

**ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
CATHOLIC CHURCH
MARCH 23, 2025**

A wooden cross is positioned on the left side of the image. A crown of thorns, made of several intertwined, sharp wooden branches, is draped across the center of the image. The background is a solid, deep purple color. The shadow of the crown of thorns is cast onto the purple background to the right and slightly downwards.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

WELCOME TO ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH

PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

We welcome all who are visiting. If you attend regularly and consider St. Mary Help of Christians your parish, we encourage you to register as a member. You may fill out and submit the form online, or print the form from the website and return it to the parish office.

CONTACT US

St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church

Parish Office Street/Mailing Address:

203 Park Avenue SE, Aiken, SC 29801

Phone: 803.649.4777

email:

ParishOfficeStMaryAiken@charlestdioocese.org

Website: 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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

8:30AM - 12NOON - 1:00PM - 4:30PM

Closed for lunch from 12NOON - 1:00PM

Wednesday: 8:30AM - 1:30PM

(by appointment only after 1:30PM on Wednesdays)

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:00PM - Church

Sunday 8:30AM, 11:00AM - Church

Domingo Misa en español, 1:00PM - Iglesia

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 5:30PM - Old St. Mary's

Wednesday 8:20AM - Church

Miércoles 7:00PM - Old St. Mary's

Thursday Nursing Home 10:00AM

Saturday Morning Mass 8:00AM - Old St. Mary's

CONFESSIONS

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

Wed. 6:15-6:45PM - Old St. Mary's

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30PM - Church

Sunday 12:30PM - Spanish - Church

PERPETUAL ADORATION - Ste Claire Chapel

ROSARY - Before Daily Mass

LIVE STREAM MASS (ON YOUTUBE)

Sunday 11:00AM Mass

SUNDAY HOMILIES ONLINE

Audio versions of all the weekend homilies are available on the parish website. Go to St. Mary's website at www.stmarys-aiken.org. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on "Listen to Homilies".

NURSERY - Available during 8:30 & 11:00AM Sunday Masses in Mother Teresa Conference Room - Ages 6 months to less than 5 years.

The Most Rev. Jacques E. Fabre-Jeune, CS
Bishop of Charleston

PARISH CLERGY

Very Rev. Richard C. Wilson, VF, Pastor

Rev. Orlando Serrano Ardila, Parochial Vicar

Dcn. Alejandro Leguizamon

Dcn. Al Matousek

Dcn. Robert Pierce

Dcn. Stephen Platte

STAFF

Mr. Patrick Wray, Director of Administration
803.649.4777 ext. 112

pwrap@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Kimberly Gaynor, Administrative Assistant
to Fr. Wilson 803.649.4777 ext. 114
kgaynor@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. Carlos Overstreet, Principal, St. Mary's School
803.649.2071 coverstreet@stmaryschoolaiken.com

Mr. Robert Cooper, Business Manager
803.649.4777 ext. 102
rcooper@charlestdioocese.org

Ms. Frances Gledhill, Parish Secretary
803.649.4777 ext. 113
fgledhill@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Adriana Galvan, Hispanic Secretary
803.469.4777 ext. 100
agalvan@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson, MA
Director of Religious Education
803.649.4777 ext. 103
mjackson@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Joan LaBone,
Director of Youth Formation and Ministry
803.215.7040 (c)
jlabone@charlestdioocese.org

Mr. V. Franklin Deese II, Parish Musician
706.550.5047 (c)
fdeese@charlestdioocese.org

Mrs. Colleen Snyder, Sacristan
518.524.4464 (c)
csnyder@charlestdioocese.org

Safe Environment
803.649.4777 ext. 114
AikenSEC@charlestdioocese.org

A Map of St. Mary's Campus can be found at:
<https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/campus-map>

TOTALS AS OF SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025

ENVELOPE/CASH OFFERTORY	MAR. 9	\$ 34,797.78
ONLINE OFFERTORY FOR	MAR. 9	\$ 23,945.00
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		\$ 2,020,200.00

NOTE: Financial updates for **March 16** were not available at the time the bulletin was sent to print.

