

DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON



St. Mary Catholic Church

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902 Crawford Road • P.O. Box 11982 • Rock Hill, SC 29731 • Office: 803-329-1008
Office hours: 9:00 am-12:30 pm Monday-Friday stmaryrh@charlestdiocese.org Website: www.stmarysrh.org

Mass Times

Sundays: 8:00 & 10:00 am, Church
Fridays: 9:30 am, Chapel
Holy Day Masses: To be announced

Holy Hour of Prayer

Wednesdays: 6:30-7:30 pm, Chapel

Sunday Rosary (Church)

7:30-7:45 am
9:30-9:45 am (led by the Legion of Mary)

Reconciliation

Sundays: 9:15-9:45 am or by appointment

 facebook.com/stmaryrhsc/

Pastor

Fr. Agustín Guzmán, C.O., 803-627-5297
aguzman@charlestdiocese.org

Deacons

- Rev. Dr. Terrence R. Chisolm (Pastoral Associate), 803-517-2894
tchisolm@charlestdiocese.org

- Rev. Walt Hollis, 843-295-9192
walthollis67@yahoo.com

Faith Formation (Grades 1-8)

Anna Caldwell, 803-322-4548
acaldwell@charlestdiocese.org

Sacramental Preparation

Please contact a Deacon

Director of Religious Education

Kristen Wood, 803-487-5088
kristen.wood@charlestdiocese.org

Bulletin Editor

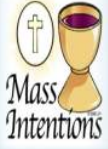
Maryanne Genus, 803-517-5048
maryanne@stmarysrh.org

All bulletin announcements must be in the office by note or email by Friday at 9:00 am for the following week's Sunday (space permitting).

Diocesan Victim Assistance

Kristin Eyre
843-856-0748 / 800-921-8122

December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent



8 am: Pro Populo
 10 am: Petra & Kay Knudsen, RIP
 12/6, 9:30 am: Kai & Ruth Knudsen,
 RIP

Please pray for our St. Mary Sick List: Pamela Arciniega, Debbie Caiola, Fulvio Cangiano, Michael Caracappa, John Carr, Eileen Cline, Charles (Chuck) Dilworth, Maryellen Dilworth, Irene Dionne, Joan Elizabeth Doherty, Cathy Doty, Delores Dubisz, Donna Dumont, Shirley Dye, John Ellis, Frantz Etienne, Donna Fitzwilliam, Grace Flenniken, MaryPat Harvey, Barbara Hollis, Walt Hollis, Rose Hunt Samuda, Arlene Iannone, Jackie Jones, Trent Jurosko, Annette Kaczanowski, Tony Keys, Misty Konow, Olive Kulesa, Frankie Mignano, Leigh Morin, Tony Motola, Kathy Murphy, Patty Placke, Bob Preusser, Walter Ratliff, Gary Redding, Dorothy Rumerich, Marie Ryan, Michael Sampere, Jeffrey Sligh, Murrie Smith, John Spencer-Coombs, Stacy Spinnato, Carla Thomason, Paul Wagner, Henry Walton.

Please pray for our St. Mary's Military Soldiers: Michael Abowd, Chris Colgrove, Caleb Cook, Dominic Cruz, Daniel Esposito, Jon Immel, Garrison Jackson, Jr., Christopher Laurencio, Sean Merrill, Erin Mugan, Scott Starr.

Please pray for our St. Mary's Military Families: Roy & Tommie Blake, Jonathan & Julie Cook, Nina Gibson, Chris & Diane Laurencio, Bruce & Mary Rose Randall, Vickie Starr, Krisanne Walker.

Help requested for Deacon Walt & Barbara Hollis



Deacon Walt is unable to drive while he is recuperating from cardiovascular surgery. He and Barbara would be so very grateful if anyone would have time to run errands, pick up groceries, deliver a meal, or drive them to appointments during this time. Walt's phone number and email address is on the bulletin cover if you would like to contact him to offer assistance or call the Parish Office for his information. If you are unable to help in this capacity, just keeping them in your prayers or sending a card would mean so much to them. Their address is 3534 Enterprise Drive, Rock Hill, SC 29730-9693.



Hat Sunday is coming!

St. Mary's festive **Hat Sunday** will be held **December 29**. Sponsored by the Rosary & Confraternity Society, all ladies of the parish are cordially invited to wear their favorite hat to the 8 am and 10 am Masses!

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Due to early publishing deadlines during the holiday season, the collections reports for 11/24 through 1/5 will post two weeks behind the normal reporting schedule. The 11/24 report will post on 12/8.

Second Collection

December 8 - Retirement Fund for the Religious

Today's Readings Year C: Sunday Cycle Cycle I: Weekday



First Reading — Jer 33:14-16

Psalm — Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 1

Second Reading — Thes 3:12-4:2 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Gospel — Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Weekly Readings

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**Advent Penance Service
 Friday, December 6 ■ 7:00 pm**

Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest!

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a *Keep Christ in Christmas* contest for children ages 5-14. Contestants must draw a Christmas picture featuring Christ on 11 x 17 poster board. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners. Entry forms are located on the Knights of Columbus information table in the Gathering space. Entries must be turned in at this location by **December 22 following the 10 am Mass.**



Celebrating Black Catholic History Month

The conclusion of a 4-part series from the Social Justice Committee:

There are so many Black Catholics that we admire, but here is just a little bit about the stories of a couple of the American Black Catholics who are on the road to sainthood.”¹ You might want to know more about the process of becoming officially proclaimed a Saint in the Catholic Church; it is both a lengthy and expensive procedure.²



● **Venerable Henriette DeLille, (1813-1862)**, founder of the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans. She was born in New Orleans, her father was from France, and her mother was a free woman of African descent. She applied to both the Ursuline and Carmelite communities but was rejected, so she used her family money to found her own community, which cared for the

sick and poor as well as opened schools. She is the first native-born American of African descent whose cause for canonization was opened.



● **Venerable Father Augustus Tolton (1854-1897)**, is among the best known of these six. He is the first recognized American Black priest. He was born a slave in Missouri and escaped to Quincy, Illinois, through the Underground Railroad. Some Irish priests recognized he had a vocation to the priesthood, so he studied in Rome and was ordained. He returned to Illinois, serving much of the time in Chicago before his

death at age 43. Despite having endured prejudice and obstacles to ordination, he remained committed to Christ.



● **Father Josh Johnson**, a priest of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and who formerly taught theology of the body catechesis at the Sisters of the Holy Family’s St. Mary’s Academy in New Orleans, explained to the Register that both Tolton and DeLille were inspirations for him “in my walk toward eternity.” “Both of these holy witnesses were devoted to Jesus Christ in the Blessed

Sacrament and the poorest of the poor,” he said. “Even though they were persecuted by many of the leaders in the Catholic Church during their lifetime for no other reason than because of the color of their skin, they both continued to glorify God by pouring themselves out in ministry for the salvation of souls.”³

¹ Catholic News Agency, Jim Graves, February 28, 2023, <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253759/meet-the-6-american-black-catholics-who-are-on-the-road-to-sainthood>.

² The basic steps to becoming a saint include: Servant of God, Venerable, Blessed and Saint. <https://wedaretosay.com/what-steps-are-in-the-beatification-and-canonization-process/>

³ <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253759/meet-the-6-american-black-catholics-who-are-on-the-road-to-sainthood>.

Bakhita Arts



**Free event in
Bannon Hall!**

**Sunday, Dec. 8
2:00 - 4:00 pm**



Afternoon of Poetry & Prose will feature **Scott Owens**, professor and Pushcart poet, sharing from *An Augury of Birds*, a new collaboration with photographer **Clayton Joe Young**.

Visit bakhitaarts.org

Bakhita Arts

Christmas concert

**Thursday, December 12 ♦ 7-8:30 pm
Bannon Hall (free event!)**

**Featuring
ANANDA**



Pianist **PJ Brunson** and violinist **Laurie Neal** of the duo, Ananda, bring the spirit of Christmas during a candlelight concert. The duo weaves intricate melodies of beloved holiday classics with Celtic and classically inspired instrumental arrangements. Take a break from the holiday madness to relax and breathe in the music.

