comunicación e intimidad en tu matrimonio? ¡Huye hacia la vida seductora de la pornografía!

No estamos acostumbrados a cargar nuestra cruz, pero Jesús nos dice que no podemos huir de ella. La experiencia nos ha enseñado que la mayoría de las personas que han cometido pecados como los que acabo de mencionar terminan peor que antes. Más tristes, más desconsoladas. ¿Por qué? Porque esa no era la respuesta. Tenían miedo de cargar su cruz.

Pero nuestro Señor dice: "Mi yugo es suave y mi carga ligera." (Mateo 11:30) Que no tengamos miedo de cargar nuestra cruz porque Cristo la cargó primero. "¡No tengan miedo!" nos dijo una y otra vez San Juan Pablo II. No huyamos de los problemas. Necesitamos cargar nuestra cruz porque Cristo está en ella. Detrás de toda gran obra maestra hay caminos difíciles y labores agotadoras. Seguir a Cristo no será fácil ni sin esfuerzo, pero Su cruz será fuente de paz y serenidad, de alegría y entusiasmo. Te invito a cargar tu cruz cada día con amor. Jesús está a nuestro lado, cargando su cruz para salvar al mundo entero.

Con todo mi afecto... en Cristo,
Padre Wilson

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 7 de septiembre al 14 de septiembre, 2025

Las lecturas para domingo, 7 de septiembre comienzan en la **pagina 931** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo: Sab 9, 13-19 Sal 89, 3-6. 12-17.
Flm 9-10. 12-17 Lc 14, 25-33
Lunes: Miq 5, 1-4 o Rom 8, 28-30 Sal 12, 6
Mt 1, 1-16. 18-23 o 1, 18-23
Martes: Col 2, 6-15 Sal 61, 6-7. 9 Lc 6, 12-19
Miércoles: Col 3, 1-11 Sal 144, 2-3. 10-13
Lc 6, 20-26
Jueves: Col 3, 12-17 Sal 150, 1-6 Lc 6, 27-38
Viernes: 1 Tim 1, 1-2. 12-14 Sal 15, 1-2 y 5. 7-8.
11 Lc 6, 39-42
Sábado: 1 Tim 1, 15-17 Sal 112, 1-5 y 6-7
Lc 6, 43-49
Domingo siguiente: Nm 21, 4-9
Sal 77, 1-2. 34-38. Flp 2, 6-11 Jn 3, 13-17

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

CARIDADES CATÓLICAS DE CAROLINA DEL SUR - GLOVERVILLE

"Les aseguro que cada vez que lo hicieron con el más pequeño de mis hermanos, lo hicieron conmigo" Mat. 25, 40 ¿Quiere ser un católico con propósito? Tenemos una oportunidad para usted en Caridades Católicas de Gloverville. Necesitamos voluntarios para trabajar en la oficina (recepción, teléfonos, ingreso de datos) y en la despensa de alimentos. Si desea ayudar con el ministerio o para obtener más información, envíe un correo electrónico a Joely Leguizamon, administradora del sitio, a joely@charlestandiocese.org o llame al 803-593-2623 y deje un mensaje. También puede visitar nuestro sitio web olvcenter.org. Agradecemos su ayuda.

KERMES

DOMINGO, 14 de Septiembre
de 12:00 del mediodía hasta las 3:00PM
Salón Santa Angela

El costo depende de la comida seleccionada.
¡Te esperamos!

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 14 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

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.

PRÓXIMA FECHA DE BAUTISMO EN 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) LOS 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

7 de septiembre – No hay Reunion Regular

14 de septiembre – Inicio del Grupo de jóvenes

21 de septiembre – Reunión de Grupo de jóvenes

28 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

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS (AA)

1889 Columbia Highway, N. Aiken, SC 29805

Teléfono: 214.903.1812

7:00PM

Todos los domingos.



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)

REGALE UNA EDUCACIÓN CATÓLICA

¿Sabía que puede apoyar a los estudiantes de la Escuela Santa María a través del Fondo de Asistencia para la Matrícula de los Amigos de SMS? Su generosidad ayuda a brindar una educación católica a familias necesitadas, asegurando que más niños puedan crecer en la fe, el conocimiento y el servicio. Puede hacer contribuciones en cualquier momento del año. ¡Gracias por marcar una diferencia duradera en la vida de nuestros estudiantes! Para donar en línea, visite <https://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms/>.

¡GRACIAS, PADRES Y ASOCIACIÓN DE PADRES Y MAESTROS!

¡Estamos muy agradecidos con nuestros maravillosos padres y la Asociación de Padres y Maestros por renovar nuestra cafetería! Gracias a su tiempo, esfuerzo y generosidad, el espacio ha sido limpiado a fondo, pintado con pintura fresca y decorado con nueva decoración. Nuestros estudiantes y personal ya disfrutan del ambiente acogedor. ¡Gracias por su continuo apoyo a nuestra escuela!

¿ERES NUEVO EN LA PARROQUIA?

¡Te damos la bienvenida a la familia de Santa María! Te invitamos a registrarte y ser parte activa de nuestra comunidad. Al hacerlo, podrás crecer con nosotros en el amor y conocimiento de Jesucristo, a través de la celebración fiel de los sacramentos y el estudio de la Palabra de Dios.

Pide un formulario al equipo de hospitalidad y tráelo el próximo domingo, o si prefieres, puedes registrarte en línea desde nuestra página web.

SE BUSCAN CORAZONES GENEROSOS

Nuestra parroquia necesita catequistas que, con amor y alegría, compartan la fe con nuestros niños y jóvenes. No hace falta experiencia, solo el deseo de servir y dejar que Dios actúe a través de ti. Comunícate con Hannah 615.638.7137

¡Tu sí puede hacer la diferencia!

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 7 de septiembre

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
9:00AM	Preparación para el Bautismo	Smith
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

Lunes, 8 de septiembre

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

Martes, 9 de septiembre

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

Miércoles, 10 de septiembre

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

Jueves, 11 de septiembre

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

Viernes, 12 de septiembre

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

Sábado, 13 de septiembre

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

Domingo, 14 de septiembre

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
9:00AM	Preparación para el Bautismo	Smith
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
12:00PM	Kermes	San Angela
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

¡La Iglesia está de Fiesta! Celebremos juntos el Año Jubilar 2025, un tiempo de gracia, renovación y esperanza.

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Levántate y anda es tiempo de ESPERANZA

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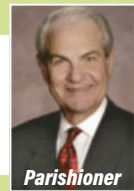
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