SPECIAL COLLECTION MARCH 23

St. Vincent de Paul

UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

March 30	Miscellany
April 18	Holy Land (Good Friday)

2024-2025 SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Parish and School 2024-2025 Semi Annual Financial Reports are available in the parish office and on the parish website –

www.stmarys-aiken.org

- select the "Giving" tab at the top of the home page
- then click on 2024-25 under "Financial Report"
- then under "Documents" on the right hand side of the page click on the report you want to view

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING WITH OUR PARISH

1. Go to St. Mary's website at www.stmarys-aiken.org
2. Click on "GIVING" and then "SUNDAY"
3. Make your selections
4. You can also make special collection choices online

Contributions are via direct withdrawal or credit online.

If you need assistance, or to discontinue online giving, please call 1.800.348.2886

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For food or financial assistance call 803.642.3211
Open Monday – Thursday 9:00AM – 1:00PM
Closed On Fridays

AA OPEN MEETING

AA open meeting at 7:00AM Sunday thru Friday in Smith Hall, Downstairs (next to Old St. Mary's church). Newcomers are welcome!

PASTOR'S CORNER

+JMJ+

HOW IS YOUR FRUIT PRODUCTION?

Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus tells his followers a parable that concerns us: "The owner of the vineyard approaches the fig tree to pick its fruit and finds none." This Lent, God demands fruit from us: Are we happy that Jesus calls us to account? Are we surprised? Are we afraid when we see our life as a tree full of leaves but without fruit?

The episode begins with anxiety but has a happy ending. God will make one last effort to recover his tree: he will turn the earth, apply fertilizer, and wait another year because he is patient with what he sowed with such enthusiasm. Indeed, we should not reach the end of our lives empty-handed. Lent is an invitation to conversion.

To convert is not to remain barren, dry, and dead. God created you for joy. Do not allow the drudgery of work or the noise of our secular world to rob you of your joy. May no adversity erase the smile from your face. Don't allow the poison of hatred to run through your veins; always find a way to forgive.

Cardinal Newman said that "to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often." This is not a sign of instability but of openness to the work of the Holy Spirit. We won't achieve holiness in an instant; it is a lifelong process.

Conversion means allowing the Gospel to enter our very way of being so that, little by little, it can fill our entire existence. Lent is a time to live as Christ taught us. St. Paul said that faith without works is a dead faith. May we not fear doing what he asks of us. Instead, we could ask ourselves: What would Jesus do if he were in my place?

Conversion means seeking God, walking with God, and obediently following Jesus' teachings. First, we must change within, in our hearts; then we must change the world by illuminating it with His Word. Lent is the springtime of the Spirit; it is the propitious season to open the heart. Give yourself a check-up. Is the love of God firmly ensconced in your heart? If not, Christ awaits us in the confessional to forgive us and renew us.

In a few weeks we will celebrate the resurrection of Christ. His victory over death and sin is also our birth into the new life of grace. Pope Benedict XVI wrote: "Lent is an opportunity to become Christians again, through a constant process of inner change and advancement in the knowledge and love of Christ." This is precisely what Christ wanted to teach us in the allegory of the fig tree.

All the best...in Christ,
Father Wilson



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN STE CLAIRE CHAPEL

Want to try a weekly holy hour with Jesus?
"Could you not keep watch for one hour?"
Mk. 14:37

Hours in Need:

MON: 12MDNT; 3:00AM
TUES: 3:00AM; 1:00AM
WED: 1:00AM; 2:00AM; 3:00AM
THU: 12MDNT; 1:00AM; 2:00AM; 11AM; 11:00PM
FRI: 12MDNT; 3:00AM
SAT: 12MDNT; 2:00AM; 11AM; 4PM; 5PM; 6:00PM
SUN: 2:00AM; 3:00AM; 4:00AM; 4:00PM

To sign up visit our website: <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/perpetual-eucharistic-adoration> or contact Lori Rainchuso at larue150@yahoo.com or 860.919.5674

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BRING COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND!

We need more volunteers to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring Our LORD each week to those who cannot attend Mass. For more information please contact Donna Pierce at 803.552.7714 or piercedin1988@gmail.com or visit the Homebound Ministries webpage at <https://www.stmarys-aiken.org/communion-to-homebound>. Necessary training is given to all volunteers.

ON THE MASS

The Lord's Prayer includes seven petitions. The first three regard God Himself --- we must be rightly ordered toward God first! We pray that honor and respect would be given even to the Name of God; we beg that God's reign might be established in all and over all because God is truly King, and we ask that His will be done here on earth as it is done in Heaven by the angels and all the saints. It is important to always remember that honor and obedience toward God should be our priority (this is also evident in the 10 commandments). Something to think about this week - do we keep our duties toward God at the forefront of all our actions? Of our lives?

NOT SIGNED UP FOR FLOCKNOTE?

Using your cell phone, text AIKEN to 84576 or connect with us online at stmaryhelp.flocknote.com (you can text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time). You will receive messages only from those groups or ministries for which you sign up! Be sure to fill in your contact information.

READINGS FOR March 23 – March 30, 2025

Sunday, March 16 readings begin on [page 738](#) of the Word & Eucharist books found in the pews.

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18	Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14
Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1	Lk 9:28b-36
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10	Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13
Lk 6:36-38	
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20	Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23
Mt 23:1-12	
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16	Ps 89:2-5, 27 and 29
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22	Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10	Ps 1:1-4 and 6
Lk 16:19-31	
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a	Ps 105:16-21
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46	
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20	Ps 103:1-4, 9-12
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32	
Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15	Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12	Lk 13:1-9

©LPI

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 23

8:30AM Ann Grant
11:00AM Ronald Krenta
1:00PM Pro Populo

Monday, March 24

5:30PM Avis Berkram

Tuesday, March 25

The Annunciation

10:00am--Trinity
Audrey Cash (L)

5:30PM Craig Matthew

Wednesday, March 26

8:20AM Judy Mahoney
7:00PM Rebecca Malloy

Thursday, March 27

5:30PM Maddux Family
(L) & D

Friday, March 28

5:30PM Penny Goergen

Saturday, March 29

8:00AM Helen Boyce

5:00PM Dcn. Robert &
Donna Pierce (L)

Edward T. Clemmens

Mary Ann Kolar

Joan Kelly O'Brien

Cecilia E. Hegedusich

Sunday, March 30

8:30AM Ronald Tappe

11:00AM Art Parker

1:00PM Pro Populo

DEATHS/DIFUNTOS:

March 9 Sally Large Colatarci

March 15 Patricia Bernard

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you know of any ill or grieving person in need of a hand-made blanket or shawl, please contact St. Mary's at 803.649.4777. These are lovingly made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry and blessed by our priests. If you are interested in joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Mary Anne Graff at 803.642.6716. There are lots of materials available to use, so please come and join us.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

HOLY BAPTISM

The birth of your child is such a gift! Let St. Mary's parish help you give the gift of new birth through the waters of Holy Baptism. For a child to receive Baptism at St. Mary's, please note that at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic, regularly attend Holy Mass, participate in the life of the parish, and be registered at St. Mary's at least three months prior to requesting the date for Baptism. In this, you become part of our wider parish family! Parents must attend our Baptismal Preparation session prior to the Baptism. The next session is **Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 10:00AM** in Smith Hall. Registration is necessary so that we can prepare for you. Please contact Chris Ascherman at 803.845.0568. Godparents are encouraged to attend a Baptismal Preparation session as well. Since godparents promise to help raise your child in the practice of the Catholic faith, godparents must be practicing Catholics at whatever parish they attend.

HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

These incredible Sacraments nourish and strengthen us in our Catholic faith so that we can live as "the light of the world" (St. Matthew 5:14). *Please note:* Parents and children must be registered with St. Mary's and faithfully attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Children who are 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 contact: Joan LaBone at 803.215.7040 or jlabone@charlestdioocese.org.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Congratulations! The world truly needs strong, faithful couples. Our parish stands ready to help prepare you for your life together in Christ. The Diocese of Charleston **requires a minimum of six months preparation** for the Sacrament of Marriage. Please contact us as soon as you are engaged so that we can share your joy and begin the process of reserving a date for your special day. Please understand that not all dates at the church may be available. For information, call 803.649.4777 ext.114 to leave a message for Kimberly Gaynor.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you seriously ill, facing surgery, or of advanced age? Receive grace and strength from the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, the Church's Sacrament of healing. Call 803.649.4777 ext. 113.

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

NEXT SCHEDULED BAPTISM DATE (ENGLISH)

April 5, 2025 - 11:00AM in the church on Fairfield St.

- Baptism preparation class must have been completed.
- All paperwork must be submitted to the office one month prior to the date of Baptism.

