

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

August 24, 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

Charlotte Skipper

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

Mass 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
Sunday 12:15 - 12:45 PM (or by appt.)

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

VIA FIDELIS

1

2025

Evangelization

Proclaiming the Good News should be at the forefront of our hearts and minds and especially in sharing our faith with others.

For more information:

<https://charlestondiocese.org/via-fidelis-home/>

GO OUT
TO THE WORLD
AND TELL THE
GOOD NEWS.



PSALM 117

August 24, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, August 25, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, August 26
No Mass

Wednesday, August 27, 5:30 PM
† David Wilson
by his wife and children

Thursday, August 28, 8:00 AM
† Michael Goodwin
by John Bagnell

Friday, August 29, 8:00 AM

Saturday, August 30, 5:00 PM
† Alex Dulay
by Mary and Bob Roberts

Sunday, August 31, 8:00 AM
† Hannah Baise
by Barbara Mathis

Sunday, August 31, 10:00 AM
† Bernell Eicher
by Grace Swierk

Sunday, August 31, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish



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 Crock-er, Chet Maslowski, Cecilia McGee, Sandy Peterson, Fr. Dan Carson and Ann Wil-son.

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

Sunday, August 24

Participants leave for Guatemala Mission Trip

Sunday, August 24

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

Monday, August 25

Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting at 5:00 PM

Monday, September 1

Father Anthony away until Thursday, September 18

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Luke 13:22-30

I've been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement: "Keep going! The peak is right there. It's not as far as it looks. You can do it!" It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate" (Luke 13:24). How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, "How many people are going to make it to the top?" A normal response would be something like: "How is that a relevant question? Carry on!"

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance (cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek). Strive! Endure! Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

Father John Muir ©LPI



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

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

Council 3067 will be holding a fundraising drive the weekend of September 6-7th to support two Seminarians in our Diocese. As is our tradition, we will be serving a breakfast on Sunday, September 7th from 9:00 AM to 11:15 AM in the parish hall. All parishioners are welcome to join us and share fellowship.

Congratulations to the following who have been recognized for their contributions to the Knights, our parish, and the community.

Knight of the Month: Henry Moore. Henry is the council treasurer, an usher at Masses, and volunteers for many of the events sponsored by our council.

Family of the Month: Antonio Moran & Lisette Martinez Family. Lisette and her son Dahir will be travelling to Guatemala on our diocesan mission trip. Lisette worked on the Hispanic food sale at the parish and an event on Pawleys Island to raise funds for the trip. Dahir raised over \$2,000 in funds for the trip through various activities. Antonio has also volunteered and supported these fundraising events. Son Alex has become one of the leaders of our high school religious education class. Ian, the youngest son, is studying to receive his first communion next spring.

Altar Server of the Quarter: Lucyla Lux Herrera. Lucy has performed her duties with reverence and takes her responsibility as an altar server seriously. She has helped train many servers. When she sees that an altar server is needed, she steps up to serve. If there are servers that are not comfortable serving alone, she offers to serve with them.

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.

Parish Support

The offertory collection for August 16th and 17th was \$5,999.00. **This includes \$1,223.00 from online giving.** This is \$710.00 under our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

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.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Is 66:18-21 Ps 117:1b-2 Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
Lk 13:22-30
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b
Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-12b Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17
Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12
Mk 6:17-29
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Ps 68:4-7, 10-11
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14

Liturgical Roles

August 30 Saturday 5:00 PM	August 31 Sunday 8:00 AM	August 31 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: L Lauro	N McMahan	M Duggan
Ushers: J Blevins	T Clarke N Geisler D/T Corvelli	S/M Edwards G Martinez J Martinez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
P Lareau A Vega	MJ/B Clark D Stamm	L/M Walsh G Swierk
Altar Servers: B Mathis	C Humphries	C Chaj C Hernandez P Lux
Altar Care: P Lareau	D Kimbrough	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

Do You Know Him, or Just Know About Him?

Facebook, Twitter, and other forms of social media can be powerful tools of communication. They allow people to stay in touch. They provide an avenue for fresh ideas. People can be engaged in conversations and be exposed to issues of the day in ways few could have dreamed of just a few decades ago. But social media can also give the false sense of really knowing someone, when only the surface has been scratched about who a person is in reality.

You don't really know someone just because you know a lot about him or her and are linked to a profile online. Unfortunately, people develop emotional attachments to the idea of a person all the time. If they do find themselves fortunate enough to meet the person face-to-face one day, they can often find out they never really knew the person in the first place.

There are people who believe they know Jesus so very well. They can readily share their view of what Jesus would do or wouldn't do in a given situation. They own items like crosses and Bibles that seem to provide evidence of this person they know so well. Sometimes, they even strongly admonish others because their view of Jesus is certainly not in line with their own.

But in Luke 13, Jesus speaks about those who claim to know him, but they really do not belong to him at all. They make claims based upon what they have seen and heard, but they have never allowed Jesus to truly change them. They are like Facebook followers; seemingly close, but with no real relationship at all.

Do you know Jesus? Don't just be a fan. Invite Jesus into your life and let the real relationship begin. 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

Please pray for the Guatemala Medical Mission team and all those they will be serving from August 24 -31.

Cecilia Carlton will be out of the office until September 3rd.

There will be no OCIA classes this week. The Monday class will resume on September 8th and the Wednesday class will resume on September 3rd.

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. Classes begin on September 7th. 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

Heaven and Regina George

There are certain phrases that serve as a kind of shibboleth for millennials, a dog whistle that only ears formed between 1981 and 1996 can discern. "You can't sit with us!" is one of those phrases.

It's from the movie Mean Girls, (which, I hear from my younger family members, has now become cool with the kids again, so maybe my point about it being niche is incorrect). The character Regina George, merciless ruler of the cool kids, is rejected from the ultra-exclusive lunch table she herself formed when her minions, tired of her cruelty, serve her the most devastating words a teenager can hear in public: "You can't sit with us."

So passes earthly glory, as they say.

At first blush, this Gospel gives "Mean Girls" vibes. We have an image of the unlucky masses clamoring for entry into the kingdom of heaven as God locks the door against them, saying, "I do not know where you are from."

Very "you-can't-sit-with-us."

But we need to remember that the people pounding on the door of heaven in today's Gospel aren't people who wanted a seat at God's lunch table — at least, not until it was the only lunch table left, because they had Regina George'd their way out of all the other ones.

Jesus' whole thing was that you can sit with us, whoever you are, wherever you're from and whatever you've done. But there are a lot of lunch tables in the world, and not everyone wants to be at one with rules like "repent" and "be good to that person you really don't like." It's not always an easy table to sit at, especially when there are so many other options.

We have to choose heaven before heaven becomes our only choice.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPI