St. Mary Help of Christians Church

PENTECOST SUNDAY
May 23, 2021

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

Dcn. Al Matousek
Dcn. Robert Pierce
Dcn. Stephen Platte

The Parish Office Mailing Address has been changed to:

203 Park Ave., SE
Aiken, SC, 29801

Please do not send mail to the P. O. Box

Holy Mass Schedule

Weekday

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. - 5:30pm - Church
Tues. 6:30am - Old St. Mary 's
Wed. 8:20am - Church
Miércoles 7:00pm - Iglesia
Thursday Nursing Home - **Suspended**
Sat. Morning Mass 8:00am - Church

Sunday

Sat. Vigil 5:00pm - Church
8:30am, 11:00am - Church
Misa en Español 12:30pm - Iglesia
5:00pm - Church
138 Fairfield St. SE

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

Mail: 203 Park Ave. SE **803.649.4777** **www.stmarys-aiken.org**

Locations: St. Mary's Church: 138 Fairfield St. SE
Ste Claire Chapel: 125 Park Ave. SE
Old St. Mary's: 125 Park Ave. SE
Parish Office: 203 Park Ave. 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 Parish tab, or you may fill out and submit the form online.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in St. Claire Chapel!

Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament awaits your visit!

Get to really know Jesus by spending time with Him!

Please help! We have two hours in urgent need:

Friday at 4:00AM

Having a weekly holy hour can be a life-changing experience. "Come to Me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." (Mt. 11:28) What are you waiting for?

If you would like to try one of these or a different hour, please contact Ivy Monahon at 803.292.6432 or jjmonahon@mindspring.com, or go to St. Mary's website at http://www.stmarysaiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration.

Parish Personnel

Contact by email at 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
803.215.7040
Mr. V. Franklin Deese II
Organist and Choir Director
706.550.5047
Mrs. Janet Morris, MIBS
St. Joseph Altar Society
803.502.3636

Weekly Stewardship Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Reminder: If you are having an automatic payment sent to the parish by your financial institution please remember to change the parish mailing address with your bank.

Totals as of Sunday, May 16, 2021

OFFERING FOR May 16, 2021	**$**	**26,341.20**
WEEKLY BUDGET NEEDS	**$**	**31,800.00**
YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	**$**	**1,533.249.19**
YEAR TO DATE BUDGET NEEDS	**$**	**1,462,800.00**
OVERAGE TO DATE	**$**	**70,449.19**

Special Collection: May 16 Catholic Communications $943.00

Upcoming Special Collection: May 30 Miscellany

Bishop's Bicentennial Campaign as of Mar. 5

Number of Givers	**386**
Total Pledged	**$1,767,072.20**

PARISH LOAN	**$519,980.00**
Current Loan Balance as of 4/26/2021	**$184,332.61**

The parish loan balance has been reduced by a $25,000.00 payment from the Bicentennial Campaign Proceeds.

*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.

ITEM	GOAL	LAST MONTH'S STATUS	CURRENT STATUS	CURRENT % GOAL	CURRENT VS. LAST MONTH
ON-LINE GIVING PARTICIPANTS	750	635	642	86%	7

ON-LINE GIVING STATUS

TO ENROLL IN ON-LINE GIVING go to the parish website: 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

Espacio de Nuestro Párroco
+JMJ+

Queridos hermanos en Cristo,

Dado que el boletín debe imprimirse el martes por la mañana (a veces antes), es posible que mi columna no refleje la información actualizada. Para cuando se imprima esta columna semanal, sin duda tendremos más orientación de parte de nuestro Obispo sobre el uso de las mascarillas en las parroquias de nuestra Diócesis. Comunicaré cualquier información nueva a través de nuestro sitio web y página de Facebook. Gracias nuevamente por su maravillosa paciencia y comprensión. ¡Tenemos una parroquia tan grandiosa!

Oportunidad de voluntariado - Tienda de regalos: Nuestra parroquia a menudo tiene varias oportunidades / necesidades de voluntarios. Me gustaría resaltar una necesidad bastante especializada que tenemos y buscar la ayuda de varias personas calificadas para reabrir nuestra tienda de regalos parroquial después de que cerró debido a la pandemia. Estamos increíblemente agradecidos con nuestro feligrés, Mike Enloe, quien se ofreció como voluntario para prepararlo todo cuando comenzamos. Si bien teníamos otras personas maravillosas que podían dar una o dos horas, nadie más que Mike podía mantenerlo abierto cada misa, todos los fines de semana. Era tan bueno en eso que creo que mucha gente pensó que le pagaban, pero *todo* era voluntario y tiempo donado. Aunque Mike seguirá formando parte de la tienda de regalos, ya no podrá ser voluntario todos los fines de semana. Buscamos voluntarios, preferiblemente con experiencia en ventas, que puedan tomar un fin de semana completo, tal vez incluso dos fines de semana al mes. Según la política diocesana, será necesario un chequeo de antecedentes. Esta es una excelente manera de conocer a muchos de sus compañeros feligreses y ayudarlos a expandir su vida de oración y devoción, mientras que al mismo tiempo enriquece la suya. Los interesados deben comunicarse con Mary Frei en la oficina parroquial para hablar más sobre el puesto: 803.649.4777, ext. 2, o mfrei@chsrlestondiocese.org

El lunes 24 de mayo es la **Solemnidad de la Santísima Virgen María Auxiliadora**, la fiesta de nuestra parroquia. Tendremos misa con música especial a las 5:30 pm en la iglesia. Ven a orar por nuestra parroquia, para que seamos un ejemplo brillante de la total devoción de María a su Hijo, Jesucristo. Ella puede ayudarnos a ti y a mí de muchas maneras. ¡María Auxiliadora, ruega por nosotros!

Finalmente, hoy celebramos Pentecostés. “En Pentecostés el Espíritu, con el don de lenguas, demuestra que su presencia une y transforma la *confusión* en *comunión*. El orgullo y el egoísmo humanos siempre crean divisiones, construyen muros de indiferencia, odio y violencia. El Espíritu Santo, en cambio, hace que los corazones sean capaces de comprender los lenguajes de todos, al restablecer el puente de auténtica comunión entre la tierra y el cielo. ... La Iglesia, reunida con María como en su nacimiento, hoy implora: "¡Ven, Espíritu Santo, llena los corazones de tus fieles y enciende en ellos el fuego de tu amor!" Amén ". (*Papa emérito Benedicto XVI)*

¡Ven! ¡Encendamos al mundo! Padre Wilson

Pastor’s Corner
+JMJ+

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Since the bulletin must go to print by Tuesday morning (sometimes earlier), my weekly column may not reflect news and information that comes to light later in the week. By the time this week’s column goes to print, we will certainly have more guidance from our Bishop on face coverings/masks for parishes in our Diocese. I will communicate any new information via our website and Facebook page. Thank you again for your wonderful patience and understanding. We have such a great parish!

Volunteer Opportunity – Gift Shop: Our parish often has several opportunities / needs for volunteers. I’d like to highlight a rather specialized need we have and seek the help of several, qualified people to reopen our parish gift shop after it was closed due to the pandemic. We are incredibly thankful to our parishioner, Mike Enloe, who volunteered to set it up when we began it. While we had other, wonderful people who could give an hour or two, no one but Mike could keep it open every Mass, every weekend. He was so good at it that I think many people thought he was paid, but it was *all* volunteer and donated time. While Mike will continue to be a part of the Gift Shop, he is no longer able to volunteer every single weekend. We are looking for volunteers, preferably with retail experience, who would be able to take an entire weekend, perhaps even two weekends a month. Per diocesan policy, a background screening will be necessary. It is a tremendous way to get to know many of your fellow parishioners and help them expand their life of prayer and devotion, while at the same time enriching your own. Those interested should contact Mary Frei in the parish office to talk more about the position: mfrei@charlestondiocese.org. or 803.649.4777, ext. 2.

