



St. Mary's Catholic Church



Greenville, South Carolina

30 November 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

"It was December, and another Christmas was at our throats." The English humorist P.G. Wodehouse thus described the unholy frenzy that too often accompanies the approach of December 25th, and it is a sentiment most of us can readily understand. To avoid succumbing to that feeling, we need to see what the Grinch perceived with wonder from the summit of Mt. Crumpit: That Christmas "came without ribbons; it came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags." And the very best way to arrive at this insight is to keep a holy Advent.

The twin peaks of the liturgical year are Easter and Christmas, and both of these celebrations are preceded by a period of preparation. The purple of penance must come before the gold of glory revealed in Christ's Birth and Resurrection, and this is where the cultural and secular observance of Christmas can get in the way of a good Advent. On the radio and at the mall, Christmas has already been at our throats for some time, but today is only the first Sunday of Advent. And on December 26th when the Church is just beginning to celebrate the liturgical season of Christmas, evergreen trees will pile up on the curb and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer will disappear until next Halloween. Let's just say STOP!

We now have four weeks in which to ponder the profound mystery of Christ coming to us for our salvation. In the past he did come to suffer and die for us. In the present he does come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. And in the future he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead. All three of these "advents" are part of this beautiful season of the liturgy, and if we attend to the Church's rhythm of prayer, penance and preparation, then when Christmas Eve arrives, we will not be exhausted; we will be elated.

So, how to do this? 1) Get an Advent wreath and light it at home each night while praying the Collect from Mass that day. 2) Pray the Liturgy of the Hours, particularly each Sunday afternoon at 5 pm here in the church. 3) Come to Mass on weekdays as often as possible during Advent. Weekday Mass has a quiet, meditative quality that steals into our hearts and minds, and Advent is deeply enriched by Mass each day. 4) Encourage your family and friends to think of things other than packages, boxes or bags. Make a donation in someone's name to Catholic Charities or Catholic Relief Services. Write a letter to someone you love to tell them so. Volunteer to serve someone in need. 5) Go to Confession so that your Christmas Communion will truly be holy.

December is upon us, but another Christmas need not be at our throats. It can be in our hearts with joy beyond all telling if we prepare with a worthy Advent.

Father Newman

MASS COLLECTS FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

(May be used at home when lighting your Advent Wreath)

Sunday 30 November

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Monday 1 December

Keep us alert, we pray, O Lord our God,
as we await the advent of Christ your Son,
so that, when he comes and knocks,
he may find us watchful in prayer
and exultant in his praise.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Tuesday 2 December

Look with favor, Lord God, on our petitions,
and in our trials grant us your compassionate help,
that, consoled by the presence of your Son,
whose coming we now await,
we may be tainted no longer
by the corruption of former ways.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Wednesday 3 December

Prepare our hearts, we pray, O Lord our God,
by your divine power,
so that at the coming of Christ your Son
we may be found worthy of the banquet of eternal life
and merit to receive heavenly nourishment from his hands.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Thursday 4 December

Stir up your power, O Lord,
and come to our help with mighty strength,
that what our sins impede
the grace of your mercy may hasten.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Friday 5 December

Stir up your power, we pray, O Lord, and come,
that with you to protect us,
we may find rescue
from the pressing dangers of our sins,
and with you to set us free,
we may be found worthy of salvation.
Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saturday 6 December

O God, who sent your Only Begotten Son into this world
to free the human race from its ancient enslavement,
bestow on those who devoutly await him
the grace of your compassion from on high,
that we may attain the prize of true freedom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

st. mary's catholic church

Presents

How to Read the Bible

What Every Catholic Needs to Know About Scripture

Saturday

6 December 2014

8.30 am — Mass in the Church

9.00 am — Coffee and Doughnuts in Gallivan Hall

9.30 am — Delving Deep into Scripture by Fr. Jay Scott Newman

10.40 am — The Story of the Bible by T.J. Nielsen

11.40 am — This Year's Gospel (St. Mark) by Fr. Jon Chalmers

12.30 pm — Workshop Ends

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Downtown Greenville

www.stmarysgvl.org

for planning purposes please RSVP if attending

by contacting T.J. Nielsen:

timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org or 864.679.4114

Calendar of Events

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, 30 November 2014

7.30 am ✱ Mack Pazdan
 9.00 am David & Maryann Shea
 11.00 am Pro populo
 1.00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, 1 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ George Leslie Sharp

