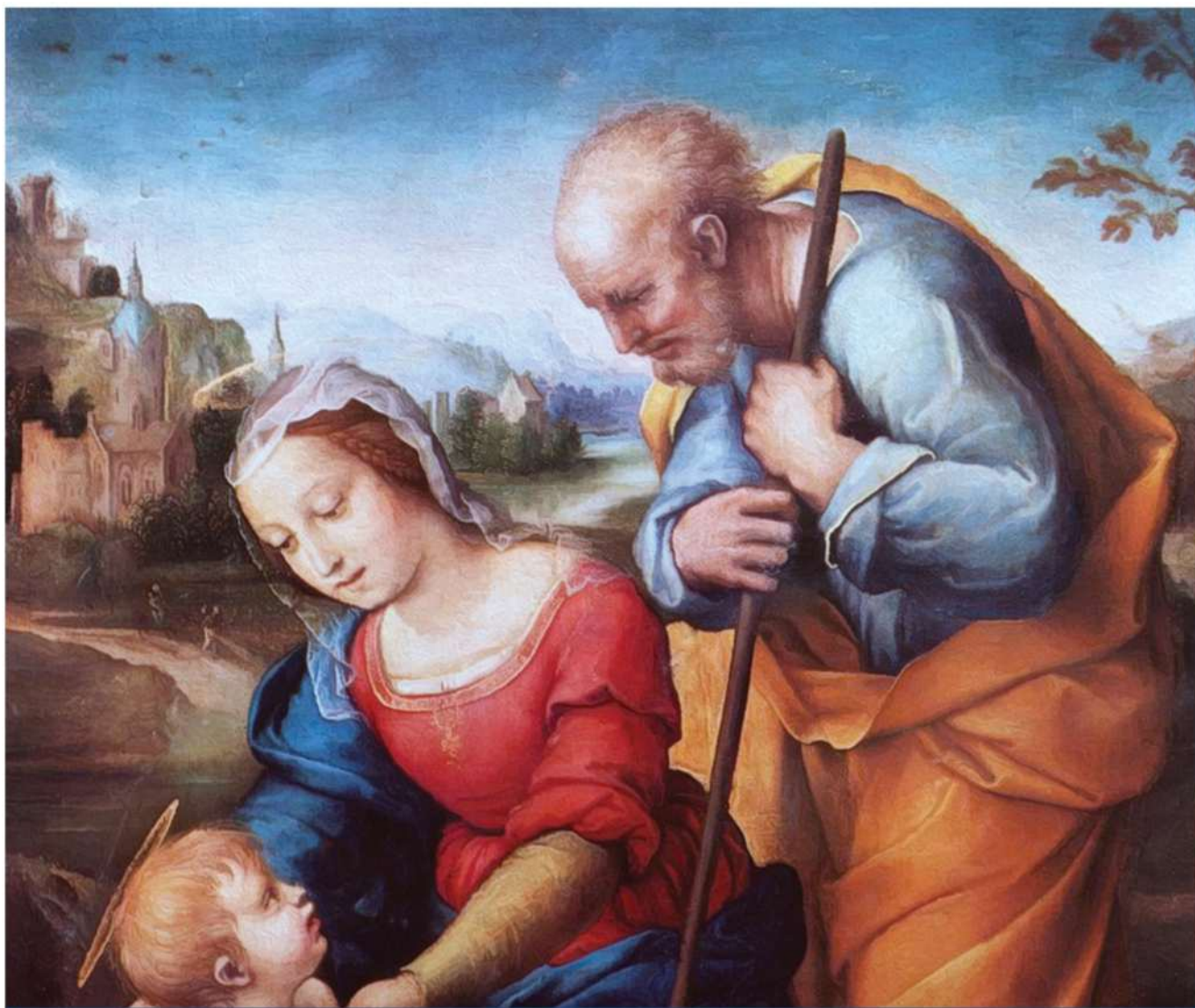




ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

THE HOLY FAMILY



"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child's life are dead." - Mt 2:20

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:

203 Park Avenue SE, Aiken, SC 29801

803.649.4777

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

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

Miss. Kara Hartman, Parish Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 113

khartman@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Adriana Galvan, Hispanic Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 100

agalvan@charlestandioocese.org

Mr. Derrick Huestis

Director of Religious Education

803.649.4777 ext. 103

dhuestis@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

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

ENVELOPE/CASH	DEC. 14	\$ 25,167
ONLINE OFFERTORY	DEC. 14	\$ 12,627
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		\$ 2,118,675

SPECIAL COLLECTION

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS \$2,526

Today's Special Collections

Dec. 28 St. Vincent de Paul

NOTE: The financial updates for December 21 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 on St. Mary's website:
 1. Go to www.stmarys-aiken.org
 2. Click on "GIVING", then "SUNDAY OFFERTORY"
 3. Make your selections
 4. Special collection choices can be made online
- Contribute 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

Open Sunday 9:00AM – 1:00PM.

