1st Sunday of Advent

St. Mary Parish

November 28, 2021

Mass Times

Vigil: Saturday 5pm

Sunday Masses: 6am, 9am, 11:30am, and 6pm LIFE TEEN Mass

Weekday Mass: Monday- Friday: 6am & 7:15am; Saturday: 7am

Holy Days: Vigil- 5:30pm; 6:00am, 7:15am, 8:15am (during the school year) and 5:30pm

Reconciliation:
Saturday: 4- 4:45pm or anytime by appointment

Parish Staff

Pastor: The Very Rev. Stephen Vrazel
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Cecil Spotswood
School Principal: Deborah Ollis
Pastoral Assistant: Laurel Wallace
Director of Development: Marcelle Naman
Volunteer Coordinator: Millie Dixon
Parish Bookkeeper: Anna Summersell
Youth Minister: Abigail Standish
Organist/Music Director: Richard Courtney
Music Team: Canticle Choir
Director of Religious Ed.: Steve Dolan, Jr.

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Weekday Masses- November 29nd- December 3rd:

Monday- **6am**- Fr. Vrazel; **7:15am**- Fr. Spotswood
Tuesday- **6am & 7:15am-** Fr. Spotswood
Wednesday- **6am**- Fr. Vrazel; **7:15am**- Fr. Spotswood
Thursday- **9am**- Fr. Vrazel
Friday- **6am**- Fr. Vrazel; **7:15am**- Fr. Spotswood

Saturday- December 4th:
7am- Fr. Spotswood; **5pm**- Fr. Spotswood

Sunday- December 5th:
6am- Fr. Spotswood; **9am**- Fr. Spotswood;
11:30am- Fr. Vrazel; **6pm**- Fr. Vrazel

Christmas Memorials Flowers for the Altar

This is a wonderful way to remember your loved ones past, present, or even someone you just want to give a special gift. If you would like to submit donations for flowers in honor of a loved one, please do so by Sunday, December 11th so that the names can be included in the bulletin. Thank you for helping make our church so beautiful during this Christmas Season. We couldn't do it without your help!!

Specific Shrines:
Sacred Heart
Miraculous Medal
St. Joseph
Our Lady of Lourdes

Statues:
St. Anthony
St. Therese' of Lisieux
Infant of Prague

Church
106 Providence St.
Mobile, Alabama 36604
251-432-8678

www.stmarymobile.org

School
107 N. Lafayette St.
Mobile, Alabama 36604
251-433-9904

Gospel Meditation:

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent (©LPi)

Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 12 Retired Religious

11/21 Stewardship Report

Sunday:
Mailed in:
Online:
Total:

Due to holiday bulletin submission deadlines, our stewardship report will be delayed by a week for the next few weeks. Thank you for your patience.

Thank you for your support of St. Mary's!

Open your smart phone's camera and aim it at the coded square. A link will pop up on your phone. Touch the link to go to our online donation page.

Mass Intentions

Sunday:
6am- Kilday Family (l&d)
9am- Parishioners of St. Mary's Parish
11:30am- Manual Turbat (d) & Elba Turbat (d)
6pm-
Monday:
6am-
7:15am- Sister Margaret Harte (l- Birthday)
Tuesday:
6am- Deacon John Cretaro (d)
7:15am-
Wednesday:
6am- Ann & Rancy Luce (d)
7:15am- Amy Thompson (d)
Thursday:
6am-
7:15am
Friday:
6am- Holy Souls in Purgatory
7:15am-
8:15am-
Saturday:
7am-
5pm-

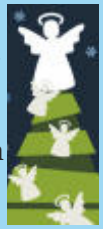
Baptized in Christ:

Finleigh Tabshey Norton;

Camille Katherine Lyon

Attention! To our generous
ANGEL TREE DONORS:

If you did not "sign-out" your angel(s) by writing your name and phone number on the sign out sheet, please contact the parish office! We have several angels with no contact information for their donors. Thank you for your generosity!