St. Mary Ministries and Outreach

ALTAR SERVERS: Call the Parish Office at (803) 329-1008

ARCHIVES: Grace Flenniken, Jim Avery, Danise Simpson. Call the Parish Office for contact info

BAKHITA ARTS CENTER: Sula Pettibon, (803) 981-4769, bakhitaarts902@gmail.com

BEREAVEMENT: Contact Deacon Terrence Chisolm (803-517-2894 / tchisolm@charlestandioocese.org) or Deacon Walt Hollis (843-295-9192 / walthollis67@yahoo.com)

BIBLE STUDIES: Ellie Martinson, (803) 324-1018

CHOIR: Sarah Chisolm, (803) 328-8588

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Bruce Randall, (803) 327-3325, brandall@comporium.net

EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE: Rev. Dr. Terrence R. Chisolm, (803) 517-2894, tchisolm@charlestandioocese.org

FLOWER COMMITTEE: Robyn Boxie, (808) 271-7143, robboxie@hotmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Robert Bathalter, (859) 240-4950, robert.bathalter@yahoo.com

LECTORS: Danise Simpson, (803) 524-1492, dsimpson@rhmail.org

LEGION OF MARY: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at the Rock Hill Oratory, Faber Hall, John Tyszka, (860) 881-5793, johntyszka56@gmail.com

MEDIA: Rev. Dr. Terrence R. Chisolm, (803) 517-2894, tchisolm@charlestandioocese.org

PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE: Katie Bessman, (360) 449-2942, katiebessman@gmail.com

ROSARY & CONFRATERNITY SOCIETY: 1st Sunday of the month at 11:15 am. Gwen D. Finley, (803) 322-3344, gwendfinley@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Kristen Wood - Director):

FAITH FORMATION (Grades 1-8): Anna Caldwell, (803) 322-4548, acaldwell@charlestandioocese.org

YOUTH MINISTRY (Grades 9-12): Kristen Wood, (803) 487-5088, kristen.wood@charlestandioocese.org

O.C.I.A. (formerly R.C.I.A.): Kristen Wood, (803) 487-5088, kristen.wood@charlestandioocese.org

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Judith Varin, (803) 479-5094, judyvarin@gmail.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY: Barbara Belle, (937) 684-5680, msbarbelle@yahoo.com

SR. FRANCIS SARING SHAWL MINISTRY: 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 pm, Fellowship Hall, Nancy Scholl, (863) 287-1649, nscholl79@gmail.com

ST. MARY OUTREACH PROGRAM: Open Tuesday & Thursday 9-11:30 am, Bannon Hall. Deacon Walt Hollis, (843) 295-9192, walthollis67@yahoo.com

STEWARDSHIP: Deek Alexander, (803) 366-5864, deekalexander@comporium.net

ST. MARY'S PANTRY: Thursdays from 11:30 am-12:30 pm at Bannon Hall. Bettye Finley, (803) 329-1008, betfinley41@gmail.com

ST. MARY QUILTERS: Mondays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Fellowship Hall. Mary Bell, (803) 389-0912

USHERS / HOSPITALITY: Allen Chisolm (803) 328-8588, chisolm@comporium.net; Willie Crank (803) 327-9839, wacrank@comporium.net

WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: 2nd Saturday from 8-10 am in Fellowship Hall. Regeana Phillips, (803) 370-8999, regeanap@yahoo.com

Diocese of Charleston links:

 **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/DioeseChas/>

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Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline: 877-558-0333
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233
National Dating Abuse Hotline: 866-331-9474
Local Shelter: Pilgrims' Inn: 803-327-4227



Our **Food Pantry** is always in need of canned and packaged goods, cash, and plastic grocery bags. If you can help, it would be greatly appreciated.



Holy Hour of Prayer

Wednesdays at 6:30-7:30 pm - Chapel

New Pro-Life Committee forming



A new Pro-Life committee is organizing at St. Mary and is welcoming interested parishioners. Details are still in process and will be announced at a later date. If you would like to learn more or be a part of this wonderful ministry, please

contact **Katie Bessman**, St. Mary Pro-Life Coordinator, at 360-449-2942 or katiebessman@gmail.com.

Recruitment Saturday Mass - Dec. 7!



St. Mary's will hold a Recruitment Holy Hour on **Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 pm** offering Mass, Confession, Adoration, and Benediction. This is an opportunity for parishioners to invite others outside of St. Mary parish to attend our beautiful church for an hour of prayerful solitude. Please reach out to other family members, friends, and neighbors to invite them to experience the warmth of St. Mary's!