Merry Christmas to you and yours! The gift shop will be closed December 27 and 28.

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!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (CWA) ENGRAVED BRICK PROGRAM

We have an on-going engraved brick program to benefit the CWA Kitchen fund. Order forms are in the parish office or call Claire at 803.270.0887 (leave a message). Thank you for your support .

PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

The Holy Family

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Between Christmas and New Year's there is a special space for Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the ideal Christian family. After more than 2000 years, the life of the Holy Family is still an example for us to imitate to be happy. They were three separate people, but in love they were one. That is the secret ingredient that makes a family go outside of themselves and triumph: love.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph were three, but on the level of love they were one. That is the greatness of the Mystery of Bethlehem. Love can bring it all together. They were three, but love enabled them to make space for the mysterious hand that guided their family from beginning to end, in fortune and misfortune, in all their joys, comings and goings. The Holy Family is a hymn to simplicity and trust in others. Joseph trusted Mary, Mary trusted Joseph and Jesus trusted them both.

Our society and our world have a lot to learn from the Holy Family. We don't usually resolve the activities of our home in love. Many couples that decided to be forever one end up stopping halfway. Here and there threats against family stability start popping up: personal interests, whims and the desire to experience "something else," the urge to possess, or else the lack of patience, comprehension or fidelity.

The Holy Family encourages us to progress in family unity. So many couples are faithful to each other. It is true that a happy family "doesn't sell" on the front page of newspapers, tabloid magazines, TV, or radio. That is nothing new. It didn't really matter to the Holy Family either. Today we see in them an example of how to confront difficulties, loneliness, challenges and suffering. Maybe the most amazing thing about this "first family" is that they were completely guided by God.

We should value the irreplaceable role of the Christian family in the transmission of the Faith. In our Catholic families we still need to enkindle the appreciation, desire and pride for the things of God. May the contemplation of the Holy Family in Bethlehem raise up in our homes the ideal of a united family. Pope Saint John Paul II often said: "The family that prays together, stays together." Let us ask the Christ Child for this grace.

All the best in Christ,
Father Wilson



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL USE

Put Jesus first on your calendar
with a weekly holy hour!

To find an hour that works for you please visit the
Adoration webpage at <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration>, or call
one of the Divisional Leaders:

MDNT.-6AM Tom Henry 803.642.6893 (no text)
6AM-Noon Ken Boucher 803.226.4639
Noon-6PM Janice Suhrer 803.645.6105
6PM-MDNT. Joan Pate 803.226.0263

Hours in Need (although all hours are available)

MON: 1AM

TUES:

WED: 2AM; 3AM; 1PM; 11PM

THU: 1AM; 2AM

FRI: 3AM

SAT: 1AM; 2PM; 4PM; 6PM

SUN: 2AM; 3AM

DEAR PARISHIONERS

If you receive emails or texts sent in my name or other parish and school staff, asking for financial help in one form or another, please know that neither I, nor any parish employee, will ever ask you for donations of any kind via social media. Please do not respond to any message that you may receive. Thank you and God bless, Fr. Wilson

GLUTEN INTOLERANCE AND HOLY COMMUNION

St. Mary's makes every effort to accommodate and normalize the experience of receiving Holy Communion for the faithful. For those who cannot consume gluten, we welcome you to receive Holy Communion in a safe, sensitive, and compassionate manner. For more information, please contact Karen Van Deren at kvanderen@charlestandiocese.org

If you are visiting St. Mary's and require a low-gluten host for medical reasons, please see a Mass Coordinator or usher prior to Mass. We are only able to accommodate those that need a low-gluten host for medical reasons and not from dietary preference.

His mother said to the servers,
"Do whatever He tells you."

