



ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

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@charlestdioocese.org

Website: www.stmarys-aiken.org

Locations

St. Mary's Church: 138 Fairfield Street

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 - 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

Pre Recorded Mass (On YouTube)

Sunday 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@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Kimberly Gaynor, Administrative Assistant

to Fr. Wilson 803.649.4777 ext. 114

kgaynor@charlestdioocese.org

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

803.649.2071 coverstreet@stmaryschoolaiken.com

Mr. Richard Yarshen, Finance Manager

803.649.4777 ext. 102

ryarshen@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Kara Keenan, Parish Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 113

khartman@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Adriana Galvan, Hispanic Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 100

agalvan@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. Derrick Huestis, Director of Religious Education

803.716.8451 (c)

dhuestis@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Hannah Dickason, Director of Youth Ministry

615.638.7137 (c)

hdickason@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II, Parish Musician

706.550.5047 (c)

fdeese@charlestdioocese.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, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Offertory	Feb. 15	\$ 22,565
Online Giving	Feb. 15	\$ 14,218
Total Annual Budget		\$ 2,118,675

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Feb. 22 - Black and Indian Missions
Feb. 22 - 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will have stations of the Cross every Friday of Lent through Good Friday. It will be after 5:30pm Mass at Old St. Mary's.



GIFT SHOP – SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Preparing to receive first Communion or Confirmation this Lenten season? This is one time to lean on all resources available to you. Visit us at the Gift Shop – open Sunday 9:00am – 1:00pm.

AA OPEN MEETING

AA open meeting at 7:00am Sunday thru Friday in Smith Hall, Downstairs (next to Old St. Mary's). 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+

Via Fidelis: Year 2 Understand the Faith

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin the season of Lent, we also begin Year Two of Via Fidelis: Understand the Faith. Last year was a year to reflect upon the kerygma, the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Now our call is to deepen our understanding of that faith. The focus this year will be on catechesis. Catechesis is the term that we use in the Catholic faith for religious education or faith formation.

Many times, people hear the word catechesis, and their minds go automatically to children receiving instruction through CCD or Confirmation classes. Yet, the reality is that we are called to be not just disciples, but rather disciple makers. St. Paul wrote to Timothy, "...and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (II Tim 2:2) We are to entrust the truths of the kerygma to faithful men and women, who will be able to teach others. And so...the faith grows and continues from generation to generation.

We can never stop learning and growing as disciples. Picture yourself at Myrtle Beach holding a handful of sand. That's the knowledge of God and His Church that you currently have. Then, look around at all of the other grains of sand. "O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!" (Rom 11:33) We can never rest on our laurels. We are called to be disciple makers throughout our lives.

Today is the First Sunday in Lent for our liturgical year. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the passion and resurrection of our Lord. In the readings for this week, we are reminded of the temptations we face in this life. In the First Reading we hear of how the ancient serpent tempted Adam and Eve in the garden. They gave in to the temptation and left the human race with original sin. In the Second Reading, St. Paul writes to the Romans and assures them that though the one man brought sin into the world, the free gift of grace of Jesus Christ abounds for us all. Then in Matthew's Gospel we have Jesus fasting in the desert and being tempted by Satan. Our Lord is tempted in three different ways to improperly exercise His power and authority and worship Satan. Our Lord is victorious and reminds us that we are to worship the Lord your God and serve only Him.

May God richly bless you in your Lenten observance, as you pray, fast and give to deepen your faith and prepare for the Easter celebration.

All the best...in Christ,
Father Wilson



**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL**

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

If you would like to try this or another hour, please visit the Adoration webpage at... <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration>, or contact Lori Rainchuso at larue150@yahoo.com:

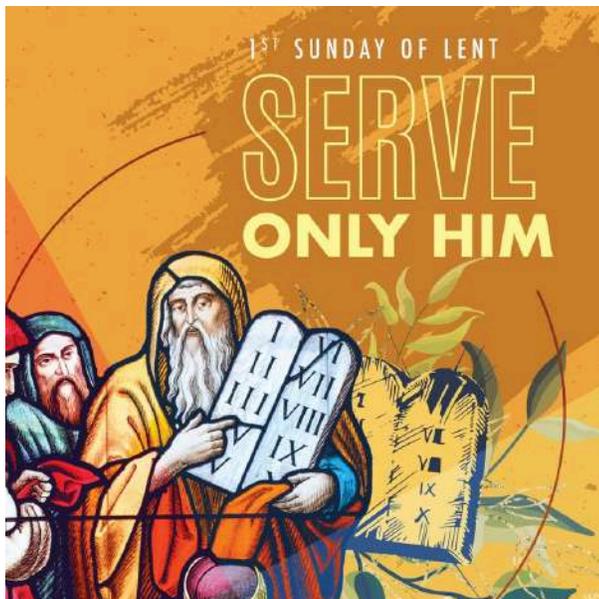
- MON: 1 am; 3 am
- TUES: **12 Mndt (Mon. night)**; 3 am;
- WED: **12 Mndt (Tues. night)**; 2 am; 3 am; 11 pm
- THU: 1 am; 2 am
- FRI: 3 am; 5 am;
- SAT: 3 am; 4 pm; 6 pm; 10 pm
- SUN: 2 am; 3 am; 6 am

SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF

If you receive emails or texts sent in my name or other parish/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

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR FLOCKNOTE

Using your cell phone, text AIKEN to 84576 or connect with us online at stmaryhelp.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 FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 1, 2026

Sunday, February 22 readings begin on [page 170](#) of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7	Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17
	Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19	Mt 4:1-11
Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15
	Mt 25:31-46	
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11	Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-19
	Mt 6:7-15	
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10	Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19
	Lk 11:29-32	
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8
	Mt 7:7-12	
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28	Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8
	Mt 5:20-26	
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19	Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
	Mt 5:43-48	
Next Sunday:	Gn 12:1-4a	Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22
	2 Tm 1:8b-10	Mt 17:1-9

©LPI

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday Feb. 22

- 8:30am Giuseppe Sabino Anderson
- 11:00am Prop Populo
- 1:00pm Alberto Gonzalez

Monday Feb. 23

- 10:00am Diane Hoehn
- 5:30pm Alberto Gonzalez

Tuesday Feb. 24

- 5:30pm Roy Wright

Wednesday Feb. 25

- 8:20am Dorothy Daly
- 5:30pm Alberto Gonzalez

Thursday Feb. 26

- 5:30pm Grace Crea

Friday Feb. 27

- 5:30pm Donald Currier

Saturday Feb. 28

- 8:00am Sheila Marin
- 5:00pm Richard Connor
- Ray Goergen
- Thomas Scirghi
- Mary Ella Brown
- Alberto Gonzalez

Sunday Mar. 1

- 8:30am Alice Dotrhalina
- 11:00am Miggs
- McCormick
- 1:00pm Pro Populo

"...I know you believe me and I want to say to you all once again: Ask Christ to help you to become happy. I obey Christ."

~ St. Paul Miki, Feast Day February 6

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, March 22, 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 AND 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@charlestandioocese.org.

For more information about Confirmation contact Hannah Dickason at hdickason@charlestandioocese.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, Mar. 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 6:00pm – 7:30pm in Mother Teresa Hall. On Feb. 24th, Deacon Al will talk about Living Out Catholic Teaching in a Secular Society. All are welcome. For more information contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestandioocese.org 803-716-8451.

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: Mrs. Hannah Katherine Dickason
hdickason@charlestandioocese.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

March 1 – Confirmation Retreat

YOUTH MINISTRY

February 22 – Youth Night

February 25 – Young Disciples

March 4 – Youth Adoration and Confession

March 7-8 – Please pray for all our teens, chaperones, and clergy attending DYC (Diocesan Youth Conference) in Columbia!

