

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

March 30, 2025

317 Broad Street (Corner Broad & Highmarket), Georgetown, SC 29440 * Established 1899 * Dedicated 1902



A Church of the Diocese of Charleston

Rev. Anthony Swamy, MSSCC

Parish Administrator

Rev. Deacon Michael Brescia

Karen Macedo

Interim Parish Secretary

Cecilia Carlton

Director of Religious Education

Kathy Adams

Hispanic Ministries Coordinator

Email: stmarygeorgetown@charlestdiocese.org

Website: www.stmaryourladyofransom.org

Facebook: St Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

Parish Organizations

Pastoral Council:

Anneva White

Hispanic Ministry Council:

Max Angeles

Finance Council:

Mary Lee

Buildings and Grounds Task Force:

Phil Lazzari

Organist/Choir Director:

Edwin Hopkins

Choir Practice: Sunday 9:15 AM

Altar Society:

Amy Wagner, President

Paula Lareau, Vice-President

Lazarus Committee:

Diane Macedo

Neena McMahan

Knights of Columbus:

Mike Macedo

Office Hours:

Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Phone: 843-546-7416

Fax: 843-546-7003



Worship Schedule

Sunday	8:00 AM / 10:00 AM / 1:00 PM (Spanish)
Monday	8:00 AM
Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday	5:30 PM and Adoration 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Thursday & Friday	8:00 AM
Saturday	5:00 PM

Confessions: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 PM and Sunday 12:15 - 12:45 PM

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 29, 5:00 PM
† Colin Peterson
by Amy and Doug Wagner

Sunday, March 30, 8 AM
† Raymond Leonard
by Mary Lou Leonard

Sunday, March 30, 10:00 AM
† Antoniette Drouart
by Jennifer Pizzi

Sunday, March 30, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Monday, March 31, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, April 1
No Mass

Wednesday, April 2, 5:30 PM
† Eva Klaras
by Barbara Mathis

Thursday, April 3, 8:00 AM
† Donald and † Jeanne Deporter
by Donna and Mike Saguto

Friday, April 4, 8:00 AM
† Amy Rowe
by John Bagnell

Saturday, April 5, 5:00 PM
† Colin Peterson
by Anne and Dave Starnes

Sunday, April 6, 8:00 AM
† Helen Wojciechowski
by Mary Lou Leonard

Sunday, April 6, 10:00 AM
People of the Parish

Sunday, April 6, 1:00 PM
Esmeralda Tagui
by Paula Hernandez

Parish Support

The offertory collection for March 22nd and 23rd was \$5,731.00 **This includes \$1,028.00 from online giving.** This is \$969.00 under our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

*Thank you for worshipping with us!
If we can help you in your walk with Christ
in any way, please call the church office.*

A Promise to Protect,

A Pledge to Heal

*Our goal at St Mary remains that the Parish
be aware of and support the Safe Environ-
ment we seek to foster.*

Attention All Volunteers!

Please make sure to complete all Safe Environment requirements in order to be in compliance with the Diocese. If you have any interactions with children or vulnerable adults which include any person over the age of 18 whose ability to perform normal activities of daily living is impaired due to a mental, emotional, long-term physical or developmental disability or dysfunction, brain damage, or the infirmities of aging.



Pray for the homebound, those in healthcare centers, and those who need your continuous thoughts and prayers: Barbara Mahaffey, Betty Barr, James A. Harrelson Sr., and Agnes Edwards.

Pray for the speedy, or continued, recovery of:

Ed Wozniak, Jim Lauro, Fred Fisher, Tom Lusby, Sigrid Smith, London Gomez, Diane Maslowski, Ann Boone, Mandy Moore, Barbara Natoli, Sharon Jordan, Deacon Mike, Jill Saparito, Stephanie Marsh Johnston, Brandi Gunter, Betty Chrismon, Helena Blackowitz, Bill Fowler, Bob Roberts, Brian L. Brodzik, and Mary Cavallieri.

Pray for those in our Military:

Nathan Greene, Brandon Parker, Joseph Fairfield, J. Thomas Joseph, Jason A. Schroeder, Tirik Drayton, Jay Rivers, Brian Eduardo Vazquez, Matthew Mathis, Alexis Martinez Bermudez, Paloma Martinez Bermudez, Ricky Rogerson, Myles Starnes, Julio Madrigal Martinez and Ivan Morales.

Rose Altar Cloth and Chalice Veil

This Sunday we celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Lent, Laetare Sunday, marking the halfway point of our Lenten journey. Today is a day of relaxation and hope for Easter Sunday is in sight. The liturgical color for the Fourth Sunday in Lent is rose known as a lighter shade of violet in the Roman Rite. Used two Sundays out of the year, rose is also the liturgical color for Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent. The rose altar cloth and chalice veil were purchased recently with donations to the Altar Society received in memory of Natalie Wozniak, a member of St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom and the Altar Society. The loving wife of parishioner Ed Wozniak, Natalie passed away in January of this year.

Lenten Penance Services

Lent is a wonderful time to come to our Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The one confirmed Penance Service at this time is at Precious Blood of Christ from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Monday, April 10th.

Easter Flowers

As we approach Easter, please consider contributing towards our Easter flowers in memory or honor of your loved ones. You can use the envelopes in your packet or the ones in the pews for this purpose. Your envelopes will be on the altar for the Easter Vigil Mass and will be remembered in our prayers then. Thanks so much for your generosity!

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities for their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 6:00 pm during Lent. Immediately following, everyone is invited to enjoy a Soup and Bread Supper in the Parish Hall. If you would like to bring a soup or some bread, there are signup sheets in the narthex of the church.

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

God who wills good things for your children, Help me to trust that You will be faithful. God who will not leave me, Help me to seek You, too. God who is ever-waiting for me, Help me to run straight towards You.

Amen. ©LPI

Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"



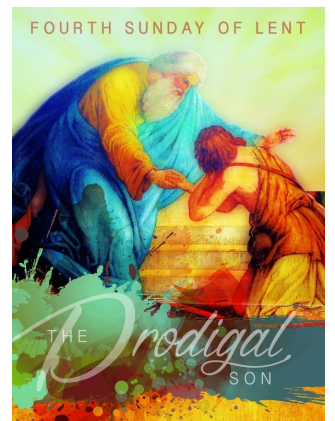
Thanks to all who volunteered to collect donations at this weekend's Columbus Hope fundraising drive at Walmart. These funds will be donated to three worthy charities: The J.O.Y School, Special Olympics, and Georgetown County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs.

Our Council will be holding a Knights recruiting drive at all Masses the weekend of April 5th-6th. We will need about three or four Knight volunteers at each Mass to provide prospective candidates with information packets. Please contact GK Mike Macedo if you can assist with this important event.

Thanks to the volunteers from our Council who staffed a water station at the Georgetown Bridge 2 Bridge run on March 29th.

The McClellanville Shrimp Festival will be on May 3rd. Our council will be parking cars on John Cross's property as in past years. This is a big fund raiser for our charity fund. We need volunteers for both the morning and afternoon shifts to direct people to the correct parking spots and to collect the parking fees. If you can volunteer, please contact Dwight Frazier by phone or text at 609-351-4422.

Our Council will be supplying the soup and bread after Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 11th. If you can provide a meatless soup or bread, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



Fourth Sunday of Lent



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12 Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)
2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday: Is 65:17-21 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b
Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18
Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-23 Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-21, 23
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12 Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21 Ps 126:1-6 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11

Liturgical Roles

April 5 Saturday 5:00 PM	April 6 Sunday 8:00 AM	April 6 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: P Ness	B Pittman	T Howard
Ushers: P Wolfe P Medved	T Clarke N Geisler D/T Corvelli	S/M Edwards B Kwarteng A Sanchez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
A Starnes A Wagner	N/B McMahan B Pittman	J Pizzi G Swierk D Wright
Altar Servers: M Carlton	B McMahan	J Angeles E Morales A Santos
Altar Care: M Roberts	MJ Clark	L Ortiz L Hernandez M Huerta
If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.		

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

4th Sunday of Lent

John 9:1-41

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. Something had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if you don't accept it was God who did it.

Father John Muir ©LPI

PARISH EVENTS



Mass Intentions may be arranged by calling the Parish Office at 843-546-7416.



To Dedicate Flowers for the Altar for 2025 please contact the Parish Office to confirm names and dates.

Gospel Study Group

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the Parish Life Center classroom. All are welcome. If you have questions or know someone interested in joining our group, please contact Mary Roberts 843-997-4800.

St. Mary's Altar Society

St Mary's Altar Society meets the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM in the Parish Hall. All ladies of the parish are invited to become active members. Please join us for a meeting to see if you would like to help with Altar care or linen laundry.

St. Mary's Rosary Group

St. Mary's Rosary group meets each Tuesday at 1:15 PM in the church to pray for special intentions and needs of family and friends. All are welcome (men and women) to come and pray the rosary together.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – THE APOLOGY

I like to imagine the Prodigal Son practicing his apology in the mirror. He wouldn't have, of course. Mirrors weren't exactly a dime a dozen back then. But I imagine him anyway, rehearsing the words as he contemplates his own gaunt reflection: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers." In other words, I have done wrong. I deserve nothing from you. But please, don't let me starve. Save me.

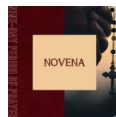
The apology wasn't necessary to move the heart of the father. We know that because before they meet, before anything is said, the father is overcome with compassion — not because he got his satisfaction, that long-awaited "I'm sorry, I was wrong." No, he's simply overjoyed to see his son alive. Even without apology, we know the father will beg his son to stay.

So why does the son apologize? The father doesn't need the "I'm sorry." He isn't starving and lost. He knew all along it was a bad idea. He doesn't need to learn any lessons. But what a tragedy it would have been, if the son had never said he was sorry. Undoubtedly, his father would have let him stay as a hired worker, and he would have had food to eat. He would have survived. But he wouldn't have been what he was born to be. I often think of the son's apology as I am kneeling in the confessional, awkwardly reciting sins God already knows and is eager to forgive. Why are you doing this? some people would ask. God doesn't need this. It's the apology, you see. The apology means everything. The Prodigal Son was dead. The apology brought him back to life. God doesn't need our repentance. We need our repentance.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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Devotions, Explained! Novena



A novena is a nine-day period of prayer focused on a specific topic, saint, or devotion. There are four basic categories of novenas — novenas of preparation, of mourning, of prayer, and of indulgence. This 9-day period of prayer can be traced back to the Acts of the Apostles.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

So you never have been that serious about a stewardship way of life? It's not that you have been greedy or unloving toward others. You give of yourself when you determine there is a real need. However, you haven't intentionally worked toward surrendering all you are, all you have, and all you do to your God. It's hard because when you compare yourself to others, you seem pretty good. You aren't some prodigal child who needs to return to God because you have lived a life full of sin and selfishness.

Yet, there lies the problem. We can easily feel we aren't so bad, so why change anything? We can lull ourselves into a belief that we will probably get to heaven, therefore why do more? Assurance of salvation is another topic, but basically we can look at our life as a series of transactions with God.

However, we shouldn't determine our actions based upon what we get. The actions of a loved one are due to the love for one's beloved. Jesus gave his life out of love for us. He has shown us what complete surrender looks like. He does not need our surrender but wants it because that is what those in love do. This Lent, perhaps our prayer should not be to simply be better stewards, but to love Him more. Then our motivation will not be based upon what we should do but on what we are moved to do out of love.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI