# St. Mary Help of Christians Church

## The Epiphany of the Lord
## January 3, 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

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.stmarys-aiken.org or https://www.facebook.com/stmarysaiken/**

**Holy Mass Schedule**

**Weekday**

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. - 5:30pm - Church
Wed. 8:20am - Church
Miércoles 7:00pm - Church
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

**All Masses are being celebrated in the new church**
**Todas las Misas se celebran en la iglesia nueva**
**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: P.O. Box 438 Aiken, SC 29802** **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 Old St. Mary's!

**Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament awaits your visit!**

There are so many benefits of a weekly holy hour in the Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament: Peace in your heart, quiet prayer time, better family and social relationships, knowing God deeper as you walk in His friendship.

If you would like to try a weekly hour with Jesus, please contact **Ivy Monahon at jjmonahon@mindspring.com or 803.649.4157**. Jesus awaits your visit!

- Please remember to use Covid-19 precautions for your safety and the safety of others.
- Observe silence at all times. Adoration fosters personal intimacy with Our Lord. Please allow others this special time with Jesus.

## 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
**Mrs. Bette Ross, MS**
Social Ministry Coordinator
**Mr. V. Franklin Deese II**
Organist and Choir Director
706.550.5047
**Mrs. Janet Morris, MIBS**
St. Joseph Altar Society
803.502.3636

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## Weekly Stewardship -Fiscal Year 2020-2021

**Due to early publishing deadlines, totals for Dec. 27 were not available at the time the bulletin was sent to print.**

**Totals as of Sunday, December 20, 2020**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **OFFERING FOR DEC. 20, 2020** | **$** | **36,529.70** |
| **WEEKLY BUDGET NEEDS** | **$** | **31,800.00** |
| **YEAR TO DATE TOTALS** | **$** | **772,068.88** |
| **YEAR TO DATE BUDGET NEEDS** | **$** | **795,000.00** |
| **SHORTAGE TO DATE** | **$** | **22,931.12** |

**Special Collection:** Dec. 20 Solidarity in Africa $1,691.00

**Bishop's Bicentennial Campaign as of Dec. 21**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Number of Givers** | **374** |
| **Total Pledged** | **$1,727,217.20** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Parish Loan** | **$519,980.00** |
| **Current Loan Balance as of 12/16/2020** | **$264,292.23** |

**Upcoming Special Collection:** Jan. 17 Church in Latin America

## *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 | 625 | 626 | 83% | 1 |

**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:

La Navidad continúa con nuestra celebración de la Epifanía de Nuestro Señor. Nuestras iglesias y capillas están adornadas con esplendor navideño, todo por el nacimiento de este Niño único que cambiaría, y ha cambiado, todo.

Sería negligente si no ofreciera mi más profundo agradecimiento a todas y cada una de las personas que ayudaron a que nuestras celebraciones navideñas algo modificadas fueran tan sobresalientes y espiritualmente enriquecedoras. Gracias a todos nuestros músicos, tanto en inglés como en español, que ayudaron a que nuestra música fuera tan edificante espiritualmente. Pasan horas y horas de práctica para traernos una música tan hermosa. Gracias a nuestro Gremio del Altar de San José, que trabaja diligentemente trás bastidores para mantener nuestras iglesias impecables y listas para la adoración. Asimismo, estamos agradecidos con todos nuestros coordinadores de misas, que son nuestros voluntarios que preparan todo para las misas. Muchas gracias a nuestros lectores que proclaman la palabra de Dios, a nuestros ministros extraordinarios que ayudan a los sacerdotes y diáconos a distribuir la Sagrada Comunión, a nuestros ujieres y a los que limpian y preparan tan bien detrás de escena que ustedes y yo nunca sabemos la cantidad de trabajo que requiere. ¡Lo que parece tan sencillo está lejos de serlo! ¡Y gracias a los mejores monaguillos que un sacerdote podría pedir!

Por supuesto, una palabra de agradecimiento muy especial para todos nuestros "elfos", que decoraron nuestras iglesias y pasillos, y se aseguraron de que tuviéramos uno de los árboles de interior más grandes de los Estados Unidos, ¡si no del mundo! Este año tuvieron que decorar más de lo normal para acomodar nuestros alojamientos para la "temporada de COVID".

A todos ustedes, gracias desde el fondo de mi corazón. ¡Ustedes ayudan a que Santa María sea una parroquia increíble a la cual pertenecer!

Hoy celebramos la Solemnidad de la Epifanía transferida. (La Epifanía cae oficialmente el duodécimo día de Navidad, el 6 de enero, pero en los Estados Unidos se transfiere al domingo más cercano). En muchos países, este es el día de la entrega de regalos a imitación de los Reyes Magos que visitan al Niño Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy.

La Epifanía es una fiesta de luz. "*Levántate, resplandece, porque ha llegado tu luz y la gloria del Señor ha amanecido sobre ti."* (Is 60: 1). La verdadera Luz de la Luz ha venido al mundo. Nos da el poder de convertirnos en hijos de Dios (cf. Jn 1,9;12). El viaje de los Magos de Oriente es solo el comienzo de una gran procesión que continúa a lo largo de la historia, incluyéndonos a ti y a mí mientras cada uno de nosotros trae nuestro regalo a Emmanuel, Dios con nosotros. Como los Magos, también nosotros peregrinamos a Jesucristo, nacido en un establo, que murió en la Cruz y que, habiendo resucitado de entre los muertos, permanece siempre con nosotros, hasta el fin del mundo (cf. Mt 28,20).

Feliz Navidad, Padre Wilson

## Pastor's Corner
## +JMJ+

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas continues with our celebration of the Epiphany of Our Lord. Our churches and chapels are decked out in holiday splendor, all for the birth of this singular Child who would change – and has changed – everything.

I would be remiss if I didn't offer my deepest gratitude to each and every person who helped make our somewhat-modified Christmas celebrations so outstanding and spiritually enriching. Thank you to all our musicians in both English and Spanish languages, who helped make our music so spiritually uplifting. Hours and hours of practicing go in to bring us such beautiful music. Thank you to our St. Joseph Altar Guild, working diligently behind the scenes to keep our churches spotless and ready for worship. Likewise, we are grateful for all our Mass coordinators, who are our volunteers who set up for Masses. Many thanks to our lectors who proclaim the word of God, our extraordinary ministers who help the priests and deacons distribute Holy Communion, our ushers, and those who clean and prepare behind the scenes so well that you and I never know the amount of work it takes. What looks so effortless is far from it! And thank you to the best altar servers a priest could ask for!

Of course, a very special word of gratitude goes to all of our "elves," who decorated our churches and halls, and made sure we have one of the largest indoor trees in the United States, if not the world! This year they had to decorate more than normal to accommodate our accommodations for "COVID-season."

To all of you – <u>thank you</u> from the bottom of my heart. You help make St. Mary's an incredible parish to be a part of!

Today we celebrate the transferred Solemnity of the Epiphany. (Epiphany *officially* falls on the twelfth day of Christmas, Jan. 6, but is transferred in the United States to the closest Sunday.) In many countries, *this* is the day of gift-giving in imitation of the Three Kings who visit the Child Jesus in the Gospel today.

Epiphany is a feast of *light*. *"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you" (Is 60:1)*. The true Light from Light has come into the world. He gives us the power to become children of God *(cf. Jn 1:9,12)*. The journey of the Magi from the East is just the beginning of a great procession that continues throughout history, including you and me as each of us brings our gift to Emmanuel – God-with-us. Like the Magi, we also pilgrimage to Jesus Christ –born in a stable, who died on the Cross, and who, having risen from the dead, remains with us always, until the end of the world *(cf. Mt 28:20)*.

Merry Christmas,

Father Wilson

## Public Masses

**All daily and Sunday Masses are being celebrated in the new church on Fairfield Street.** Attendance is limited to 200 persons per Mass, and those who fall into "at-risk" categories, as defined by the CDC, are asked to remain at home. **The Bishop continues to dispense everyone from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.**

**MISA—**Todas las misas diarias y dominicales se celebran en la iglesia nueva en Fairfield Street. La asistencia está limitada a 200 personas por misa

**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 REANUDADO.** El horario está en la primera página de este boletín.

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## Masses on Facebook live

The following Masses are livestreamed:

Sat. 5:00PM and Sun. 11:00AM - 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 (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. Simplemente haga clic en el icono pequeño "f" en la parte superior derecha de nuestro sitio web (stmarys-aiken.org).

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## 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.

