

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

December 21, 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:

Bob McMahan

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

Suzanne Frazier, 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

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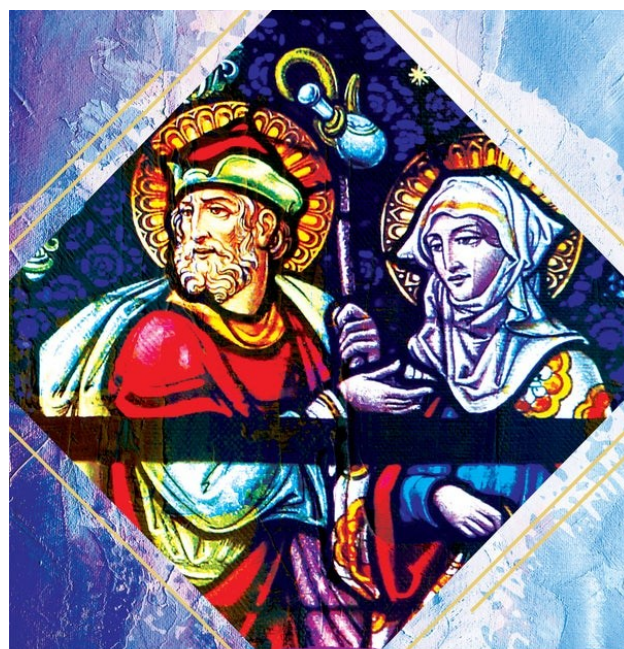
2025

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/>



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

- Mt 1:24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC, SILP

December 21, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 20, 5:00 PM
Her God-Children
By Anne Starnes

Sunday, December 21, 8:00 AM
†John Kabas and †Theresa Chandler
By Paul & Jeanette Duncan

Sunday, December 21, 10:00 AM
†Helen and †Red Walsh
By Trudy Walsh

Sunday, December 21, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Monday, December 22, 12:00 PM
†Sophie Stodolski
By Mike & Donna Saguto

Tuesday, December 23
No Mass

Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 PM
† Hannah Baise
By Randy Courtney & Diane Stamm
Christmas Eve 10:00 PM

Thursday, December 25, 10:00 AM
† Teri Altman Benton
By Larry & Faye Altman
1:00 PM Mass in Spanish

Friday, December 26
No Mass

Saturday, December 27, 5:00 PM
Marek Mika
By Barbara Mika

Sunday, December 28, 8:00 AM
†Manuel Barrientos
By Sylvia Barrientos

Sunday, December 28, 10:00 AM
†Martan O'Cathain
By Miriam Wallace

Sunday, December 28, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Parish Support

The offertory collection for December 6th and 7th was \$6,105.50 **This includes \$1,968.00 from online giving.** This is \$594.50 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.*



Courage International, a Catholic apostolate and support group serving men and women who experience same-sex attractions, who freely choose to live a chaste life in accordance with Roman Catholic Church teaching will be meeting soon.

For more information,
please contact Bill at 201-849-5409.



Pray for the homebound, those in healthcare centers, and those who need your continuous thoughts and prayers:

Betty Barr, James A. Harrelson Sr and Louise Ullman.

Pray for the speedy, or continued, recovery of:

Ed Wozniak, Jim Lauro, Fred Fisher, Tom Lusby, Sigrid Smith, London Gomez, Cheyanne Gomez, Maria Handy, Diane Maslowski, Ann Boone, Mandy Moore, Barbara Natoli, Sharon Jordan, Jill Saparito, Stephanie Marsh Johnston, Brandi Gunter, Betty Chrismon, Helena Blackowitz, Bill Fowler, Brian L. Brodzik, Mary Cavalieri, Andy Crocker, Chet Maslowski, Cecilia McGee, Sandy Peterson, Fr. Dan Carson, Ann Wilson, Scott Stecz and Maura Duggan.

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, December 21
Wednesday, December 24
Wednesday, December 24
Thursday, December 25
Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26
Friday, December 26
Sunday, December 28
Thursday, January 1

Decorate the Church for Christmas today after 1:00 Mass
Office Closes at 12:00 Noon
Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00PM Bilingual, 10:00PM English
Merry Christmas—Office Closed, No 8:00AM Mass
Christmas Mass 10:00AM English, 1:00PM Spanish
Office Closed
No Mass
No Religious Education Classes
Office Closed

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

Father John Muir ©LPI



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

Our annual council Christmas party was enjoyed by all! Thanks to those who made this a joyous event.

The Family of the month is The Patricia Comunidad family. Patricia directs the children's choir, coordinates children's dance performances, and volunteers regularly for the monthly food sales. Patricia's daughters are also devoted volunteers. Yamilet Angeles is an altar server and helps train new servers. She is also very involved with the High School Youth group. Jonathan Angeles is also an altar server and trainer of new servers. Recently he volunteered to help the Knights of Columbus at the Thanksgiving for Those in Need dinner.

The Knight of the Month is Rafal Florek. Rafal has been doing the landscaping at the Maryville Social Hall on a regular basis at no charge. Rafal's Landscaping Company also handles the landscaping on the church grounds of St Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church.

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

CONGRATULATIONS

*Luis Josan Arreaga-Roblero and Alejandra Holinda Ramirez Velasquez
United in marriage on November 29, 2025.*



ST MARY'S ANGEL TREE
Our Parish's Advent Outreach



This advent season our parish is teaming up with Cross Catholic Outreach to help build homes for deeply impoverished families in Guatemala. Your generosity can give children the opportunity to overcome poverty in the communities by empowering local Catholic leaders to build homes in rural villages.

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24
Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79
Thursday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-3, 11-13 Ti 2:11-14
 Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12 Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12
 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6
 Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21
Next Sunday: Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Liturgical Roles

	<u>December 24 Christmas Eve 4:00 PM</u>	<u>December 24 Christmas Eve 10:00 PM</u>
Lector:	N McMahan	Volunteer
Ushers:	J Blevins	Volunteer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	T Howard 2 EMHC's	M Lee B Mathis G Swierk
Altar Servers:	B McMahan C Velasquez Y Perez	M Carlton
Altar Care:	L Ortiz Volunteer L Hernandez M Huerta	
	<u>December 25 Christmas Day 10:00 AM</u>	<u>December 25 Christmas Day 1:00 PM</u>
Lector:	C Carrasco	Volunteer
Ushers:	T McManus E Kimbrough B Yacavino H Moore	Volunteer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	P Lareau D Stamm	Volunteer Volunteer
Altar Servers:	B Mathis	D Ramos R Angeles C Hernandez
Altar Care:	Volunteer	L Ortiz L Hernandez M Huerta
<u>December 27 Saturday 5:00 PM</u>	<u>December 28 Sunday 8:00 AM</u>	<u>December 28 Sunday 10:00 AM</u>
Lector:	D Macedo	C Howard
Ushers:	P Wolfe P Medved	M/S Edwards G Martinez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	T Clarke N Giesler T/D Corvelli J Martinez	
Altar Servers:	M Lee K Macedo	T Howard J Pizzi D Wright
Altar Care:	M Carlton	J Angeles A Mezquite M Mezquite
Altar Care:	D Macedo	L Ortiz L Hernandez M Huerta

**If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled,
please remember to find a substitute.**

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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 meets Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the parish hall classroom. All are welcome to join in a discussion of the readings for the coming Sunday. Bring your Lector Wookbook, Bible or Word Among Us to follow along.

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

This weekend, the Religious Education students will visit The Landings of Georgetown Assisted Living to sing Christmas carols and deliver the Christmas cards they made for the residents. Afterward, the students will return to the parish hall for a gift exchange and lunch. All parishioners are warmly invited to join us for lunch.

Please note that there will be no Religious Education, Adult Bible Study, or OCIA classes on December 24th, 28th, 29th, and 31st. Classes will resume on January 4, 2026.

Cecilia Carlton will be out of the office from December 23rd to January 4th.

World Youth Day 2027 - Seoul, South Korea

Preparations for World Youth Day, taking place in August 2027, are now underway. To help us gauge interest and determine how many chaperones we will need, please contact Cecilia Carlton if you are considering attending. An informational meeting will be held in early January, but please do not wait until then to let us know of your interest.



Christmas Blessings

Wishing all of our parishioners a Very Merry Christmas. May the light of Christ shine upon you and your families this holy season.

Fr. Anthony & the St. Mary's Church Staff



Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24th
4:00 PM (Bilingual) and 10:00 PM (English)

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th
10:00 AM (English) and 1:00 PM (Spanish)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Vigil

Wednesday, December 31st
5:30 PM (Bilingual)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, January 1st
12:00 PM (English) and 7:00 PM (Spanish)