

• 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER •

**I PRAY FOR
THEM.**

©LPI

WELCOME TO ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS 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 Street 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 - 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 - St. 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@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

Mrs. Colleen Wittenborn, Finance Manager

803.649.4777 ext. 102

cwittenborn@charlestandioocese.org

Mrs. Kara Keenan, Parish Secretary

803.649.4777 ext. 113

kkeen@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 (c)

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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For food or financial assistance call 803.642.3211 or visit their website at Svdpaiken.org

Open Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm

Closed On Fridays

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY MAR. 22 - APR. 26

Offertory	Mar. 22	\$ 38,622
Online Giving	Mar. 22	\$ 9,644
Offertory	Mar. 29	\$ 17,482
Online Giving	Mar. 29	\$ 22,213
Offertory	Apr. 5	\$ 23,149
Online Giving	Apr. 5	\$ 21,230
Offertory	Apr. 12	\$ 35,156
Online Giving	Apr. 12	\$ 15,530
Offertory	Apr. 19	\$ 16,148
Online Giving	Apr. 19	\$ 12,350
Offertory	Apr. 26	\$ 28,254
Online Giving	Apr. 26	\$ 15,420
Total Annual Budget		\$ 2,118,675

GIFT SHOP – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Ascension of the Lord is the time to rely on the Acts of the Apostles and scripture. Visit the gift shop for Bibles, daily and weekly missals, the Magnificat. This weekend, the Gift Shop is open Sunday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

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!

GIRLS NITE OUT!

CWA Spring Dinner and Fashion Show
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Mother Teresa Hall

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Dinner served after the 5:30 Mass

Dinner will be catered by What's Cookin' Downtown
with a choice of:

Poppysseed Chicken or Lasagna

Dinner includes a green salad and roll.

Please bring a dessert to share.

There is no cost for the dinner, but donations will be greatly appreciated.

The Fashion Show provided by a new clothing boutique in Downtown Aiken – The Urban Hyena!

Join us for a special presentation devoted to Mother Mary in the final segment of the series, Do You Know Mary, Like I Know Mary?

LAST CHANCE TO RSVP is TUESDAY, May 19!!

RSVP to Chris Jakubec at cjakubec@aol.com, or 847-212-8252.

PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

Christ leaves us, but remains with us

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The disciples fully believed that Jesus' farewell was forever. They would never again see Jesus with their human eyes and so their hearts were full of sadness and nostalgia. However, I'm sure they remembered His promise: "I will be with you always, until the end of the world." Christ is going away, but he's also staying? How were they supposed to understand this paradox?

As we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord into heaven today, how well do we understand this liturgical feast? Without a doubt, the event was for them, as it is for us also, a declaration of faith in Christ's divinity, in his victory over death, in his glorious Resurrection.

The Lord does not abandon us; rather he is sowing the seeds of hope in our heart. "We know we already possess paradise," said St. Leo the Great, "because we have entered with Christ to the heights of Heaven." In other words, "a part of us" is already in Heaven.

If we are faithful, one day we will be in Heaven. It's not a gift we will get with no merit of our own, but the reward for a holy life. The thoughts of Heaven don't rid you of your responsibilities on earth; on the contrary, it is a motivation for you to do more for the world and the Church. This is the meaning of Christ's last mandate as He went away: He is sending us to the whole world to preach the Good News and share the faith.

The Church Fathers used to call the Ascension the "hope of the body," because this Christian event guarantees the triumph of life over death. Man's existence is not just a road looking forward, in the limited sense of economic and scientific progress, but it's especially a road leading upward toward complete human fulfillment. That is why we should commit ourselves to seeking the joys of Heaven, as St. Paul exhorts us: "If then you have risen with Christ, seek the things that are above." (Colossians 3:1-2).

To seek "the things that are above" is to seek God, seek Christ, and to allow Him to fill every corner of our existence. In this way everything takes on its true value and falls into place.

It is true that Christ has gone up into Heaven, but then how was he to stay with us down through the centuries? In three concrete ways: through the Sacred Scriptures, through Sacred Tradition, but especially through the Eucharist.

All the best...in Christ, Father Wilson

**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL**



Needing Peace in Your Heart?
Jesus offers it! Be not Afraid!

Sat. 3 am (Fri. night) and Sat. 12 Noon have need for an adorer. To sign up for this or another weekly holy hour, please visit the Adoration webpage at <https://www.stmarys-//aiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration>, or contact a Divisional Leader:

12 Mdnt.-6am: Tom Henry 803-618-9086
6am-12 Noon: Ken Boucher 803-226-4639
12 Noon-6pm: Janice Suhrer 803-645-6105
6pm-12 Mdnt: Joan Pate 908-447-9715

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

WHEELCHAIR EXPRESS

We are in need of additional Wheelchair Express drivers for 8:30 Mass at the New Church on Fairfield Street. 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

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE

Coming to South Carolina! This May, nine pilgrims will carry the Blessed Sacrament over 2,200 miles from Florida to Maine in celebration of America's 250th birthday. Five stops are happening right here in our diocese, May 28-30. Join us for Mass, processions and Eucharistic Adoration. Learn more and register at charlestdiocese.org/eucharist2026.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS / COLUMBUS CLUB

The Knights of Columbus/Columbus Club will no longer be accepting donations for the Rummage Sale. After many years of coordinating this event, we are sad to announce its cessation. Thank you for all the past donations.

READINGS FOR MAY 17- MAY 24, 2026

Sunday, May 17 readings begin on [page 254](#) of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11	Ps 47: 2-3, 6-9	Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20		
Monday: Acts 19:1-8	Ps 68:2-3, 4-7	Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27	Ps 68:10-11, 20-21	Jn 17:1-11
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38	Ps 68:29-30, 33-36	Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11	Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-11	Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21	Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab	Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31	Ps 11:4, 5 and 7	Jn 21:20-25
Next Sunday:		
Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5	Ps 104:1-2, 24 and 35, 27-30	Rom 8:22-27
		Jn 7:37-39
Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8, 16-20b		
Ez 37:1-14	Jl 3:1-5	Rom 8:22-27
		Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11	Ps 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34	1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13
		Jn 20:19-23

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HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday May 17

8:30am Kyonghu Pak
11:00am Pro Populo
1:00pm John Shuler

Monday May 18

5:30pm Kristine Marie Heath

Tuesday May 19

10:00am Souls in Purgatory
5:30pm Richard Severson

Wednesday May 20

8:20am Rev. William Dunn
7:00pm Sean Hanley

Thursday May 21

5:30pm The Hewitt Family

Friday May 22

5:30pm Fr. Richard C. Willson (L)

Saturday May 23

8:00am Walter Stanley Lepianka
5:00pm Jones Family Ernestina Alejandro Michael & Mario Martinez Heather & Tom Auchenbach Family (L)

Sunday May 24

8:30am Russelláand Patrick Boeringer
11:00am Ray Demasters Jr.
1:00pm Pro Populo

MILLIONS OF MONICAS

Are you a mother, grandmother, aunt, or Confirmation sponsor? Please join with other Catholic women who, like St. Monica, pray together for our children 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, May 20th 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.

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, May 17, 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@charlestdioocese.org.

For more information about Confirmation contact Hannah Dickason at hdickason@charlestdioocese.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)

Next Baptism is June 6 at 11:00am in New St. Mary Church on Park Avenue.

- 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

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

Come learn about the Catholic faith on Tuesdays 6:00pm - 7:30pm in Mother Teresa Hall (125 Union Street SE). All are welcome. For more information and to learn about the process to become Catholic; contact Derrick Huestis at dhuestis@charlestdioocese.org 803-716-8451.

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact: Mrs. Hannah Katherine Dickason
hdickason@charlestdioocese.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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

May 10 – No Youth Ministry (Mother's Day)

May 13 – Young Disciples

May 17 – Movie Night & Talk: Parents invited! (contact Hannah Dickason for more details)

May 20 – Young Disciples

May 24 – Youth Ministry

May 27 – Young Disciples

May 31 – Youth Ministry

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 CCD volunteers. If you are in good standing with the Church and would like to help, contact Derrick Huestis at 803-716-8451 or

dhuestis@charlestdioocese.org

More information about the Sacraments can be found on our parish website:

www.stmarys-aiken.org

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, May 17

8:30am Mass	Church
11:00am Mass	Church
1:00pm Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, May 18

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

Tuesday, May 19

3:30pm Legion of Mary	Smith Hall
4:45pm Confessions	Old Church
5:30pm Mass	Old Church
6:00pm OCIA	Mother Teresa

Wednesday, May 20

6:30 am Mass	Old Church
8:20am Mass	Church
9:30am Bible Study	St. Michael Hall
3:00pm Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
6:00pm SHE	Mother Teresa
5:45pm Confessions	Church
7:00pm Spanish Mass	Church

Thursday, May 21

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

Friday, May 22

4:45pm Confessions	Old Church
5:30pm Mass	Old Church
6:15pm Station of the Cross	Old Church

Saturday, May 23

8:00am Mass	Old Church
3:30pm Confessions	Church
5:00pm Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, May 24

8:30am Mass	Church
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

VIA FIDELIS

MAY 2026

SCRIPTURE Read: John 8:31-59

REFLECT:

1. What is the image of discipleship that Jesus gives in this passage? How can we attain to that image in practice?
2. Jesus speaks here of slavery to sin and contrasts it with the freedom of the life of the disciple, where one finds truth. In what ways are we affected by slavery to sin? In ways do we find freedom in Christ?
3. Why do think Jesus is so harshly criticized by those he is speaking to in this passage? How does this passage reveal who Jesus is and how he changes our relationship with God and with the world?

SCHOOL & CHURCH BUSINESS MANAGER JOB OPENING:

Apply for St. Mary, Help of Christians Catholic Church and School Business Manager: Position Summary: The Parish and School Business Manager keeps St. Mary Help of Christians' financial house in order. The business manager must exhibit exemplary ethical and legal performance, controls and reporting in the financial area. The Parish and School Business Manager performs a key role in maintaining the integrity of St. Mary through oversight of Parish financial policies, requirements, and processes. For more info: <https://charlestandioocese.org/job/parish-and-school-business-manager/>

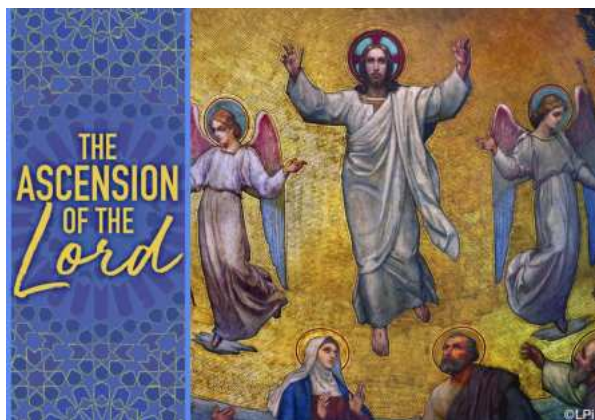
Or stop by Parish Office for an application

FRATERNUS CHAPTER AT ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS!

We are seeking faithful men to join Fraternus, a Catholic brotherhood committed to growing in virtue, deepening faith, and strengthening men in their calling as fathers, community leaders, and followers of Christ. Interested men of all ages are invited to attend a training and information session on June 6th to learn more about our mission and how to get involved. For more information, visit fraternus.org and contact Scott Recher at recherg@gmail.com or Brett Dickason at brett.w.dickason@gmail.com.

AOH (ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS)

AOH next meeting in St. Michael Hall on Thursday, May 21, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. New members welcome. Any questions, please contact Paul Gaynor at 908.692.9547.





St. Mary's Parish School

118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC29801
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)

HVAC - DAY OF GIVING UPDATE!

Over Spring Break, three new rooftop HVAC units were installed on campus, just in time for the warmer weather! Cranes were brought in to lift the new units into place, marking a major improvement to our campus facilities. We are especially grateful to the generous donors to our Day of Giving campaign, which raised enough funds to cover the cost of all three units at approximately \$12,000 each. With these additions, we have now replaced 3 of the 7 HVAC units that had been identified as failing or near failure. Thank you for helping us continue to provide a safe and comfortable learning environment for our students and staff!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 26-27 SCHOOL YEAR!