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*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.*

## This Week's Scripture Readings

**Readings for the week of Jan. 4 — Jan. 10**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Monday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 3:22—4:6 | Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a | | Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 |
| **Tuesday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 4:7-10 | Ps 72:1-4, 7-8 | Mk 6:34-44 | |
| **Wednesday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 4:11-18 | Ps 72:1 - 2, 10, 12-13 | | Mk 6:45-52 |
| **Thursday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 4:19—5:4 | Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17 | | Lk 4:14-22a |
| **Friday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 5:5-13 | Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 | | Lk 5:12-16 |
| **Saturday** | | | |
| 1 Jn 5:14-21 | Ps 149: 1-6a, 9b | | Jn 3:22-30 |
| **Sunday** | | | |
| Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Ps: 29:1-4, 9-10 | Acts 10:34-38 | Mk 1:7-11 |
| or in Year B | | | |
| Is 55:1-11 | (Ps) Is 12:2-6 | 1 Jn 5:1-9 | Mk 1:7-11 |

## Holy Mass Intentions

**Sunday, January 3**
8:30AM Frank Kleffner (D)
11:00AM Ted Giard (D)
12:30PM For All the People of the Parish
5:00PM Robert Edens (D)

**Monday, January 4**
5:30PM Willingness to Forgive

**Tuesday, January 5**
5:30PM Marguerite Plaunt (D)

**Wednesday, January 6**
8:20AM Donna Waters (D)

**Thursday, January 7**
5:30PM Fr. Ernie Hepner **(L)**

**Friday, January 8**
5:30PM Mildred Ellis (D)

**Saturday, January 9**
8:00AM Donna Waters (D)
5:00PM Donna Waters (D)
Susan Reeve Shultz (D)
Sr. Josephine Jendrisak (D)
Robert Bailey(D)
Mary Ann Kolar (D)
John Bevan (D)

## Prayers Requested

**Deaths/Difuntos:** Dec. 17 Pedro Arreguin

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## 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 8:20AM Mass.

## Sagrado Sacramentos

### Bautismos

Para pedir el Sacramento del Bautismo o para recibir información acerca de las pláticas pre-bautismales, por favor de comunicarse con Gabriela Flores, al 803.716.5509 o con Luz Londoño, al 803.480.6865. Las próximas clases de preparación para el bautismo se llevarán a cabo **HOY** el 3 de enero y 10 de enero 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 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 February 21, 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*

### 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

### Missal of the People/Misal del Pueblo

The Missal for November 29, 2020 through February 14, 2021 is available in the parish office for anyone who would like to have a copy.

El Misal del Pueblo de 29 noviembre de 2020 al 14 de febrero de 2021 está disponible en la oficina parroquial para cualquier persona que quiera una copia.

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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

Mrs. Mary Ellen Jackson
Contact:mjackson@charlestondiocese.org
Telephone: 803.642.2676

Dear Parents of K – 5th graders:
Have a great Christmas! I hope to see you at Mass.

1. **January challenge: new resolutions** As a family, come up with one family resolution (pray together daily; share something positive each day) and have each family member come up with one personal resolution, one that he or she is willing to share. Each week, together talk about how well you were able to keep up with your plan. Family members should be helping each other become the people God plans for them! Be that encouragement.

**Take advantage of FORMED:** it has all sorts of fabulous programing. Not yet on FORMED? Sign up at www.formed.org/signup, enter Aiken, SC, then choose St. Mary Help of Christians.

1. **This is a holiday** – just spend time enjoying your family and celebrating Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ coming into the world—for you, for me, for each of your children.

4. **First Holy Communion families:** work through the First Communion Catechism with your child(ren). It has simple explanations and fun pictures. Practice going to confession.

**First Confession: February 27th.**

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

Contacto: mjackson@charlestondiocese.org
Teléfono: 803.642.2676

Estimados padres de estudiantes de K - 5º:
¡Que tengas una gran Navidad! Espero verte en la misa.

**1. Desafío de enero: nuevos propósitos.** Como familia, sugiera un nuevo propósito familiar (oren juntos todos los días; compartan algo positivo todos los días) y haga que cada miembro de la familia sugiera un propósito personal, uno que esté dispuesto a compartir. Cada semana, hablen juntos sobre qué tan bien pudieron mantenerse al día con su plan. ¡Los miembros de la familia deberían ayudarse unos a otros para convertirse en las personas que Dios planea para ellos! Sea ese estímulo.

**2. Aprovecha FORMED:** tiene todo tipo de programación fabulosa. ¿No estás en FORMED? Regístrese en www.formed.org/signup, ingrese a Aiken, SC, luego elija St. Mary Help of Christians.

