

## DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON



# St. Mary Catholic Church

Served by the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri



Children's  
Advent Kick-off Event  
after the 10 Mass!

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@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:stmaryrh@charlestdioocese.org) Website: [www.stmarysrh.org](http://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/](https://facebook.com/stmaryrhsc/)

### Pastor

Fr. Agustín Guzmán, C.O., 803-627-5297  
[aguzman@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:aguzman@charlestdioocese.org)

### Deacons

- Rev. Dr. Terrence R. Chisolm (Pastoral Associate), 803-517-2894  
[tchisolm@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:tchisolm@charlestdioocese.org)

- Rev. Walt Hollis, 843-295-9192  
[walthollis67@yahoo.com](mailto:walthollis67@yahoo.com)

### Faith Formation (Grades 1-8)

Anna Caldwell, 803-322-4548  
[acaldwell@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:acaldwell@charlestdioocese.org)

### Sacramental Preparation

Please contact a Deacon

### Director of Religious Education

Kristen Wood, 803-487-5088  
[kristen.wood@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:kristen.wood@charlestdioocese.org)

### Bulletin Editor

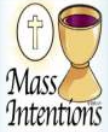
Maryanne Genus, 803-517-5048  
[maryanne@stmarysrh.org](mailto:maryanne@stmarysrh.org)

**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 8, 2024 - Second Sunday of Advent**



8 am: Pro Populo  
 10 am: Eugene & Mildred Turpin, RIP  
 12/13, 9:30 am: Angeles & Elisardo  
 Alonso, 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 Juroscio, 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, Dave Shiple, 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 Muga, 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 still 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 are 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.



**Tuesday, December 24**  
 4:00 pm - Children's Mass  
 9:00 pm - Christmas Vigil  
**Wednesday, December 25**  
 8:00 am  
 10:00 am  
**Tuesday, December 31**  
 6:00 pm - Vigil  
**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**  
 9:30 am

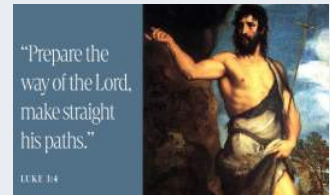
## WEEKLY COLLECTION November 24, 2024

Offering	\$5,769.00
Online Giving	\$1,996.90
Building Fund	\$50.00
Parking Lot	\$200.00
St. Mary Outreach	\$85.00
Mass Intentions	\$10.00
Flowers	\$267.00
Christmas Flowers	\$647.00
Kerosene	\$205.00
Friends of the Oratory	\$25.00
Texas Roadhouse	\$20.00

### Second Collection

December 15 - Solidarity Fund for the Church of Africa

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



**First Reading** — Bar 5:1-9  
**Psalm** — Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6  
**Second Reading** — Phil 1:4-6, 8-11  
**Gospel** — Lk 3:1-6

### Weekly Readings

**Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14  
**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30  
**Thursday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jud 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19  
**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
**Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



## 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!



## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Dinner!

Mark your calendar for Fat Tuesday, **March 4, 4-10 pm** at Texas Roadhouse (2367 Dave Lyle Blvd)! **Gift cards are now on sale after Mass.** St. Mary receives 10% of all gift card sales and 10% of all dinner sales when a flier displaying a special barcode is presented to your server that evening (**be sure to get a copy when you purchase your gift card**). Make plans to attend this annual tradition with your fellow parishioners!

# Embracing Joy



Fans of TCM (Turner Classic Movies) will have no problem imagining the opening fanfare of the Twentieth Century Fox studio productions. The theme is complete with trumpets and searchlight beams reflecting off the call letters. If that scene doesn't resonate with you, then consider instead the NFL (National Football League) theme song heard on most Sunday

afternoons in the Fall. Whenever I read St. Luke's opening sentence about the arrival of St. John the Baptist and his message about the Messiah, Jesus Christ I hear the Fox theme for sure. As we believers know, the announcement heralds what will prove to be an earth-shattering event. It will have far-reaching consequences for John's world and still has them for our own.

As the commercial world around us hypes up its preparation for Christmas, already begun last July, the Church asks us to do something different. It wants us to be quiet; slow down and take at least a little time each day of Advent to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate Christ's first coming. The Bible tells us it will not take place with pounding drums and clashing cymbals, but with hushed silence until we hear a tiny infant cry on a Bethlehem night.

I realize that the Church's Advent plea for some extra prayer and a little preparatory penance is tough to do. What with shopping, decorating, baking, and required partying all crammed into 24 days, slowing down seems next to impossible. But then we are called to be different from the world as Christians, are we not?