Monday, May 24, is the actual **Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians** – our parish’s feast day. We will have Mass with special music at 5:30pm in the church. Come pray for our parish, that we be a shining example of Mary’s total devotion to her Son, Jesus Christ. She can help you and me in so many ways. Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us!

Finally, today we celebrate Pentecost. “In Pentecost the Spirit, with the gift of tongues, demonstrates that His presence unites and transforms *confusion* into *communion*. Human pride and egoism always create divisions, build walls of indifference, hate, and violence. The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, makes hearts capable of understanding the languages of all, as He re-establishes the bridge of authentic communion between earth and heaven. … The Church, gathered with Mary as at her birth, today implores: ‘Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love!’ Amen.” *(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)*

Come! Let us set the world on fire!

Father Wilson

Public Masses

ALL Masses are being celebrated in the new church on Fairfield Street. The Bishop continues to dispense everyone from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.

TODAS las misas se celebran en la iglesia nueva en Fairfield Street.

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

CONFESSIONS—Please see the front cover of this bulletin for the schedule.

CONFESIONES—El horario está en la primera página de este boletín.

Masses on Facebook Live

The following Masses are livestreamed:

Saturday 5:00PM and Sunday 11:00AM

You can access our Facebook (FB) page without a FB account. Click on the small "f" icon on the upper right hand of our website (stmarys-aiken.org).

Misas en vivo en Facebook

Continuaremos transmitiendo en vivo las siguientes misas: sábado, 5:00PM y domingo, 11:00AM - Puede acceder a nuestra página de Facebook (FB) sin una cuenta de FB. Haga clic en el icono pequeño "f" en la parte superior derecha de nuestro sitio web (stmarys-aiken.org).

For the most current information on Masses, Confessions and activities please go to www.stmarys-aiken.org or https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/

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.

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.

The Holy Rosary

Join us as we pray the Rosary together Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday before the 5:30PM Mass, and Wednesday after the 8:20AM Mass.

This Week's Scripture Readings

Readings for May 24 – May 30

Monday
Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14 Ps 87:1-3, 5-7
Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday
Sir 35:1-12 Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23 Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday
Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17 Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13 Mk 10:32-45

Thursday
Sir 42:15-25 Ps 33:2-9 Mk 10:46-52

Friday
Sir 44:1, 9-13 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Mk 11:11-26

Saturday
Sir 51:12cd-20 Ps 19:8-11 Mk 11:27-33

Sunday The Most Holy Trinity
Dt 4:32-34, 39-4 Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22 Rom 8:14-17
Mt 28:16-20

Holy Mass Intentions

Sunday, May 23
8:30AM Walter S. Lepianka (D)
11:00AM Evangeline & Kenneth Fritz (D)
12:30PM For All the People of the Parish
5:00PM John Thorpe Wray (D)

Monday, May 24 Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary Help of Christians
5:30PM Celine McMullin (D)

Tuesday, May 25
6:30AM Daniel Vail (D)
5:30PM Maria Sui Ling Lee (D)

Wednesday, May 26
8:20AM John E. Kaufmann (D)
7:00PM Richard Kartwatka (D)

Thursday, May 27
5:30PM Ben L. Chavez (D)

Friday, May 28
5:30PM Marilyn & Lynn Brown (D)

Saturday, May 29
8:00AM Jessica Leigh Cadarr (D)
5:00PM Penny Goergen (D)
Judy Harper (D)
Frank Swanson ((D)
Jack Hamrick (D)
Father Anthony Labedis **(L)**

Prayers Requested

Deaths/Difuntos: May 1 Susana Morales Peralta
May 4 Julio Cesar Hernández Arias
May 12 J. Reid Bohning
May 12 Kathleen Rosemary Iwert
May 13 David Gaul

St. Vincent de Paul Society

For food or financial assistance,
call 803.642.3211
Mon. - Thurs. - 9:00AM - 1:00PM
Closed on Friday