Tuesday, 2 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Mary Jo Bowman
 12.00 noon Stephen & Karen Polce

Wednesday, 3 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Louie & Violet Howayeck
 12.00 noon ✱ Gary Gamble

Thursday, 4 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Ana Arroyave
 12.00 noon ✱ Elisabeth W. McAfee

Friday, 5 December 2014

7.00 am ✱ Genevieve Murtaugh

Saturday, 6 December 2014

5.00 pm ✱ Carol Chase

Meetings & Events *

Sunday, 30 November 2014

No Nursery this week
No coffee & doughnuts this week
No 3 & 4 Year Olds class this week
No High School Youth Group
 9.00 am Scripture Study
 10.10 am Morning Prayer (McGrady)
 5.00 pm Vespers (church)

Monday, 1 December 2014

6.00 pm Altar Server Training (church)
 6.30 pm Boy Scout Meeting (McGrady)
 6.30 pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday, 2 December 2014

1.00 pm Senior Men's Club
 6.00 pm Altar Server Training (church)

Wednesday, 3 December 2014

5.00-6.00 pm Holy Hour & Confessions (church)
 6.30-7.30 pm Religious Education
 6.30-7.30 pm RCIA

Thursday, 4 December 2014

2.30 pm Cenacles/Rosary
 3.30 pm Prayer Meeting

Friday, 5 December 2014

6.15 am Morning Prayer (church)
 6.30-8.00 am Pillars of Christ
 10.00 am Scripture Study Class
 3.10-4.45 pm Youth Choir Practice

Saturday, 6 December 2014

8.00-9.00 am Rosary at Grove Road abortion clinic
 3.30-4.30 pm Confessions (church)

* All events in Sacred Heart Hall unless a location is listed.

Financial Report

Weekend of 22/23 November

Needed	32,000
Received	29,161
Shortage	2,839

Poor Box	216
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Offertory Year to Date

Needed	704,000
Received	666,656
Shortage	37,344

Electronic Giving: If you want to have direct management of your Electronic Fund Transfer online, you can now do so through the "Manage Your EFT" link on the homepage of our website. For more information or if you have any questions please contact Jennifer Doiron at jennifer.doiron@stmarysgvl.org.



Facebook

'Like' us on Facebook at St. Mary's Catholic Church Greenville SC.

Visit us on the web at www.stmarysgvl.org

Advent Resources

Magnificat Advent Companion



A perfect way to live Advent to the full this year. This pocket-sized Companion follows a practical, page-a-day format featuring original meditations on the Gospel reading of each day by nineteen gifted authors.

Ebooks available
kindle nook kobo
Available on the iPhone App Store

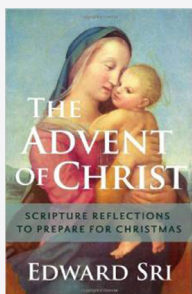
This year, journey through
Advent with Fr. Robert Barron:

Daily reflections, exclusive videos,
special discounts, and free giveaways!

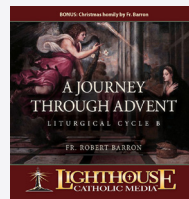
adventreflections.com



The Advent of Christ by Edward Sri



Perhaps the Christmas story has become almost too familiar. A virgin giving birth. A child laid in a manger. Shepherds greeted by angels. The Christmas story has become so familiar that the profound, even shocking, nature of the incarnation might be overlooked. But what if we had never heard the story before? What if we were hearing it for the first time, like the first-century Jews? These events certainly would not be taken for granted—they would signal something new: the dawning of the long-awaited Messiah. Available at [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#)

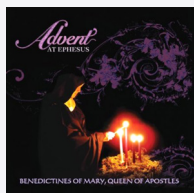


Journey Through Advent Liturgical Cycle B

Get the most out of Advent by following along with Fr. Robert Barron's homilies as he unpacks these profound Scripture readings. The homilies presented on this CD will correspond to the Scriptures for Sunday Masses throughout Advent and Christmas 2014.

Available at LighthouseCatholicMedia.org
in CD and MP3 formats.

