

# ST. MARY HELP *of* CHRISTIANS CHURCH



## THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 19, 2020

### PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmone  
Bishop of Charleston

### PARISH CLERGY

Very Rev. Gregory B. Wilson, VF  
Pastor

Rev. Francisco Oñate-Vargas  
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Filip Wodecki, In Residence  
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.STMARYSAIKEN.ORG](http://WWW.STMARYSAIKEN.ORG) OR  
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/  
STMARYSAIKEN/](https://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYSAIKEN/)

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

Locations: St. Mary's Church: 138 Fairfield St. SE  
Ste Claire Chapel: 125 Park Ave. SE

### HOLY MASS SCHEDULE WEEKDAY

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. - 5:30PM - Church  
Wed. 8:30AM - Church  
Miércoles 7:00PM - Old St. Mary's  
Thursday Nursing Home **Suspended**  
Sat. Morning Mass 8:00AM - Church

### SUNDAY

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

### CONFessions

Confessions are being heard in Deacon Waters Conference Room, located in St. Michael Hall.

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri - 4:45-5:15PM  
Sat. - 3:30-4:30PM

803.649.4777      [www.stmarys-aiken.org](http://www.stmarys-aiken.org)

Old St. Mary's: 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@charlestondiocese.org**

#### **The office is open**

We respectfully request that only one person be in the lobby at any given time. We suggest that you wear a mask when you come in.

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@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestondiocese.org)

### **PARISH PERSONNEL**

Contact by email at [ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestondiocese.org)

#### **Mr. Patrick Wray**

Director of Administration

#### **Mrs. Mary Frei**

Administrative Assistant

#### **Mrs. Laura Webster**

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**

803.646.9521/803.646.3666

#### **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 scheduled for August 16th. 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 [jlabone@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:jlabone@charlestondiocese.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@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:mfrei@charlestondiocese.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@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:mfrei@charlestondiocese.org)

## **WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP - FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

### **TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2020**

**OFFERING FOR JULY 12, 2020**

**\$ 28,573.70**

**WEEKLY BUDGET NEEDS**

**\$ 31,800.00**

**YEAR TO DATE TOTALS**

**\$ 74,499.40**

**YEAR TO DATE BUDGET NEEDS**

**\$ 63,600.00**

**OVERTAGE TO DATE**

**\$ 10,899.40**

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.

**Upcoming Special Collections:** July 19 Infirm Priests

ITEM	GOAL	LAST WEEK STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	CURRENT SHORTFALL To GOAL	CURRENT % GOAL	CURRENT VS. LAST WEEK
<b>PARISH DEBT</b>	<b>\$519,980.00</b>	<b>\$133,049.89</b>	<b>\$135,408.34</b>	<b>\$384,571.66</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>\$2,358.45</b>
<b>FAMILIES PARTICIPATING</b>	<b>1800</b>					



## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN OLD ST. MARY'S!

Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament awaits your visit! Use the side (ramp) entrance.

Please help! We have an urgent need for **Sunday night at 12 Midnight**. If you can help with this or a different hour, please contact Ivy Monahon at 803.649.4157 or at [jjmonahon@mindspring.com](mailto:jjmonahon@mindspring.com)

For the latest updates on Eucharistic Adoration and the most current list of hours in need of adorers, please see the parish website <http://www.stmarys-aiken.org/>

May we all pray for peace and healing in our nation.

- Practice social distancing.
- Use the provided cleaning supplies to wipe down your area before and after your hour.
- Please observe silence at all times. Adoration fosters personal intimacy with Our Lord—please allow others this special time with Jesus.



### WELCOME TO OUR NEW PAROCHIAL VICAR — FATHER FRANCISCO OÑATE-VARGAS

I'm Father Francisco Oñate-Vargas, and I have been ordained for almost a year and a half. I love being a priest, and I thank God everyday for it.

I am originally from Jalisco, Mexico, and have been living in the States for over 18 years. I'm the youngest of seven. I am very excited to be part of the St. Mary Help of Christians family. I look forward to getting to know you better as we all share our faith together.

