

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

August 17, 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@charlestondiocese.org

Website: www.stmaryourladyofransom.org

Facebook: St Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

Parish Organizations

Pastoral Council:

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:

Dwight Frazier

Office Hours:

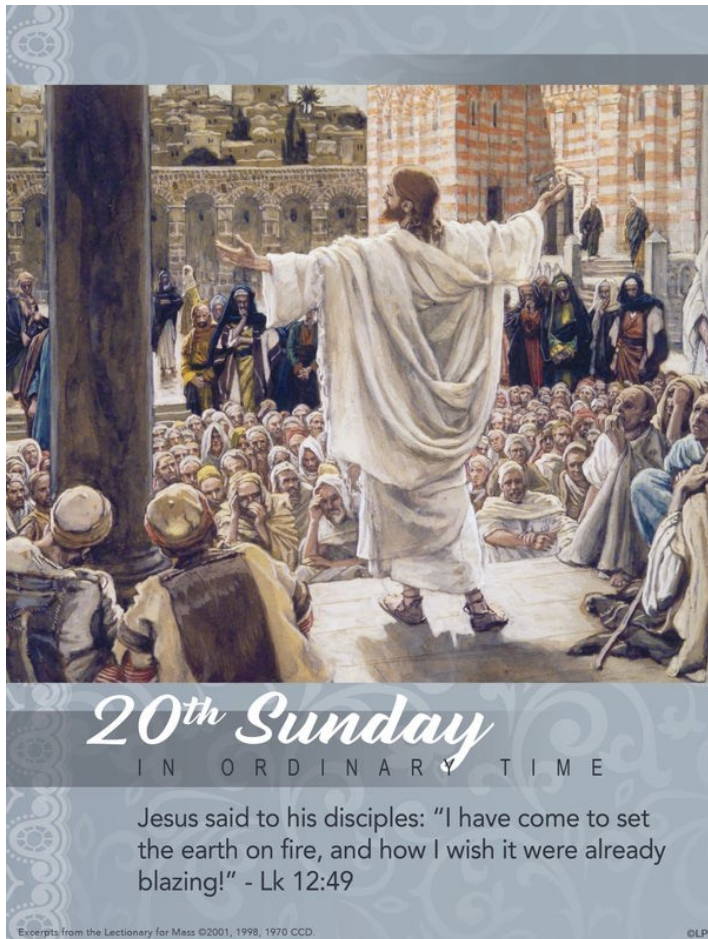
Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

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

August 17, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 16, 5:00 PM
† Tommy Lee
by Diane Stamm and Randy Courtney

Sunday, August 17, 8:00 AM
† Natalie Thomas
by Tonya Parisi

Sunday, August 17, 10:00 AM
† Geneva and † James Courtney
by Diane Stamm and Randy Courtney

Sunday, August 17, 1:00 PM
For his birthday
Diego Alan Martinez
by Maria Pucheta

Monday, August 18, 8:00 AM
† Mark Mika
by Tonya Parisi

Tuesday, August 19
No Mass

Wednesday, August 20, 5:30 PM
† Patricia Giordano
by Miriam Nolan

Thursday, August 21, 8:00 AM

Friday, August 22, 8:00 AM

Saturday, August 23, 5:00 PM
† Peggy Sheehan
by Terry and Wade Marsh

Sunday, August 24, 8:00 AM
† Thomas Clark
by Diane and Randy Courtney

Sunday, August 24, 10:00 AM
† Amelia Isaac
by Cheryl and Joe Isaac

Sunday, August 24, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Parish Support

The offertory collection for August 9th and 10th was \$5,973.00. **This includes \$1,173.00 from online giving.** This is \$727.00 under our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

The amount collected for Disaster Relief was \$720.00.

A Promise to Protect, A Pledge to Heal

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

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

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:

Betty Barr and James A. Harrelson Sr.

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, Jill Saparito, Stephanie Marsh Johnston, Brandi Gunter, Betty Chrismon, Helena Blackowitz, Bill Fowler, Bob Roberts, Brian L. Brodzik, Mary Cavalieri, Andy Crocker, Chet Maslowski, Cecilia McGee, Sandy Peterson, Fr. Dan Carson and Ann Wilson.

