

**RECORD OF FAITHFULLNESS  
FOR THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

	AMT		AMT
Envelopes	\$2,570	Maintenance & Repairs	\$
Loose	\$65	Church in Latin America	\$10
Votive	\$	CASC	\$375
Loose	\$		\$
Sub Total	\$2,635		\$
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,020</b>	Sub Total	<b>\$385</b>

8AM		9:30	36	Total	36
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**Capital Campaign/Parish Center**

<b>Weekly Total</b>		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$33,768.75</b>
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**[Prayers for Our Military](#)**



As a faith community, we lift up in prayer the women and men serving in our armed forces, especially those from our parish family who are on active duty. We ask for God's protection, strength, and peace for them and their loved ones. Please join us in praying for the service members:

Major Thomas G., USMC  
Major Joseph G., USAF  
James Kobyra, CDR, USN

If you have a St. Mary's Church family member currently serving in the military whom you'd like to include in our prayers, please email [stmarys165@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys165@gmail.com) with their name, rank, and branch of service.

**[LENTEN SCHEDULE:](#)**

**Ash Wednesday, February 18**

Mass St. Mary's 9 AM  
Mass St. Frederick and Stephen 12 Noon

Beginning **Wednesday, February 25**, Wednesday daily Mass at St. Mary's during Lent will be at **5 PM**, followed by Stations of the Cross and a soup supper. There will **not be a 9 AM Mass on Wednesdays during Lent**. There will be a sign-up sheet to bring soup in the back of the church. Please join us in this Lenten observation.

**[DAILY REFLECTIONS](#)**

**MONDAY: [Mark 6:53-54](#)**

**Reflect today** on the people of the land of Gennesaret who, upon recognizing Jesus in faith, "scurried about the surrounding country," gathering many others who reached out in faith to touch the tassels Jesus wore. Consider whether you recognize Jesus' presence when you encounter Him. Do you recognize Him in the Eucharist, in your prayer, and in the people you encounter daily? When you do, do you immediately think of ways you can help bring others to Jesus? Do you reach out in faith, touching Jesus' tassels, believing with all certainty that His divine power will heal your soul and cure your weaknesses? Imitate these good people of Gennesaret, and Jesus' almighty power will flow generously into your life, just as it did to them.

**TUESDAY: [Mark 7:5-8](#)**

**Reflect today** on every external act of devotion and charity you perform, especially your participation in the Mass. Listen to Jesus' loving rebuke of the Pharisees and scribes, and use His words to examine your life. Where weakness, sin, pride, or empty routine are found, seek to replace them with heartfelt worship so that your entire life becomes an offering of authentic love and worship of God.

**WEDNESDAY: [Mark 7:17-19](#)**

**Reflect today** on the ways you approach your relationship with Christ. Do you seek Him in the quiet of your personal "home," asking questions and listening attentively? Consider how you can make your prayer life more intentional, opening your heart to deeper understanding and communion with Him. Just as a loving spouse or a close friend takes time to speak and listen, so too must you dedicate time daily to converse with our Lord, allowing Him to lead you into the depths of His divine wisdom and love.

**THURSDAY: [Mark 7:24-25](#)**

**Reflect today** on the profound union of faith and humility. First, ponder how deeply you believe that God is the ultimate answer to life. Do you seek Him and His will above every other desire? Secondly, as your faith is purified, examine whether you struggle with an entitlement mindset. Do you approach God with the expectation of His blessings, or do you, like the Syrophoenician woman, humbly acknowledge your unworthiness while trusting fully in His mercy? Pray her beautiful prayer today, and trust that our Lord will irresistibly pour forth His grace upon you.

**FRIDAY: [Mark 7:31-32](#)**

**Reflect today** on the lesson the Twelve learned as they traveled with Jesus through Gentile and pagan regions. As followers of Christ, we must learn not only from His words but also from His actions. The Creed, the Sacraments, and the moral teachings of the Church are not meant for Catholics alone but for all people. At times, sharing the Gospel might require charitable provocation within the social circles in which we live and work. We must strive to do so in ways that people can understand, setting aside artificial or inconsequential traditions that obstruct the message. True compassion leads us to every person, making us instruments of their salvation, knowing that the message we bring is for all, so that "all the families of the earth" may find blessing in God through you.

**SATURDAY: [Mark 8:1-3](#)**

**Reflect today** on the universality of Jesus' mission. His compassionate care transcended cultural and religious boundaries, offering physical and spiritual nourishment to all who sought Him. Jesus' same mission continues today through us, the members of His Body, the Church. We must never become self-enclosed in our own communities of faith and family. Instead, we are called to go out into the world, to the "pagan" regions where people hunger for God's Word. Sometimes our mission is to plant a seed; at other times, it is to nurture the seed by helping it grow through the grace of God, so that everyone may come to know and love Him. Ultimately, the feeding of the five thousand Jews and four thousand Gentiles points to the universal call for all to share in the Eucharistic banquet. Learn the lesson Jesus taught the Twelve, and imitate our Lord's merciful heart, filled with compassion for those who need Him the most.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

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**FIFTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Our mission is to form Christian Communities that will glorify God by our loving and serving one another, and to extend our love, support, and compassion to the needy.**

**Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Jeune  
Bishop of Charleston**

**Rev. Jesupratthap Narichetti  
(Father JP)**

**Pastor**

**Email:**

**[jnarichetti@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:jnarichetti@charlestondiocese.org)  
(843) 731-1162**

**Parish Secretary Becky Chaski**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday 8am & 9:30am**

**Wednesday 9:00am**

**Friday\* 9:00am**

**\*Adoration following Mass  
on the 1st Friday**

**RECONCILIATION**

**Sunday 7:15-8am**

**Wed/Fri 8:30-9am**

**Diocesan Office of Protective Services**

(843) 261-0430

**Diocese Victim Assistance Ministries**

(843) 856-0748

## PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

**WELCOME:** WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS TO ST. MARY'S! WE TRUST YOU WILL FIND US A WELCOMING AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY AS YOU JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE MASS TODAY. COFFEE IS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER AFTER MASS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU!



**TO MAGDALENA HERBAS, DAUGHTER OF CARLOS AND JEANNE HERBAS, WHO MADE HER FIRST COMMUNION LAST SUNDAY AT ST. MARY'S. PRAYERS FROM YOUR CHURCH FAMILY!**

**TO NEWLY BAPTIZED JAVIER ESQUIVEL PEREZ, JR., SON OF JAVIER PEREZ AND BIANCA REYES MUÑOZ, WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM THIS PAST WEEK.**

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Today's 9:30 mass is being offered for a special intention for Raelynn Racoma, on behalf of Gary and Diane Henriques.

**BAKE SALE:** Ladies Guild will be holding a Bake Sale on **Sunday, February 15th**, after both Masses. Please support the Guild by participating as a baker or a buyer.

**LAST YEAR'S PALMS:** It's that time again, time to bring Last Year's blessed palms back to St. Mary's for proper disposal. There will be a basket in the Narthex of the Church for the palm.

**SAVE THE DATE:** **Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**, St. Mary's Annual Oyster Roast and Potluck Dinner. Bring a dish to share and meet other parishioners. More Information to follow.

**BECOMING A ST. MARY'S REGISTERED PARISHIONER:** For those interested in becoming registered members of St. Mary's Parish, the registration forms are in the back of the Church or ask an Usher can provide you with one.