St. Mary's School is seeking volunteers to teach an after-school enrichment program class on CODING to preschool through 4th grade students during the next school year. Please contact Rebecca Wright at hwright@stmaryschoolaiken.com for details!

REQUIRED ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

for Servers on Wednesday, 5/27/26, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you cannot attend, please reach out to Paul Gaynor, the Altar Server Ministry Coordinator, at paulvjg324@gmail.com or 908.692.9547. (Lead Servers and Server Educators are also welcome.)

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

Friday, May 29, 2026

Columbus Club

1037 Spaulding Dr., Aiken, SC

Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary

Dinner begins at 5:30 -7:00pm

Cost: \$20 per adult

\$10 for children 6-12 & age 5 and under FREE

Dinner will consist of a variety of homemade entrees from different countries made by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Dinner rolls, sweet tea, lemonade and water will be available along with desserts.

This is a CASH BAR event. (including sodas)

Due to the variety of foods, there will **NOT** be any "Take-out" meals unless you come in and ask for it.

For more information, contact:

Gina Kvartek - 803.645.1130 (St. Mary Help of Christians Church)

Marsha Franklin - 803.645.1407 (Our Lady of the Valley Church)

A FRANCISCAN MINUTE FOR THE JUBILEE

"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

The Secular Franciscans meet the 3rd Monday @6:15PM in St. Michael's Hall.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We are currently studying the letter to the Hebrews. All are welcome to join at any time. We meet 9:30 to 11:00 am each Wednesday in St. Michael Hall. For info contact Martha, 865-599-8473 or whittimp@gmail.com



WE WELCOME THIS SUMMER: ANTHONY SZWEST!

Anthony is a seminarian for the Diocese of Charleston and is currently in the discipleship stage of formation studying Philosophy. What he enjoys the most in seminary is the fellowship amongst his classmates, and more importantly the fellowship with the Lord. Anthony grew up in Charleston, SC, with three siblings (two sisters and a brother) who are happily married, and his parents now reside in Summerville. Prior to seminary, Anthony studied Environmental Engineering at Clemson and worked for three years in Atlanta. He has a love for outdoor adventures, going hiking or rock climbing when he gets the chance, and also enjoys reading authors like Flannery O'Connor. Anthony is eager to get to know the members of the parish, so please introduce yourself when you see him around! And of course, keep all of our seminarians in your prayers.

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

Cristo nos deja, pero permanece con nosotros

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Los discípulos creían sinceramente que la despedida de Jesús era definitiva. Pensaban que nunca más volverían a verlo con sus ojos humanos, y por eso sus corazones estaban llenos de tristeza y nostalgia. Sin embargo, seguramente recordaron Su promesa: “Yo estaré con ustedes todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo.” ¿Cristo se va, pero también se queda? ¿Cómo podían entender este aparente paradoja?

Al celebrar hoy la Ascensión del Señor al cielo, ¿qué tanto comprendemos esta fiesta litúrgica? Sin duda, para ellos como también para nosotros este acontecimiento fue una declaración de fe en la divinidad de Cristo, en su victoria sobre la muerte y en su gloriosa Resurrección.

El Señor no nos abandona; más bien siembra semillas de esperanza en nuestro corazón. “Sabemos que ya poseemos el paraíso,” decía san León Magno, “porque hemos entrado con Cristo en las alturas del Cielo.” En otras palabras, “una parte de nosotros” ya está en el Cielo.

Si somos fieles, un día estaremos en el Cielo. No es un regalo que recibiremos sin mérito alguno, sino la recompensa de una vida santa. Pensar en el Cielo no te exime de tus responsabilidades en la tierra; al contrario, te motiva a hacer más por el mundo y por la Iglesia. Este es el sentido del último mandato de Cristo al partir: Él nos envía al mundo entero a predicar la Buena Nueva y compartir la fe.

Los Padres de la Iglesia llamaban a la Ascensión la “esperanza del cuerpo”, porque este acontecimiento cristiano garantiza el triunfo de la vida sobre la muerte. La existencia humana no es solo un camino hacia adelante, en el sentido limitado del progreso económico o científico, sino sobre todo un camino hacia arriba, hacia la plenitud total del ser humano. Por eso debemos comprometernos a buscar los gozos del Cielo, como nos exhorta san Pablo: “Si, pues, han resucitado con Cristo, busquen las cosas de arriba.” (Colosenses 3,1-2).

Buscar “las cosas de arriba” es buscar a Dios, buscar a Cristo, y permitirle llenar cada rincón de nuestra existencia. De este modo, todo adquiere su verdadero valor y encuentra su lugar.

Es cierto que Cristo ha subido al Cielo, pero entonces ¿cómo permanece con nosotros a lo largo de los siglos? De tres maneras concretas: a través de la Sagrada Escritura, a través de la Sagrada Tradición, y especialmente a través de la Eucaristía.

Con todo afecto en Cristo,

Padre Wilson

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 17 DE MAYO AL 24 DE MAYO, 2026

Las lecturas para domingo, el 17 de mayo comienzan en la [pagina 255](#) en el libro “Palabra y Eucaristía”

Domingo: Hch 1, 1-11	Sal 46, 2-3. 6-9	Ef 1, 17-23
Mt 28, 16-20		
Lunes: Hch 19, 1-8	Sal 67, 2-7	Jn 16, 29-33
Martes: Hch 20, 17-27	Sal 67, 10-11. 20-21	
Jn 17, 1-11		
Miércoles: Hch 20, 28-38	Sal 67, 29-30. 33-36	
Jn 17, 11-19		
Jueves: Hch 22, 30; 23, 6-11	Sal 15, 1-2 y 5. 7-11	
Jn 17, 20-26		
Viernes: Hch 25, 13b-21	Sal 102, 1-2. 11-12. 19-20	
Jn 21, 15-19		
Sábado: Hch 28, 16-20. 30-31	Sal 10, 4. 5 y 7	
Jn 21, 20-25		
Domingo siguiente:		
Vigilia: Gn 11, 1-9 o Ex 19, 3-8. 16-20 o Ez 37, 1-14 o		
Jl 3, 1-5	Sal 103, 1-2. 24. 35. 27-30 (ver 30)	
Rom 8, 22-27	Jn 7, 37-39	
Vigilia Extensa: Gn 11, 1-9	Ex 19, 3-8. 16-20	
Ez 37, 1-14	Jl 3, 1-5	
Sal 103, 1-2. 24. 35. 27-30 (ver 30)	Rom 8, 22-27	
Jn 7, 37-39		
Día: Hch 2, 1-11	Sal 103, 1. 24. 29-30. 31. 34	
1 Co 12, 3-7. 12-13	Jn 20, 19-23	

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

¡DAMOS LA BIENVENIDA ESTE VERANO A ANTHONY SZWAST!

Anthony es seminarista de la Diócesis de Charleston y actualmente se encuentra en la etapa de discipulado de su formación, estudiando Filosofía. Lo que más disfruta del seminario es la fraternidad con sus compañeros y, sobre todo, su relación



con el Señor. Anthony creció en Charleston, Carolina del Sur, junto a sus tres hermanos (dos hermanas y un hermano), quienes están felizmente casados. Sus padres ahora viven en Summerville. Antes de entrar al seminario, Anthony estudió Ingeniería Ambiental en Clemson y trabajó durante tres años en Atlanta.

Le encantan las actividades al aire libre, como el senderismo

y la escalada en roca cuando tiene la oportunidad, y también

disfruta leer autores como Flannery O'Connor.

Anthony está muy entusiasmado por conocer a los miembros

de la parroquia, así que no duden en presentarse cuando lo vean.

Y, por supuesto, mantengamos a todos nuestros seminaristas

en nuestras oraciones.

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.

Próxima clase: **17 de Mayo 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 Derrick Huestis at 803.649.4777 ext. 103 or dhuestis@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. 100

Quinceañeras

Las próxima Clase de Preparación para quinceañeras se llevará acabo el **19 de Julio y 26 de Julio** a las 10:00am en el Salón Smith el piso de arriba. Para más información favor de comunicarse con María Hernández 803-522-3988.

Próxima Fecha de Bautismo en Español

13 de Junio 2026 a las 11:00am en la iglesia Nueva.

- 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 Adriana Galvan al 803.649.4777 x 100

MINISTERIO CATÓLICO PARA JÓVENES

Contacto: Sra. Hannah Katherine Dickason
hdickason@charlestdiocese.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.

MINISTERIO JUVENIL

13 de mayo – Jovenes Discipulos
17 de mayo – Noche de Película y Charla:
¡Padres invitados!
(contacta a Hannah Dickason para más detalles)
20 de mayo – Young Disciples
24 de mayo – Ministerio Juvenil
27 de mayo – Jovenes Discipulos
31 de mayo – Ministerio Juvenil

PEREGRINACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA NACIONAL

¡Camina con Cristo!

La Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional 2026, con el tema “Una Nación Bajo Dios,” es un histórico recorrido de fe a través de nuestro país en celebración del 250.º aniversario de los Estados Unidos. Nueve peregrinos recorrerán más de 2,200 millas desde Florida hasta Maine, y nuestra diócesis se honra en recibir cinco paradas del 28 al 30 de mayo en Bluffton, Charleston, Orangeburg, Columbia y Lancaster.

Los eventos incluirán la Santa Misa, Adoración Eucarística, procesiones eucarísticas y más. ¡Todos están invitados! Por favor regístrese con anticipación para ayudarnos a planificar adecuadamente.

Para ver el horario completo y registrarse, visite: charlestdiocese.org/eucharist2026



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

¡Se necesitan voluntarios para el año escolar 2026-2027!

La Escuela St. Mary's está buscando voluntarios para impartir una clase extracurricular de enriquecimiento en programación (coding) para estudiantes desde preescolar hasta 4.º grado durante el próximo año escolar. Para más información, por favor comuníquese con Rebecca Wright al correo:

hwright@stmaryschoolaiken.com

¡Actualización del Día de Donaciones – Sistema HVAC!

Durante las vacaciones de primavera, se instalaron tres nuevas unidades de aire acondicionado (HVAC) en los techos de nuestro campus, ¡justo a tiempo para el clima más cálido! Se utilizaron grúas para colocar las nuevas unidades, marcando una gran mejora para nuestras instalaciones escolares.

Estamos especialmente agradecidos con los generosos donadores de nuestra campaña del Día de Donaciones, ya que gracias a sus aportaciones se logró cubrir el costo de las tres unidades, aproximadamente \$12,000 cada una. Con estas nuevas instalaciones, ya hemos reemplazado 3 de las 7 unidades HVAC que habían sido identificadas como dañadas o cerca de fallar.

¡Gracias por ayudarnos a continuar brindando un ambiente seguro y cómodo para nuestros estudiantes y personal!

Parroquia de Santa María Auxilio de los Cristianos Aiken, Sc.

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Sábado
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7:00 Pm

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¿Preguntas?
762-215-0163

IVAN MOLINA

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 10 de mayo

8:00am Misa en inglés	Iglesia
11:00am Misa en inglés	Iglesia
1:00pm Misa español	Iglesia

Lunes, 11 de mayo

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

Martes, 12 de mayo

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

Miércoles, 13 de mayo

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

Jueves, 14 de mayo

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

Viernes, 15 de mayo

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

Sábado, 16 de mayo

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

Domingo, 17 de Mayo

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



Misas de Graduación de High School

Domingo 31 de mayo
8:30 a.m. y 1:00 p.m. en español
Por favor envíe una foto de su graduado(a), junto con su nombre y sus planes para el próximo año, a la Sra. Hannah Dickason al correo Hdickason@charlestondiocese.org para incluirlo en un volante especial para el boletín.
Ejemplos: universidad o escuela técnica a la que asistirá, servicio militar o ingreso al mundo laboral.

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