PLEASE PRAY FOR the Sick

Cindy Klotz, Christy Blackmon, Holly Reese, Martha Delmas, Pat Anderson, Gary Henrickson, Hoagy Kearns, Janet Pierre, Michael Newburn, Eddie Serda, Milton Days, Susan Sweeney, Betty Spotswood, Francis Arata, Kathie Wall, Marian Imsand, Ann Schilling, Karen Clarke Andrews, Jamie Kuppersmith, Betsy McAleer, Peggy Hasser, Daniel Lawrence, George Finkbohner, Andrew Mills, Dorothy Rose, Laura Cummings, Carnes Craig, Felice Lomangino, Philip Tapia, Dale Andrews, Preston Griffith, Madison Palazzo, Karen Johnson, Bob Collier, Sandra Edwards, Mary Lou Noletto, Marcia Kossik, Sandi Clark, Brad Jensen, Guillermo Hearreau, Marsena Walsh, Michael Laird, Adiene Carroll, David Delmas, Scott Gonzalez, Mary Gonzalez, Philip Gonzalez, Bill Klein, Mike & Candi Baldwin, Brother Celestine

PLEASE PRAY FOR the Deceased

If you have a bulletin submission or suggestion please email Emily Montague at emontague@stmarymobile.org two weeks prior to the desired publish date.

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DRIVE

WE WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS BASKETS DEC 1 THROUGH DEC 15 IN THE PARISH OFFICE

St. Mary's & St. Joan of Arc Parishes

Advent & Christmas 2021

Thanksgiving Day Masses
9am (St. Mary's)
9am (St. Joan of Arc)

St. Mary's Parish Advent Mission
7pm - November 29-December 1
Fr. Alex Crow

St. Mary's Annual Tree Lighting
7-9pm - December 6
Feast of St. Nicholas

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 7
Vigil Mass 5:30pm (St. Mary's)
December 8
6am,7:15am, *8:15am (St. Mary's)
*School Mass
5:30pm (St. Joan of Arc)

First Reconciliation (St. Mary's)
6pm-December 13

Christmas Mass Schedule
December 24
4pm, 6pm, Midnight (St. Mary's)
4pm (St. Joan of Arc)
December 25
6am, 9am (St. Mary's)
9am (St. Joan of Arc)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
December 31 - New Year's Eve
Vigil 5:30pm (St. Mary's)
Holy Hour 11pm-Midnight (St. Mary's)
January 1 - New Year's Day
9am (St. Mary's)

New Sunday Mass Schedule Begins January 1
Saturday Vigil 4pm (St. Joan of Arc)
Sundays 6am, 9:30am, 11:30am (St. Mary's)
8:30am (St. Joan of Arc)

Confession & Holy Hour (St. Mary's)
Tuesdays & Thursdays 5-6pm
Confession 1/2 hr. before Sunday 9:30am/11:30am Masses

Adoration (Chapel)
Fridays 6:30am-5pm (St. Mary's)

Advent Mission: The Parish is Our Home

St. Mary's welcomes **Father Alex Crow** to present our Advent Mission **Nov. 29 through Dec. 1 at 7pm in the church.** Advent crafts and dessert will be offered for children in the Sisters of Mercy Bldg. at 7 pm each evening while parents enjoy the mission.

Evening Topics:

Monday, November 29:
Gospel Basics, Why Christ died for us
Tuesday, November 30:
Importance of Being a Parishioner
Wednesday, December 1:
Forgiveness, The Sacrament of Confession

Lighting up Historic Midtown-

St. Mary's Christmas Tree Lighting

December 6th from 7-9pm

Featuring Santa, the Lafayette Street Fire truck, treats by St. Mary's LIFE TEEN, Christmas pagent viewing in the gym, food and drinks for purchase sponsored by St. Mary's KofC, photography done by Shane Rice Photography, and the Polar Express rides for $1!

Please Pray for Pope Francis' *November* Intention: People Who Suffer from Depression- We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Please Pray for Pope Francis' *December* Intention: Catechists- Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 28	First Sunday of Advent
Nov 29	
7pm	Parish Mission with Fr. Alex Crow
Nov 30	
5:30pm	Confession & Adoration with Fr. Spotswood
7pm	Parish Mission with Fr. Alex Crow
Dec 1	Christmas Food Drive Begins
7pm	Parish Mission with Fr. Alex Crow
Dec 2	
5:30pm	Confession & Adoration with Fr. Vrazel
Dec 3	Angel Tree donations due to Parish Office
Dec 6	Feast of St. Nicholas
7-9pm	Lighting up Historic Midtown
Dec 7	Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
5:30pm	Mass
Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
6am, 7:15am, & 8:15am	Masses at St. Mary's
5:30pm	Mass at St. Joan of Arc
Dec 12	
7pm	Confirmation Class

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