**3. Este es un día festivo,** simplemente dedique tiempo a disfrutar de su familia y a celebrar la venida de Nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo al mundo. Para ti. Para mi. Para cada uno de sus hijos.

**4. Familias de la Primera Comunión:** trabajen con el Catecismo de Primera Comunión con su (s) hijo (s). Tiene explicaciones sencillas e imágenes divertidas. Practiquen como ir a confesión. **Primera Confesión: 27 de febrero**

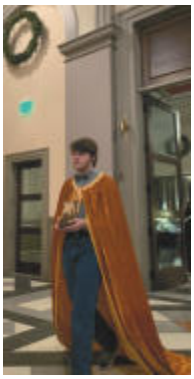
## Sunday Morning Youth Ministry
## Grades 6-12

Contact: Mrs. Joan Marie LaBone

All sessions will be held in the St. John Bosco Youth Center, 303 Richland Avenue E

**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

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



**Jan. 3**—Epiphany Mass at 5:00PM. All youth are invited to join in the procession, masks and social distancing required.

Jan. 10—Life Teen

**Save the date**—Youth Ministry will hold their annual lasagna dinner on Monday, January 18. Details will be announced soon.

Please look for our covid policy on our website under Formation/Middle School or High School.

## 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.

**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

**3 de enero—**Misa de Epifanía a las 5 PM. Todos los jóvenes están invitados a unirse a la procesión, se requiere mascarillas y distanciamiento social.

**10 de enero**—Life Teen

**Reserve la fecha** — el Ministerio de Jóvenes celebrará su cena anual de lasaña el lunes 18 de enero. Los detalles se anunciarán pronto.

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

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Do you have friends or family who are interested in the Catholic Church?

**RCIA meets Tuesdays 6:00 –7:45PM**
**in Mother Teresa Hall.**

For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestondiocese.org or 803.642.2676.

## Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos (RICA)

Se informa a la comunidad, que el proceso de RICA en español ha comenzado. Las personas adultas que les falte algún sacramento y están interesadas pueden asistir. Personas que no son católicas y quieran conocer y saber de la iglesia católica también están invitados.

**Los lunes de 7:00 - 9:00PM en Smith Hall**

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## Wednesday Adult Bible Study

Welcome back! We start our EPIC: Journey Through Church History via Zoom **this Wednesday, January 6, 10 AM**. To receive an email invitation with the link to attend. Contact Martha Whittingham at whittimp@gmail.com or 865.599.8473

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## Thursday Morning Bible Study

We meet Thursdays 11:15AM – 12:30PM in St. Michael Hall. Bring your bible and your mask. We are reading the book of Daniel. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at mjackson@charlestondiocese.org or 803.642.2676. **We will not meet Jan. 7th.**

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## That Man Is You (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. That Man is You! seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society.

**TMIY will resume meeting in January**. Doors will open at 6:00AM. The video will begin at 6:30AM.

For more information contact Derron Judd at 803.439.2229, Chris Ascherman at 803.845.0568 or email: aikentmiy@charlestondiocese.org, Andy Colquitt at 803.646.4068. To register please contact Joe Van Alstine: aikentmiy@charlestondiocese.org

## 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

**Open Enrollment for 2020-2021** St. Mary's School continues to accept enrollment applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Monthly payment plans are available for all families. Catholic Parishioners are eligible for discounted tuition. For more information, visit the school website at stmaryschoolaiken.com or call the school office at 803.649.2071.

**Benefactor Opportunities** Please consider supporting a student who needs financial help attending SMS. To donate online visit stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms or send your donation to the school office.

**Amazon Smile** Visit 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.

**Amazon Wish List** Donate items directly to St. Mary's School when you shop online. View the school's wish list at **https://tinyurl.com/y2wq4rev.**

**Inscripción abierta para 2020-2021** La escuela de Santa María está aceptando solicitudes de inscripción para el año escolar 2020-2021. Hay planes de pago mensual disponibles para todas las familias. Los feligreses católicos son elegibles para matrículas 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 para benefactores** Por favor, tome en consideración la posibilidad de apadrinar a un estudiante que necesita ayuda financiera para asistir a la escuela de Santa María. Para donar en línea, visite stmaryschoolaiken.com/support-sms o envíe su donación a la oficina de la escuela.

**Amazon Smile** Lista de regalos directaments a la escuela de Santa María. Donen los regalos directamente a la escuela de Santa María cuando haga su compra en línea. Cheque la lista de regalos de la escuela en https://tinyurl.com/y2wq4rev.

