

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS
FOR THE WEEK OF
AUGUST 16, 2026

	AMT		AMT
Envelopes	\$5,390	CASC	\$
Loose	\$81	Miscellany	\$465
Votives	\$	Disaster Relief	\$250
		The Assumption	\$870
Sub Total	\$5,471		\$
Grand Total	\$7,056	Sub Total	\$1,585

8AM	39	9:30	49	Total	88
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Parish Center	
Total	\$139,245

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

MONDAY: [John 1:45-46](#)
[Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle](#)
Reflect today on the witness of Saint Bartholomew’s life. See in him any hesitation you may have about wholeheartedly following Christ. With him, come and see our Lord. Seek Him in prayer and in His Word. Let Him speak to your heart. Approach Him without duplicity. Be open, attentive, sincere, and honest. And when He speaks, do not hesitate to follow Him, declaring with Saint Bartholomew: “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.”

TUESDAY: [Matthew 23:23-24](#)
Reflect today on the gravity of Jesus’ words. Though most of the scribes and Pharisees appear to have rejected His rebukes, they are recorded in Scripture so that every generation may apply them to their own lives. Hear them as if spoken to you—not to discourage, but to inspire conversion. While we may not mirror the scribes and Pharisees in every detail, we all benefit from confronting our own spiritual complacency. This can be a challenging exercise, but when undertaken with humility and trust—recognizing that Jesus’ words are meant to heal and draw us closer to Him—it becomes a path to deeper grace. Let His rebukes take root within you, pulling up even the smallest weeds of pride or neglect, so that true virtue may flourish.

WEDNESDAY: [Matthew 23:27-28](#)
Reflect today on Jesus delivering this final sermon to you. Heed His warning and receive it in the way it was delivered: with love. Feel His urgency and His desire to do whatever it takes to draw you closer to Himself. Respond to this sermon, and do not remain among the unwilling. Let these final words of Jesus pierce your heart, so that you may be gathered under the shelter of His wings and never stray again.

THURSDAY: [Matthew 24:46-47](#)
Reflect today on how this truth challenges any habits or temptations that lead you down the easier path of self-indulgence. Consider where compromise may have crept into your daily life, and resolve instead to be the faithful and prudent servant, living with integrity, even when no one is watching. This is the way of holiness and the path to peace, authentic joy, and eternal glory in the presence of your Master.

FRIDAY: [Matthew 25:1-4](#)
Reflect today on the oil in your own flask. Are you spiritually prepared not only for the coming of the Bridegroom at the end of your life or the end of time, but also for the daily, hidden comings of His grace? Seek to live each moment in a state of spiritual readiness, with your heart alert and open. When the Bridegroom comes—whether at the end of days or in the everyday quiet whisper of grace—blessed will you be to rise, lamp in hand, and enter the wedding feast with Him. Responding in this life gives us an immediate foretaste of the joy and peace we will experience in the Eternal Wedding Feast of the Lamb of Heaven.

SATURDAY: [Mark 6:17-19](#)
[The Passion of Saint John the Baptist](#)
Reflect today on your own willingness to imitate Saint John’s bold fidelity. How far are you willing to go to proclaim the Gospel to those who need it most? No sacrifice is too great, no cost too high when it comes to responding to Christ’s call. Give everything for the Truth, and your witness will bear eternal fruit.

ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC
CHURCH

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YONGES ISLAND SC 29449-6011
(843) 889-8549
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TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
August 23, 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. Jesuprathap Narichetti
(Father JP)
Pastor
Email: jnarichetti@charlestandiocese.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!

MASS INTENTIONS: **Today’s 8:00** mass is being offered for Wayne and Donna Hudson, Congratulations on 46 years of marriage. **Today’s 9:30** mass is being offered for Sandra Unger, on behalf of Bryan and Carolyn Gibbs.

ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB: We meet the **first and third Wednesday of each month.** at 4199 Hwy 165, just down the street from St. Mary's. Our September meetings will be **Sept 2 and 16.** We will be choosing our next book. We read all summer! You may join us at any time. Please call 843 729-1644 for more information.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Parish Council will meet **Tuesday, September 8th at 6pm** in the Parish Center. All are welcome to attend.

BAKE SALE: Ladies Guild is gearing up for the fall season, our first of many Bake Sales will be **Sunday, September 13th,** any volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Prices haven't gone up, time to try something new and different.

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED: Please consider spending 90 minutes after Sunday 9:30 Mass to help count the donations. We are an all-Volunteer Church, and we need your participation. Contact Carolyn Gibbs at 9:30 Mass or email me at carolyn29449@gmail.com. Virtus training through the Diocese is required.

BECOMING A ST. MARY’S REGISTERED PARISHIONER: For those interested in becoming registered members of St. Mary's Parish, the registration forms are located in the back of the Church, an Usher can provide you with one or by accessing our **Parish Registration Form** at www.stmarysyongesisland.org.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH: Are you or someone you know seeking more information or have questions about joining the Catholic Church? If you are interested, please call the church office, or email us at the church office (stmarys165@gmail.com). All are welcome to participate.

Lector for 08/30/26
8am Tracy Pejsa
9:30am Katie Wolf
Eucharistic Minister for 08/30/26
8am Joe Pejsa
9:30am Mary Ann Keating
No Second Collection Sunday 08/30/26

We pray for each other. In your time of prayer, please remember the following people and intentions: Helaine Ahern, Hazel Basilio, Sam Blackburn, Joe Branton, Chester Broton, Jr., James Butski Jr., Kalynn Sandoval Campbell, Allison Condon Chappell, Julliet Collins, Joe Connell, Jack Cooper, Cherry Constable, Maryanne Cortez,

Teresita Y. Domingo, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Kim Durben, Frances Enos, Tricia Espiritu, Erlinda Evangelista, Ricardo Evangelista, Victoria Flanders, Ken Fleming, Avery Goetz, J. Gould, Jamekia Grampus, Anne Groover, Krist Groover, Jerrie Hess, Mary & Rod Jaros, Yvonne Livingston, Gus Long, John Lucas, Susan Mance, Kelly Meyer, Jane Morley, Ray Marrone, Nirmala Mary Narichetti, Terri Nobleman, John North, Connor O’Brien, Judy O’Neal, Pauline, Linda Perry, Sarah Proulx, Miquelina Sanchez, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Diane Stokes, Eloise Stroud, Joe T., Larry Walker, Mary Walker, Ellie Wilson, Jose A. 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

The symbolism associated with Caesarea Philippi is central to today’s Gospel. Located north of Jesus’ home base in Capernaum, it was a predominantly pagan city known for its shrines to false gods. One of the most prominent was Pan, after whom the region was named Pania (later Banias). Pan, a Greek god, was honored at a shrine near a large cave and spring considered the entrance to Hades. Pan was the god of nature, shepherds, flocks, wild places, fertility, and rustic music, and was often depicted as half man, half goat, with horns and hooves. He played the pan flute and was associated with lust, chaos, and sudden fear—from which we get the word panic.

Additionally, the city was the site of a temple dedicated to the late emperor, Caesar Augustus, who was worshiped as a god throughout the Roman Empire. It was into this spiritually dark pagan setting that Jesus led His disciples—on what may have been a two-day journey—for what culminated in a single, monumental question.

Jesus took the Twelve away from the comfort of their familiar fishing village and Jewish neighbors for a reason. He wanted them to answer His question not in the midst of the familiar and safe, but in a place marked by spiritual confusion and idolatry. Why? So that faith could be professed even there, and divine grace could confront the darkness that permeated the region.

At first, He asked who the people said He was. They answered, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” But then He posed the question that reached the heart of His mission: “But who do you say that I am?” This was a moment of divine testing—one which Simon passed with profound faith: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus’ extraordinary and consequential response has enduring significance to this day. He declared:

“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” ([Matthew 16:17–19](#)).

With these sacred words, Jesus founded His Church upon Peter, making him the first pope. In biblical tradition, a change of name signifies a new mission and identity. Simon, son of Jonah, was now to be called Peter—*Petros* in Greek and *Cephas* in Aramaic—meaning “rock.” Peter became the solid foundation upon which Christ’s Church would be built. No pagan power, false god, or earthly ruler would ever overcome what Christ established with divine authority.

Reflect today on the significance of the papacy. Even now, in the successor of Saint Peter, the words of Simon continue to echo throughout the world: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” This is the pope’s first and most important duty—to bear witness to Christ, the Son of God. Despite the personal weaknesses of some popes and the saintliness of others, it is Jesus who established Peter and his successors as the visible foundation of the Church. Pray for the Holy Father, and trust in the timeless witness of every pope since that first moment in Caesarea Philippi—a witness upheld not by human strength, but by Christ’s own promise. To profess faith in the papacy is to profess faith in the One who instituted it and endowed it with His divine authority.