Advent at Ephesus



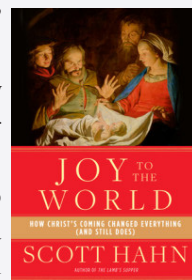
This unique CD is recorded by the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles: a young, monastic order of Sisters located in rural Missouri, dedicated to prayer for priests. Advent at Ephesus includes an amazing variety of traditional Latin and English hymns, polyphony, Gregorian Chant, medieval harmonies and an original piece to prayerfully lead you through the sacred season in preparation for Christmas.

Available at [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#)

Joy to the World: How Christ's Coming Changed Everything (and Still Does) by Scott Hahn

What could be more familiar than the Christmas story — and yet what could be more extraordinary? The cast of characters is strange and exotic: shepherds and magicians, an emperor and a despot, angels, and a baby who is Almighty God. The strangeness calls for an explanation, and this book provides it by examining the characters and the story in light of the biblical and historical context. Bestselling author Scott Hahn who has written extensively on Scripture and the early Church, brings evidence to light, dispelling some of the mystery of the story. Yet Christmas is made familiar all over again by showing it to be a family story. Christmas, as it appears in the New Testament, is the story of a father, a mother, and a child — their relationships, their interactions, their principles, their individual lives, and their common life. To see the life of this “earthly trinity” is to gaze into heaven.

Available on [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#).



Prayer Requests

Please pray for all those who are hospitalized and for all those who are shut-ins, ill or recuperating at home, especially Alan Howard, Alice Howard, Ronald Labbe, Andrew Brett, Cassandra Gomes, Paulina Cruz, Brett Gervais, Judy Byrum and Charles Moran.

Wednesday Holy Hour & Confessions

Please Note These Changes

We will not hear Confessions on

Wednesday 24 December 2014

Wednesday 31 December 2014

Thank you.

Father Newman

PARISH NEWS

Collection for 29/30 November

Support of the Parish

Immaculate Conception - 8 December

Holy Day of Obligation

We will celebrate three Masses on 8 December for the Immaculate Conception - the patronal feast of the Church in the United States - at 7 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm.

Welcome Newcomers

We welcome the following new member to our parish family: Miss Clare Riordan.

New Altar Server Training

A training session for all boys and young men who are interested in becoming altar servers at Saint Mary's is scheduled for Monday 1 December from 6 to 7.30 pm. A back up date of Tuesday 2 December is set for those who cannot make it on the 1st. Serving is open to all boys and young men who are ten years of age from the fifth grade to college age. For more information please see the St. Mary's website at stmarysgvl.org/our-parish/parish-organizations or contact Deacon John Heuser at 864.365.7845

Christmas Flowers



St. Mary's parishioners are encouraged to participate in helping to decorate our church and gym for the Christmas liturgies. Each year we set up a Christmas

Flower Fund for that purpose. If you wish to honor a loved one, living or deceased, please send in your donation in the Christmas Flower envelope available in your envelope packet (or use a plain white envelope).

Please print your names and the names of those whom you wish to honor. The names need to be submitted to the church office no later than **Friday 12 December**.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Friday Morning Bible Study

The Friday Morning Bible Study is starting a study of the Epistle of St. James on 5 December. Anyone interested in joining the group is welcome. Please call Sue Prevost at 288.6649.

Catholic Fellowship Dinners

If you would like to enjoy a good meal and fellowship you are invited to attend the evening dinners and socials held throughout the year. Our next get together will be **6 December (new date)**. Meet and greet new and old friends of our parishes. Come join us! For information call Judy at 864.884.9853.

St. Mary's Wedding Committee

The Wedding Committee is a team of volunteer women who help coordinate the weddings that take place at St. Mary's during the year. They are asking for new volunteers to join their team. You would be asked to help at the Friday evening rehearsal and Saturday wedding for a few hours several times a year. If interested please contact Cathy Markway at cmarkway@bellsouth.net.

Christmas Bake Sale



**After all English Masses
December 6-7, 2014
in the Macalka Dining Room of Pazdan Hall**



2014 Window Ornament—"Pray and Labor"

Cakes Cookies Candies Pies Jams
Christmas Cards Note Cards More!

Sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club

President Veronica Yockey, veronica.yockey@juno.com or 864-246-5777

Your purchases enable us to support our church and various Catholic charities.
Thank you for your continued support!

Bulletin Submissions

To submit items for the e-bulletin, contact Lisa Watkins at lisa.watkins@stmarysgvl.org. The deadline for items is 12 days prior to the bulletin date.

St. Mary's Prayer Chain Ministry

St. Mary's Prayer Chain is a network of parishioners who receive prayer requests by telephone and then pray for those requests. Please call the office at 864.271.8422, ext 127 to submit your requests. Information received will be kept confidential.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Sunday Mornings for 3 & 4 Year Olds

No class 30 November.

Religious Education Grades 1-8

Classes meet Wednesdays from 6.30-7.30 pm.

Family Honor *Real Love & Real Life*

Do You Need Help in Talking to Your Child About Chastity?

Would you like to jump-start communication with your son or daughter? Do you need help in talking to your child about chastity, sexuality, marriage, dating and other important topics? Would you like to spend time with other families who share your values and want the best for their children? Would you like to do all this in an environment that is relaxed, fun and respects the dignity of everyone present?

If you answered yes to any of these questions and you're the parent of 7th, 8th, & 9th grade child, we encourage you to register for the Real Love & Real Life parent-child program, to be held at here at St. Mary's on 11, 18 & 25 March 2015 from 6.30-8.45 pm. This fun and informative three sessions program is for parents to attend with your 7th, 8th, & 9th grader. You'll see and hear skits, video clips and informative presenters. You can also participate in group breakout sessions and interactive games. Topics include: communication skills, chastity, dating and marriage, true self worth, fertility appreciation, friendships and lots more. Most importantly, this program gives you focused time with your child to talk about some of the most important topics in life.

The Real Love & Real Life program is presented by Family Honor, a national organization that creates opportunities and provides tools to help parents and children connect and communicate about important life issues, with a special focus on God's gift of sexuality. Pre-registration is required.

Registration deadline is 27 February 2015. Register online with Family Honor at
familyhonor.org/programs/find-a-family-honor-program-near-you/

ST. MARY'S

Program of Catholic Studies



SPRING 2015 COURSE OFFERINGS



Tuesday 8.30 am — *The Blessed Trinity: and Our Christian Vocation* (Instructors: T.J. Nielsen and Tony Owens)

Wednesday 6.30 pm — *The Blessed Trinity: and Our Christian Vocation* (Instructors: Tom Whalen and Nestor Acosta)

Thursday 6.30 pm — *Our Moral Life in Christ* (Instructors: Joe Beauchemin, Joe Sanfilippo, T.J. Nielsen)

MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER

See our full booklet and registration form on the parish website,
www.stmarysgvl.org/catechesis/programofcatholicstudies

Call or email T.J. Nielsen at 864.679.4114 or timothy.nielsen@stmarysgvl.org

REGISTRATION ENDS 14 DECEMBER

Classes begin week of 4 Jan 2015

THE BLESSED TRINITY: AND OUR CHRISTIAN VOCATION

This course analyzes the Divine Life of God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — as revealed in Sacred Scripture. It studies the Christian vocation and how God invites us to be in communion with him, so that we can share in the divine life that he has prepared for us from all eternity.

OUR MORAL LIFE IN CHRIST

This course presents a study of the moral life in Christ — based on his teachings in the Gospels, the Ten Commandments, and the beatitudes — which enable Christians, with God's grace, to imitate the life of Christ in their lives, to make correct moral decisions, and spread the Kingdom of God on earth in their journey toward eternal salvation.

PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Mary Magdalene

A key card is required to enter the chapel. If you would like to sign up as an adorer or regular visitor, or just visit for the day, please come to the St. Mary Magdalene parish office Monday - Friday, between 9.00 am and 3.30 pm.

Prince of Peace

Please contact Tom O'Donnell (POP parishioner and Guild coordinator) at 864.610.0588 if you would like to take one of these hours.

Hours in need of an adorer

Monday 4 am
Wednesday 2 am & 11 pm
Thursday 1 am
Friday 4 am & 12 pm
Saturday 3 am

Holy Hour for Vocations

Prince of Peace in Taylors will be having a Holy Hour for Vocation on Friday 5 December at 7 pm to pray for vocation to the priesthood and for the sanctification of the clergy.

Advent Penance Services

Monday 15 December
St. Mary Magdalene
7-8 pm

Friday 19 December
St. Joseph (Anderson)

Rosaries for Life

The Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Charleston would like to thank everyone who prays for the Sanctity of All Human Life. In October there were over 10,000 Rosaries for Life prayed here in South Carolina. Thank you to everyone who participated. For more information, please contact Christy Brown 803.554.6088.

St. Joseph's Christmas Concerts - 9 & 10 December

The school's Fine Arts Department will sponsor two Middle School Christmas Concerts off campus while the school chapel is under construction: 1) On Tuesday 9 December the Band, Strings, and Dance Ensembles will perform at the J.L. Mann High School auditorium at 7.00 pm. 2) On Wednesday, 10 December the Middle School Choral Ensemble will perform at the Mauldin Cultural Center at 7.00 pm. Admission for both concerts is free of charge.

St. Mary's Catholic Church Women's Club 2014 Ornament Information and Order Form

3.25" x 2" Gold Plated Frame



The first window on the right after entering the Church from Washington Street

2014 ORNAMENT ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Number of Ornaments @ \$16.00 each: _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to: St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club
Mail to: Andrea Phillips, 221 Holly Dr., Easley, SC 29640
For More Information Contact Andrea at
aphillips@greenvillecounty.org or 864-320-1492

Profit from ornament sales will be disbursed to various Catholic charities at the end of the Club's year in May.

Thank you for your continued support of our Mission to serve the church and our community!

Ornaments may be picked up at the SMCWC's Christmas Bake Sale after all English Masses on 6-7 December in the Macalka Dining Room of Pazdan Hall.



All young adults (18-39)
are welcomed & encouraged to join
our ministry whose mission is to help
young adults answer the universal call to holiness.

Worship

1 December - Hour of Grace: Adoration & Confession at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School (311 Gower St., Greenville, SC 29611) at 7.00 pm. Begin your Advent with an opportunity to adore Christ and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Father Tuttle. Praise & worship style music will be played by LVG's own, Lorena R! Join us in the CHAPEL of the SCHOOL! RSVP on the Facebook event.

8 December - Mass for the Immaculate Conception at St. Mary's in downtown. Those interested in going to dinner afterwards are invited to come to Carolina Ale House (113 S. Main Street). Please contact Claudia W. at 864.449.8249 with any questions.

18 December - Women's Rosary Group at 7.30 pm. The hostess for this time is TBD...but go ahead and mark your calendars for the date and time!

Fellowship

5 December - Anticipation of Christmas Party at Fitzpatrick's Irish Pub (1565 Laurens Rd, Greenville, SC 29607) at 7.30 pm. RSVP on the Facebook event.

Study

Men's Book Study

Men of Greenville, join your brothers at The Community Tap in a book study of *Be A Man!: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be* by Fr. Larry Richards to rediscover the importance of the spiritual life. Meet at 6.30 pm with discussion from 6.45-8 pm. Contact Dan at 412.651.5333 with questions.

Remaining schedule:

9 December	Chapter 7
30 December	No meeting -Break for Advent
13 January	Chapter 8
27 January	Chapter 9
10 February	Chapter 10
17 February	Prayer in Perpetual Adoration Chapel in preparation for Lent, followed by Fat Tuesday Celebration

LVG Bible Study

The Bible study will resume with St. Mark's Gospel in January. More details to follow.



In an effort to serve those in our community that have unmet technological needs, LVG is announcing an effort to collect your unused technology items. We will be refurbishing items, as needed, and donating them to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for use with those who demonstrate the need for a computer, printer, etc. As most of you are aware, we live in a world with increasing technological needs for education, training, job seeking, and more. This is a need that is out of the reach for many financially.

How to get items to LVG:

- drop off at Elgin Williamson Enterprises @ 942 South Main Street Greenville, SC 29601 (located across from the Greenville Drive). Ask for Claudia W. Open 9-5, Monday-Friday.
- bring your donation to any LVG event
- give your donation to any member of our Leadership Team

Father Jay Scott Newman, VF
Pastor of St. Mary's Church
pastor@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4101

Father Jon Chalmers
Administrator of St. Anselm's Community
fatherchalmers@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4121

Father Francisco Cruz
Assisting Priest
fathercruz@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4116

Father Bart Leon
Administrator of St. Rafka Church
bartleon@gmail.com
864.469.9119

Deacon Diego Ferro
Director of Hispanic Ministry
diego.ferro@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4112

Deacon John Heuser
Director of Liturgical Ministries
john.heuser@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4113

Deacon George Tierney
Director of Diaconal Ministries
george.tierney@stmarysgvl.org
864.679.4115

Vickie Acosta
Executive Assistant to the Pastor
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864.679.4100

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