John 2:5

READINGS FOR Dec. 28, 2025 – Jan. 4, 2026

Sunday, Dec. 7 readings begin on **page 144** of the
Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
Ps 128:1-5 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5-6
Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10
Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13
Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8
Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-4
Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3-6
Jn 1:29-34
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

©LPI

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, Dec. 28

8:30AM Mary Daly
11:00AM Gary Ware
1:00PM Pro Populo

Monday, Dec. 29

5:30PM 25th Wedding
Anniversary Javier and
Esperanza Negrete (L)

Tuesday, Dec. 30

5:30PM Bill Freuler

Wednesday, Dec. 31

5:00PM Father R. Wilson
and Father Ghattas

Thursday, Jan. 1

9:00AM Pro Populo
7:00PM José Guadalupe

Friday, Jan. 2

5:30PM Nader Elraheb

Saturday, Jan. 3

8:00AM Martin Colombo
5:00PM Ted Giard

Larry Ball

Pat Bernard

Joan Anders

Eleanor Leavens

Ann Grant

Sunday, Jan. 4

8:30AM Pro Populo

11:00AM James Hunter

1:00PM James Brannon

DEATHS/DIFUNTOS:

Dec. 15 - Joseph Mango

"O sinner, be not discouraged, but
have recourse to Mary in all your
necessities."

-St. Basil the Great
Feast Day January 1

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, January 18, 2026 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 Derrick Huestis at 803.649.4777 ext. 103 or dhuestis@charlestandiocese.org.

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

Saturday, Jan. 3, 11:00AM in Old St. Mary Church on Park Avenue. **Note the change in location.**

- 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? We meet Tuesdays at 6:00 – 7:30PM in Mother Teresa Hall. Our next class will be January 6. All are welcome. For more information contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestandiocese.org

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: Mrs. Hannah Katherine Dickason
hdickason@charlestandiocese.org
615.638.7137

For more details about Confirmation, Youth Ministry, and our full calendar of events, please visit our website or contact Hannah Dickason.

FORMATION

Confirmation 1 meets Tuesday evenings

Confirmation 2 meets Sunday mornings.

January 11 – First Confirmation classes of the semester

YOUTH MINISTRY

December 28 – No Youth Night

January 4 – No Youth Night

January 11 – First Youth Night of the Semester

CCD – NO Class December 28 & January 4

K-6th classes are held in St. Mary's School classrooms on Sundays 9:45 –10:45AM. We will not have class as we celebrate Christmas and the Solemnity Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Questions? Contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestandiocese.org

Saints and Liturgy

January 1st is a holy day of obligation, meaning every Catholic who is able is required to attend Mass. On this day we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. We recognize that God chose Mary, a mere human, to give birth to our God and creator Jesus Christ. She is God's creation giving birth to her creator, the greatest honor a human could receive, and a sign to the great humility of Jesus who, "though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped." Philippians 2:6

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, December 28

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Sunday Café	No meeting
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, December 29

9:30AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	No meeting
11:45AM	Lunch & Learn Book Club	Bosco
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary

Tuesday, December 30

3:30PM	Grief Share	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, December 31

8:20AM	NO MASS	
9:30AM	Bible Study	No Meeting
3:00PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
5:00PM	Vigil Mass	Church
6:00PM	SHE	No meeting
6:00PM	Journey of Hope	No meeting

Thursday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, Holy

Mother of God

9:00AM	Mass	Church
7:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Friday, January 2

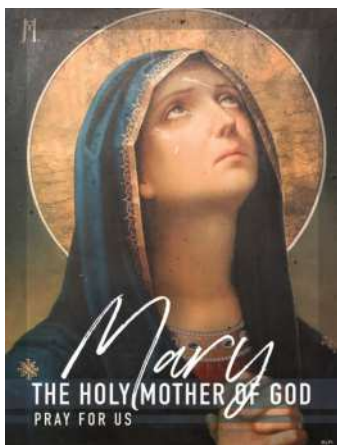
6:30AM	That Man is You	No Meeting
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary

Saturday, January 3

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

Sunday, January 4

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:45AM	Sunday Café	No meeting
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church



PARISH PERKS!

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

MUSIC MINISTRY

We are always looking for willing voices to help praise our Lord. If you are unable to make a full commitment to the choir, please reach out to Frank to see if a limited time engagement, like perhaps Advent, or some other short period when you could serve. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Frank Deese, Parish Musician at fdeese@charlestandiocese.org.

If you think you can sing, you probably can!

FRATERNUS IS NOW AT ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS!

We are seeking faithful, committed men to join our Fraternus Squad! Fraternus is a Catholic brotherhood of men dedicated to growing in virtue, deepening our faith, and strengthening our calling as fathers and leaders. We currently meet on a monthly basis, building the foundation of this ministry in our parish as we seek to add our boys and young men into the fold in the near future. For information, please visit fraternus.org and contact

Scott Recher (recherg@gmail.com),

Brett Dickason (brett.w.dickason@gmail.com),

Billy Swann (eswann3rd@gmail.com), or

David Tacchi (dmtac5@gmail.com).

WHEELCHAIR EXPRESS

We need additional Wheelchair Express drivers for 8:30AM and 11:00AM Masses. Volunteers would rotate with others once every three weeks or so. Wheelchair Express is available for anyone needing wheelchair assistance into the sanctuary and back to their vehicles after Mass on Sundays. Volunteers are present 30 minutes before each of the Masses. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Bobbie or George Sich at 740.981.2961

ALTAR FLOWER GIFTS: If you would like to offer a gift of flowers to honor our Lord and someone special to you, contact Colleen Snyder at csnyder@charlestandiocese.org or 518.524.4464. The requested donation is \$300.00 for two arrangements on the altar.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Will are closed until we reopen on Monday, January 5, 2026.



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)

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS VACATION

The school office will close for Christmas Break on Dec. 19 at 11:30AM and will reopen on Monday, January 5.

SC EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications are now open for the 26-27 school year! Please visit <https://online.factsmgt.com/grant-aid/inst/4QDZ2/landing-page> to apply. Your family may be eligible for a \$7,500 per year per K-12 student in your family to attend St. Mary's School. Apply early to avoid waitlists. If you have questions please email:

office@stmaryschoolaiken.com
or to schedule a tour visit
www.stmaryschoolaiken.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BRING COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND!

Are you interested in bringing the best gift ever, Jesus in the Eucharist, to a fellow parishioner who is homebound? We need more volunteers to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring Our LORD each week to those who cannot attend Mass. If you are interested in volunteering for this rewarding ministry, contact Donna Pierce at 803.552.7714 or piercedin1988@gmail.com. Please visit the Homebound Ministries webpage at <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/communion-to-homebound> for information. Necessary training is given to all volunteers.

UNEXPECTED PREGNANCY?

You are not alone! Free help resources:

Respect Life Ministry – 803.634.3171
Life Choices Pregnancy Care Center
803.648.9890 <https://pregnancyaiken.com>
Birthright – Columbia 803.765.0165
24/7 Helpline 1.800.550.4900 or
<https://birthright.org>

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The group is open to all grieving people in our community, regardless of religious affiliation.

Tuesdays, 3:30–5:00PM in Mother Teresa Hall
(125 Union Street, SE)

The registration form is available at St. Mary's parish office or you can register at www.griefshare.org/find-a-group. For more information please contact Karen Van Deren at kvanderen@charlestdiocese.org.

NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK WE MEET AGAIN ON JANUARY 7, 2026

Join us in studying the encyclical: "*Dilexit Nos: On the Human and Divine Love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus*". We will study the book of Hebrews this Spring as we begin our 20th year! We meet Wednesday's, 9:30–11:00AM in St. Michael Hall. All are welcome. Contact Martha Whittingham at whittimp@gmail.com or 865.599.8473.

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS ROSARY MAKERS

Rosary Makers Ministry meets every 3rd Monday of the month in Mother Teresa Hall, at 1:00PM. Our next meeting is January 19th. Please come, participate in prayer, support, fellowship, and learning. It's a wonderful ministry that can save a soul! Contact Doug McGuinness at dpmcg871@gmail.com or Sue Bursey 443.465.6504

ANNUAL (CWA) GAME AND CARD PARTY

Saturday, January 17, 2026 9:30AM - 2:30PM
St. Angela Hall \$15 per person

Enjoy Fellowship - Door Prizes - Breakfast Breads
Light Lunch for women and men.

Bring your party of 2,3,4 or more & your favorite game: Backgammon, Bridge, Canasta, Chess, Rummy, Mah Jongg, Scrabble, etc. You may reserve a table by texting Emily at 803-221-6978 or leave a voicemail for Eva at 803-221-7000 before January 12, 2026.

Donations of breakfast breads for morning coffee, cookies for lunch and wrapped door prizes (\$10 maximum) would be greatly appreciated. You can use the following sign-up genius or call Eva Darr at 803-221-7000 and bring items to St. Angela Hall on Friday, January 16, 10:00AM – 4:00PM.

Signup Genius Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4BAFAE29A7F49-61128982-cwacard>

Thank you for helping with this community wide event. 100% of the proceeds benefit ACTS and the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. If you would like to volunteer or have questions,

Call Eva at 803-221-7000.



ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

La Sagrada Familia

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Entre la Navidad y el Año Nuevo existe un espacio especial para Jesús, María y José: la familia cristiana ideal. Después de más de 2,000 años, la vida de la Sagrada Familia sigue siendo un ejemplo para nosotros, un modelo a imitar para alcanzar la verdadera felicidad. Eran tres personas distintas, pero en el amor eran uno solo. Ese es el ingrediente secreto que permite que una familia salga de sí misma y triunfe: el amor.

Jesús, María y José eran tres, pero en el nivel del amor eran uno. Esa es la grandeza del Misterio de Belén. El amor es capaz de unirlo todo. Eran tres, pero el amor les permitió dar espacio a la mano misteriosa que guió a su familia de principio a fin, en la prosperidad y en la adversidad, en todas sus alegrías, idas y venidas. La Sagrada Familia es un himno a la sencillez y a la confianza en los demás. José confió en María, María confió en José, y Jesús confió en ambos.

Nuestra sociedad y nuestro mundo tienen mucho que aprender de la Sagrada Familia. No siempre resolvemos las situaciones de nuestro hogar desde el amor. Muchas parejas que decidieron ser uno para siempre terminan deteniéndose a mitad del camino. Aquí y allá comienzan a surgir amenazas contra la estabilidad familiar: intereses personales, caprichos y el deseo de experimentar "algo más", el afán de poseer, o la falta de paciencia, comprensión o fidelidad.

La Sagrada Familia nos anima a crecer en la unidad familiar. Muchas parejas son fieles entre sí. Es cierto que una familia feliz "no vende" titulares en los periódicos, en la televisión, en las revistas sensacionalistas o en la radio. Eso no es nada nuevo. Tampoco le importó mucho a la Sagrada Familia. Hoy vemos en ellos un ejemplo de cómo afrontar las dificultades, la soledad, los desafíos y el sufrimiento. Tal vez lo más sorprendente de esta "primera familia" es que estuvo completamente guiada por Dios.

Debemos valorar el papel irremplazable de la familia cristiana en la transmisión de la fe. En nuestras familias católicas aún necesitamos avivar el aprecio, el deseo y el orgullo por las cosas de Dios. Que la contemplación de la Sagrada Familia en Belén haga renacer en nuestros hogares el ideal de una familia unida. El Papa San Juan Pablo II decía con frecuencia: "La familia que reza unida, permanece unida." Pidamos al Niño Jesús esta gracia.

Con mis mejores deseos en Cristo,
Padre Wilson

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 28 de diciembre, 2025 al 4 de enero, 2026

Las lecturas para domingo, el 28 de diciembre comienzan en la **pagina 145** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo:	Eccl 3, 2-6. 12-14	
	Col 3, 12-21 o 3, 12-17	Sal 128, 1-2. 3. 4-5
	Mt 2, 13-15. 19-23	
Lunes:	1 Jn 2, 3-11	Sal 95, 1-3. 5-6
	Lc 2, 22-35	
Martes:	1 Jn 2, 12-17	Sal 95, 7-10 Lc 2, 36-40
Miércoles:	1 Jn 2, 18-21	Sal 95, 1-2. 11-12. 13
	Jn 1, 1-18	
Jueves:	Nm 6, 22-27	Sal 66, 2-3. 5. 6 y 8
	Gal 4, 4-7/Lc 2, 16-21	
Viernes:	1 Jn 2, 22-28	Sal 97, 1. 2-3. 3-4
	Jn 1, 19-28	
Sábado:	1 Jn 2, 29-3, 6	Sal 97, 1. 3-4. 5-6
	Jn 1, 29-34	
Domingo siguiente:	Is 60, 1-6	
	Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 10-13	Ef 3, 2-3. 5-6
	Mt 2, 1-12	

©LPI

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

Durante todo el mes de diciembre, la Misa en español de los miércoles se celebrará en la iglesia nueva, manteniendo el mismo horario habitual.

DONACIONES DE FLORES PARA EL ALTAR

Las flores del altar pueden ser patrocinadas durante todo el año, excepto durante la Cuaresma, y el costo es \$300 por dos arreglos. Si desea ofrecer un arreglo de flores para honrar a nuestro Señor o a alguien especial para usted, comuníquese con

Colleen Snyder, 518.524.4464
or csnyder@charlestandiocese.org

¿EMBARAZO INESPERADO?

¡No estás sola! Recursos de ayuda gratuitos:

Ministerio Respeto a la Vida 803.634.3171
Centro de Atención de Embarazo Life Choices
803.648.9890 <https://pregnancyaiken.com>
Birth Right Columbia 803.765.0165
Línea de ayuda 24/7 1.800.550.4900
<https://birthright.org>

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: 4 y 11 de enero 2026

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@charlestdiocese.org.

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

TIENDA DE REGALOS HORARIO

Abierto los domingos de 9:00AM a 1:00PM.

¡Feliz Navidad a usted y a los suyos!

La tienda de regalos permanecerá cerrada los días 27 y 28 de diciembre.

PRÓXIMA FECHA DE BAUTISMO EN ESPAÑOL

10 de enero 2026 a las 11:00AM en la iglesia antigua en Park Avenue. **Tenga en cuenta el cambio de ubicación.**

- 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@CHARLESTONDIocese.org

615.638.7137

Para más detalles sobre la Confirmación, el Ministerio Juvenil y nuestro calendario completo de eventos, por favor visite nuestro sitio web o contacte a Hannah Dickason.

FORMACIÓN

Confirmación 1 se reúne los martes por la tarde y Confirmación 2 los domingos por la mañana. Pueden consultar nuestro calendario en la página web o comunicarse con Hannah Dickason.

YOUTH MINISTRY

28 de diciembre: No hay Noche Juvenil

4 de enero: No hay Noche Juvenil

11 de enero: Primera noche juvenil del semestre

CCD

Las clases de CCD de 4° a 6° grado se llevan a cabo en las aulas de la Escuela St. Mary los domingos de 9:45 a 10:45AM. ¡Esperamos verlos entonces! ¿Preguntas? Contacte a Derrick Huestis en dhuestis@charlestdiocese.org

Legión de María

Invita a toda la comunidad a participar en la Entronización del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús en sus hogares. Esta hermosa devoción nos ayuda a acercarnos más al corazón de Jesús y a vivir nuestra fe en familia. ¡Anímate a preparar tu hogar para recibir al Sagrado Corazón! Para más información communicate con Mary Hernandez 803-522-3988



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)

OFICINA ESCOLAR CERRADA POR VACACIONES DE NAVIDAD

La oficina de la escuela cerrará por vacaciones de Navidad el 19 de diciembre a las 11:30AM y volverá a abrir el lunes 5 de enero.

BECAS DE EDUCACIÓN DE CAROLINA DEL SUR

¡Ya está abierto el plazo de solicitud de becas para el curso escolar 2026-2027! Visite <https://online.factsmtg.com/grant-aid/inst/4QDZ2/landing-page> para solicitarla. Su familia puede tener derecho a recibir \$7,500 al año por cada estudiante de primaria y secundaria que asista a St. Mary's School. Solicítelo cuanto antes para evitar las listas de espera. Envíe un correo electrónico a office@stmaryschoolaiken.com si tiene alguna pregunta o visite www.stmaryschoolaiken.com para concertar una visita.

¿QUIERES OFRECER UNA MISA POR UN SER QUERIDO O POR UNA INTENCIÓN ESPECIAL?

Ofrecer una intención de Misa es una hermosa manera de orar por alguien ya sea por su descanso eterno, por salud, acción de gracias o alguna necesidad particular. Si deseas hacerlo, te pedimos que llames directamente a la oficina parroquial con anticipación para reservar la fecha ya que según el Canon 948 del Código de Derecho Canónico, "se debe aplicar una Misa por una sola intención a la vez". Tu comprensión y colaboración nos ayudan a mantener el debido respeto y orden en la celebración de la Santa Misa.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS (AA)

1889 Columbia Highway, N. Aiken, SC 29805
Telefono: 214.903.1812
7:00PM Todos los domingos.

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.

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 28 de diciembre

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

Lunes, 29 de diciembre

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

Martes, 30 de diciembre

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
6:30PM	RICA	Smith

Miércoles, 31 de diciembre

8:20AM	No hay Misa	
5:00PM	Misa de Vigilia	Iglesia
7:00PM	No hay Misa en español	

Jueves, 1 de enero, Solemnidad de María, Santa Madre de Dios

9:00AM	Misa en inglés	Iglesia
7:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

Viernes, 2 de enero

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

Sábado, 3 de enero

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

Domingo, 4 de enero

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

LEGIÓN DE MARIA

Invita a toda la comunidad a participar en la Entronización del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús en sus hogares. Esta hermosa devoción nos ayuda a acercarnos más al corazón de Jesús y a vivir nuestra fe en familia.

¡Anímate a preparar tu hogar para recibir al Sagrado Corazón!

Para más información comuníquese con Mary Hernandez 803-522-3988

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!



CUMBERLAND VILLAGE

A GOLDEN BELL COMMUNITY

- Independent Living • Assisted Living • In-Home Care
- Memory Care (Coming Soon)

- Located on 35 acres, a staple in Aiken for 30+ years
- Only community in Aiken with full continuum of care with no large buy-in

803.335.5280

3335 Wise Creek Lane, Aiken, SC 29801



FRED WICKS
REALTOR® | VP
CELL: 803-645-3543



KT RUTHVEN
REALTOR® | VP
CELL: 803-617-9356

WICKS & RUTHVEN
FREEDANDKI@gmail.com



Scan here to be added to
our once a month newsletter



Betty Cortez - Owner - Parishioner
Kitchen: 10am - 6pm Store: 10am - 7pm
Open Mon. - Sat.: 10 am - 7pm
2460 Wagener Rd. - Aiken
803-648-0403

Trusted Service Since 1967



803-649-9803
www.aikenpest.com



803.262.5141
ScissorsAndSofas.com

225 Richland Ave E
Aiken, SC 29801



**WE'RE NOT JUST A SALON
OR A FURNITURE STORE –**

We're a one-stop destination where
style meets comfort. Our unique
concept combines expert hair styling
with high-end furniture & home goods.

**Our Model is Consignment, Good
Quality but Reasonable Prices**

**MANICURE &
PEDICURE**



**VISIT
OUR
STORE**



Collette R Ball Ins Agcy Inc



Collette Ball, Agent
Parishioner

3066 Whiskey Rd
Aiken, SC 29803
Bus 803-648-2973
Fax 803-335-2273
Cell 803-295-6894

collette.ball.crmh@statefarm.com



**The greatest compliment
you can give is a referral.**

Morgan Stanley

- Retirement Planning
 - College Savings Plans
 - Financial Planning
- Stephen Anacleio**
Financial Advisor
One 10th Street Suite 600
Augusta, GA 30901

803-642-7044
stephen.j.anacleio@morganstanley.com

© 2014 Morgan Stanley Smith
Barney LLC. Member SIPC.
CRC897562 06/14

SHELLHOUSE FUNERAL HOME **SHELLHOUSE-RIVERS FUNERAL HOME**

Honor a life well lived.



924 Hayne Ave. Aiken
803-642-3456
ShellhouseFuneralHome.com



715 East Pine Log Rd. Aiken
803-641-4401*
ShellhouseRiversFuneralHome.com

Aiken's Only Onsite Crematory*



RURAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC. **(803) 380-7000**

At Rural Health Services, we're dedicated to providing top-quality healthcare that is accessible and affordable for everyone. Whether you need routine check-ups, specialized care, or dental services; our compassionate team is here to meet your needs. Conveniently located and committed to the well-being of our community, we're your trusted partner and Patient-Centered Medical Home.

En Rural Health Services, nos dedicamos a brindar atención médica de alta calidad que sea accesible y asequible para todos. Ya sea que necesite chequeos de rutina, atención especializada o servicios dentales; Nuestro compasivo equipo está aquí para satisfacer sus necesidades. Convenientemente ubicados y comprometidos con el bienestar de nuestra comunidad, somos su socio de confianza y su hogar médico centrado en el paciente.

WHY CHOOSE US?

1. QUALITY 2. CONVENIENCE 3. AFFORDABILITY



DENTAL



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



OB/GYN



PODIATRY



PEDIATRICS



ADULT MEDICINE



PHARMACY



OPTOMETRY



¿POR QUÉ ELEGIRNOS?

1. CALIDAD 2. CONVENIENCIA 3. ASEQUIBILIDAD



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

16-0095

Meybohm
Cathy Brennan
 Vice President
 Cell: 803-439-1357
 E-mail: cbrennan@meybohm.com
 142 Laurens St. NW • Aiken, SC 29801
Parishioner

Residential & Commercial Interior Design
Nandina
 home & design
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA
 158 Laurens Street, Aiken, SC 29801
 (803) 649-0616 • Hours Mon-Sat 10-5
nandinahome.com
SUSAN VICTOR
 Co-Owner/Interior Designer
SUE SHANNON
 Co-Owner/Interior Designer

Hutson-Etheredge
COMPANIES
 ESTABLISHED 1876
 Personal Insurance • Business Insurance
 Medical & Life Insurance • Discounts
 129 PARK AVE. SW | 803-649-5141
 INFO@HECOS.COM | WWW.HECOS.COM

Forbes BEST-IN-STATE
2025 WEALTH MANAGEMENT
 TEAMS
 POWERED BY SHOOKRESEARCH
Wiland-Foley Wealth Advisory Group
 OF JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC

MILLY MAIDS LLC
 CLEANING SERVICES
 COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL
 MOVE IN AND OUT
 FREE ESTIMATES
 803-634-3121
 803-634-3120
 millymaidsllc@gmail.com
TRINIDAD MORENO
 Owner and Parishioner

DayBreak
 ADULT CARE SERVICES, INC.
 1028 Hayne
 Avenue SW
 Aiken, SC 29801
 24/7 Care | Respite Care | Alzheimer's & Related Dementia Care
 Grocery Shopping | Light Housekeeping | Laundry | Meal Preparation
 Hospital/Facility Sitting | Companionship | Transportation
 Home Health/Palliative/Hospice Support | Errands
 Medication Reminders | Bathing Assistance | Dressing Assistance
DayBreakAiken.com ♥ 803-226-0288

VETERAN OWNED AND PROUD PARISHIONERS
 1441 Main St, Ste 700, Columbia, SC 29201
 401 Park Ave SW, Aiken, SC 29801 | 803.649.6126
 For more information about any awards referenced, including
 relevant criteria, please visit janney.com/awards-disclosures.
Janney
 © JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC • MEMBER: NYSE, FINRA, SIPC

Knapp Law Firm PC
 Elder Law • Probate
 Medicaid Asset Preservation
 Guardianships • Conservatorships
 Special Needs & Living Trusts / Wills
www.lindafarronknapp.com
803.335.1431 / 803.541.7676
 Call for an appointment
 135 Laurens St. SW, Suite 200, Aiken

Janney
 SINGER WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP
 OF JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC
SCOTT SINGER
 First Vice President, Financial Advisor
 & Proud Parishioner
 803.649.6125 | scott.singer@janney.com
www.singerwealthmanagementgroup.com
 JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC | 401 PARK AVENUE, SW, AIKEN, SC 29801
 WWW.JANNEY.COM | © JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC
 MEMBER: NYSE, FINRA, SIPC

As a CFP® Fiduciary **Client's Interest Always Come First**
William Coscioni CFP®, CPA
803-644-0701 **WEALTHCARE**
 • Financial Planning • Investment Management
 • Tax Planning & Preparation
 "A Registered Investment Advisor"
 (Fee only - No product commissions accepted)
 910 Dougherty Road, Aiken, SC 29803 | www.wealthcare910.com
Parishioner

Ron's
HOME REPAIR SERVICE
 No Job Too Small
 Painting & Other Services
 Ron Tugya-Parishioner
803-642-9344

Computerized
 Engine Analysis
 Professional
 Import and Domestic
 Auto Service
643-9266
AUTO TECH. INC. 460 Silver Bluff Rd.
 Aiken, S.C. Steve Young
 For All Your Import Needs Owner
 Parishioner

MS
MILTON SHEALY
Funeral Home
A Home for Aiken's
Catholic Families.
 At Milton Shealy Funeral Home - Aiken
 Chapel, we walk beside your family in faith.
 From coordinating with local parishes to
 honoring each Catholic rite with care, your
 loved one is entrusted to compassionate
 and prayerful hands.
Rooted in Tradition. Guided by Faith.
803.649.6234

ELLEN E. MILLER LLC
 Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist
 203 Laurens St.
 Aiken, SC 29801
 803.643.0173
 By Appt. Only

TEQUILA'S
 Gift
 Certificates
 Available
 GRILL & BAR
 1860 Richland Avenue West
803-226-0495

BRADLEY PLUMBING
& HEATING, INC.
 150 RUTLAND DRIVE NW
 AIKEN, SC 29801
 PLUMBING • HEATING • VENTILATION
 AIR CONDITIONING
 Timothy W. Redd (803) 649-2155
 President FAX: 642-2963

DL Durban-Laird Insurance
Paul W. Durban, CIC
 Durban-Laird's, Inc.
 Insurance Agents & Brokers
 155 Laurens Street, SW • P.O. Box 422
 Aiken, SC 29802
 Phone (803) 649-2561 • Fax (803) 648-8760
paul@durban-laird.com

Carrie Katonak
Hair Specialist
 Book your appointment (803) 221-5946

Aiken's newest senior living community
Oaks
 AT AIKEN
 Serving with faith, knowledge, compassion,
 and love. **Providing assisted living**
and memory care services.
 Family owned | Opening October 2023
Call 803-281-8600 for more information
 3400 Whiskey Rd. • Aiken, SC 29803
 25 YEARS
 OAKS SENIOR LIVING

Shirer
 FAMILY DENTISTRY
 Let Our Family Become A Part Of Yours
 Monday - Friday:
 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 420 Hitchcock Pkwy
 Aiken, SC
803-648-6400
Parishioners
www.shirerfamilydentistry.com
DR. MICHAEL SHIRER AND DR. SUSANNAH SHIRER