

ST. MARY HELP *of* CHRISTIANS CHURCH



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 3, 2020

PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmono
Bishop of Charleston

PARISH CLERGY

Very Rev. Gregory B. Wilson, VF
Pastor

Rev. Filip Wodecki

Rev. Ernest Hepner, *Retired*

Dcn. Al Matousek

Dcn. Robert Pierce

Dcn. Stephen Platte

**FOR THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION ON
MASSES, CONFESSIONS AND ACTIVITIES PLEASE
GO TO WWW.STMARYS-AIKEN.ORG OR
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
STMARYSAIKEN/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/)**

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE WEEKDAY – SUSPENDED

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. - 5:30PM - Old St. Mary's
Wed. 8:15AM - School Mass - Old St. Mary's
Miércoles - la capilla de Ste Claire 7:00PM
Thursday Nursing Home 10:00AM
Sat. Morning Mass 8:00AM - Old St. Mary's

SUNDAY

Sat. Vigil 5:00PM - Church - **Suspended**
8:30AM, 11:00AM - Church - **Suspended**
Spanish 12:30PM - Church - **Suspended**
5:00PM - Church - **Suspended**

CONFESSIONS - SUSPENDED

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 4:45 - 5:15PM - Old St. Mary's
Sat. 3:30 - 4:30PM - Church



Mail: P.O. Box 438 Aiken, SC 29802

803.649.4777

www.stmarys-aiken.org

Locations: St. Mary's Church: 138 Fairfield St. SE

Old St. Mary's: 125 Park Ave. SE

Ste Claire Chapel: 125 Park Ave. SE

St. Angela Hall: 118 York St. SE

WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S

We welcome all who are visiting. If you attend St. Mary's regularly and consider this your parish, please register at the parish office, print a registration form from the web site under the Parish tab, or you may fill out and submit the form online.

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: 803.649.4777 FAX: 888.552.1016
ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdioocese.org

Closed Until Further Notice

Please Call or e-mail and leave a message.
 We will respond as quickly as possible.

Mailing address:

PO Box 438 Aiken, SC 29802

Location: 203 Park Ave. SE Aiken, SC 29801

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For food or financial assistance, call 803.642.3211

Reservations:

ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdioocese.org

PARISH PERSONNEL

Contact by email at ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. Patrick Wray

Director of Administration

Mrs. Mary Frei

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Charlene Krushinsky

Principal of St. Mary's School

803.649.2071

Ms. Phyllis Waters

Business Manager

Ms. Frances Gledhill

Parish Secretary

Sr. Glafira G. Ortega, HCJS

Sr. Maria Bertha (Martha)

Zuniga HCJS

803.646.9521

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson, MA

Director of Religious Education
 803.642.2676

Mrs. Joan LaBone

Director of Youth Ministry
 803.649.3049

Mrs. Bette Ross, MS

Social Ministry Coordinator
 803.649.4777 ext. 101

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II

Organist and Choir Director
 706.550.5047

Mrs. Janet Morris

St. Joseph Altar Society
 803.502.3636

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

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

HOLY BAPTISM

To baptize a child at St. Mary's, at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, regularly attend Holy Mass, participate in the life of the parish and registered at St. Mary's at least three months prior to the Baptism. Parents **must** attend a Baptismal Preparation Class prior to the Baptism. The Godparents are encouraged to attend a Baptismal Preparation Class as well. The next class is May 17, 2020. Registration is required. Contact Chris or Angela Ascherman at 256.541.1967.

HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

Policy: Parents and children must be registered and faithfully attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Children 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:

Holy Communion: Mary Ellen Jackson: 803.642.2676

Confirmation: Joan LaBone: 803.649.3049 or
jlaborne@charlestdioocese.org

HOLY MATRIMONY

Those contemplating marriage should contact the parish office. **The Diocese of Charleston requires a minimum of six months preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage.** Please understand, not all dates at the church may be available due to parish events or other conflicts.

