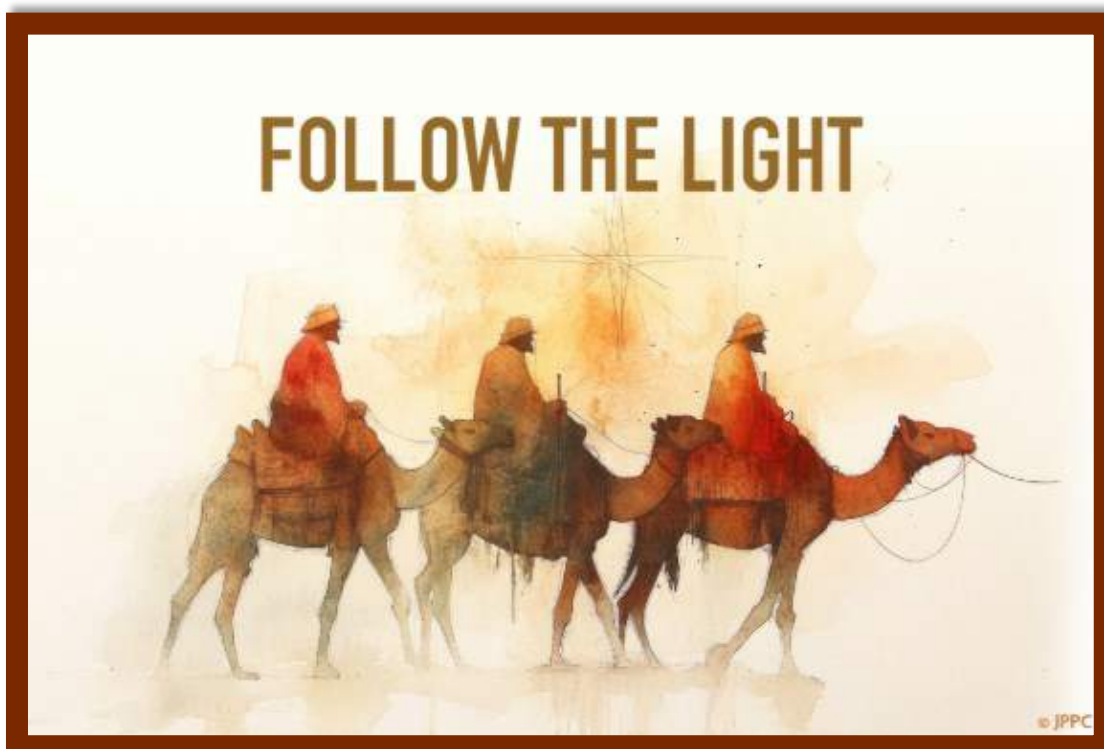


DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON



St. Mary Catholic Church

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



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@charlestondiocese.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@charlestondiocese.org

Deacons

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

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

Faith Formation (Grades 1-8)

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

Sacramental Preparation

Please contact a Deacon

Director of Religious Education

Kristen Wood, 803-487-5088
kristen.wood@charlestondiocese.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

January 5, 2025 - The Epiphany of the Lord



8 am: Pro Populo
10 am: Pro Populo

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, 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, 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 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.

CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOLERS

Mass



Celebrate with Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS

2:00 PM

FRIDAY **31** JANUARY

2025

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
120 Broad Street • Charleston, SC 29401



RSVP by Jan. 24, 2025
<https://bit.ly/homeschool-mass25>

WEEKLY COLLECTION December 22, 2024

Offering	\$4,453.00
Online Giving	\$2,568.90
Building Fund	\$55.00
Parking Lot	\$500.00
St. Mary Outreach	\$1,275.00
Christmas	\$185.00
Flowers	\$95.00
Donation from Quilters	\$550.00
Food Pantry	\$75.00
Kerosene	\$100.00
Donation from Newcomers	\$100.00
Texas Roadhouse	\$163.00
Rent	\$600.00

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



First Reading — Is 60:1-6
Psalm — Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Second Reading — Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel — Mt 2:1-12

Weekly Readings

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22; 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19; 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

New Culture of Life Committee



A new Culture of Life Committee is organizing at St Mary's and is welcoming interested parishioners. The ministry's focus is promoting human dignity from conception to natural death. If you have ideas on how to enact this mission, or want to participate in any way, please contact

Katie Bessman, St. Mary Culture of Life Coordinator, at 360-449-2942 or katiebessman@gmail.com.



Mass intentions for 2025

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

Gifts fit for a King



It truly is “the most wonderful time of the year” and this story of the Visit of the Wise Men is yet another lyrical element of the Christmas story. Into the drab stable cave come these Gentile visitors from the Orient richly dressed in vibrant colors. Whatever is of gold in their garb catches the light of the fire there. We can also hear the tinkling of the bells on the camel harness as the stately animals make their moves. They are a stark contrast to the locals gathered.