Peace and blessings,  
Father Francisco

Soy el padre Francisco Oñate-Vargas, y he sido ordenado sacerdote por casi un año y medio. Amo ser sacerdote, y le agradezco a Dios cada día por éste llamado.

Soy originario de Jalisco, Mexico, y he vivido en los Estados Unidos desde más de 18 años. Soy el menor de siete hijos. Estoy muy emocionado de ser parte de la familia de Santa María Ayuda de los Cristianos. Tengo muchas ganas de llegar a conocerlos mejor mientras compartimos de nuestra fe juntos.

Paz y bendiciones,  
Padre Francisco

Father Francisco Oñate-Vargas Ordination to the Priesthood  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ia-xwrluZw>

## PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you likely have heard, the City of Aiken passed an ordinance on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> to require face coverings in enclosed public spaces in order to help stem the increasing spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. While religious bodies are not specifically included, the Bishop has asked that parishes in the diocese conform to local government ordinances. After all, we gather together more people in one enclosed space with recirculated – not filtered – air than any business or restaurant in Aiken. Although the ordinance states that “people whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a Face Covering” are exempt, the Catholic Church’s teachings *do not* object to face coverings during this pandemic. In fact, the Church sees it as an act of charity towards others since it helps prevent the wearer from possible spread of the virus, even if the wearer doesn’t realize he or she is sick. We do it because we are a pro-life people, and we wish to avoid people contracting the disease and dying unnecessarily.

**Beginning this weekend, everyone attending Holy Mass inside the church must wear a face covering or mask during the celebration of Mass, except for the act of receiving Holy Communion. The covering must cover both your mouth and nose.** Free, sterile face coverings will be provided at the door of the church for those who may not have one or may have forgotten theirs. Priests, deacons, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and altar servers will also wear face coverings unless performing some essential act of speaking, such as reading the Sacred Scriptures, preaching, praying the prayers of the Mass, or something similar. When they do these tasks, they are already a good, safe distance from others.

I realize that for some this will be a great burden, so I ask all of us to join this to the sufferings of Christ on the Cross and offer any frustrations or inconveniences we might have for the health and safety of all those affected by the virus, for the repose of the souls who have died from it, and for a swift and safe end to the pandemic. I want to thank each of you for humbly observing this directive. It is serious. As of Tuesday morning the 14<sup>th</sup> according to DHEC, 19.34% of all patients occupying hospital beds in South Carolina had the virus. That's nearly one in five patients. Only one month ago it was 7.96%.

As I mentioned before, we must take every precaution out of an abundance of caution. If a case or cases of the virus can be shown to have originated from gatherings at St. Mary's, we will have to discontinue all Masses and other Sacraments again, something we never want to do. Thank you *again* for humbly doing your part to help. The Sacraments are a lifeline, especially in times like this, and we want to be able to continue to keep them going.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!  
Holy Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us!  
Father Wilson

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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

Contact: [mjackson@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:mjackson@charlestondiocese.org)  
Telephone: 803.642.2676

Dear Parents:

- Very soon the K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade registration form for the Religious Education Fall classes will be available. Religious Education classes will look a little different this year ... Stay tuned!!

- Traveling? Visit the local church. Get there early for Mass and explore. Pay attention to what you see in the windows.

Take advantage of FORMED; it has all sorts of fabulous programming. Not on FORMED? Sign up at [www.formed.org/signup](http://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>

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## SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH MINISTRY GRADES 6-12

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone  
The Morning Youth Group is finished for this year.

Youth Ministry Confirmation candidates —  
Confirmation has been postponed until further notice.

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

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone  
[jlabone@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:jlabone@charlestondiocese.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 7:00PM.

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

Follow us on: Instagram: lifeteen\_aiken  
Check for activities online at St. Mary Help of Christians website under Formation/Youth Ministry.