Contact: Mary Frei at 803.649.4777 ext. 114

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Are you seriously ill, facing surgery or of advanced age? Receive grace and strength from the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. E-mail Mary Frei: mfrei@charlestdioocese.org or call 803.649.4777 ext. 114. For Nursing home volunteers, Holy Communion for our homebound, hospital visits, call Mary Frei at the parish office or e-mail her at mfrei@charlestdioocese.org

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP - FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020

OFFERING FOR APRIL 26, 2020	\$	29,557.70
WEEKLY BUDGET NEEDS	\$	31,800.00
YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	\$	1,413,454.19
YEAR TO DATE BUDGET NEEDS	\$	1,367,400.00
OVERAGE TO DATE	\$	46,054.19

Our Capital Campaign #3 ended June 30, 2019. Many thanks to the 31% or 526 families who pledged, all who contributed, and those who are continuing to contribute to the reduction of our outstanding loan balance. As of June 30, 2019 the balance was \$519,980.00. Check out our website for continuing online giving. Please call Patrick or Phyllis in the parish office, 803.649.4777 with any questions.

Due to the suspension of Masses the financial figures reflect on-line/mail-in giving only.

ITEM	GOAL	LAST WEEK STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	CURRENT SHORTFALL To GOAL	CURRENT % GOAL	CURRENT VS. LAST WEEK
PARISH DEBT	\$519,980.00	\$115,694.38	\$116,970.83	\$403,009.17	22%	\$1,276.45
FAMILIES PARTICIPATING	1800					



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

FROM THE BENCH

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. Our Church is replete with imagery of sheep and shepherds. On this Sunday the imagery of the Good Shepherd is stressed. In the Verse before the Gospel, we hear, *I am the Good Shepherd*. The old Communion was *I am the Good Shepherd*. And today in the three year cycle we sing easily one of the most beloved Psalms, Psalm 23, *The Lord is My Shepherd*. Today is also May 3, when we would normally have our May Crowning. We have kept a Marian hymn for the end of mass, *On This Day, O Beautiful Mother*, written by the ever productive Louis Lambillotte SJ (1796-1855).

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Are you going through a difficult time? Are your friends and family tired of hearing about it? **Stephen Ministry** may be able to help. Stephen Ministers are not counselors or therapists; rather, they are caring Christian friends who offer a listening ear to help others through the tough times in life. Stephen Ministers receive extensive training and are supervised in their ministry. They work in strict confidentiality with care receivers. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 803.649.4777 or Mary Ellen Jackson at 803.642.2676.

PASTOR'S CORNER + JMJ +

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I recently placed a post on our parish's Facebook page. In case you missed it, I wanted to repeat most of its contents in my column: "I know more than a few people had trouble hearing the Mass online last weekend. Please be patient as we work to make the best online experience for you we can. I think we can all agree that these are less than perfect circumstances. We do not have any professional equipment at all, with the exception of a borrowed tripod; however, we are looking into some equipment that might help our experience.

"You may not have realized this but for the last several weeks, we have not been using any microphones at all since it was creating an 'echo' – an almost incomprehensible reverberation. So, while we don't know exactly what the problem was last weekend, we are working to fix it. Please join me in thanking our volunteers and skeleton-crew-of-a-staff, who are working hard to make our online presence possible. I couldn't do it without them!" (Post from 26 April 2020)

As you know, we have a fantastic parish with such incredibly generous parishioners. After writing that post on Facebook, we had some step forward to provide equipment and help. Thank you! I can't guarantee it will have arrived in the mail in time for this weekend's Masses, but know we are working on it.

A few weeks ago after much prayer, the principal of our school, Ms. Charlene Krushinsky, made the difficult decision to return to Arizona to be closer to her family at the end of the school year. We are saddened to say goodbye but happy that Ms. Krushinsky will be closer especially to her parents. She will continue forming young men and women as principal of another wonderful Catholic school in Arizona. She assured us, "I will miss you all dearly and this lovely town of Aiken." We are immensely grateful to Ms. Krushinsky for all the enthusiastic, faith-centered, and caring leadership she has given us over these past two years. May God richly bless her that she may continue to use her dynamic gifts and talents to form future young Catholic school children.

After consultation with our school advisory council, I appointed Mr. Matt Kuhn, a teacher at the school, as the interim principal. Mr. Kuhn is working closely with Ms. Krushinsky and our vice principal, Mrs. Jordan, to make a smooth transition. Initial meetings have begun to find a new principal, so please keep our school in your prayers. I am certain God will send us exactly who St. Mary's needs.

Finally, although we have been making hopeful plans for summer Sacraments and other parish activities, we still do not know at this moment when we might be able to return to a more normal experience of parish life. Please keep praying for a quick end to the pandemic. It's *still* Easter, and Jesus is *still* alive forever!

Christ is risen! Truly, He is risen! Alleluia!
Father Wilson

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION (CCD) GRADES 4K–5

Contact: mjackson@charlestandioocese.org

Telephone: 803.642.2676

First Holy Communion Updates

First Holy Communion will be celebrated during Sunday Mass on the **Feast of Corpus Christi, June 14th** at the 11:00AM and the 12:30PM Masses.

Rehearsal will be held on Saturday, June 6th at 10:00AM in the Church. A parent meeting will be held in Mother Teresa Hall during rehearsal.

Individual pictures will be taken by Scott Webster on Sunday June 7th between 2:30 and 3:30PM. Please have your child in First Holy Communion attire.

An attempt was made to contact all parents last week. If you did not receive this information, please contact Mary Ellen at mjackson@charlestandioocese.org or 803.642.2676 or Karen at khenry@stmaryschoolaiken.com

On FORMED: In the series **Presence** please watch *Presence – for Parents* (only ½ hour) and then watch *Presence – for Children* (only 12 minutes) with your child. (If you are not on Formed, please sign up at www.formed.org/signup, enter Aiken, SC, then choose St. Mary Help of Christians)

The best way to get parish updates is on the parish Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/>

Please also check out our DRE Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaikendre>

You do not have to have an account to access these pages, but you may have to click 'no thanks' about joining up.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY GRADES 6-12

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone

The Morning Youth Group is finished for this year.

Confirmation candidates, you will be notified by Mrs. LaBone of changes as soon as they are known. Everyone please contact Mrs. LaBone with your Saint name.

Youth Ministry

Middle School (GR. 6-8) or Life Night (GR. 9-12)

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone

jlaborne@charlestandioocese.org or 803.215.7040 cell

Please check on St. Mary Youth Ministry page weekly for a youth centered talk or activity. Every Sunday at 7PM.

<https://www.facebook.com/lifeteenaiken/?ref=bookmarks>

At this time summer activities and camps are still planned. Mrs. LaBone will contact everyone if anything changes.

Follow us on: Instagram: [lifeteen_aiken](https://www.instagram.com/lifeteen_aiken)

Check for activities online at St. Mary Help of Christians website under Formation/Youth Ministry.

ALL ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**TODAS LAS MISAS, CONFESIONES, REUNIONES Y
EVENTOS HAN SIDO SUSPENDIDOS HASTA NUEVO
AVISO.**

**PARA OBTENER LA INFORMACIÓN MÁS
ACTUALIZADA, VISITE**

WWW.STMARYS-AIKEN.ORG

O

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYSAIKEN/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/)

PRIMERA COMUNIÓN – INFORMACIÓN ACTUALIZADA

La **PRIMERA COMUNIÓN** - se celebrará en las Misas del domingo del **Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo**, el 14 de Junio a las 11:00 am y a las 12:30 pm.

La **práctica** de la ceremonia será el sábado, Junio 6 a las 10 am en la Iglesia. Durante este tiempo, los padres de los niños se estarán reuniendo en el Mother Teresa Hall.

Fotos Individuales de los niños las tomará el fotógrafo Scott Webster el domingo, Junio 7, de 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm. Para la foto por favor vistan a sus niños con sus trajes de Primera Comunión.

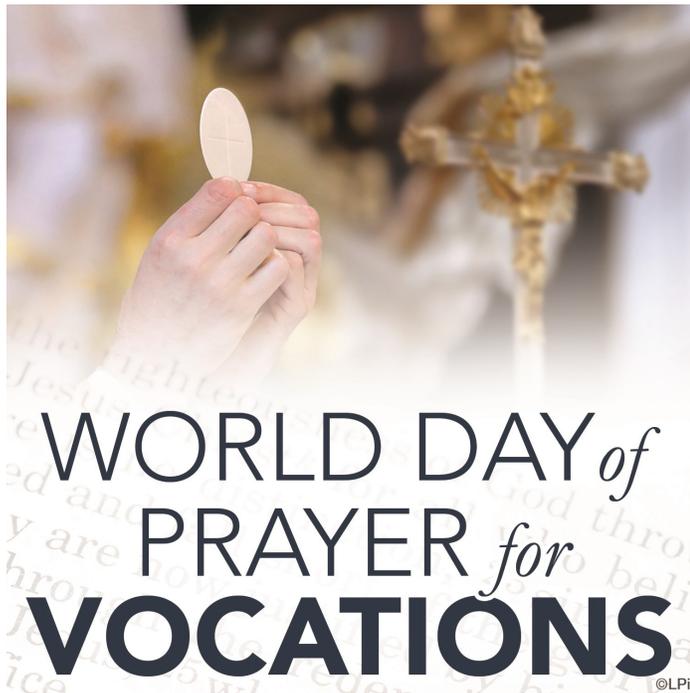
La semana pasada se trató de contactar a todos los padres; si usted no recibió esta información por favor comuníquese con Mary Ellen Jackson al mjackson@stmarycharlestandioocese.org o al 803.642.2676, o con Karen Henry al khenry@stmaryschoolaiken.com

Sobre el Programa FORMED: En la serie **LA PRESENCIA** por favor vea el video La Presencia – para Padres Sólomente (1/2 hora de duración) y después vea el video La Presencia – Para Niños (12 minutos de duración) con su hijo(a). (¿No participa de este programa? Regístrese en el www.formed.org/signup, oprima Aiken, SC y seleccione St. Mary Help of Christians).

La mejor forma de obtener información actualizada de la parroquia es visitando la página Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/>

Por favor también visite la sección DRE en Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaikendre>

No tiene que tener una cuenta para ingresar a estas páginas, pero tendrá que hacer click en 'no thanks' si le piden que se haga miembro.



WORLD DAY of PRAYER for VOCATIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

O God, Father of all Mercies,
 Provider of a bountiful Harvest,
 send Your Graces upon those
 You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor;
 preserve and strengthen them
 in their lifelong service of you.
 Open the hearts of Your children
 that they may discern Your Holy Will;
 inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves
 to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.
 Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in
 life guided by Your Divine Word and Truth.
 Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,
 all the Angels, and Saints, humbly hear our prayers
 and grant Your Church's needs, through Christ, our Lord.
 Amen.

**Perpetual Adoration has been SUSPENDED
 Until further notice**

St. Claire Chapel will remain locked during this period.
 Old St. Mary's will be open Mon.– Fri. 7:00AM - 7:00PM
 SAT. 8:00AM - 4:00PM; Sun. 2:00PM - 7:00PM
 New church will be open 9:00AM—3:00PM



*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
 Be our defense against the wickedness and
 snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we
 humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the
 heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into
 hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl
 throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.
 Amen.*

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 20 - APRIL 26

Monday - May 4
 Acts 11:1-18 Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday - May 5
 Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1b-7 Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday - May 6
 Acts 12:24—13:5a Ps 67 2-3, 5-6, 8 Jn 12:44-50

Thursday - May 7
 Acts 13:13-25 Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27 Jn 13:16-20

Friday - May 8
 Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2:6-11b Jn 14:1-6

Saturday - May 9
 Acts 13:44-52 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 14:7-14

Sunday - May 10
 Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 1 Pt 2:4-9
 Jn 14:1-12

All Masses and Confessions (except in danger of death) have been suspended until further notice. If there is a time listed for Mass, that Mass will be livestreamed (see page 5 on how to access). All Other Mass Intentions requested during this time will be offered privately by Father Wilson or Father Wodecki.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 3 Kathy & Tom Monahon (L) 11:00AM For All the People of the Parish 12:30PM	THURSDAY, MAY 7 Sister Josephine Jendrisak (D) Florence Duarte
MONDAY, MAY 4 Mayolo & Rosario Mendoza (D)	FRIDAY, MAY 8 Stella Imbrescia (D)
TUESDAY, MAY 5	SATURDAY, MAY 9 Dcn Jerry White & Family (L) 5:00PM Susan Reeve Shultz (D)
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 Lucas Family (D)	Brenda McCabe (D) Paul Quattrini (D) Roger Aderholdt (D) Jeffrey Frommer (D) Lois Wolf (D)

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Death: April 6 Henry Loveless
 April 22 Annette M. Trapp



PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

ASSESSES ON FACEBOOK LIVE

We will be livestreaming the following Masses:

Saturday, 5:00PM

Sunday, 11:00AM

Sunday, 12:30Pm (Spanish)

To access the livestream event you can go directly to our Facebook page (facebook.com/stmarysaiken).

Alternatively, you can access our Facebook (FB) page without a FB account. Simply click on the small “f” icon on the upper right hand of our website (stmarysa-aiken.org).

All livestream events, including Mass, Stations of the Cross and rosaries, are saved on the Facebook page and can be accessed by clicking the “videos” tab on the left side of the Facebook page.

CATHOLIC FAITH ONLINE RESOURCES

Being quarantined can offer time to grow in your Catholic Faith. There are many websites offering articles, blogs, videos, etc. to help deepen your understanding of the Church, it’s teachings, the richness of it’s history and theology. Besides the parish subscription to Formed.org the following sites are good choices.

The Quarantined Catholic Hub from Scott Hahn’s St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology will continue to offer a free video weekly as well as other materials.

<https://stpaulcenter.com/hub/> And St. Paul Center itself has free bible study videos available at

<https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/online-studies/>

Bishop Robert Barron has daily mass, homilies, blogs, videos, etc. available at <https://www.wordonfire.org/>

Ascension Press has resources including links to livestream rosaries, masses and bible studies at:

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/parish-resources> or

<https://www.facebook.com/AscensionPress/>



ST. MARY’S PARISH SCHOOL

118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801

Ms. Charlene Krushinsky, Principal

803.649.2071

Fax: 803.643.0092

www.stmaryschoolaiken.com

Office Hours: 7:30AM—3:30PM Monday thru Friday

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL CLOSURE EXTENSION UNTIL MAY 31ST

MANDATED BY DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

State health officials have reported that our state will hit the peak of COVID-19 at the beginning of May. Based on this news and because we are committed to safeguarding the health of our Catholic school community, we have decided to suspend in-person classes until the end of May. Distance learning will continue. We will have the option to open the first week of June. The option to open will be based upon the health conditions in our local area.

Thank you for all you have done and will do to assist your children to further their education during these challenging times. You and your family will remain in our prayers.

St. Mary Help of Christians, pray for us!

For more information contact the school at
office@stmaryschoolaiken.com
www.stmaryschoolaiken.com



*ON-LINE GIVING

The Parish Finance Committee strongly recommends using on-line giving. It has several benefits to the parish, including lower cost of administration fees versus the bank. It simplifies record keeping, collection and accounting procedures.

ON-LINE GIVING STATUS

TO ENROLL IN ON-LINE GIVING go to the parish website: www.stmarysa-aiken.org, click on giving, then Sunday Offertory

ITEM	GOAL	LAST MONTH’S STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	CURRENT % GOAL	CURRENT VS. LAST MONTH
ON-LINE GIVING PARTICIPANTS	750	493	523	70%	30

- ◆ Click on “Giving”
- ◆ Click on “Sunday Offering”
- ◆ Create a new account and then go to “Manage My Account”
- ◆ Enroll in weekly or monthly offering*
- ◆ If you need assistance, or to discontinue on-line giving, please call 1.800.348.2886 option 4 .

*Monthly offering is the preferred method recommended by the Parish Finance Committee