

RECORD OF FAITHFULLNESS
FOR THE WEEK OF
DECEMBER 21, 2025

| | AMT | | AMT |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$1,980 | Church in Africa | \$470 |
| Loose | \$122 | Retired Religious | \$20 |
| Votive | \$ | Infirm Priests | \$ |
| Flowers | \$ | Capital Campaign | \$7,243.75 |
| Sub Total | \$2,102 | | |
| Grand Total | \$9,835.75 | Sub Total | \$7,733.75 |

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|------|----|-------|----|
| 8AM | 40 | 9:30 | 52 | Total | 92 |
|-----|----|------|----|-------|----|

| Capital Campaign/Parish Center | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Weekly Total | \$7,243.75 | Grand Total | \$17,368.75 |

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 with their name, rank, and branch of service.



DAILY REFLECTIONS

WEDNESDAY: [Luke 1:68-69](#)
Reflect today on the true meaning of Christmas. God became Man to save us from darkness, sin, and death. He came to set us free from all that binds us, oppresses us, and misguides us. He came to free us from the evil one’s lies and the many ways that those lies have permeated our lives and culture. Join with Zechariah today in his song of praise for the gift of salvation, and strive to pray his prayer with the same faith he had.

THURSDAY: [THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD](#)
As we celebrate this annual Solemnity, the historical accuracy of the date must give way to the liturgical calendar. God, in His perfection of humility, molds His grace around the structures that His Church has been inspired to create. For that reason, we can be confident that the December 25 liturgical Solemnity is a day in which an abundance of grace is poured forth upon those who believe and honor His birth. Commit yourself, this year and every year, to a celebration of Christmas that goes beyond mere gifts, good food, and gatherings. Choose to celebrate Christmas Day for eight straight days. Don’t pack away the decorations and nativity scene. Keep pondering the Christmas story. Prayerfully give thanks to God for His Incarnation and Birth. Make this Christmas celebration one that is permeated with faith, so that the Light of the World can permeate the darkness of the world in which you live.

FRIDAY: [FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR](#)
Reflection: Saint Stephen, whom we honor today, is the first Christian martyr, thus giving him the unique title “Protomartyr.” All we know about Saint Stephen comes from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapters 6–7. His name is of Greek origin, suggesting that he was a Hellenistic Jew. Nothing else is known about Stephen’s early life. Stephen came on the scene within the early Church in Jerusalem, where he was chosen as a deacon to assist with the fair distribution of daily provisions within the Christian community so as to relieve the Apostles of that responsibility.

SATURDAY: [FEAST OF ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST](#)
As we honor Saint John, **reflect today** on his identity as “the one whom Jesus loved.” His receptivity to Jesus’ love made him stand out as a model disciple. Seek to imitate John by expanding the capacity of your heart to receive more of God’s love, so that His presence within you becomes evident to others.



ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC
CHURCH

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YONGES ISLAND SC 29449-6011
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THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 25, 2025

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. Jesuprathap Narichetti
(Father JP)
Pastor
Email: jnarichetti@charlestdiocese.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!

WISHING OUR PARISH FAMILY A VERY JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND BLESSED NEW YEAR!

MASS INTENTIONS: Today's 9:00 mass is being offered for John and Brigid O'Shea, on behalf of Mary Ann Keating.



Thank you for transforming our church into a place of beauty, warmth and joy- it's all because of your loving hands and generous hearts. Every detail of decorations and your contributions to the Angel Tree reflect not only the spirit of Christmas but also the spirit of service that shines so brightly in each of you. May God bless you abundantly this season and in the year ahead.

2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please remember to pick up your 2026 Offertory envelopes in the Parish Center after mass.

ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB: Our January meetings will be 1pm on **Wednesday January 7 and Wednesday January 21** at 4199 Hwy 165. We will have our final discussion of "Mother Angelica" and begin a new book. You are welcome to join us at any time. Please call (843) 729-1644 for more information.

UPDATE ON OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Our nonassessable diocesan account for the capital campaign for our new parish hall is active. If you have an IRA and need to take your required minimum distribution before the end of 2025, please consider donating it to St. Mary's for our new parish hall. Distributions made directly to St. Mary's are non-taxable, and move us closer to our building campaign goal. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Eric Meyer via email at emeyer@meyerkappassociates.com or Mark Bauknight at mbauknight@atc-hq.com. All donations are greatly appreciated!

Lector Schedule for 12/28/25

8am Tracy Pejsa
9:30am Joe Yabut

Eucharistic Ministers for 12/28/25

8am Joe Pejsa
9:30am Kim Terry

Second Collection 12/28
Maintenance and Repairs

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, Julliet 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).

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Mass at St. Mary's 9 AM
Mass at St. Frederick/Stephen 11:30 AM

December 27/28

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Thursday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Holy Day of Obligation

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

A loving mother and father who experience the birth of their first child receive insight into the sacredness and beauty of this scene. Though great mystery surrounds Jesus' conception within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she was truly His mother, and He was truly her Son. Saint Joseph, knowing he was not this Child's biological father, made a profound act of faith by accepting that fatherly responsibility, as instructed in a dream by an angel of the Lord. Because of his faith and God-given mission, Joseph's commitment to being the father of the Son of God was one that only a most loving and devoted father would make.

As we celebrate Christmas Day, we are reminded of the humility with which our Lord chose to enter the world. Jesus was born in a place where animals dwelt because Mary and Joseph were away from their home to register for the Roman census. At first glance, one might conclude that the physical environment, most likely a cave, was unfortunate. However, we can be certain that this humble and poor setting was part of God's divine plan, adding to the glory of that night. Christ, in His humility, chose this setting to reveal to us the true greatness of love.

The poverty and humility of the cave and the manger—a feeding trough for animals—helped point to the sacredness of Jesus' birth. No glamor, no fancy or comfortable setting, only love. Pure love. The love in the heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the devotion of Saint Joseph, and the Incarnate presence of the Son of God were everything needed to make that night glorious.

One lesson we can learn from the Nativity of the Lord is that the beauty, peacefulness, and contentment of our lives are not dependent upon how much money or how many material possessions we have, but rather on the purity of our love. The Holy Family's hearts were perfectly fulfilled, not because of their surroundings, but because of their intimate union with God in the person of Jesus Christ.

The presence of the Son of God in that place of poverty sheds light on the true riches we crave. The true treasures we seek are found not in wealth, comfort, or possessions, but in the love and grace of God. The Holy Family's witness reveals to us that when we place our hearts in God's hands, we will be filled with all we need.

Reflect today on that most sacred, simple, and humble scene. As you do, try to imagine how humanly fulfilling that experience was for the Holy Family. Jesus was wrapped tightly in swaddling clothing, and He was adored with the greatest affection of His mother and foster father. Mary and Joseph's hearts contained all that was necessary for profound gratitude and fulfillment. If you struggle with being fulfilled, learn a lesson from the Holy Family and seek to imitate Mary and Joseph so that your love for our Incarnate Lord fills you with all you need.