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.

Upcoming Events

Monday, August 18

Tuesday, August 19

Sunday, August 24

Sunday, August 24

Monday, August 25

Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:00 PM

Knights of Columbus Red Cross Blood Drive from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Participants leave for Guatemala Mission Trip

Food Sale from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting at 5:00 PM

Guatemala Mission Trip

There are eight parishioners, four adults and four students, who will be flying to Guatemala next Sunday, August 24 to participate in a mission trip sponsored by Catholic Charities. The primary objective of the mission is to offer essential healthcare services to the people of Guatemala, both at the mission site in San Pedro La Laguna and in surrounding small towns. Since the initial medical mission to San Pedro in 2008, the Diocese of Charleston has funded the construction of two additional floors for the existing building. Dental care is now one of the services provided during the mission, facilitated by the availability of dental equipment at the clinic. Please pray for all, including the people of Guatemala.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Luke 12:49-53

During my baseball career, my best coach often said, "You shouldn't be worried if I yell at you. Be worried if I don't. If I stop pushing you, it means I don't think you have any more potential." He demanded a lot, and I knew it meant he saw that I could be something special on the baseball field.

Jesus says some demanding words to us this week. "Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth?" he asks, "No, tell you, but rather division" (Luke 12:51). He wants you and me—in fact, all the earth—to participate in the luminous glory of God. That's why he speaks of himself as a divine arsonist. Divine fire is like a good coach: it demands the removal of all that obstructs the achievement of the lofty goal.

How is your life demanding right now? That inconvenient family situation, the unfair boss at work, the kids who reject their parents' wishes, the nagging health issue? Maybe things would be more peaceful devoid of these seemingly arbitrary difficulties. But for us who believe in the one who comes to set the earth of fire, we should be much more worried if he stops demanding so much from us. In fact, let's thank him for it. He sees how glorious we can become.

Father John Muir ©LPI



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

The Council is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on August 19th from 1pm – 6 pm. If you would like to donate blood, please sign up on the Red Cross website, or contact Jim Lauro at 610-513-2869.

Our next Columbus Hope Drive will be held at Walmart on August 29th and 30th. Please contact Tom Macedo if you can volunteer for a two-hour time slot on either or both of these days. All donations support three organizations that help people with special needs: Joy School, Special Olympics, and Georgetown County Board of Disabilities & Special Needs.

As always, Mike Allen who is our District Field Agent, is available to answer any questions a brother Knight may have concerning the Knights of Columbus insurance and financial products. You can contact Mike Allen at 803-397-7803 or mallen1072@aol.com

We encourage men of the parish that are not already Knights, to become a Knight of Columbus. You will find that becoming part of an organization that is based on Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism, and being a good Catholic gentleman is very fulfilling. If you are interested in becoming a Knight, you can contact Grand Knight Dwight Frazier at 609-351-4422 or any member of our council.

To Report Abuse

The Diocese of Charleston treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Louisa Storen, LISW at 843-856-0748 or 800-921-8122.

The Benefits of Membership • Active membership is determined by regular attendance at Mass, regular use of your envelope to support the Parish, and having a registration form on file for at least six months. Various facilities and services are available to active members. Requests for envelopes should be accompanied by a registration form, which are available in the Parish Office or by calling the Parish secretary at 843-546-7416.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 Ps 40:2-4, 18 Heb 12:1-4
Lk 12:49-53
Monday: Jgs 2:11-19 Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44
Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a Ps 85:9, 11-14 Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15 Ps 21:2-7 Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a Ps 40:5, 7-10 Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 Ps 146:5-10
Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17 Ps 128:1b-5
Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21 Ps 117:1b-2 Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
Lk 13:22-30

Liturgical Roles

August 23 Saturday 5:00 PM	August 24 Sunday 8:00 AM	August 24 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: J Strenk	B Clark	P Lazzari
Ushers: P Wolfe P Medved	T Clarke J Joseph D/T Corvelli	T Macmanus E Kimbrough B Yacavino H Moore
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
M Lee K Macedo	N/B McMahan B Pittman	T Howard J Pizzi D Wright
Altar Servers: D Macedo	B McMahan	A Mezquite L Mezquite A Angeles
Altar Care: P Hughes	MJ Clark	L Ortiz L Hernandez M Huerta
<u>If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.</u>		

Everyday Stewardship

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

A Steward's Growing Pains

Have you ever written a check or seen the charge on the credit card machine that had far too many zeros on it for your comfort?

The brakes finally give up on the car you were hoping to nurse through the season. The water heater dies on the coldest week of the year. A medical procedure wasn't totally covered by insurance. We've all been here in this place, being asked to part with a not-so-small sum of money for a not-so-fun reason.

It's a little easier to bear when you're forking over dollar signs for a fun vacation or even a worthy cause like your child's education. But when it's something you weren't expecting, something negative, that uneasiness in the pit of your stomach can quickly become despair.

The next time this happens to you, embrace it. Celebrate it. Wrap your arms around it and welcome it as a growing pain.

We are often asked, in life, to give more than we wish. Our loved ones demand greater patience than we think we have. Our prayer life is stalling, and we feel God isn't holding up His end of the communication bargain. The daily grind seems to be grinding us down. We feel that uneasiness in the pit of our stomach, just as we do when we part with money we thought belonged solely to us.

That place of uncertainty propels us in life, in stewardship, in relationship. All forward motion comes from that feeling. Put out your hands and let yourself be thrust into the pit — He will stoop to take you out from the mud. Spread your arms on your cross — joy is waiting for you. Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©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

The Gospel Study Group takes a summer break following Pentecost Sunday study. Regular weekly discussions will resume Wednesday, September 10th at 10:00 AM in the parish hall classroom. Everyone, enjoy the summer and plan on joining us in September. All are welcome.

St. Mary's Altar Society

St. Mary's Altar Society meets from September thru May on 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.

Communion to the Homebound

Please let us know if you or your loved one are confined to your home or are recovering from surgery and are now at home and unable to attend Mass. Please call the parish office at 843-546-7416 and we will be happy to find someone to bring communion to you.

Religious Education

Religious Education classes for First Communion, Liturgical Studies, and Confirmation are full. We are not accepting any more registration forms for those classes. The PreK/K and the Bible History classes still have a few spaces available. The last day to register is September 14th.

Adult Bible classes will begin on September 8th. The topic is: "Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John." Please contact the office to register as soon as possible so that the materials can be ordered in time for the first class. There is no cost if you register by August 18th otherwise the cost is \$20 per person.

Practicing Catholic – Beneath The Surface

The Fire

This past week I have been reading a biography of St. Francis of Assisi. I admit I didn't know much about Francis going into the book, but I always had this image of him as a hippie — an easygoing nature-lover who sang about peace and let animals climb on him.

I'm not sure where that caricature of Francis came from, but since I've been reading this book I've come to see that it's not true at all. He was a lover of nature, yes. A poet who sang of God's peace, yes. And I'm sure he let a few animals climb on him from time to time (he did live in a hut in the woods).

But St. Francis of Assisi wasn't the lost fourth member of Peter, Paul and Mary. He was a man on fire. He was a man burning.

Francis walked around barefoot and slept on the ground. He abandoned a life of wealth to embrace the material poverty that Christ experienced. He embarrassed his family and they disowned him. When his father would encounter Francis in the streets of Assisi, he would curse him.

Sometimes we get this idea that Christianity is a comfortable, cozy thing. We give our lives to Christ, and we expect to feel instantly satisfied, happy, safe and warm. But the saints knew better.

The saints knew that Christ had not come to wrap us in a warm blanket. Christ has come to set us on fire. And though fire is often seen as a sign of death and destruction, it is also the precursor of new life.

Think of a field of native plants and how it benefits so richly from a controlled burn — an action that clears away detritus and releases nutrients back into the soil.

If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes? Ask and You Shall Receive

Whatever is interrupting communication between your heart and the One who crafted it, the One who desires its full and irrevocable attention, it can be overcome. There is no door thick enough, no night dark enough, no sleep strong enough. Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPI