

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
CATHOLIC CHURCH — JANUARY 11, 2026



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"Behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." Mt 3:16

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

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

138 Fairfield St. SE
St. Mary's Church: 125 Park Ave. SE
Old St. Mary's: 125 Park Ave. SE
Ste Claire Chapel:

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 - Iglesia Antigua
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. Al Matousek
Dcn. Robert Pierce 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
803.716.8451
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, JANUARY 4, 2026

Envelope/Cash Offertory	Jan. 4	\$ 16,583
Online Offertory	Jan. 4	\$ 17,670
Envelope/Cash Offertory	Dec. 28	\$ 25,608
Online Offertory	Dec. 28	\$ 20,846
Total Annual Budget		\$ 2,118,675

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Jan. 25 - Church in Latin America

Jan. 25 - St. Vincent de Paul

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 at www.stmarys-aiken.org

1. Click on "GIVING", then "SUNDAY OFFERTORY"
2. Make your selections
3. 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.

CWA LADIES LUNCHEON

The Catholic Women's Association will be hosting our annual Life Choices Baby Shower and Potluck Luncheon on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 in Mother Teresa Hall. Rosary begins at 11:30 in the new church, followed by potluck lunch and a very special Marian presentation by St. Mary's parishioner, Ivy Monahan. All women of the parish are invited to attend. More details to come!

GIFT SHOP

Will be open after Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday from 9:00am to 3:00pm this weekend. Stop by and pick up your favorites and check out new items.

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 Baptism of our Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A week ago, we celebrated the Epiphany or manifestation of Jesus to the Magi who came from afar. Today's feast is a new manifestation. John preached to and baptized those who listened, and he told them, "Be converted, the Kingdom of God is at hand, prepare the way of the Lord." One day, Jesus shows up in person and asks for Baptism. **This event should make us reflect today on our own Baptism.**

Christ has provided the waters with a regenerating and purifying strength, so that, when baptized, we truly become sons of God. Saint Maximus of Turin said: "Maybe someone will wonder: 'why did He want to be baptized, if He is Holy?' Our Divine Lord Jesus Christ was baptized not to be made holy by the waters, but to make holy the waters."

Jesus starts his public life by the River Jordan, giving us a lesson in humility. As he steps out of the water, marvelous things occur which reveal some great news to John and the bystanders. Jesus is truly the Messiah they had all been waiting for. As the Heavens are opened, it signals that Jesus has heralded a time of reconciliation between God and man. As the Holy Spirit comes down upon Jesus in the form of a dove, it means that he has come to bring us the very life of God. The voice that is heard in heaven proclaims that Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father, a divine Person and much more than an ordinary person.

When we receive the sacrament of Baptism, the same voice is heard again in heaven: "This is my beloved child." As in Jesus' case, this is the beginning of a journey and a mission for us. Paradoxically, Baptism is a sign of death and life. We die to sin, but at the same time, we experience a new birth. We are renewed and become a new creature.

We have been called to serve. The followers of Jesus are committed to imitating their master, whose entire life was spent doing good. Jesus came to live human life to teach us to love in the midst of suffering, humiliation and temptation. By his example, he shows us that we become more human when we live for others.

May the contemplation of Jesus' Baptism and the recollection of our own Baptism help us to be aware that we need to purpose our life in the light of the Gospel. We have been marked with an indelible mark, so we should never forget that we are God's children. And so, may we give thanks to God, always and everywhere.

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 contact 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

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.

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR FLOCKNOTE

Using your cell phone, text AIKEN to 84576 or connect with us online at stmaryshelp.flocknote.com (you can text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time). You will receive messages only from those groups or ministries for which you sign up! Be sure to fill in our contact information.

READINGS FOR JAN. 11— JAN. 18, 2026

Sunday, Jan. 11 readings begin on **page 156** of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7	Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10
Acts 10:34-38	Mt 3:13-17
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8	Ps 116:12-19
20	Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20	1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8
Mk 1:21-28	
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20	
Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10	Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11	Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25
Mk 1:40-45	
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a	Ps 89:16-17, 18-19
Mk 2:1-12	
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a	Ps 21:2-7
Mk 2:13-17	
Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6	Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-10
1 Cor 1:1-3	Jn 1:29-34

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HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday Jan. 11

8:30am Patrick Keeley

11:00am Pro Populo

1:00pm José Valdez
Lopez

Monday Jan. 12

5:30pm Nader Elraheb

Tuesday Jan. 13

5:30pm Mike Dukes

Wednesday Jan. 14

8:20am Richard Perkins

5:30pm Riswitha Weidig

Thursday Jan. 15

5:30pm Joan Buttrey

Friday Jan. 16

5:30pm William Seneker

Saturday Jan. 17

8:00am Reid Bohning

5:00pm Carol Reeve

Joseph Gorgano

Roland More

Nicholas Mastrorilli Sr.

Alberto Gonzalez

Thomas James Casciotta

Sunday Jan. 18

8:30am Dan & Mary

Tangelo

11:00am Sophie

Vanderbeck

1:00pm Pro Populo

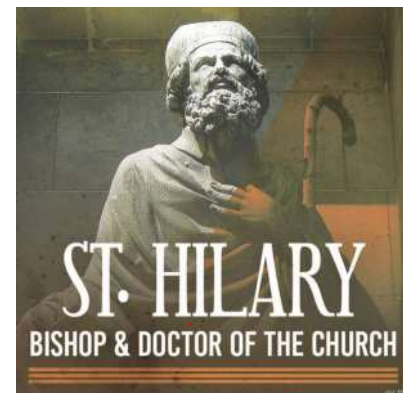
DEATHS/DIFUNTOS:

Dec. 14 - Pete Medico

Dec. 26 - Garrett Randolph LaCara

Dec. 28 - Teresa Neely

Dec. 28 - Maureen Spears



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 next **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 class 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 hdickason@charlestandiocese.org or 615.638.7137.

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, Feb. 7, 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. On January 13, Fr. Ghattas will talk about the virtue of hope and the last things. All are welcome. For more information contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestandiocese.org 803-716-8451

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

January 11 – First Confirmation 2 Classes of the Semester

January 15 – First Confirmation 1 Classes of the Semester

YOUTH MINISTRY

January 11 – First Youth Night of the Semester

January 18 – Youth Night

January 25 – Youth Night

CCD

K-6th grades are held in the St. Mary's School classrooms on Sunday at 9:45-10:45am. We need substitute teachers. If you are in good standing with the Church and would like to help, contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestandiocese.org or 803-716-8451

SAINTS AND THE LITURGY

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. It is the last day of the Christmas season, and on Monday we return to Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar where the color used for Mass is green. Today, the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized is the boundary between predominantly Muslim Jordan and predominantly Jewish Israel, and visits are done under the supervision of armed soldiers. The conflict zone of the Jordan River reminds us that baptism creates conflict between us and the Devil, who is working against our salvation.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, January 11

8:30am Mass	Church
9:45am Sunday Café	Mother Teresa
11:00am Mass	Church
1:00pm Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, January 12

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	Smith Hall
11:45am Lunch & Learn Book Club	Bosco
4:45pm Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30pm Mass	Old St. Mary

Tuesday, January 13

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, January 14

8:20am Mass	Church
9:30am Bible Study	St. Michael Hall
3:00pm Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
6:00pm SHE	No meeting
6:00pm Journey of Hope	No meeting

Thursday, January 15

11:15am Thursday Bible Study	Smith Hall
4:45pm Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30pm Mass	Old St. Mary

Friday, January 16

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

Saturday, January 17

8:00am Mass	Old St. Mary
4:45pm Confessions	Church
5:00pm Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, January 18

8:30am Mass	Church
9:45am Sunday Café	Mother Teresa
11:00am Mass	Church
1:00pm Mass in Spanish	Church

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

PARISH PERKS!

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

MUSIC MINISTRY — CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

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, such as Advent, Lent 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!

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 will meet on Wednesday, January 21st at 1:00 pm 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.

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 more information, please visit fraternus.org and contact one of these men:

Scott Recher at rechergs@gmail.com

Brett Dickason at brett.w.dickason@gmail.com

Billy Swann at eswann3rd@gmail.com

David Tacchi at dmtac5@gmail.com



The Retrouvaille Program is for Married Couples Facing Difficult Challenges and has helped tens of thousands of couples at ALL stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. We save marriages! Next Charlotte-area Weekend is Jan 16-18, 2026, and is halfway filled. There is still time to register.

More Information at: www.helpourmarriage.org.

Call Bill & Lyn Folsom: 800-470-2230, (727)343-6701 or email: 3062ac@helpourmarriage.org



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)

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week is a national celebration of the value and mission of Catholic education—forming students in faith, knowledge, and service. We invite all parishioners to join us for Mass at 8:30 am on Sunday, January 25, as our school community comes together to kick off the week. Our students will attend Mass in uniform, process in with the priest, and serve as lectors. We hope you will join us as we celebrate our parish and thank you for supporting Catholic education.

St. Mary's School Enrollment Begins Soon!

Parish families interested in enrolling new students at St. Mary's School for the 2026–2027 school year are encouraged to begin the inquiry process next week. Before applications open to the general public in a few weeks, we are offering current families and parishioners priority access. Visit www.stmaryschoolaiken.com and click the Admission Inquiry button to get started.

SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN (SHE)

Season 4 starts January 21st and runs through March 25th! In a world where the prevalence of darkness often seems overwhelming, it's easy to feel discouraged, fearful, or even weighed down by the struggles of our culture. Yet, Scripture offers us a powerful image of light that not only calls us to turn to Christ in our need for conversion but also reminds us that He has already won the victory. This season, we are invited to embrace the light of Christ, allowing it to penetrate every corner of our lives and shine brightly into the world, bringing hope and transformation to all we encounter. Join us as we ask the Lord to Restore us to His Radiance as a light to our families, friends, and the world. Meetings are from 6:00-7:30 pm on Wednesdays. All women are welcome. Register at

<https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/532A7B>.

And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased."

-Mark 1:10-11

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@charlestandiocese.org.

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.

ANNUAL (CWA) GAME AND CARD PARTY

Fun, Fellowship, Door Prizes, Breakfast Breads and Light Lunch for women and men.

Saturday January 17, 2026

9:30 am - 2:30 pm St. Angela Hall

Cost is \$15.00 per person

Bring your party of 2,3,4 or more and your favorite game - Rummy, Canasta, Bridge, Mah Jong, Chess, Backgammon, 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 the 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 between 10 am - 4 pm.

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 Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. If you could volunteer or have questions, call Eva at 803-221-7000.

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

Título: El Bautismo de nuestro Señor

Queridos hermanos en Cristo,

Hace una semana celebramos la Epifanía o manifestación de Jesús a los Reyes Magos que vinieron de lejos. La fiesta de hoy es una nueva manifestación. Juan predicaba y bautizaba a quienes lo escuchaban, y les decía: «Conviértanse, el Reino de Dios está cerca, preparen el camino del Señor». Un día, Jesús se presenta en persona y pide ser bautizado. Este acontecimiento debe hacernos reflexionar hoy sobre nuestro propio Bautismo.

Cristo ha dotado a las aguas de una fuerza regeneradora y purificadora, de modo que, al ser bautizados, nos convertimos verdaderamente en hijos de Dios. San Máximo de Turín dijo: «Quizás alguien se pregunte: "¿Por qué quiso ser bautizado, si es Santo?" Nuestro Divino Señor Jesucristo fue bautizado no para ser santificado por las aguas, sino para santificar las aguas».

Jesús comienza su vida pública a orillas del río Jordán, dándonos una lección de humildad. Al salir del agua, ocurren cosas maravillosas que revelan grandes noticias a Juan y a los presentes. Jesús es verdaderamente el Mesías que todos esperaban. La apertura de los cielos indica que Jesús ha inaugurado un tiempo de reconciliación entre Dios y el hombre. La venida del Espíritu Santo sobre Jesús en forma de paloma significa que ha venido para traernos la vida misma de Dios. La voz que se oye en el cielo proclama que Jesús es el Hijo amado del Padre, una Persona divina y mucho más que una persona ordinaria.

Cuando recibimos el sacramento del Bautismo, la misma voz se oye de nuevo en el cielo: «Este es mi hijo amado». Como en el caso de Jesús, este es el comienzo de un camino y una misión para nosotros. Paradójicamente, el Bautismo es signo de muerte y de vida. Morimos al pecado, pero al mismo tiempo, experimentamos un nuevo nacimiento. Somos renovados y nos convertimos en una nueva criatura. →

Hemos sido llamados a servir. Los seguidores de Jesús están comprometidos a imitar a su maestro, cuya vida entera transcurrió haciendo el bien. Jesús vino a vivir la vida humana para enseñarnos a amar en medio del sufrimiento, la humillación y la tentación. Con su ejemplo, nos muestra que nos volvemos más humanos cuando vivimos para los demás.

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

Las Lecturas de las Escrituras del 4 de enero al 11 de enero, 2026.

Las lecturas para domingo, el 23 de noviembre comienzan en la **pagina 157** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo:	Is 42, 1-4. 6-7	Sal 28, 1-4. 3. 9-10
	Hch 10, 34-38	Mt 3, 13-17
Lunes:	1 Sm 1, 1-8	Sal 115, 12-19
		Mc 1, 14-20
Martes:	1 Sm 1, 9-20	1 Sam 2, 1. 4-8
	Mc 1, 21-28	
Miércoles:	1 Sm 3, 1-10. 19-20	Sal 39, 2 y 5. 7-10
	Mc 1, 29-39	
Jueves:	1 Sm 4, 1-11	Sal 43, 10-11. 14-15. 24-25
	Mc 1, 40-45	
Viernes:	1 Sm 8, 4-7. 10-22	Sal 88, 16-19
	Mc 2, 1-12	
Sábado:	1 Sm 9, 1-4. 17-19; 10, 1	Sal 20, 2-7
	Mc 2, 13-17	
Domingo siguiente:	Is 49, 3. 5-6	Sal 39, 2 y 4. 7-10
	1 Co 1, 1-3	Jn 1, 29-34

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

TIENDA DE REGALOS HORARIO

Domingos de 9:00am to 1:00pm y el primer fin de semana de cada mes después de las misas del sábado a las 5:00pm y del domingo a la 1:00pm.

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

CONTINUACIÓN DEL ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

Que la contemplación del Bautismo de Jesús y el recuerdo de nuestro propio Bautismo nos ayuden a ser conscientes de que debemos orientar nuestra vida a la luz del Evangelio. Hemos sido marcados con una señal indeleble, por lo que nunca debemos olvidar que somos hijos de Dios. Y así, demos gracias a Dios, siempre y en todo lugar.

Un cordial saludo en Cristo,
Padre Wilson

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: 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@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



Próxima Fecha de Bautismo en Español

14 de febrero 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@charlestandiocese.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

11 de enero: Primera noche juvenil del semestre
18 de enero: noche juvenil
25 de enero: noche juvenil

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@charlestandiocese.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



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118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801
Sr. Carlos Overstreet, Director
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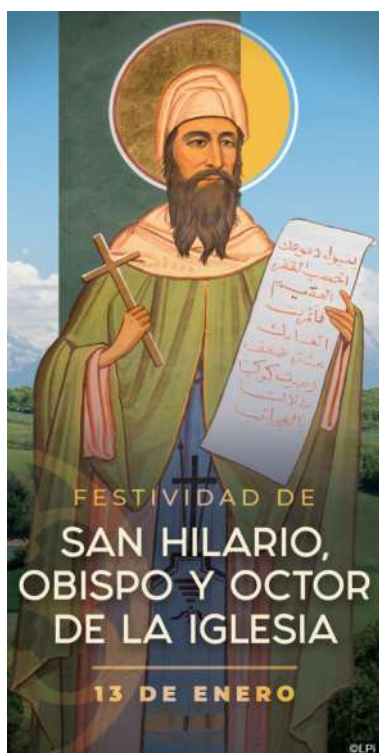
Horario de Oficina: 7:30am a 3:30pm lunes a viernes (cuando la escuela está en sesión)

SEMANA DE LAS ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS

La Semana de las Escuelas Católicas es una celebración nacional del valor y la misión de la educación católica: formar a los estudiantes en la fe, el conocimiento y el servicio. Invitamos a todos los feligreses a unirse a nosotros para la misa a las 8:30 a. m. del domingo 25 de enero, cuando nuestra comunidad escolar se reunirá para dar inicio a la semana. Nuestros alumnos asistirán a la misa con el uniforme, desfilarán con el sacerdote y servirán como lectores. Esperamos que se unan a nosotros para celebrar nuestra parroquia y les agradecemos su apoyo a la educación católica.

¡La inscripción en la escuela St. Mary's comienza pronto!

Animamos a las familias de la parroquia interesadas en matricular a nuevos alumnos en la escuela St. Mary's para el curso 2026-2027 a que comiencen el proceso de solicitud la próxima semana. Antes de que las solicitudes se abran al público en general dentro de unas semanas, ofrecemos acceso prioritario a las familias actuales y a los feligreses. Visite www.stmaryschoolaiken.com y haga clic en el botón «Admission Inquiry» para comenzar.



EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 11 de enero

8:30am Misa Iglesia
11:00am Misa Iglesia
11:00am Práctica del Coro San Miguel
1:00pm Misa en español Iglesia

Lunes, 12 de enero

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

Martes, 13 de enero

4:45pm Confesiones Iglesia Antigua
5:30pm Misa Iglesia Antigua
7:00pm RICA Smith

Miércoles, 14 de enero

8:20am Misa Iglesia
6:15pm Confesiones Iglesia Antigua
7:00pm Misa en español Iglesia Antigua

Jueves, 15 de enero

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

Viernes, 16 de enero

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

Sábado, 17 de enero

8:00am Misa Iglesia Antigua
3:30pm Confesiones Iglesia
5:00pm Misa de Vigilia Iglesia

Domingo, 18 de enero

8:30am Misa Iglesia
11:00am Misa Iglesia
11:00am Práctica del Coro San Miguel
1:00pm Misa en español Iglesia

¿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.

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.

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