**Amazon Wish List** Dona artículos directamente a St. Mary's School cuando compres en línea. Ver la lista de deseos de la escuela en **https://tinyurl.com/y2wq4rev.**

## Wednesday, January 6th is the Memorial of St. Andre Bessette

**January 6 is the memorial of St. Andre Bessette**. We have Andre's relics under our main altar and a statue outside St. Claire's. Celebrate St. Andre by making a visit to the church or to his statue. Get a picture of the family and send it in for the bulletin - it'd be great to have a whole page of parishioners visiting St. Andre. You can watch his relative parishioner Bernie Bessette talk about Andre here: https://youtu.be/cTBTPM-XMQI

## Miércoles, el 6 de enero es el Memorial de San Andre Bessette

Tenemos las reliquias de San Andre bajo nuestro altar principal y una estatua fuera de Santa Clara. Celebre a San Andrés visitando la iglesia o su estatua. Tómense una foto familiar y envíela para el boletín; sería genial tener una página completa de feligreses visitando San Andre. Puede ver a Bernie Bessette, pariente de San Andre y parroquiano de Santa María, hablar sobre San Andre aquí: https://youtu.be/cTBTPM-XMQI

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## Face Masks Required/Cubrebocas son Obligatorios

**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.** 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.**

**Estamos exigiendo respetuosamente que todos los que asistan a la Santa Misa usen un cubreboca durante la celebración de la Misa, excepto en el acto de recibir la Sagrada Comunión**. Este debe cubrir tanto su boca como su nariz. El obispo Guglielmone ha pedido que las parroquias de la diócesis cumplan con las ordenanzas del gobierno local. **Gracias por hacer su parte para garantizar la seguridad de todos.**

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## A Little Extra Reflection

Over the years, I have been humbled to have people ask me for copies of my homilies to reflect a little more on the message or to send it to family or friends. As a result, I have a distribution list of those who receive the written versions of my homilies the Sunday I deliver them. If you would like to be added to that distribution list, please send me an e-mail at rampierce@atlanticbb.net. Since the deacons only preach once a month, I won't be filling up your inbox. Thanks to everyone for your friendship and support.

~ Deacon Bob Pierce

## Stephen Ministry

St. Mary's Stephen Ministry has invited **Bonnie Fulghum of Mental Health of America, Aiken** to speak on the topic of **Suicide** at our January meeting on **Thursday, January 14th at 6:00pm**. Because of parish interest, the talk will be livestreamed. Mark your calendars! More information will be in the bulletin next week.

(Mental Health of America Aiken's Christmas tree)

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## CWA 2021 Card & Game Party

We sincerely regret that **we must cancel** the annual Card & Game party normally scheduled for February. At the time we had to make this decision, COVID cases were on the rise and our priority is keeping our treasured parishioners and friends safe. We hope to see you at this event in 2022!

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## Ushers Needed

We are in need of ushers for all Sunday Masses and are currently taking applications. If you are interested in being an usher or would like to discuss, please call or text Maryann Burgess at 803.439.0468 or e-mail garnetgirlmb@gmail.com

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## Pope Francis Proclaims Year of St. Joseph

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris Corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

In this new Apostolic Letter, Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

***Prayer to St. Joseph***

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,*
*Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*
*To you God entrusted his only Son;*
*in you Mary placed her trust;*
*with you Christ became man.*
*Blessed Joseph, to us too,*
*show yourself a father*
*and guide us in the path of life.*
*Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,*
*and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

## Good and Faithful Servant

**Hi, I'm Sister Hope. How can I help you?**

Catholic Charities of South Carolina is pleased to offer an innovative chat service to anyone for who might need it. Sister Hope is a FREE chat service providing encouragement and strategies on how to manage everyday stress and anxiety using Chatbot technology.

- Sister Hope is anonymous, private, and available 24/7.
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Text "Hi" to Sister Hope at 315-276-3157 to get instant support or visit facebook.com/SisterHopeSC. For more information, including an interactive video, go to https://charitiessc.org/sister-hope.

Please consider giving Sister Hope a try if you are feeling overwhelmed, especially in today's trying times.

It is important to note that, although Sister Hope provides encouragement and support, a chat service does not replace the need for professional services that are provided by a licensed counselor or psychologist. Please seek out those resources if you need them.

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, please contact the Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255.

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## 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 at 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.