CCD

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

Saints and Liturgy

As a disciple of St. John, the Evangelist, St. Polycarp was able to hear about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection directly from those who witnessed it. Because Polycarp was ordained as Bishop of Smyrna by St. John, he is one of three chief Apostolic Fathers. During his life Polycarp defended the Church against heresies. His important writing, the Letter to the Philippians, quoted the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles, stressing Paul's authority in the Church and setting out clear arguments against the gnostic heresy that denied Christ's divinity. The early period of the Church was a dangerous time to be a Christian and like many, St. Polycarp were martyred. He was captured by Romans and sentenced to burn at the stake. However, the fire did not touch him, instead rising up like sails around him. Seeing that the flames would not injure Polycarp, the Romans stabbed him instead. The Martyrdom of Polycarp is perhaps the earliest fully preserved account of a Christian martyr.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, February 1

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

Monday, February 2

9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	Smith Hall
11:45am Lunch & Learn Book Club	Bosco
1:00pm Rosary Makers	Mother Teresa
4:45pm Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30pm Mass	Old St. Mary

Tuesday, February 3

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, February 4

8:20am Mass	Old St. Mary
9:30am Bible Study	St. Michael Hall
3:00pm Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
6:00pm SHE	Mother Teresa
7:00pm Spanish Mass	Old St. Mary

Thursday, February 5

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

Friday, February 6

4:45pm Confessions	Old St. Mary
5:30pm Mass	Old St. Mary

Saturday, February 7

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

Sunday, February 8

8:30am Mass	Church
9:45am Sunday Café	Mother Teresa
11:00am Mass	Church
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 will meet on Wednesday, February 18th 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.



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@charlestondiocese.org

CONFIRMATION RETREAT — MARCH 1

All students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this spring are required to attend our Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, March 1st from 8:30am–5:00pm. We will begin together at the 8:30am Mass and then continue the retreat in St. Angela Hall.



The day will include inspiring talks, Eucharistic Adoration, prayer, and activities designed to help our candidates more deeply prepare their hearts for the Sacrament. Please mark your calendars—this retreat is mandatory for all Confirmation students. For questions or additional details, please contact Hannah Dickason.

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 rechersg@gmail.com

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

Billy Swann at eswann3rd@gmail.com

David Tacchi at dmtac5@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We meet Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:00am in St. Michael Hall. Bring a Catholic Bible and join us as we study the Letter to the Hebrews. For more information contact Martha Whittingham, 865- 599-8473 or whittimp@gmail.com



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)

SC ESTF PARENT INFO MEETING

Parents of students in grades K–12 are invited to attend an ESFT parent information meeting on Tuesday, February 25 at 6:00 PM in the STEM Center (please enter through the courtyard gate on York Street). A representative from Palmetto Promise will provide an overview of the ESFT program and will be available to answer questions about the \$7,600 state scholarship that can be used for tuition at St. Mary's School. All interested families are encouraged to attend. Walk-ins are welcome, but we encourage you to register through this link so you receive email updates about the scholarship program. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2RHMUmCxECSoqnxH0GosBRA9LcUIVZExVFACgXlfz9BUJOA/viewform>



REGISTER HERE!

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DINNER AND AUCTION

On March 14, St. Mary's School invites you to an unforgettable 1920s Speakeasy Mystery Gala—an immersive evening of fine dining, live entertainment, high-roller fun and a Prohibition-era mystery that unfolds around you. Tickets are now on sale and the PTO is accepting donations to the auction and sponsorships of the event! Go to <https://smsaikengala.com> for more information or contact pto@stmaryschoolaiken.com.

SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN (SHE)

Season 4 runs through March 25 on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm. 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. All women are welcome. Register at

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

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY NEWS

Baby Bottle Thank You!

The St. Mary's Respect Life Committee is very pleased to announce that our parish donated \$29,345 to the Aiken Life Choices Pregnancy Care Center during our Fall 2025 campaign! That total includes \$388 raised by St. Mary's School students! Thank you all for your very generous contributions of time and treasure to this important effort. Life Choices uses those funds to save the lives of unborn babies by providing free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds, and free material supplies, as well as education and counseling to help mothers and fathers be good parents. Please continue to pray for Life Choices, the families they support, and an end to abortion everywhere.

You're Invited!

The Respect Life Ministry will meet on Tuesday, March 10, at 6:30 pm in the St. Michael conference room to plan activities for the upcoming year. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP

Aiken Council #3684 Deadline: April 30, 2026

Assistance for students in tuition-based High Schools & Colleges. Requirements: 3.0 GPA, 1000+ SAT, Essay, & Community Involvement. Questions? Call Chuck Goergen: (803) 215-9099 or Jim DalSanto: (803) 645-5943. Download Application: www.aikenkofc3684.org/scholarship



Scan to download application

COLUMBUS CLUB



\$15 per person \$75 for families of 6 or more. Reservations \$15 per person

Help support our Columbus Club Projects

We are offering Drive Through Service to Pick up Orders

Admittance by ticket only

Serving Fridays, February 27, March 13 & 27, 2026

RSVPs accepted until February 24, March 10 & 24

*** Walk-ins MAY NOT be accepted!! ***

Open 5pm

Serving 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Columbus Club

1037 Spaulding Dr. Aiken, SC

Meal consists of: Fish (baked or fried), Fries, Dinner Roll & Coleslaw.

Cash bar (dine in only) includes: wine, beer, mixed drinks or soda.

Make checks payable to the Columbus Club

For tickets or reservations please call:

Dennis Fraser—803-507-0066

Craig Burgess —803-439-0468

Mark Szymanski —803-645-1405

Jim Loftis —803-335-8517

John Kvartec—803-226-1597

St. Mary's Office—803-649-4777

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

Vía Fidelis: Año 2: Entendiendo la Fe

Queridos hermanos en Cristo:

Al comenzar la Cuaresma, también iniciamos el segundo año de Vía Fidelis: Entendiendo la Fe. El año pasado fue un año para reflexionar sobre el kerygma, la proclamación de la Buena Nueva de Jesucristo. Ahora, nuestro llamado es profundizar nuestra comprensión de esa fe. Este año, nos centraremos en la catequesis. Catequesis es el término que usamos en la fe católica para la educación religiosa o la formación en la fe.

Muchas veces, al escuchar la palabra catequesis, pensamos automáticamente en los niños que reciben instrucción a través de las clases de Confirmación o de la Confesión. Sin embargo, la realidad es que estamos llamados a ser no solo discípulos, sino hacedores de discípulos. San Pablo escribió a Timoteo: «...y cuanto me has oído en presencia de muchos testigos confíalo a hombres fieles, que sean capaces, a su vez, de instruir a otros.» (2 Timoteo 2,2). Debemos confiar las verdades del kerygma a hombres y mujeres fieles, capaces de enseñar a otros. Y así... la fe crece y continúa de generación en generación.

Nunca podemos dejar de aprender y crecer como discípulos. Imagínate en Myrtle Beach sosteniendo un puñado de arena. Ese es el conocimiento de Dios y su Iglesia que tienes actualmente. Luego, mira a tu alrededor y observa todos los demás granos de arena. "¡Oh, profundidad de las riquezas y de la sabiduría y del conocimiento de Dios! " (Rom 11,33). Nunca podemos dormirnos en los laureles. Estamos llamados a ser hacedores de discípulos a lo largo de nuestra vida.

Hoy es el primer domingo de Cuaresma de nuestro año litúrgico. La Cuaresma es un tiempo de oración, ayuno y limosna mientras nos preparamos para celebrar la pasión y resurrección de nuestro Señor. En las lecturas de esta semana, se nos recuerdan las tentaciones que enfrentamos en esta vida. En la primera lectura, escuchamos cómo la antigua serpiente tentó a Adán y Eva en el jardín. Ellos cedieron a la tentación y dejaron a la raza humana con el pecado original. En la Segunda Lectura, San Pablo escribe a los romanos y les asegura que, aunque un solo hombre trajo el pecado al mundo, la gracia de Jesucristo abunda para todos nosotros. En el Evangelio de Mateo, vemos a Jesús ayunando en el desierto y siendo tentado por Satanás. Nuestro Señor es tentado de tres maneras diferentes para ejercer indebidamente su poder y autoridad y adorar a Satanás. Nuestro Señor sale victorioso y nos recuerda que debemos adorar al Señor nuestro Dios y servirle solo a Él.

Que Dios los bendiga abundantemente en su observancia de la Cuaresma, mientras oran, ayunan y dan para profundizar su fe y prepararse para la celebración de la Pascua.

Les deseo lo mejor... en Cristo,

Page 7 Padre Wilson

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 22 DE FEBRERO AL 1 DE MARZO, 2026

Las lecturas para domingo, el 22 de febrero comienzan en la **pagina 171** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo:	Gn 2, 7-9; 3, 1-7	Sal 50, 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 17	
	Rom 5, 12-19 o 5, 12. 17-19	Mt 4, 1-11	
Lunes:	Lv 19, 1-2. 11-18	Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 15	
	Mt 25, 31-46		
Martes:	Is 55, 10-11	Sal 33, 4-5. 6-7. 16-17. 18-19	
	Mt 6, 7-15		
Miércoles:	Jon 3, 1-10	Sal 50, 3-4. 12-13. 18-19	
	Lc 11, 29-32		
Jueves:	Est C, 12. 14-16. 23-25	Sal 137, 1-2. 2-3. 7-8	
	Mt 7, 7-12		
Viernes:	Ez 18, 21-28	Sal 129, 1-8	Mt 5, 20-26
Sábado:	Dt 26, 16-19	Sal 118, 1-2. 4-5. 7-8	
	Mt 5, 43-48		
Domingo siguiente:	Gn 12, 1-4	Sal 32, 4-5. 18-20. 22	
	2 Tm 1, 8-10	Mt 17, 1-9	

©LPi

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 misa 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 at csnyder@charlestandioocese.org or 518.524.4464.

¿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.

QUINCEAÑERAS

Quinceañeras Para registrarse o para más información, por favor comuníquese con Mary Hernández al 803-5223988.

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: 8 de marzo 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

GRUPO 24 HORAS AIKEN

¿Estás Seguro de que tu forma de beber no le está causando daño a alguien?

Alcohólicos anónimos

803-262-5125

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

Próxima Fecha de Bautismo en Español

14 de marzo 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

1 de marzo – Retiro de confirmación

MINISTERIO JUVENIL

22 de febrero – Noche juvenil

25 de febrero – Jóvenes discípulos

4 de marzo – Adoración y confesión juvenil

7-8 de marzo – ¡Por favor, recen por todos nuestros adolescentes, acompañantes y clérigos que asisten a la DYC (Conferencia Juvenil Diocesana) en Columbia!

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. ¡Ánimate 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)

SC ESTF PARENT INFO MEETING

Se invita a los padres de alumnos de K-12 a asistir a una reunión informativa para padres sobre el programa ESFT el martes 25 de febrero a las 6:00 p. m. en el Centro STEM (por favor, entren por la puerta del patio en York Street). Un representante de Palmetto Promise ofrecerá una visión general del programa ESFT y estará disponible para responder preguntas sobre la beca estatal de 7600 dólares que se puede utilizar para pagar la matrícula en St. Mary's School. Se anima a todas las familias interesadas a asistir. Se aceptan visitas sin cita previa, pero le recomendamos que se registre a través de este enlace para recibir actualizaciones por correo electrónico sobre el programa de becas. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2RHMumCxECSoqnxHOGosBRA9LcUIVZExVFACgXIfz9BUJOA/viewform>



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DINNER AND AUCTION

El 14 de marzo, St. Mary's School le invita a una inolvidable Gala Misteriosa Speakeasy de los años 20, una velada inmersiva con buena comida, entretenimiento en directo, diversión para los grandes apostadores y un misterio de la época de la Ley Seca que se desarrollará a su alrededor. Las entradas ya están a la venta y la PTO está aceptando donaciones para la subasta y patrocinios del evento. Para más información, visite <https://smsaikengala.com> o póngase en contacto con pto@stmaryschoolaiken.com.

NOCHE DE ORACIÓN JUVENIL DE LOS MIÉRCOLES

Acompáñanos a una Hora Santa con adoración guiada y confesiones. ¡Están invitados los estudiantes de 6.º a 12.º grado! 6:00-8:00pm

Reúnanse con nosotros en el Centro Juvenil San Bosco y caminaremos juntos hacia la iglesia.

¡UNIDOS EN ORACIÓN!

Te invitamos a ser parte del Grupo de Oración que se reúne todos los jueves a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia Antigua.

Este es un espacio especial donde nos unimos como comunidad para orar, reflexionar y fortalecer nuestra relación con Dios.

