

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

December 28, 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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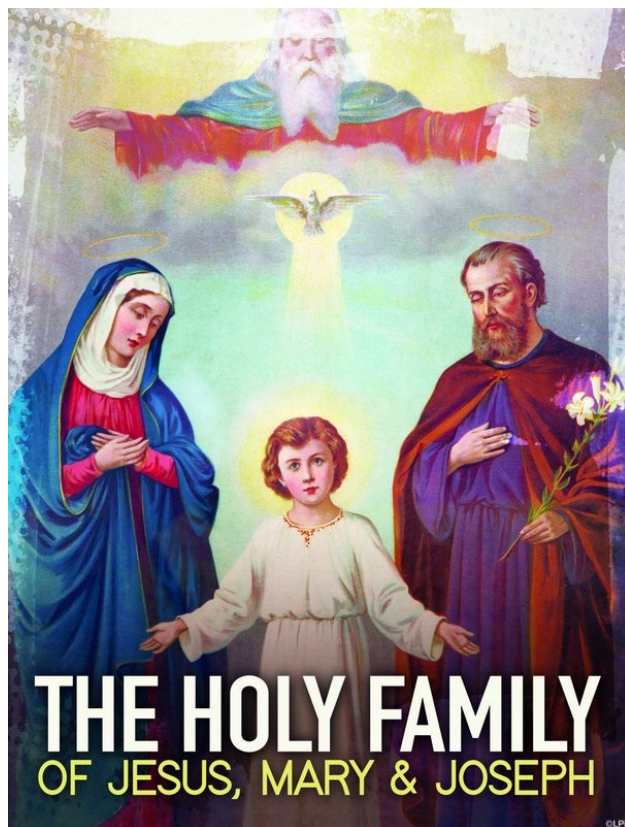
2025

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/>



December 28, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, December 29, 8:00 AM
†Traci Zeller
By Patrick & Renee O'Brien

Tuesday, December 30
No Mass

Wednesday, December 31, 5:30 PM
Bilingual

Thursday, January 1, 12:00 PM
7:00 PM Mass in Spanish

Friday, January 2, 8:00 AM
†James Robinson
Frاند & Suzanne Brecka

Saturday, January 3, 5:00 PM
†Leon Wojciechoski
By Mary Lou Leonard

Sunday, January 4, 8:00 AM
†Jeffrey Kravitz
By Frank & Suzanne Brecka

Sunday, January 4, 10:00 AM
†Barbara O'Brien
By Patrick & Renee O'Brien

Sunday, January 4, 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, 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 28
Wednesday, December 31
Wednesday, December 31
Thursday, January 1
Thursday, January 1
Monday, January 12
Monday, January 12
Saturday, January 17

No Religious Education Classes
Vigil-Solemnity of Mary, Mother Of God (Bilingual) 5:30PM
Office Closes at 12:00 Noon
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, No 8:00AM Mass
Office Closed
Columbarium Meeting at 9:00AM
Building and Grounds Meeting at 5:00PM
Two by Two Evangelization Rally, Columbia, SC

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20). First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee, into God's presence.

Father John Muir ©LPI



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

We wish our Brother Knights, their families, and all our parishioners a very blessed and Happy New Year!

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.

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

Sign Up For Online Giving

Visit our parish website www.stmaryourladyofransom.org, select "Parish Life," and then "Online Giving". Click on the Online Giving Give Your Gift Today box to set up your account.

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.

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 December 13th and 14th was \$6,753.00 **This includes \$1,013.00 from online giving.** This is \$53.00 over our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

Because of the holiday printing schedule, the collection amount for last weekend was unavailable at the time the bulletin was sent to the printing company.



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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6
Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3c-6 Jn 1:29-34
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

Liturgical Roles

December 31

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God—Vigil
5:30 PM (Bilingual)

Lector: L Goldbach
Ushers: E Kimbrough B Yacavino

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

A Starnes D Stamm

Altar Servers: L Mesquite A Angeles
J Angeles

Altar Care: M Roberts

January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

12:00 PM 7:00 PM

Lector: E Teller Volunteer

Ushers: T Clarke Volunteer
J Joseph

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

P Lareau J Perez
D Stamm A Hernandez
J Arreaga

Altar Servers: B Mathis D Martinez
D Angeles
M Angeles

Altar Care: C Ramsey L Ortiz
L Hernandez
M Huerta

January 3

Saturday

5:00 PM

Lector:

L Lauro

Ushers:

P Wolfe

P Medved

January 4

Sunday

8:00 AM

Lector:

N McMahan

Ushers:

T Clarke

B Roberts

C Bryant

January 4

Sunday

10:00 AM

Lector:

M Duggan

Ushers:

J Tupacz

C Carrasco

B Kwarteng

C Lindner

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

P Lareau B/N McMahan M/L Walsh
A Vega B Pittman G Swierk

Altar Servers:

B Mathis

N Giesler

M Angeles

A Angeles

Y Angeles

Altar Care:

P Hughes

D Stamm

L Ortiz

L Hernandez

M Huerta

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

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.

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

Religious Education, OCIA, and Adult Bible classes will be resuming January 4th.

Cecilia Carlton will be out of the office until January 5th.

We look forward to seeing you all back in class in the new year! High School Retreat - NYC Reservation Deadline - Although the High School Retreat weekend will take place in March, we need to make reservations now. If your child is interested in attending the Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC), please let us know by January 5th. We encourage all interested families to confirm as soon as possible to secure a spot!

Practicing Catholic – Beneath The Surface

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPI

Other Plans

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get really crazy.

The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans.



Wishing our parishioners a very Happy, Peaceful and Blessed New Year

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



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.