So, we should try when we can, perhaps in the morning, or when the house quiets down at night, to light an Advent wreath candle, and think about the seasonal Scriptures. That should lead us to pray in wonder at the love of God for us that that brought Him down to earth in the nick of time. What follows is more than just a relaxed heartbeat. We regain our composure. We recharge our patience with all that's going on. We appreciate our young ones and are less likely to snap at our older ones. We avoid nasty behavior toward restaurant servers, harried store clerks and fellow drivers. We can exude joy rather than jumpiness in our preparations. After all, joy is what Christmas is about.

We read today of the joy offered to the exiled Jewish ancestors of Christ as they are finally released and able to return home. We also hear it in St. Paul's words to his Philippian community. And certainly, it resounds in Luke's notable opening announcement.

Certainly, the Blessed Mother felt joy deep in her heart as she had nine months to reflect on what Archangel Gabriel had told her about her baby. The calendar compels us to celebrate her faith and humility in an Immaculate Conception feast day moved to tomorrow.

For all of us, her children, I offer the best "spelling" of joy that I ever heard from a preacher that offered it long ago: "J" is for Jesus. "Y" is for you, and the "O" is for nothing in between. God love you, and experience true joy.

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

## Bakhita Arts



**Free event in  
Bannon Hall!**

**TODAY**  
**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](http://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. [anandaduo.com/music](http://anandaduo.com/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](mailto:bakhitaarts902@gmail.com)

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

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

**CHOIR:** Sarah Chisolm, (803) 328-8588

**CULTURE OF LIFE COMMITTEE:** Katie Bessman, (360) 449-2942, [katiebessman@gmail.com](mailto:katiebessman@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

**LEGION OF MARY:** Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at the Rock Hill Oratory, Faber Hall, John Tyszka, (860) 881-5793, [johnzyszka56@gmail.com](mailto:johnzyszka56@gmail.com)

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

**ROSARY & CONFRATERNITY SOCIETY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 11:15 am. Gwen D. Finley, (803) 322-3344, [gwendfinley@yahoo.com](mailto:gwendfinley@yahoo.com)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** (Kristen Wood - Director):

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

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

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

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

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

**SR. FRANCIS SARING SHAWL MINISTRY:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6 pm, Fellowship Hall, Nancy Scholl, (863) 287-1649, [nscholl79@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:walthollis67@yahoo.com)

**STEWARDSHIP:** Deek Alexander, (803) 366-5864, [deekalexander@comporium.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:chisolm@comporium.net); Willie Crank (803) 327-9839, [wacrank@comporium.net](mailto:wacrank@comporium.net)

**WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday from 8-10 am in Fellowship Hall. Regeana Phillips, (803) 370-8999, [regeanap@yahoo.com](mailto:regeanap@yahoo.com)

Diocese of Charleston links:

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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**

## 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.**



*Welcome to Worship*



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](http://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.

**Sunday, December 8 *Second Sunday of Advent***

- 11 am - Children's Advent Kick-off event
- 2-4 pm - Bakhita Arts event: Afternoon of Poetry & Prose, Bannon Hall
- 7-8:30 pm - Youth Ministry, Cenacle

**Monday, December 9**

- 9:30 am - 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

**Thursday, December 12**

- 7-8:30 pm - Bakhita Arts event: Christmas concert with *Ananda*, Bannon Hall

**Saturday, December 14**

- 8-10 am - Women's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 15 *Third Sunday of Advent***

- 8:30-9:45 am - Faith Formation, Cenacle
- NO Youth Ministry

**Monday, December 16**

- NO Parish Pastoral Council meeting this month

**Wednesday, December 18**

- 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)

**Mass intentions for 2025**

The calendar for 2025 Mass intentions is now open. Please contact the Parish office at [stmaryrh@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:stmaryrh@charlestandiocese.org) or 803-329-1008 to schedule your requested intentions for the Friday and Sunday Masses.



**Meetings /events dates requested for church calendar**

**Attention ministry heads and event planners:**

For the holiday season and 2025 planning, please submit your regular ministry meeting dates & times or special event requests to **Pam Dennis** at [pdennis@charlestandiocese.org](mailto:pdennis@charlestandiocese.org). Pam manages the monthly church calendar and your cooperation helps prevent double-booking or scheduling conflicts. Thank you!



Congratulations to the Williamson Family as inductees into the American Freestyle Karate Association Hall of Fame! Katie Williamson also received the Most Supportive Award. The family attends the 10 am Mass.

# Greene

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CONTACT ME  
**Jackie Manning**

[jmanning@jppc.net](mailto:jmanning@jppc.net)  
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