Sagrado Sacramentos

Bautismos

Para bautizar a un niño en Santa María, al menos uno de los padres debe ser católico practicante, asistir regularmente a la Santa Misa, participar en la vida de la parroquia y registrarse en Santa María al menos tres meses antes de solicitar la fecha del bautismo. Para pedir el Sacramento del Bautismo o para recibir información acerca de las pláticas pre-bautismales, comunicarse con Luz Londoño, al 803.480.6865. Las próximas clases de preparación para el bautismo se llevarán a cabo el **11 de julio y 18 de julio 2021** a partir de las 8:00AM, arriba en Smith Hall.

Primera Comunión y Confirmación

Norma Sacramental: Los padres de familia y niños deben estar inscritos en la Parroquia y asistir fielmente a la Santa Misa todos los domingos y fiestas de precepto. Los niños, que no asisten a nuestro Colegio Católico Parroquial, deben asistir, por lo menos, dos años, completos a clases de Formación Cristiana (Catequesis Dominical) y cumplir con los reglamentos de asistencia para recibir el sacramento. Para más información, comunicarse con Mary Ellen Jackson al 803.642.2676 o mjackson@charlestondiocese.org o con las Hermanas Glafira o Martha al 803.646.9521 o 803.645.3666.

Sagrado Matrimonio

Como política de la Diócesis, se pide a todas las parejas que desean tener el sacramento del matrimonio, preparase por lo menos seis (6) meses antes de decidir una fecha para su boda. Para más información comunicarse con Guadalupe Cortes, al 803.845.9390.

Ministerio de Atención Pastoral

¿Está gravemente enfermo, se enfrenta a una cirugía o es de edad avanzada? Reciba la gracia y la fuerza del Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos. Envíe un correo electrónico a Mary Frei: mfrei@charlestondiocese.org o llame al 803.649.4777 ext. 114.

Puede encontrar más información sobre los sacramentos en nuestro sitio web parroquial www.stmarys-aiken.org

Sacramental Information

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 register at St. Mary's at least three months prior to requesting the date for 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 15, 2021.** 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 or mjackson@charlestondiocese.org

Confirmation: Joan LaBone: 803.649.3049 or 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. Contact Mary Frei at 803.649.4777 ext. 114 or email: mfrei@charlestondiocese.org

More information about the Sacraments can be found on our parish website www.stmarys-aiken.org

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Quinceañera

A los interesados en una celebración de XV años deben tener en cuenta lo siguiente:

- Deben ser católicos practicantes y asistir a Misa.
- Deben estar registrados en la parroquia por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha de la celebración.
- Deben asistir a la preparación catequética que ofrece la parroquia.

Para más información, por favor comunicarse con Esperanza Negrete al 803.226.3410

The Parish Office Will be Closed
Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day

Lunes 31 de mayo,
Día de los Caídos,
la oficina parroquial estará cerrada

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

School of Christian Formation (CCD)
Grades 4K–5

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson
mjackson@charlestondiocese.org; Phone: 803.642.2676

Dear Parents of K – 5th graders

1. **May challenge – get to know and imitate Mary**. Monday, May 24th, is the feast day of Mary Help of Christians. It is also the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church (Pope Francis designated the Monday after Pentecost as Mary, Mother of the Church). This week spend some time with Mary, getting to know her as your mother. Talk in the family about what that mean, practically, for each of us.
2. **Continue working on your CCD/Catechism books**
3. **Looking Ahead:** Totus Tuus week is July 26-30. More information will be in the bulletin closer to this exciting catechetical program for youth in grades 1 – 6. Older volunteers (7th grade – adults) are needed as well. * ***Interested in hosting two missionaries for the week? Contact Mary Ellen at mjackson@charlestondiocese.org**

Escuela de Formación Cristiana (CCD)
Grados Kinder a 5º

Sra. Mary Ellen Jackson
mjackson@charlestondiocese.org Telefóno: 803.642.2676

Estimados padres de estudiantes de K - 5º:

1. **Reto de mayo: conocer e imitar a María.** Este domingo es la fiesta de María Auxiliadora. También es la fiesta de María, Madre de la Iglesia (el papa Francisco designó el lunes después de Pentecostés como María, Madre de la Iglesia). Esta semana pasa un tiempo con María, conociéndola como tu madre. Hablen en familia sobre lo que eso significa, de manera práctica, para cada uno de nosotros.
2. **¡Continúen trabajando** en sus libros de CCD/Catecismo!
3. **¡Marquen sus calendarios!**

La semana **Totus Tuus** es del 26 al 30 de julio. Pronto habrá más información en el boletín sobre este emocionante programa de catequesis para jóvenes de 1º a 6º grado. También se necesitan voluntarios mayores (7º grado - adultos). * **¿Interesado en recibir a dos misioneros durante la semana? Póngase en contacto con Mary Ellen en mjackson@charlestondiocese.org**

Have You Tried FORMED.org?

Sign up at www.formed.org/signup, enter Aiken,SC, then choose St. Mary Help of Christians.

¿No está inscrito en FORMED? Regístrese en www.formed.org/signup, ingrese a Aiken, SC, luego elija St. Mary Help of Christians

Sunday Morning Youth Ministry
Grades 6-12

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone
All sessions will be held in the St. John Bosco Youth Center, 303 Richland Avenue E

Sunday morning ministry is on break for the summer

Youth Ministry
Middle School (GR. 5-8) or Life Night (GR. 9-12)
Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone
jlabone@charlestondiocese.org or 803.215.7040, cell

May 23—Life Teen, Inside Game Night
May 30—Service Night, grades 6-12 can help.
Please let Mrs. LaBone know if you are coming.
June 6—Baccalaureate Mass—No regular Youth Ministry

Please look for our COVID-19 policy on our website under Formation/Middle School or High School.

Save the date: June 6
12:30PM Spanish, 5:00PM English
Baccalaureate Masses for High School Graduates

Ministerio juvenil
del domingo por la mañana
Grados 6º - 12º

Contacto: Sra. Joan Marie LaBone

Todas las sesiones se llevarán a cabo en el Centro Juvenil San Juan Bosco, 303 Richland Ave. E.

Se suspende el ministerio de jóvenes de domingo por la mañana durante el verano.

Ministerio Juvenil
Escuela intermedia (GR. 5º - 8º) o Life Teen (GR. 9º - 12º)
Contacto: Sra. Joan Marie LaBone
jlabone@charlestondiocese.org o celular 803.215.7040

23 de mayo Life Teen, Noche del Juegos
30 de mayo Noche de Servicio, los grados 6-12 pueden ayudar. Por favor, avísele a la Sra. LaBone si va a asistir.
6 de junio Misa de Bachillerato — No hay ministerio juvenil regular

Busque en línea, en nuestro sitio web nuestras pautas referentes al COVID-19 bajo Formation/Middle School or High School.

Reserve la fecha: 6 de junio
12:30PM español, 5:00 PM inglés
Misas de Bachillerato para Graduados de Bachillerato

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Sunday Morning Café (Catholic Faith Exploration)

Cafe is on summer break and will resume in September. However, since we should never stop exploring our faith, we encourage you to continue learning to be better disciples on your own or with each other! For example: go to formed.org for movies, scripture studies, documentaries, and audio talks and books; listen to Fr. Mike Schmitz's The Bible in a Year podcast; or visit our parish library in Smith Hall. Have a fruitful summer! For more information contact Donna Pierce, 803.552.7714 or rampierce@atlanticbb.net.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

All are welcome. We meet via Zoom 10:00 - 11:30AM on Wednesdays. Sessions are recorded so you can view at your convenience as well.