### **Lector Schedule for 02/15/2026**

8am Jim Madory  
9:30am Leslie Bauknight

### **Eucharistic Ministers for 02/15/2026**

8am Becky Madory  
9:30am Mark Bauknight

### **Ash Wednesday 02/18/2026**

9am Donna and Wayne Hudson

### **Second Collection 02/15/26**

Second Collection – Aid to Church in Central & Eastern Europe

**We pray for each other.** In your time of prayer, please remember the following people and intentions:



Helaine Ahern, Hazel Basilio, Sam Blackburn, Chester Broton, Jr., James Butski Jr., Allison Condon Chappell, Frank Chestnut, Juliet Collins, Jack Cooper, Cherry Constable, Maryanne Cortez, Sonja Dees, Teresita Y. Domingo, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Tricia Espiritu, Erlinda Evangelista, Ricardo Evangelista, Victoria Flanders, Ken Fleming, Avery Goetz, J. Gould, Jamekia Grampus, Krist Groover, Jerrie Hess, Doris Heffernan, Mary & Rod Jaros, Danny Kenney, Yvonne Livingston, Gus Long, John Lucas, Susan Mance Kelly Meyer, Patti McDermott, Jane Morley, Ray Marrone, Nirmala Mary Narichetti, Yvonne Nasser, Terri Nobleman, John North, Evan North, Connor O'Brien, Sarah Proulx, Miquelina Sanchez, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Diane Stokes, Eloise Stroud, Sandy Unger, Soul of Marlene Ille Vincent, Larry Walker, Mary Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Jose Yabut, Domingo Zarate Jr., and All Parishioners of our parish family.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Father JP welcomes your mass intentions for celebrating a special occasion, on behalf of a family member or friend, or a deceased loved one. A Mass request can be submitted by the following:

- Calling our Parish office at 843-889-8549. You may leave a message with your contact information.
- Completing a Mass Intention Envelope, checking the calendar located in the back of the church for date availability and placing your envelope in the box above the calendar.
- Requesting a Mass Card be mailed directly to you, for whose All-Mass Intentions are voluntary offerings, since the Holy Eucharist is the universal prayer of all the church. The typical offering is ten dollars.

Stipends for Mass Intentions may be brought or mailed to the Parish office (cash or check).



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Sodium chloride, also known as salt, is one of the most commonly used substances in the world, used for seasoning, preserving, and purifying. Sodium chloride is a very stable compound and cannot lose its flavor unless there is a chemical reaction or dissolution. Why, then, did Jesus suggest that salt could lose its taste? One likely explanation is that the salt used in ancient Palestine could indeed lose its flavor due to impurities and the conditions in which it was stored.

The Dead Sea, located in modern-day southeast Israel, contains a massive deposit of salt and other minerals. According to biblical history, Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt in this region. Because of the vast salt and mineral deposits, the area surrounding the Dead Sea is desolate.

Salt extracted from the Dead Sea was never pure sodium chloride. Gypsum and other minerals were also present, making the salt impure. If this salt were stored improperly or came into contact with water, the sodium chloride could dissolve and wash away, leaving behind the solid residue of minerals. These residual substances, like gypsum, had the appearance of salt but were tasteless and useless for flavoring, preserving, and purifying purposes. When this happened, the "salt" lost its taste. In light of this explanation, Jesus' teaching becomes especially clear.

The first notable feature of salt is its ability to add flavor to food. By calling His disciples the "salt of the earth," Jesus was instructing them to enhance the "flavor" of the world by bringing the truth of the Gospel and the joy of His message to others. A Christian life lived in fidelity to Christ would make the world a better and more virtuous place, just as salt enhances the flavor of food.

Salt is also commonly used for preservation. Before the age of refrigerators and freezers, salt was mixed with food to prevent corruption, by drawing out moisture and hindering bacteria and other microorganisms. Though this practice is still used today, it was especially vital in ancient times. By being the "salt of the earth," Jesus was calling His disciples to preserve the world from moral decay. Through their witness and proclamation of the Gospel, they were to act as a preservative against sin and spiritual ruin. If they were to "lose their taste," they would become indistinguishable from the rest of the world and ineffective in their mission. Hence, Jesus was exhorting them—and us—to avoid becoming watered down and bland in our witness to the Gospel.

Lastly, salt held a significant role in Jewish religious practices, symbolizing purity and consecration. In sacrificial rituals, salt was used to consecrate offerings, as commanded in Leviticus: "You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not let the salt of the covenant with your God be lacking from your grain offering. On every offering you shall offer salt" (Leviticus 2:13). By seasoning their offerings with salt, the Israelites preserved the sacrifices from decay, making them pure. This practice reflects the disciples' role in purifying the world through their example of holiness, their lives of self-sacrifice, and their participation in Christ's redemptive work. They were to live lives of integrity, leading others to God through the purity of their hearts and their unwavering commitment to His will.

**Reflect today** on this powerful metaphor of being the salt of the earth. The world desperately needs the enriching "flavor" of God's grace. Without Him, the world is left to corruption and decay. With God, we, and those we serve, are preserved as pure and holy offerings, adding to His glory and growing in holiness. Be the salt of the earth. Do not become watered down in your faith. Remain steadfast in your fidelity to Christ and His Gospel, and you will transform the world around you. In doing so, you will not only glorify God but will also share in His eternal joy.