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**ALL ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES  
CONTINUE TO BE SUSPENDED UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE**



**ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL**  
118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801  
**Mrs. Laura Webster, Principal**  
803.649.2071 Fax: 803.643.0092  
[www.stmaryschoolaiken.com](http://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com)

Summer Office Hours 9:00AM to Noon Tues.–Thur.

**Open Enrollment for 2020-2021:** St. Mary's School is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Ten and twelve month payment plans are available for all families. Catholic Parishioners are eligible for discounted tuition. For more information, call the school office at 803.649.2071 or visit the school website at [stmaryschoolaiken.com](http://stmaryschoolaiken.com)

**Employment Opportunity:** St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic School is seeking a part time K-8 music teacher/school organist. Applicants should have a strong background in Catholic musical traditions. The position requires the ability to play the organ at weekly school masses, organize and lead school program performances, teach music classes, and lead and maintain a student choir. Qualified applicant should submit his/her resume and cover letter to the front office in person, by mail, or e-mail at [office@stmaryschoolaiken.com](mailto:office@stmaryschoolaiken.com).

**Amazon Smile:** Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic School in Aiken. All eligible purchases will support the school at no additional charge. All of your Prime benefits remain the same too! St. Mary's School does not see individual purchases and collects no data from this program.

**Publix Partners:** Shop for groceries while giving to St. Mary's students the gift of books!!! Money earned goes directly to the school library and is used for new books, AR prizes, and breakfast with books! Our goal is \$1,000 this year, so please register at [publix.com](http://publix.com).

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Are you looking to strengthen  
and enrich your marriage?  
Attend a 7-Session Virtual  
Experience Monday and  
Thursday Evenings  
August 6th–27th from 7:00–9:30PM.  
For more Information or to Apply online  
go to: [scmarriagematters.org](http://scmarriagematters.org)



Restore,  
Rekindle,  
Renew

## PUBLIC MASSES RETURN

Daily Mass is being said in the **new church** on Fairfield Avenue. All Sunday Masses are also held in the new church. Attendance is limited to 200 persons per Mass, and those who fall into the "at-risk" category as defined by the CDC are asked to remain at home.

**The Bishop continues to dispense everyone from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.**

### Please Note:

**CHILD CARE** during Mass is **NOT available** at this time.

**CONFessions HAVE RESUMED.** Please see the front cover of this bulletin for the schedule.

**CONFESIONES SE HAN REANUNDADO.** El horario está en la primera página de este boletín.

## MASSES ON FACEBOOK LIVE

We will continue to livestream the following Masses:

Saturday, 5:00PM

Sunday, 11:00AM **AND** 12:30PM (SPANISH MASS)

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](http://stmarysa-aiken.org)).

All livestream events, including Masses and rosaries, are saved on the Facebook page and can be accessed by clicking the "videos" tab on the left side of the FB page.

## 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.

**Beginning this weekend, we are respectfully requiring that everyone attending Holy Mass wear a face covering or mask during the celebration of Mass, except for the act of receiving Holy Communion. The covering must cover both your mouth **and** nose.** If you do not have a face mask with you, free, sterile face masks are available at the front door.

The City of Aiken passed an ordinance on July 13th to require face coverings in enclosed public spaces in order to help stem the increasing spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Bishop Guglielmone has asked that parishes in the diocese conform to local government ordinances.

**Thank you for doing your part to ensure  
the safety of all of us!**

## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20 – JULY 26

### Monday

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8 Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23  
Mt 12:38-42

### Tuesday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 85:2-8 Mt 12:46-50

### Wednesday

Sg 3:1-4a or 2 Cor 5:14-17 Ps 63:2-6, 8-9  
Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

### Thursday

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Ps 36:6-7b, 8-11 Mt 13:10-17

### Friday

Jer 3:14-17 (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Mt 13:18-23

### Saturday

2 Cor 4:7-15 Ps 126:1b, 2-6 Mt 20:20-28

### Sunday

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130  
Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JULY 19

8:30AM Annette Gentilucci (D)  
11:00AM For All the People  
of the Parish

### THURSDAY, JULY 23

5:30PM Magdaleno Singo (D)