May 26, *A New Springtime*
June 2, *The Threshold of Hope*

Contact Martha at whittimp@gmail.com or 865.599.8473

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Meets Thursdays 11:15AM – 12:30PM in Smith Hall. Bring your bible and your mask. We are reading the Book of Sirach (sometimes called Ecclesiasticus), one of the 7 books that are not in the Protestant bible. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at 803.642.2676. or mjackson@charlestondiocese.org

Friday's Time with Teresa

We moved back to St. Michael Hall! Join us as we read and discuss The *Autobiography of St. Teresa of Jesus* (Teresa of Avila). Teresa writes with great honesty about the spiritual life. St. Teresa had a vision of hell: "It was a great favor that the Lord desired me to see with my own eyes the place His mercy has freed me from." Fridays at 10:00 – 11:30AM in St. Michael Hall - wear your mask. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at 803.642.2676 or mjackson@charlestondiocese.org

Prayer for Seminarians

Father, thank You for the generosity of our seminarians. Safeguard them as they prepare for the priesthood.

Keep all evil far from them, so they may become strong Christian men who are faithful to prayer, diligent in their studies, open to spiritual direction, and docile to all aspects of seminary formation.

Above all, enflame their hearts with love so they will be ardent and gentle shepherds for Your Church.

We make this prayer through the great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tomorrow, **Monday, May 24 is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians.**

We will have a special Mass at 5:30PM.

Come, pray for our parish!

2021 – the Year of St. Joseph

St. Francis de Sales: "What a dignity to be the guardian of our Lord, and, not only that, but to be even his reputed father, to be the husband of his most holy Mother!"

To think about: Sometimes we feel burdened by our vocation in life, by our mission. Today, think about how the Lord has *honored* us by asking us to participate in the salvation of others (and of the world). He is relying on us! Like the apostles he had honored us by using us to spread the Gospel in our own little circle. Praise God! Today we celebrate Pentecost, the great event that emboldened the apostles to preach fearlessly. Let's share the joy of the Gospel with those we meet this week.

The Holy Family Wants to Visit *Your* Family

St. Mary's has a traveling statue and the Holy Family would like to stay at your home for a week. Your family can get the statue at Sunday Mass and return it the next week. Contact Mary Ellen Jackson: mjackson@charlestondiocese.org or 803.642.2676.

La Sagrada Familia quiere visitar a su familia

Santa María tiene una estatua itinerante y la Sagrada Familia desea quedarse en su casa durante una semana. Su familia puede obtener la estatua en la misa dominical y devolverla la siguiente semana. Comuníquese con Mary Ellen Jackson en mjackson@charlestondiocese.org o al 803.642.2676.

That Man Is You (TMIY)

TMIY is on Summer Break. TMIY is an interactive men's program combining the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of men fully alive by honestly addressing the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture. Please join us when we resume meeting in the fall.

Perks is back!

Join us for coffee and fellowship
after Sunday 8:30AM Mass
St. Michael Hall

Wheelchair Express Drivers Needed!

St. Mary's Wheelchair Express is a service before and after Masses that we offered before COVID. Wheelchair drivers are stationed at the drop-off curb in front of the church for thirty minutes prior to Mass for those who need a lift from the car to their pew, and back again after Mass. We would like to resume a limited Wheelchair Express serving the 8:30 and 11:00AM Sunday Masses, but we need volunteers to do so, especially for the 11:00AM Mass. If you would like to become a driver for the Wheelchair Express, please contact Donna Pierce at rampierce@atlanticbb.net or 803-552-7714. Patrons must be able to transfer themselves in and out of the wheelchair, but you must be strong enough to push them up the handicap ramp.

Also, for those who would like to use our Wheelchair Express in order to attend the 8:30 or 11:00 Mass, we can arrange it by personal appointment until we hopefully have it up and running beginning in June, depending on the response for volunteers. For the 8:30 Mass please contact Linda at lindaizard87@gmail.com, and for the 11:00 Mass please contact Donna at rampierce@atlanticbb.net or 803.552.7714.

Married Couples Date Night!

Save the date! All married couples of the parish are invited to our next evening of fun. Tag-Team Puzzle Night will be on **Saturday, June 19**. More details to come! For more information contact Donna Pierce, 803.552.7714 or rampierce@atlanticbb.net.

!Save the Date!

Pope Frances has designated the 4th Sunday in July as World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. St. Mary's will have a **Pilgrimage for Grandparents to St. Anne's Church in Charlotte, NC, on Saturday, August 7th.** All grandparents are invited. We'll leave Aiken at 8:45am and return around 6:00pm. More information will be available soon. For information contact Mary Ellen Jackson at **mjackson@charlestondiocese.org**

Ushers Needed

We are in need of ushers for all Sunday Masses. If you are interested in being an usher or would like more information, contact Maryann Burgess at e-mail garnetgirlmb@gmail.com or 803.439.0468

St. Joseph Altar Society

The St. Joseph Altar Society is looking for additional hands, on Tuesday mornings at 9:00AM in the church. If you have an hour a week that you could devote to caring for St. Mary's church, please contact Janet Morris, jmorris@charlestondiocese.org or 803.502.3636, for more information. There is also a smaller team that works on Friday morning, if that suits your schedule better.

Nursery Worker Position Available

We are looking for Part Time Nursery Workers at 8:30AM and 11:00AM Masses on Sunday. Must be 18 and willing to be Safe Environment Trained. If you like being around young children and are interested in this position please stop by the Parish Office and fill out an application.

Posición disponible para Ayudantes de Guarderia

Necesitamos ayudantes de guardería de medio tiempo en las misas de las 8:30 am y las 11 am los domingos. Debe tener 18 años y estar capacitado en Virtus. Si le gusta estar rodeado de niños pequeños y está interesado en este puesto, pase por la Oficina Parroquial y complete una solicitud.

Columbus Club Yard Sale

The Columbus Club will be hold a fundraiser yard sale
May 28 & 29
8:30AM—12:00PM
If you have items to drop off for the sale please contact
Marion Engel at 803.648.0982

Shepeard Community Blood Center

& St. Mary Help of Christians

Would like to thank all who gave blood and platelets during the blood drive held May 1st—6th. A total of 30 parishioners donated so that others may live. Thank You!

St. Mary's Facilities

Parish facilities are once again available for use for parish ministry and private group functions. Please call the parish office at 803.649.4777 or email us at parishofficestmaryaiken@charlestondiocese.org regarding reservations for use of parish facilities.

Current Covid guidelines will be strictly adhered to.

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

Office Hours/Horas de oficina de la escuela:
7:30AM - 3:30PM Mon-Fri/de lunes a viernes
Last Day of School—June 10
Último día de clases—10 de Junio

ENROLLMENT: St. Mary's School is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2021-2022 school year. Monthly payment plans are available for all families. Catholic Parishioners are eligible for discounted tuition rates. For more information, visit the school website at stmaryschoolaiken.com or call the school at 803.649.2071.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic School is seeking full time elementary school teachers, a full time junior high social studies teacher, and full-time paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year. **Teaching applicants should be certified or eligible for SC certification.** Qualified applicant should submit his/her resume and cover letter to the front office by mail, in person, or electronically at office@stmaryschoolaiken.com.

FRIENDS OF SMS: Sponsor a Student and Give the Gift of a Catholic Education! Sponsors can donate online or by check from school supplies to full tuition assistance. For more information, visit:
https://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms/

INSCRIPCIÓN 2021-2022: La escuela de Santa María ya está aceptando solicitudes de inscripción para el año escolar 2021 -2022. Planes de pago mensuales están disponibles para todas las familias. Los feligreses católicos también son elegibles para tarifas de matrícula con descuento. Para obtener más información, visite el sitio web de la escuela en stmaryschoolaiken.com o llame a la oficina de la escuela al 803.649.2071.

OPORTUNIDADES DE EMPLEO: La Escuela Católica St. Mary Help of Christians está buscando maestros de primaria, maestro de tiempo completo de estudios sociales para la escuela secundaria, y paraprofesionales de tiempo completo para el año escolar 2021-2022. **Los maestros que apliquen deben estar certificados y / o ser elegibles para la certificación SC.** El solicitante calificado debe enviar su currículum vitae y carta de presentación a la oficina principal por correo, en persona o electrónicamente a office@stmaryschoolaiken.com.

AMIGOS DE SMS: ¡Patrocine a un estudiante y dé el regalo de una educación católica! Los patrocinadores pueden donar en línea o con un cheque de los útiles escolares para recibir ayuda con la matrícula completa. Para obtener más información, visite:
https://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms/

Altar Flower Gifts/ Donaciones de flores para el altar

The gift of altar flowers in memory or honor of a special loved one or event, is a beautiful way to also honor and glorify God. Altar flowers may be sponsored, except during Lent, throughout the year and are $250 for two arrangements. The flowers are cared for and often last a full week. If you would like to offer a gift of flowers to honor our Lord and someone special to you, please contact Janet Morris, 803.502.3636 or 803.649.4777.

Las donaciones de flores para el altar en memoria u honor de un ser querido o evento especial, es una manera hermosa de honrar y glorificar a Dios también. Las flores del altar pueden ser patrocinadas durante todo el año, excepto durante la Cuaresma, y el costo es $250 por dos arreglos. Las flores se cuidan y suelen durar una semana completa. Si desea ofrecer un arreglo de flores para honrar a nuestro Señor y a alguien especial para usted, comuníquese con Janet Morris, 803.502.3636 or 803.649.4777.

Virtual Couples Retreat

Please join us for a virtual couple's retreat, "Intimacy with Another through the Other" with Fr. David Nerbun, Vicar of Family Life. It will be from 9:00AM-12:00PM on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Please register in advance: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrf-utqzgtH9FbcuMki0L06FV1JQz2Av0c

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email.

For more information please call 803.547.5063 or email familylife@charlestondiocese.org

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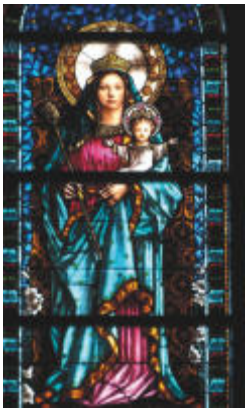

Bringing the faith into the home, The Domestic Church

Tomorrow, May 24th is the feast of St. Mary Help of Christians. Try to attend 5:30PM Mass, and maybe confessions beforehand (4:45-5:15). The story of the devotion to Mary Help of Christians is fascinating. Do your own research and tell the story at the family meal. Search for St. Mary Help of Christians plus Lepanto (1570's) or Napoleon (1810's) or Don Bosco (1860's); perhaps let each family member research one event. Take the family to see (and talk about) the image of Mary Help of Christians in our window above the north transept door and the image in the narthex of Old St. Mary's.

Holy Happenings at St. Mary's

First Holy Communion
Saturday, May 1, 2021

Crowning of Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday, May 2, 2021

First Holy Communion & May Crowning Photos Courtesy of Cindy Kubovic

On Wednesdays during this crazy pandemic year, Michaela and Grace led a girls book club. It was a year with faith, great discussion and always laughter. This was our last night for the year. Thank you to all the ladies who came, see you next year!

The Play and Pray moms, children, and helpers enjoyed an outdoor luncheon on May 11th in the rose garden to end the 2020-2021 year.

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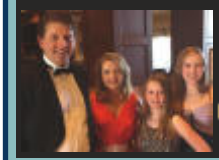

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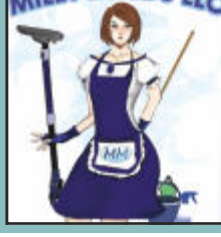

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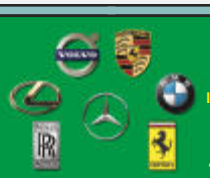

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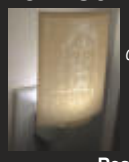

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