

## Daily Reflections

### Sunday, Jan 31, 2021: FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Strengthen the partnership

The relationship between parishes and schools is long and intimate—important to note at the start of Catholic Schools Week. After the first Catholic diocese was established in the United States in Baltimore, pastors lobbied at once for schools and religious to staff them. Frontier pastors vowed to build the school first and the church later. They understood that without proper religious education, the parish venture would certainly fail. Today, celebrate this essential partnership with a holy hour, candlelight prayer vigil, or special project in the parish for young people and their supporters.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28 (71). "What is this? A new teaching with authority."

**Monday, Feb 01, 2021:** Example is the best education.

Each day of Catholic Schools Week is the celebration of a component of Catholic education. Today we look at the experience of community. Through the relationships and interactions of service activities in the community and class trips to other environs, students get to practice the values they learn in their Catholic education and experience what it feels like to be making the world a better place. Plus they get a chance to observe others in community service and come to appreciate how they can continue caring for others their entire lives. Today, be an example of service to others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323). "[A]nnounce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."

**Tuesday, Feb 02, 2021: FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

Teach a faith that grows on you.

Mary and Joseph bring their beloved firstborn to the temple at the appointed time, so Jesus can enter into the covenant with Yahweh that Jews have revered since Abraham. Not unlike infant Baptism today, it was—among other things—a powerful ritual of belonging that put the child on the right path to growing in faith. As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week—with the focus today being squarely on “the student”—may we never forget or neglect the promise of every young soul, so receptive to our efforts to plant the seeds of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524). "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."

**Wednesday, Feb 03, 2021: One nation, under God.**

Catholic schools have made a unique contribution to the nation, and today we can recognize and celebrate that contribution. At their very best, Catholic schools train students to grow both as members of the Catholic church and as productive citizens of the nation. By “rendering to Caesar and to God,” Catholic schools in the United States have managed to achieve that rare combination in world history, the development of a relatively harmonious church-state relationship that has endured for centuries. See the NCEA website for suggestions on how to celebrate the nation during Catholic Schools Week.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6 (325). "Many who heard him were astonished. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him?'"

**Thursday, Feb 04, 2021: Line things up**

Catholic schools prepare students to discover their vocation, so they can grow to use their gifts in service of church and world. Over the years, our notion of “vocation” has broadened significantly. A word that once designated those who take religious vows or are ordained into ministry is now used more broadly. No one defined vocation better than essayist and theologian Carl Frederick Buechner: “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” Are the two aligned in your life? And if not, how can you bring them into alignment?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13 (326). "Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two."

**Friday, Feb 05, 2021:** Thank those who opened your mind

Where would any of us be without our teachers? They did everything from helping us with our “three R’s” to opening our minds to new ways of seeing the world. The really great teachers taught us how to learn for ourselves and thus set us up for a lifetime of discovery and fulfillment. When was the last time you thanked a teacher? Today is the day Catholic Schools Week pays special attention to the faculty, staff, and volunteers that make it possible for these great schools to function. See the NCEA website for suggestions on how to give thanks and recognition.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327). "The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid."

**Saturday, Feb 06, 2021: Make faith a family affair**

We close Catholic Schools Week by recognizing the central role in Catholic education played by the family. The Second Vatican Council called the family “the domestic church” because it is in the home that faith is first formed and nurtured. Whether you live alone or with others, your home can be a sacred space of prayer and spirituality. Creating sacred space in your home includes prayer and scripture readings at meal times and before bed; praying the Rosary; placing a crucifix in a prominent place; and family traditions based on the liturgical seasons. Look for ways to recognize the family’s role in Catholic education and also ways to make your home a domestic church. Have at it!

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328). "The Apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught."

*Dear Lord, in these troubled times make your presence known to all the peoples around the world so that they may see peace as the only way to salvation. Replace the anger and violence in our hearts with joy and tranquility and help us to seek the good in everyone. Cause us all to realize that without you we can do nothing that will bring us peace and joy. Thank you for hearing and answering our prayers. Amen.*

## ST. MARY'S Catholic Church

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**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Jan 31, 2021**

### 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.**

**Reverend Robert Sayer,  
Pastor  
(843) 957-2198  
[Rsayer@Charlestdioocese.org](mailto:Rsayer@Charlestdioocese.org)**

**Ann Mitchum  
Parish Secretary**

**Diocesan Office of Child  
Protection Services  
843-261-0430**

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Minister 843-856-0748**

### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	8:00am
Sunday	9:30am
Wednesday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am
Confessions Wed & Friday 8:00 – 8:30	

. Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament - the first Friday  
of the month following Mass

## PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES



**WELCOME: Welcome to St. Mary's!** Although we are not fully participating in our Parish Mass and activities at this time, we look forward to returning to normal schedules and opportunities to meet and greet each other once again. In the meantime, we pray that all our parishioners and their families remain safe and well during these most unusual times!

**ST. MARY'S OUTREACH:** We will resume food collections in 2021. "Well done, my good and faithful servant". THANK YOU!

**ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB:** We are reading "The Girl's Still Got It" by Liz Curtis Higgs. "Take a walk with Ruth. Hold Naomi's hand and watch love put the pieces of her broken life back together." Our next meeting is

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at 1PM.** We meet at Lynn's house (4199 Hwy 165) OR via Zoom. If you would like an invitation to the Zoom meeting, just leave a message with your email at (843) 729-1644. Everyone is welcome to join us at any time.

**St. Mary's Outreach** is selling Note cards. All can be viewed in the parish center. Prices are marked.

**Contribution Statements for 2020 have been mailed out. If you did not get one please email the office.**

**Volunteers Wanted:** To help count Sunday donations, usually after 9:30 Mass on Sunday. If interested, please email Carolyn at: [carolyn29449@email.com](mailto:carolyn29449@email.com)



Doyle Adams, Linda Adams, K. Baker, d, Barbara Barrs, Hazel Basilio, , Chester Broton, Jr., Betty Butler, Allison Condon Chappell, Jack Cooper, Maryanne Cortez, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Ken Fleming, Larry Gerth, Ruth Gerth, Bob Glenn, Elizabeth Good, Hugh Gorman, Sally Gorman, Krista Groover, Petrina Jacques, Mary & Rod Jaros, DeeDee Huck, Judy Lumpkin (Mother of Michael) ,Milagros Lamar, Rowena Aquino Livingston, Susan Mance, Jane Morley, Mary Lydia Moskow, Sarah Proulx, Father Bob Sayer, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Eloise Stroud, Richard Unger Larry Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Edward Wolf, Jose Yabut, and All Parishioner of our parish family..

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**Record of Faithfulness**  
**Thanks to all who have mailed in their contributions.**  
**01/24/2021**

Envelopes:	\$ 6825.00	Main&Repair	\$ 50.00
Loose	\$ 10.00	Latin America	\$ 300.00
		Flowers	\$ 90.00
Total	\$ 6835.00	Memorial	\$ 50.00

Attendance 8 am 25 9:30 am 24

**Please call or email the rectory at: (843) 889-8549, [stmarys165@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:stmarys165@charlestdiocese.org) or [stmarys165@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys165@gmail.com) with any bulletin announcements.**

**Please pray for our country in this time of unrest that we may come through this as a more united and fair-minded nation. FOR OUR NATION:**

Please Welcome J. Dennis Jarvis to our St. Mary's parish family.

Please remember Eustolia DeVilleneuve in your prayers. She is the mother of Eustolia Marquez who passed away January 21st at age 90. She was a longtime member of St. Mary's.

**The family of Beatrice "Bea" Clair** thank our friends at St.Mary's for your kindness and support in recent weeks. Your prayers & expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. God bless you all. Bobby & Dena

### **What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? (Mark 1:24)**

Talk about bursting onto the scene! Of course the demon possessing this man couldn't tolerate being around Jesus. But wouldn't it have been wiser to slink away rather than draw attention to himself? It happened a lot, in fact. Jesus would show up somewhere or reveal his glory in some way, and his presence would prompt resistance and sometimes even violent outbursts.

This wasn't true just of demons. At the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus' announcement of the good news enraged enough people that they tried to push him off a cliff (Luke 4:24-30). Then, after only a few weeks of preaching and performing miracles, Jesus upset some Pharisees enough that they began plotting his murder (Mark 3:6). Not even his closest disciples were immune. Jesus' revelation of God's plan to save us through his cross upset Peter enough that he rebuked Jesus (Matthew 16:22).

In one way or another, we have all reacted strongly against Jesus and his message of salvation. We all have pockets of darkness still lingering in our hearts. Maybe you refused to forgive someone. Maybe you knowingly chose sin in a tempting situation. Or maybe you denigrated a fellow believer who thinks differently than you do. Still, Jesus continues to love you and offer the grace you need to change. What was true in that synagogue in Capernaum is still true today: the darkness of sin can never overpower the light of Christ.

Don't be surprised if you experience some form of opposition to Jesus in your heart today—maybe in prayer or as you're trying to focus at Mass or as an opportunity to serve your family arises. Instead, take comfort from it. Trust that the light of Christ will not only expose your darkness; it can expel it as well.

***"Thank you, Jesus, for exposing my darkness—and for setting me free from it!"***

*Word Among Us*