## Friday's Time with Teresa

Join us as we read and discuss The *Autobiography of St. Teresa of Jesus* (Teresa of Avila). St. Teresa had an amazing life – never a dull moment. We meet Fridays, 10:00 – 11:30AM in St. Michael's Hall. Please wear your mask. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Jackson at 803.642.2676 or mjackson@charlestondiocese.org.

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## Sunday Morning Café (Catholic Faith Exploration)

Come join us in Mother Theresa Hall (to the left of the church) between the Sunday morning Masses, 9:45 – 10:45AM. No reservations or materials needed, although masks are required. Indoor or optional outdoor discussion questions follow the video (bring a lawn chair!). Come build friendships with your parish family!

**Class will resume on January 17**

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## Items Left in the Narthex/Vestibule of the Church

If you have something that you would like to be made available in the narthex/vestibule of either church, please submit your request to the parish office. Father Wilson must give his approval before anything is placed in the churches for distribution. This includes, but is not limited to, books, fliers, leaflets, rosaries, medals, prayer cards, etc. Items left in the churches, that have not been approved by Father Wilson, will be removed. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance!

## Objetos dejados en el nártex / vestíbulo de la iglesia

Si tiene algo que le gustaría que estuviera disponible en el atrio / vestíbulo de cualquiera de las iglesias, envíe su solicitud a la oficina parroquial. El padre Wilson debe dar su aprobación antes de colocar algo en las iglesias para su distribución. Esto incluye, pero no se limita a, libros, volantes, folletos, rosarios, medallas, tarjetas de oración, etc. Los artículos que se dejen en las iglesias, que no hayan sido aprobados por el Padre Wilson, serán removidos. ¡Gracias por su cooperación y asistencia!

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## Parish Gift Shop/Tienda de Regalos

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Gift Shop will remain closed until further notice.

Debido a la pandemia COVID-19, la tienda de regalos permanecerá cerrada hasta nuevo aviso.

# THANK YOU!

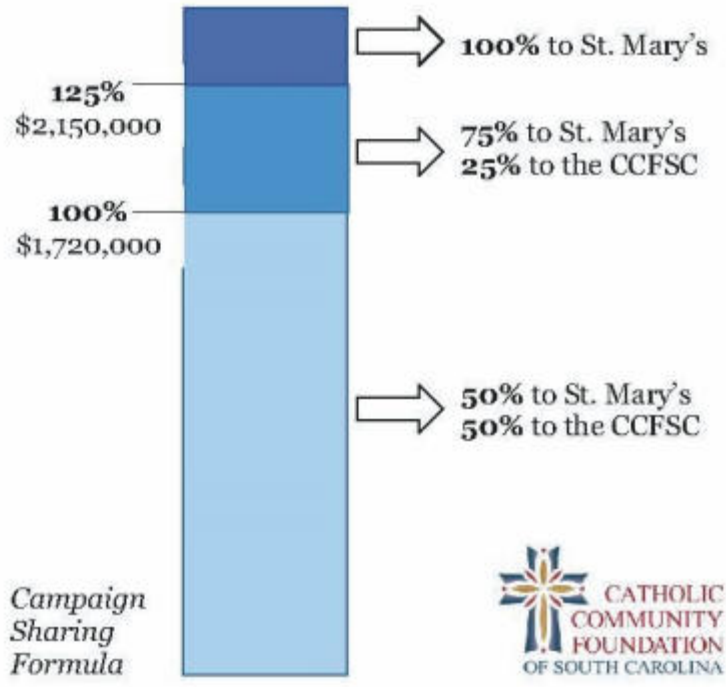
Through the generosity of hundreds of St. Mary's parishioners, we have officially surpassed our *Bicentennial Campaign* target of **$1,720,000!** This is a tremendous achievement and we are so very blessed with such a devoted parish family!

As we are now beyond our standard target, the sharing formula of the *Bicentennial Campaign* changes and we will now receive **75%** of every dollar we receive hereafter!

***Praise the Lord!***

If you are still prayerfully considering a pledge to our campaign – it's not too late! Please visit our website to learn how you can make a commitment online, or visit our parish office to pick up an extra pledge card!

***Thank you, thank you, thank you!***

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### *REMINDER*

*How will we use our share of the funds?*

- Conduct restorative work on our historic church
- Pay off the remainder of the loan for our new church
- Provide security and technology improvements at St. Mary's School

**Questions?**

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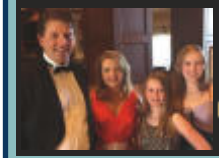

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