Knights of Columbus Assemblies #2108 and #3696 are supporting the 2024 Wreaths Across America project. In 2007, Morrill Worcester was inspired to create Wreaths Across America, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping families honor their loved ones by sending wreaths to cemeteries, monuments and state houses across the country and sponsoring annual National Remembrance ceremonies. One day, every veteran's resting place will be adorned with a wreath. How can you help to make this dream a reality?

Place a Wreath: You can place a wreath by scanning the QR code below or visit wreathscrossamerica.org/SC0299. Click the "Sponsor Wreaths" button in the upper right corner. You can make your tax-deductible donation and choose the Rock Hill cemetery you wish to have your wreaths placed using the appropriate code below (you can order a single wreath or customize for multiple wreaths):

- SCGMRH – Grandview Memorial Park
- SCFHCM – Forest Hills Cemetery
- SCBMCM – Barber Memorial Cemetery
- SCLWCM – Laurelwood Cemetery



Attend the Ceremony: The main ceremony will be held at Noon on December 14 at Glencairn Garden Veterans Garden (825 Edgemont Ave.) At 2 pm, the placing of the wreaths at the four cemeteries will begin.

Should you have any questions, please reach out to **Paul Turevon** at 469-667-2932.

10 Benefits of Legion of Mary membership

Benefit #10 - Masses for Your Soul

At present throughout the world, there are approximately 600,000 Legion groups. By rule, each group has a Mass said for all deceased legionaries in the month of November. As a Legion of Mary member and after your death, you can be sure of having 600,000 Masses celebrated for you. Imagine sitting in Purgatory and along comes November 1, and 600,000 Masses are being said for you. If you are not out of there soon, it's through no fault of the Legion of Mary! This concludes the 10 benefits of being a Legion of Mary member. Please watch for future announcements in the bulletin found in the Legion of Mary Corner about our wonderful organization.



Blessings to our parish family from St. Mary's legion members. We'd love for you to visit one of our weekly meetings held every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in Faber Hall at the Rock Hill Oratory.

Sunday, December 1 *First Sunday of Advent*

8:30-9:45 am - Faith Formation, Cenacle
11 am - Rosary & Confraternity Society, Fellowship Hall

7-8:30 pm - Youth Ministry, Cenacle

Wednesday, December 4

5:30-6:45 pm - O.C.I.A., Cenacle

Friday, December 6

7 pm - Advent Penance Service

Saturday, December 7

6 pm - Recruitment Saturday Mass

Sunday, December 8 *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:30-9:45 am - Faith Formation, Cenacle

2-4 pm - Bakhita Arts event: Afternoon of Poetry & Prose, Bannon Hall

Monday, December 9

9:30 am - Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of obligation)

Tuesday, December 10

NO Finance Committee meeting this month

Wednesday, December 11

5:30-6:45 pm - O.C.I.A., Cenacle

7-8:30 pm - Youth Ministry, Cenacle

Weekly events:

Sundays (9-10 am) Bible study, Fellowship Hall

Mondays (9 am-1 pm) Quilters, Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays (6:30 -7:30 pm) Holy Hour of Prayer, Chapel; (6:30 pm) Legion of Mary, RH Oratory-Faber Hall

Fridays (10 am) Bible study, Fellowship Hall; (1:30 pm) Dominoes, Bakhita Room

Calendar



Mass for the Immaculate Conception
Monday, December 9 - 9:30 am
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Collection for new baby toys - TODAY

MiraVia is a Catholic maternity home and outreach facility in the Charlotte area that offers a way forward to pregnant college students and moms in the community through long-term material support. Each year, MiraVia continues its Christmas tradition of spreading love by providing toys for babies in need through a TOY DRIVE during Oct. and Nov.

St. Mary is supporting this effort by holding a TOY DRIVE that will run through the end of this month. The final collection date will be **Sunday, Dec. 1**, and the toys will be delivered to MiraVia's Outreach Center on Dec. 2. We are collecting preferably LEARNING TOYS for children ages 6-24 months (2 yrs). The unwrapped toys can be dropped off in the designated area in the Gathering space. You may also choose to send gifts directly to MiraVia via their Amazon Wish List. Scan the QR code to view gifts they would love to have for moms and babies.

For more information, please contact **Katie Bessman**, St. Mary Pro-life Coordinator, at 360-449-2942 or katiebessman@gmail.com.



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