### FRIDAY, JULY 24

5:30PM Jane Mickshaw (L)

### SATURDAY, JULY 25

5:00PM Denise Hood (L)

### MONDAY, JULY 20

5:30PM Richard Furgiuele (D)

### TUESDAY, JULY 21

5:30PM Richard K. Sommer (D)  
Ed Albenesius (D)

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Marilyn Brown (D)

### 8:30AM Anne Carole Moylan (D)

## THE HOLY ROSARY

Join the parish as we pray the Rosary together Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday before the 5:30PM Mass, and Wednesday before the 8:30AM Mass



*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.*



### ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Donating altar flowers is a simple, lovely way to honor a loved one, glorify God, and add beauty to the altar. Flowers can be donated in honor of a living person, memory of someone who has died, in celebration of an anniversary or other milestone, or in thanksgiving for friends or family. You can choose any Sunday or have an open Sunday chosen for you. The names of those being honored or remembered will appear in the bulletin on the Sunday you select. If you prefer, you can simply give the flowers to the Glory of God. The suggested donation is \$250 for two arrangements. To donate, please call Janet Morris at the parish office at 803.649.4777.

### DONE FLORES PARA EL ALTAR

¿Cómo le gustaría donar flores para el altar como una forma de dar homenaje a un ser querido, darle gloria a Dios, o si prefiere, para adorno del altar? Las flores se pueden donar para cualquier tipo de celebración: una ocasión especial de una persona, en recuerdo de alguien que ha fallecido, aniversarios o por éxitos logrados, o en agradecimiento por la familia o amigos. Escoga cualquier domingo que desee, o se le puede escoger uno. Los nombres de las personas por las que se donan las flores se pondrán en el boletín del domingo seleccionado. Recuerde que las flores las puede donar también para la gloria de Dios. Se sugiere una donación de \$250 por dos arreglos. Para donar por favor comuníquese con Janet Morris en la oficina de la parroquia, al 803.649.4777.

### PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

*By St. John Vianney*

God, please give to your Church today many more priests after your own heart. May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments. May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry.

Amen.

### FROM THE BENCH

Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander (1818-1895) is well known for her hymn text, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. It is a paean to God for the glory of creation.

While on the surface it is childlike, the underlying theology and erudition reminds us of how God created everything and pronounced it good.

It is also reminiscent of, *Benedicite omnia opera*, a canticle used in the Divine office, taken from the Septuagint version of Daniel.

It also recalls Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*: He prayeth best, who loveth best; All things great and small; For the dear God who loveth us; He made and loveth all. Here we have a children's hymn that ties in the Creation story, an office canticle, and a major English romantic poem.

### GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

**An Easy Way to Give To Others—Blessing Boxes in Aiken —  
“Take what you need; Leave what you can”**

Blessing Boxes are small, community-based pantries located throughout Aiken. They are filled with nonperishable food items and toiletries that are available for free to anyone in need. The need for easy access to food resources is even more critical now with the increasing community spread of coronavirus.

Please consider helping to keep these boxes stocked. Here are a few tips to remember when you donate items to the boxes:

Separate packaged items like puddings, applesauces, juice boxes, etc., so they can go further.

Diapers, incontinence items (when possible), and sanitary items should be opened and bagged separately into 3's. Label size with a permanent marker on the baggie.

Bar soaps, thinly packaged items, and sweets should be placed into individual baggies to prevent ants from invading the boxes.

Do not completely fill the boxes. Make sure it is maybe half full to prevent over taking.

DO NOT place any medications or razors in the boxes as children can access them.

Find a nearby box by googling “Blessing Boxes Near Me”.

### \*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

ITEM	GOAL	LAST MONTH'S STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	CURRENT % GOAL	CURRENT VS. LAST MONTH
ON-LINE GIVING PARTICIPANTS	750	583	594	79%	11

TO ENROLL IN ON-LINE GIVING go to the parish website: [www.stmarys-aiken.org](http://www.stmarys-aiken.org)

- ◆ 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