

“For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake, this is the one who will save it.”

LUKE 9:24

St. Mary Help of Christians

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About Ian

Dr. Ian Murphy has had a stirring journey into Christianity out of agnosticism. His subsequent ministry to reach other skeptics with the Gospel went public unexpectedly when his valedictorian speech about Jesus made headlines nationwide, inspiring a Congressional Law from the desk of Senator Arlen Specter. This momentum landed Ian into the position of head pastor at a Baptist church in Texas, where his ministry remained centered until his decision to enter the Catholic Church. Ian completed his Ph.D. in Theology at Duquesne University with a dissertation on the New Evangelization.



He currently serves as a professor for the Avila Institute. Aside from teaching, Ian's ministry includes appearances on EWTN, CFN, Shalom TV, and Sirius XM Satellite Radio's The Catholic Channel. In 2020, Ian's conversion story "Dying to Live" was published by Ignatius Press with a foreword by Dr. Scott Hahn. His second book is a Sophia Press offering entitled "The Road to Self-Awareness: A Therapy Book for Christians".

Ian resides near Charleston, South Carolina with his wife Rachel.

ST. MARY HELP OF
CHRISTIANS
LENTEN PARISH MISSION

Dying to Live

Recapturing the Joy of Lent

with Dr. Ian Murphy

FEBRUARY 19 - 20

Thursday | 7 PM
Friday | 10 AM
Friday | 7 PM



*Thursday 7 p.m.
at Old St. Mary's Church*

FROM AGNOSTIC TO BAPTIST TO CATHOLIC

The ABCs of Conversion

Each year, the season of Lent blows onto the liturgical calendar like a cold, dry wind. All of the sudden, self-denial, fasting, and fish replace the game-time tailgates and Christmastime feasts. Nonetheless, Lent means joy. It really does – and this mission seeks to recapture that.

Beyond helping us get to know our speaker, Dr. Murphy's conversion story brings our theme to life. Across his journey, he had to 'die to' a host of deceived perspectives and misplaced priorities. But these changes never stopped at merely 'getting rid of something bad'. Instead, each detachment brought true and lasting joy.

*Friday 10 a.m.
at Mother Teresa Hall*

YOU ARE NOT A PROBLEM TO BE FIXED

The Power of Knowing You're Loved

This second message talks about how important it is to know that God sees you... and *loves you*. All of our purgative Lenten observances need to have God, His love, and our relationship with Him as their foundation. Sin is *not* the foundation.

We have a problem with sin, but that's not "who we are". Whenever we make sin our spiritual starting point, we end up talking a lot about what we're saved FROM but forget what we're saved FOR – an abundant life that no heart can conceive! It is vital for us to know how loved we are by God... and to experience the sheer joy that comes from this awareness.

*Friday 7 p.m.
at Old St. Mary's Church*

SURRENDER

The Secret to Peace

This third talk discusses how the messiness of daily life can interfere with peace and joy by distracting us from our heavenly purpose. Specifically, we will explore how self-reliance becomes the enemy of peace, and how *daily surrender to the Lord* is the answer.

All who are fed up with anxiety's chokehold and are "just dying to live" – this is literally what we must do. We need to die to our self-reliance. We must surrender. When we live surrendered, we come to know God's peace as He lightens our burdens and restores our joy!