For more information or to schedule a Baptism, please call the parish office at 803.649.4777

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

Our relationship with God is something we need to cultivate. Spending time in silent prayer with the Lord is vital. We'll be covering Chapter 31 on Mental Prayer. This coming **Tuesday, March 25 at 6:00PM** in **Mother Teresa Hall** at 125 Union Street. All are welcome. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestdioocese.org

CATHOLIC YOUTH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

CONTACT: MRS. JOAN MARIE LABONE
[JLABONE@CHARLESTDIOCESE.ORG](mailto:jlabone@charlestdioocese.org)
803.215.7040

FORMATION

March 30 – All Morning Formation Classes (9:45 and 11:30 classes) will pray the Stations of the Cross together at 9:45AM. Parents are welcome to join us.
April 6 & 7 – No Formation (CCD) Classes – Spring Break
April 13 & 14 – No Formation (CCD) Classes – Palm Sunday
April 20 & 21 – No Formation (CCD) Classes – EASTER

YOUTH MINISTRY

March 23 – Life Teen JUBILEE YEAR!
March 28 – MSP – Teens join us for 5:30PM Mass in OSM, then Stations of the Cross followed by pizza and games in Bosco
March 30 – Middle School Outdoor Walking Stations 6:00-7:30PM
April 6 – No Youth Ministry, Spring Break
April 13 – Life Teen

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION

On March 25 we celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord nine months before Christmas. Even while you continue your Lenten penances, remember with joy the great love our Lord showed in His Incarnation, Passion and Death for our salvation. Together as a family read Luke 1:26 - 38 or visit the church and old St. Mary's to see how the Annunciation is portrayed a bit differently in the stained glass windows. Look up the meaning of "fiat" and discuss how we should always say "yes" to God. God bless your family!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, March 23

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Café	Mother Teresa
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Monday, March 24

9:30AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Smith Hall
11:00AM	Stations of the Cross	Old St. Mary's
12:00PM	Lunch & Learn	Bosco
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's

Tuesday, March 25

9:00AM	Play & Pray	Mother Teresa
3:30PM	Grief Share	Mother Teresa
3:30PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's
6:00PM	OCIA	Mother Teresa

Wednesday, March 26

8:20AM	School Mass	Church
9:30AM	Bible Study	St. Michael Hall
11:30AM	CWA General Meeting	Church & Mother Teresa
2:30PM	Legion of Mary	Smith Hall Down
6:00PM	She Shall be Called Woman	Mother Teresa
6:00PM	Journey of Hope	St. Michael Hall
7:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

Thursday, March 27

11:15AM	Bible Study	Smith Hall Down
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's
6:00PM	Spiritual Warfare & Discernment of Spirits	St. Michael Hall

Friday, March 28

6:00AM	That Man Is You	Mother Teresa
10:00AM	Book Club	St. Michael Hall
4:45PM	Confessions	Old St. Mary's
5:30PM	Mass	Old St. Mary's
6:15PM	Stations of the Cross	Old St. Mary's

Saturday, March 29

8:00AM	Mass	Old St. Mary's
10:00AM	Spiritual Warfare & Discernment of Spirits	St. Michael Hall
3:30PM	Confessions	Church
5:00PM	Vigil Mass	Church

Sunday, March 30

8:30AM	Mass	Church
9:30AM	Café	Mother Teresa
11:00AM	Mass	Church
1:00PM	Mass in Spanish	Church

FORMED: Check out FORMED's Lent studies:

How To Lent and Foretold. If you're not on FORMED, sign up at www.formed.org/signup, enter Aiken, SC, then choose St. Mary Help of Christians.

PARISH PERKS!

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

CWA GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

The Catholic Women's Association general meeting and potluck luncheon is Wednesday, March 26, in Mother Teresa Hall. We will start with Stations of the Cross at 11:30AM in the main Church. The luncheon meeting will begin at 12 NOON. Please watch for a FLOCKNOTE containing the sign-up link for the potluck and more information about the meeting. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Please join us for fellowship during the Lenten Season. If you have questions contact Chris Jakubec at

cjakubec@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 5 at 10:00 in Old St. Mary Fr. Wilson will explain the Mass in a presentation entitled "A Teaching Mass." The Eucharistic Sacrifice (Mass) is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. (Lumen Gentium 11, quoted in CCC 1324). Have you ever wondered about the gestures the priest uses at Mass or about the vestments he wears? Come learn more. (Please note this is not an actual Mass)

Saturday, June 14 at 10:30AM Fr. Wilson will give a Tour of the new St. Mary Help of Christians Church.

COLUMBUS CLUB FISH FRY

\$15 per person \$75 for families of 6 or more
Reservations \$15 per person

Please help support our Columbus Club Projects.
We offer drive through service for pick up orders

ADMITTANCE BY TICKET ONLY

WALK-INS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED!

Fridays: March 28 and April 11, 2025

RSVPs accepted until March 25 and April 8

Club opens at 5:00PM Serving 5:30-7:30PM

Make checks payable to: Columbus Club,
1037 Spaulding Drive, Aiken, SC.

For tickets or reservations please call:

Dennis Fraser, 803.507.0066 Craig Burgess, 803.439.0468

Mark Szymanski, 803.645.1405 Jim Loftis, 803.335.8517

John Kvartek, 803.226.1597 Parish Office, 803.649.4777





ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL
 118 York Street SE, Aiken, SC 29801
 Mr. Carlos Overstreet, Principal
 Ph: 803.649.2071 Fax: 803.643.0092
 excelatstmarys.com

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:
 Monday- Friday 7:30AM - 3:30PM

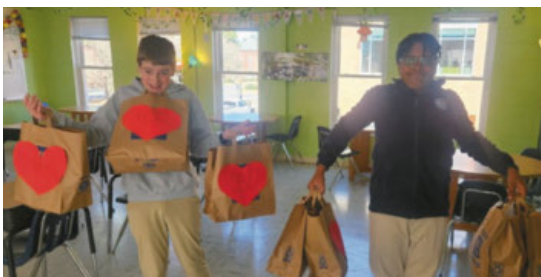
PLAY IN THE 5TH ANNUAL SMS GOLF TOURNAMENT!



Join us for a fun day of golf on March 29 while supporting our Saints! Follow this link for more information or scan the QR Code below.

<https://www.stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms/golf.cfm>

STUDENT COUNCIL HOLDS SOCK COLLECTION



St. Mary's School Student Council collected 13 bags full of new socks for Catholic

Charities of South Carolina. The socks will be delivered to the ministry at Our Lady of the Valley to help those in need in our local community. This initiative highlights the importance of Christian leadership and social responsibility to our students.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3684 IS OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS

To eligible high school and college students. Scholarships are based on grades, test scores, essay, recommendations, and community involvement. Minimum GPA of 3.0 and SAT score of 1000 are required. The deadline is **April 30, 2025**. Scholarships are renewable with a 3.0 GPA and good standing. Download the application at www.aikenkofc3684.org/2025-scholarship or contact Chuck Goergen, 803.215.9099 or Jim DalSanto at 803.645.5943.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We are always looking for willing voices to help praise our Lord. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Frank Deese, Parish Musician at fdeese@charlestdiocese.org.

If you think you can sing, you probably can!

POSITION AVAILABLE

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR-FULL TIME

St. Mary Help of Christians has an opening for Director of Youth Ministry beginning in June, 2025. This is a full time position.

St. Mary's models relational ministry with an active high school program of catechesis and evangelization. The Director of Youth Ministry will oversee the recruitment and formation of Middle School and Life Teen CORE teams, oversee the regular Middle School and Life Teen formation programs, retreats, service and evangelization, as well as the Confirmation program in the 8th grade year.

If interested, please contact Patrick Wray, Director of Administration at pwray@charlestdiocese.org or 803.649.4777 ext. 112

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

REQUIRED ALTAR SERVER TRAINING
Wednesday, March 26 in the church
7:15 - 8:30PM

Lead Servers and Server Educators are also welcomed to attend. If you cannot attend, please contact Paul Gaynor, at 908.692.9547 or paulvjg324@gmail.com.

GIFT SHOP UNIQUE ITEMS

We are blessed to feature unique, handcrafted items made by talented parishioners! Pat Belcher creates stunning rosaries, necklaces, and decade bracelets, each beautifully designed with precious gemstones and materials. We also offer Doug McGuinness' exquisite embroidery work, including caps, tea towels, bags and leather bookmarks adorned with faith-inspired designs, as well as beautifully stitched framed artwork. Stop by this Sunday between 9:00AM and 1:00 PM to find a special one-of-a-kind treasure!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS/COLUMBUS CLUB

Calling on all you 30, 40 and 50 year olds, please join us in volunteering to help us in our mission of Charity, Family and Service. For more information please call Jim Hidlay 865.318.3007 or Mark Szymanski 803.645.1405

Upcoming events:

- Lenten Fish Fry - 3/28/25 and 4/11/25
- Rummage Sale -
- Various Charity projects - Sister Parishes, VA Hospital, Project Hope

Our current members are aging and we are in dire need of younger folks to carry out our missions. Lent is a time for service, help us to continue to serve others in the doing our Christian duty.

ESPACIO DE NUESTRO PÁRROCO

¿CÓMO VA TU PRODUCCIÓN DE FRUTO?

Queridos amigos en Cristo:

Jesús les cuenta a sus seguidores una parábola que nos concierne: «El dueño de la viña se acerca a la higuera para recoger su fruto, pero no lo encuentra». En esta Cuaresma, Dios nos exige fruto: ¿Nos alegra que Jesús nos pida cuentas? ¿Nos sorprende? ¿Nos asusta ver nuestra vida como un árbol lleno de hojas, pero sin fruto?

El episodio comienza con ansiedad, pero tiene un final feliz: Dios hará un último esfuerzo por recuperar su árbol: removerá la tierra, aplicará fertilizante y esperará un año más, porque es paciente con lo que sembró con tanto entusiasmo. De hecho, no debemos llegar al final de nuestras vidas con las manos vacías. La Cuaresma es una invitación a la conversión.

Convertirse no es permanecer estéril, seco y muerto. Dios te creó para la alegría. No permitas que el trabajo pesado ni el ruido de nuestro mundo secular te roben la alegría. Que ninguna adversidad borre la sonrisa de tu rostro. No permitas que el veneno del odio corra por tus venas; encuentra siempre la manera de perdonar.

El cardenal Newman dijo que «vivir es cambiar, y ser perfecto es haber cambiado a menudo». Esto no es signo de inestabilidad, sino de apertura a la obra del Espíritu Santo. No alcanzaremos la santidad en un instante; es un proceso que dura toda la vida.

La conversión significa dejar que el Evangelio entre en nuestra forma de ser para que, poco a poco, llene toda nuestra existencia. La Cuaresma es un tiempo para vivir como Cristo nos enseñó. San Pablo dijo que la fe sin obras es una fe muerta. Que no temamos hacer lo que nos pide. En cambio, podríamos preguntarnos: ¿Qué haría Jesús si estuviera en mi lugar?

La conversión significa buscar a Dios, caminar con Dios y seguir obedientemente las enseñanzas de Jesús. Primero, debemos cambiar por dentro, en nuestros corazones; Entonces debemos cambiar el mundo iluminándolo con su Palabra. La Cuaresma es la primavera del Espíritu; es el tiempo propicio para abrir el corazón. Hazte un examen: ¿Está el amor de Dios firmemente arraigado en tu corazón? Si no, Cristo nos espera en el confesionario para perdonarnos y renovarnos.

En unas semanas celebraremos la resurrección de Cristo. Su victoria sobre la muerte y el pecado es también nuestro nacimiento a la nueva vida de la gracia. El Papa Benedicto XVI escribió:

*Espacio de Nuestro Párroco Continúa
en la columna dos de esta página* →

FORMACIÓN CRISTIANA

LAS LECTURAS DE LAS ESCRITURAS DEL 23 de marzo al 30 de marzo, 2025

Las lecturas para domingo, 9 de marzo comienzan en la **pagina 739** en el libro "Palabra y Eucaristía"

Domingo: Ex 3, 1-8. 13-15	Sal 102, 1-4. 6-8. 11
1 Co 10, 1-6. 10-12	Lc 13, 1-9
Lunes: 2 Kgs 5, 1-15	Sal 41, 2. 3; 43, 3. 4
Lc 4, 24-30	
Martes: Is 7, 10-14	Sal 39, 7-11
Lc 1, 26-38	Heb 10, 4-10
Miércoles: Dt 4, 1. 5-9	Sal 147, 12-13. 15-16.
19-20	Mt 5, 17-19
Jueves: Jr 7, 23-28	Sal 94, 1-2. 6-9
Lc 11, 14-23	
Viernes: Os 14, 2-10	Sal 80, 6-11. 14 y 17
Mc 12, 28-34	
Sábado: Os 6, 1-6	Sal 50, 3-4. 18-21
Lc 18, 9-14	
Domingo siguiente: Jos 5, 9-12	Sal 33, 2-7
2 Co 5, 17-21	Lc 15, 1-3. 11-32

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Las intenciones para las Misas diarias se encuentran en la pagina tres (3)

VÍA CRUCIS

Acompáñanos a rezar el Vía Crucis **todos los viernes de Cuaresma a las 7:00PM** en la **Iglesia Antigua**. Un encuentro de oración y reflexión para caminar juntos hacia la Pascua.