- Ven con un corazón dispuesto a recibir bendiciones.
- No importa si es tu primera vez, todos son bienvenidos.
- Un momento para la paz y la esperanza.

¡Te esperamos con los brazos abiertos!

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 1 de febrero

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

Lunes, 2 de febrero

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

Martes, 3 de febrero

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

Miércoles, 4 de febrero

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

Jueves, 5 de febrero

4:45pm Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30pm Misa	Iglesia Antigua
7:00pm Hora Santa	Iglesia Antigua

Viernes, 6 de febrero

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

Sábado, 7 de febrero

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

Domingo, 8 de febrero

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

BECA DE CABALLEROS DE COLÓN LOS CABALLEROS DE COLÓN CONSEJO #3684 DE AIKEN

Fecha Límite: April 30, 2026

Asistencia para estudiantes en secundarias y universidades privadas. Requisitos: Promedio (GPA) de 3.0, SAT de 1000+, Ensayo y Participación Comunitaria. ¿Preguntas? , comuníquese con Chuck Goergen: (803) 215-9099 Jim DalSanto: (803) 645-5943 www.aikenkofc3684.org/scholarship

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.

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*



Morgan Stanley

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

803-642-7044

Stephen.j.anacleiro@morganstanley.com

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

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.



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



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

WR WICKS & RUTHVEN
FREDandKT@gmail.com



Scan here to be added to our once a month newsletter



3 Caminos 2460 Wagener Rd. Aiken

Betty Cortez • Owner • Parishioner
Kitchen: 10am-6pm • Store: 10am-7pm
Open Mon.-Sat.: 10am-7pm
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



CUMBERLAND VILLAGE
A GOLDEN BELL COMMUNITY

- Independent Living • Assisted Living • In-Home Care

- 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



ST. JOSEPH FLOORING
Hardwood Installation & Refinishing
803.998.6921
Anthony Sedano, Parishioner

Carrie Katonak
Hair Specialist

Book your appointment (803) 221-5946

Advertise Here!

Contact Morgan Walters
mwalters@4LPI.com | (800) 950-9952 x5771



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**

¿POR QUÉ ELEGIRNOS?

- 1. CALIDAD 2. CONVENIENCIA 3. ASEQUIBILIDAD**



DENTAL



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



OB/GYN



PODIATRY



PEDIATRICS



ADULT MEDICINE



PHARMACY



OPTOMETRY



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



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL INTERIOR DESIGN

Nandina
 home & design
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA
 158 Laurens Street, Aiken, SC 29801
 (803) 649-0616 • Hours Mon-Sat 10-5

SUSAN VICTOR
 Co-Owner/Interior Designer

SUE SHANNON
 Co-Owner/Interior Designer

nandinahome.com

Hutson-Etherredge
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 WEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAMS**
 POWERED BY BLOOM RESEARCH

Wiland-Foley Wealth Advisory Group
 OF JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC

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

MILLY MAIDS LLC 

CLEANING SERVICES
COMMERCIAL & 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

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 | scottssinger@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)

Parishioner 

910 Dougherty Road, Aiken, SC 29803 | www.wealthcare910.com

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

 **Computerized Engine Analysis**
 Professional Import & Domestic Auto Service
 643-9266

AUTO TECH, INC. 460 Silver Bluff Rd.
 Aiken, S.C. Steve Young
 Owner Parishioner 

For All Your Import Needs

Maricolleen (Colleen) Wittenborn, CPA
Tax Services, Personal & Business

Certified in New York & South Carolina
 O: 803-649-9507 • C: 803-998-6401
jewitty@att.net • Parishioner

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

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 & prayerful hands.
Rooted in Tradition. Guided by Faith.
 803.649.6234

Let Go.
 Let God.

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
 Ph (803) 649-2561 • Fax (803) 648-8760
paul@durban-laird.com

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
 NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD.
 NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

Cole
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE INC.
 803.648.7175
 1544 University Pkwy
 Aiken, SC 29801

Family Owned & Operated Since 2007

Aiken's newest senior living community

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

Oaks
 AT AIKEN

 **25 YEARS**
 FAITH • KNOWLEDGE • COMPASSION • LOVE
 Providing Senior Living Services
 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 & DR. SUSANNAH SHIRER