Analyzing Matthew’s story, a bit makes us wonder. How many visitors were there? Three or thirteen? After all, it’s the number of gifts they brought that makes us compute the group size. Along the way, these exotic visitors became the Three Kings. Tradition further conferred names on them: Caspar (who is made black), Balthazar and Melchior in the Western Church.

Their gifts became highly significant. Gold highlights the kingship of Jesus. The frankincense His divinity. The Myrrh, an embalming fluid no less, stands for Christ’s redemptive suffering. We can see that this story is more than meets the eye.

Remembering that Matthew wrote his gospel for Jewish converts to Christianity, we must recognize his main point: Jesus came for Gentiles as well as Jews. He is the designated Savior of all mankind.

This last aspect of the story had to be a challenge for Matthew’s readers. They had a long tradition behind their generally accepted belief that Yahweh God had chosen them as His people. That is true even in our own time. But this was a choice that had to call for expansion.

Otherwise, God is rendered too small. Believers in the myriad Gentile gods had to know that paradise was an option for them that entailed belief in the one supreme Lord.

We contemporary believers must maintain an immense respect for the children of Abraham. After all, as the Roman Canon declares: “Abraham (is) our father in faith.” The baby Jesus came to us as a Jew. The Blessed Mother and St. Joseph were good practicing Jews. So were most of Our Lord’s closest early followers. Anti-antisemitism has no place in a Christian heart. That evil threatens the beautiful poetry of this feast on this first Sunday of the new year. The axiom is true: “Wise men still seek Him.”

***“We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.”***

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Catholic Women’s Day 2025

February 26, 2025

10 am – 2pm
SC State House, 1100 Gervais St., Columbia

Join us at the State House!

- Learn about the legislative process
- Take a tour of the Capital
- Meet your state legislators
- Fellowship with Catholic women from around the state

Scan the QR code to RSVP
by **February 1, 2025**



Contact akelley@charlestondiocese.org with questions
Learn more at sccatholicconference.org



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

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

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, john_tyszka56@gmail.com

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

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

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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

IIth 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 St. Mary dinners 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!



Meetings /events dates requested for 2025 church calendar

Attention ministry heads and event planners:

For 2025 planning, please submit your regular ministry meeting dates & times or special event requests to **Pam Dennis** at pdennis@charlestandioocese.org. Pam manages the monthly church calendar and your cooperation helps prevent double-booking or scheduling conflicts.

Black Catholic Liturgy Heritage Mass

Please join Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, DC, and Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS, for Mass in celebration of Black Catholic Liturgy Heritage! All are welcome to attend. Go to this link to sign up:

<https://charlestondiocese.flocknote.com/signup/188405>

St. Martin de Porres Church, located at 2229 Hampton St. in Columbia, is providing bus transportation to this event. Attendees will need to travel to the church to board the bus. The bus will leave no later than 7:15 am. Please call **Brenda Easley Webb** at St. Martin de Porres, 803-254-6862, on or before **January 15** to reserve a seat.

JOIN US IN CELEBRATION OF OUR
BLACK CATHOLIC LITURGY HERITAGE

The Holy EUCCHARIST

will be presided by

Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory

Archbishop of Washington, D.C.

January 25, 2025 | 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
120 Broad Street | Charleston, SC 29401



Retrouvaille Marriage Help offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope—hope that it is not too late, hope of a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, to forgive, to be reconciled, and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems/difficulties/crises. For more information about a Retrouvaille Weekend program in the Charlotte area on **Jan. 24-26** for couples, call 727-343-6701 or email 3062r@helpourmarriage.com. Website: www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

Calendar



Sunday, January 5

NO Faith Formation

11:15 am - Rosary & Confraternity Society, Fellowship Hall

7-8:30 pm - Youth Ministry, Cenacle

Saturday, January 11

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

Sunday, January 12

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

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

7-8:30 pm - Youth Ministry, Cenacle

Monday, January 13

6:30 pm - Parish Pastoral Council, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 14

6 pm - Finance Council, Parish office

7 pm - Knights of Columbus, Bakhita Room. Rosary at 6:30 pm

Weekly events:

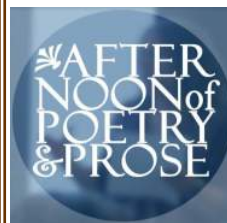
Sundays (9-10 am) Bible study, Fellowship Hall

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

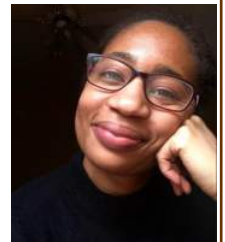
Fridays (10 am) Bible study, Fellowship Hall; (1:30 pm) Dominoes, Bakhita Room

Bakhita Arts



**Free event in
Bannon Hall!**

**January 12
2:00 - 4:00 pm**



Afternoon of Poetry & Prose will feature **Alyssa Stewart** of Columbia, SC, who weaves melodies into her lyrical poetry. She is the inaugural recipient of the Combahee River Prize for a South Carolina BIPOC Writer. Her work is published in *Jasper* magazine and in *Fall Lines* volume X.

Visit bakhitaarts.org



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