APROVECHA FORMED

Tiene mucha buena programación familiar. ¿No estás en FORMED? Regístrate en www.formed.org/signup, ingrese Aiken, SC, luego elija St. Mary Help of Christians

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Para alimentos o asistencia financiera, llame al 803.642.3211. Abierto de lunes a jueves de 9:00AM a 1:00PM. Cerrado los viernes.

Continuación del Espacio de Nuestro Párroco de la primera columna de esta página

«La Cuaresma es una oportunidad para volver a ser cristianos, a través de un proceso constante de cambio interior y de progreso en el conocimiento y el amor de Cristo». Esto es precisamente lo que Cristo quiso enseñarnos en la alegoría de la higuera.

Les deseo lo mejor... en Cristo,
Padre Wilson

SAGRADO SACRAMENTOS

SANTO BAUTISMO

¡El nacimiento de un hijo es un gran regalo que necesita renacer a través de las aguas del Bautismo! Para bautizar a un niño en Sta. María, tenga en cuenta que al menos uno de los padres debe ser católico practicante, asistir regularmente a la Santa Misa, participar en la vida de la parroquia y estar registrado en Sta. María al menos tres meses antes de solicitar la fecha para el bautismo. Ambos padres deben asistir a las sesiones prebautismales. Dado que los padrinos prometen ayudar a criar a su hijo en la práctica de la fe católica, ellos deben ser católicos practicantes en la parroquia que asisten y se les anima a asistir a las sesiones de preparación bautismal también. **Las próximas clases se llevarán a cabo el 18 y 25 de mayo de 2025.** Es necesario registrarse para que podamos prepararnos para usted. Comuníquese con Reyna Salas a 404.886.5653

SAGRADA COMUNIÓN Y CONFIRMACIÓN

Estos increíbles Sacramentos nos nutren y fortalecen en nuestra fe católica para que podamos vivir como "la luz del mundo" (San Mateo 5,14). *Tenga en cuenta:* los padres y los niños deben estar registrados en Sta. María, asistir fielmente a misa los domingos y los días de precepto. Los niños que no están inscritos en nuestra escuela católica deben asistir a un mínimo de dos años de clases de formación cristiana y cumplir con la política de asistencia. Para más información contactarse con: Joan LaBone al jlabone@charlestdiocese.org o 803.215.7040.

SANTO MATRIMONIO

¡Felicidades! El mundo realmente necesita parejas fuertes y fieles en Cristo. La Diócesis de Charleston requiere una preparación mínima de seis meses para el Sacramento del Matrimonio, así que comuníquese con nosotros tan pronto como se comprometa para que podamos compartir su alegría y comenzar el proceso de reservar una fecha para su día especial. Para registrarse y obtener más información por favor comuníquese con Sonia Jimenes 803.508.5370.

UNCIÓN DE ENFERMOS

¿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, el Sacramento de sanación de la Iglesia. Comuníquese con 803.649.4777 ext. 113.

PRÓXIMA FECHA DE BAUTISMO (ESPAÑOL)

12 de abril 2025 a las 11:00AM

en la iglesia en la calle Fairfield.

- Las clases de preparación para el bautismo deben haber sido completadas
- Toda la documentación deben presentarse en la oficina un mes antes de la fecha del bautismo.

Para obtener más información o si desea programar un bautismo, llame a la oficina parroquial al 802.649.4777

ORDEN DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS (OCIA)

Formación y preparación para adultos que necesiten recibir los Sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión y/o Confirmación. Nos reunimos los martes a las 7:00pm, en el Salón Smith. Para más información contactar a Omar & Mercedith Cardona cardona5@bellsouth.net Este espacio está abierto a TODA LA COMUNIDAD, Como oportunidad para aprender más sobre nuestra fe católica. Tema de la semana: "Credo"

FORMACIÓN CATÓLICA PARA JÓVENES Y MINISTERIO JUVENIL

CONTACTO: SRA. JOAN MARIE LABONE

JLABONE@CHARLESTONDIOCESE.ORG

803.215.7040

FORMACIÓN

- 30 de marzo**, todas las clases de catecismo (9:45 y 11:30) van a rezar el viacrucis juntos a las 9:45AM
Todos los padres son bienvenidos e acompañarnos
- 6 y 7 de abril** – No hay Catecismo (CCD) – Vacaciones de primavera
- 13 y 14 de abril**–No hay Catecismo (CCD) - Domingo de Ramos
- 20 y 21 de abril**–No hay Catecismo (CCD) - Pascua

MINISTERIO JUVENIL

- 23 de marzo** - Life Teen, AÑO DEL JUVILEO
- 28 de marzo** - MSP - Jóvenes, acompañenos a Misa a las 5:30 en la iglesia antigua, después el Viacrucis y al terminar tendremos pizza y juegos en el salón Bosco.
- 30 de marzo** - Escuela secundaria viacrucis afuera 6:00–7:30PM
- 6 de abril** - No habrá ministerio juvenil – vacaciones de primavera
- 13 de abril** - Life teen

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



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¡Únase a nosotros para un divertido día de golf el 29 de marzo y apoye a nuestros Saints! Siga este enlace para obtener más información o escanee el código QR a continuación:

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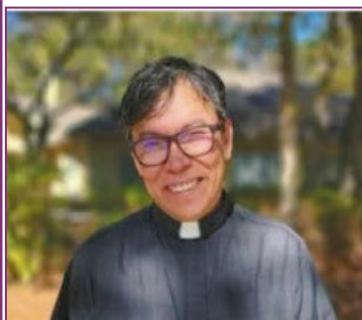
EL CONSEJO ESTUDIANTIL DE LA ESCUELA SANTA MARIA REALIZE UNA COLECTA DE CALCETINES



El Consejo Estudiantil de la Escuela Santa Maria recolectó 13 bolsas llenas de calcetines nuevos para Caridades

Católicas de Carolina del Sur. Los calcetines se entregarán al ministerio de Nuestra Señora del Valle para ayudar a los necesitados de nuestra comunidad local. Esta iniciativa resalta la importancia del liderazgo cristiano y la responsabilidad social para nuestros estudiantes.

RETIRO DE CUARESMA- FR. JOSÉ QUILCATE



Lunes 31 de Marzo,
Martes 1 de Abril
y Miércoles 2 de Abril
a las 7:00PM, en la
Iglesia Antigua

¡Todos están cordialmente invitados!

En este tiempo de preparación hacia la Pascua, los invitamos a participar en nuestro retiro de Cuaresma, un espacio de encuentro y renovación espiritual.

EVENTOS PARA LA PROXIMA SEMANA

Domingo, 23 de marzo

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

Lunes, 24 de marzo

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa Diaria	Iglesia Antigua
5:45PM	Legión de María	Smith Hall
7:00PM	Pequeña Comunidad	Madre Teresa

Martes, 25 de marzo

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa Diaria	Iglesia Antigua
6:30PM	OCIA	Smith Hall
7:00PM	Ese Hombre Eres Tú	San Miguel

Miércoles, 26 de marzo

8:20AM	Misa Escolar	Iglesia
6:15PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
7:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia Antigua

Jueves, 27 de marzo

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa Diaria	Iglesia Antigua
7:30PM	Grupo de Oración	Iglesia Antigua

Viernes, 28 de marzo

4:45PM	Confesiones	Iglesia Antigua
5:30PM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
6:00PM	Retiro de Parajas	Santa Angela
7:00PM	Vía Crucis	Iglesia Antigua

Sábado, 29 de marzo

8:00AM	Misa	Iglesia Antigua
8:00AM	Retiro de Parajas	Santa Angela
3:30PM	Confesiones	Iglesia
5:00PM	Misa de Vigilia	Iglesia

Domingo, 30 de marzo

8:30AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Misa	Iglesia
11:00AM	Práctica del Coro	San Miguel
1:00PM	Misa en español	Iglesia

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La fecha límite es el **30 de abril de 2025**. Las becas son renovables con un GPA de 3.0 y buena conducta. Para obtener más información o una solicitud, comuníquese con Chuck Goergen al 803.215.9099 o Jim DalSanto al 803.645.5943.

Descarga la aplicación en

www.aikenkofc3684.org/2025-scholarship



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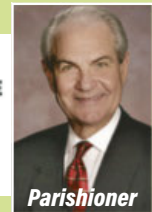


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