

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

February 22, 2026

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 (English)
1:00 PM (Spanish)
Monday: 8:00 AM
Tuesday: No Mass
Wednesday: 5:30 PM and Adoration 6:00—8:00 PM
Thursday: 8:00 AM
Friday: 8:00 AM Stations of the Cross after (Eng)
6:30 PM Stations of the Cross (Spanish)
5:00 PM
Saturday: 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:

Mike Macedo (Interim)

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 Year 2

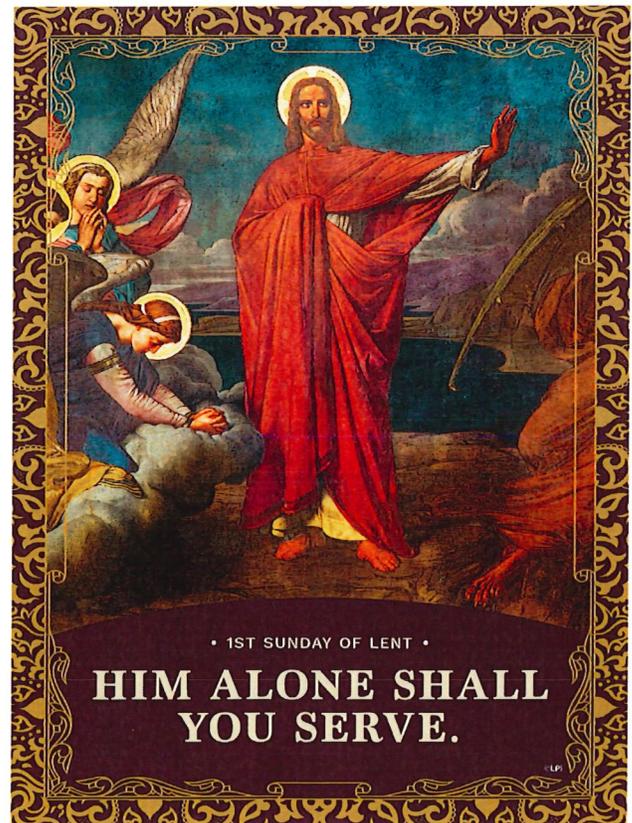
2026

Catechesis - Understand the faith

Grow deeper in the knowledge of our Church's teachings to discover how we can be more like Christ.

For more information:

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 21, 5:00 PM
 † Matthew Heiler
 By Bob & Mary Roberts

Sunday, February 22, 8:00 AM
 Alexis Shaffer (healing)
 By Mike & Lynne Civitella

Sunday, February 22, 10:00 AM
 † Clara Williams
 By Matt & Carolyn Wesolowski

Sunday, February 22, 1:00 PM
 People of the Parish

Monday, February 23, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, February 24
No Mass

Wednesday, February 25, 5:30 PM
 † Bob & † Marilyn Canada
 By Jennifer Pizzi

Thursday, February 26, 8:00 AM

Friday, February 27, 8:00 AM
 † Colin Peterson
 By Grace Swierk

Saturday, February 28, 5:00 PM
 † Edwin Halloran
 By Mary Lou Leonard

Sunday, March 1, 8:00 AM
 People of the Parish

Sunday, March 1, 10:00 AM
 † Columb Flynn
 By Mary Flynn

Sunday, March 1, 1:00 PM
 † Silverio Angeles
 By Maria Angeles

Parish Support

The combined offertory collection for February 14th and 15th was \$8,016.00 **This includes \$1,088.00 from online giving.** This is \$1,316.00 over our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

COLUMBARIUM

A representative from the Columbarium Committee will be outside after each Mass for the next two weekends with a brief, two-question survey to measure interest in building a Columbarium on our church campus. Please plan to stop by and fill out the survey.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held in English every Friday morning after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Bilingual Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 6:30 PM.

Everyone is invited to enjoy a "Soup and Bread Supper" in the Parish Hall immediately after the evening Stations of the Cross.

Sign up sheets to provide soup, bread or drinks are located in the Narthex. Please join us!



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

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

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 Saporito, 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, Jeff Johnson, Maura Duggan, Thomas Clark and Carlos Carrasco.

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, February 22
 Monday, February 23
 Friday, February 27

Seminarian Breakfast 9—11:30AM
 Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:00PM
 Stations of the Cross after 8:00AM Mass, English
 Bilingual Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM
 Followed by Lenten Soup Meal
 Rite of Sending, 10:00 Mass and 1:00 Mass
 Hispanic Food Sales 10:00AM—3:00PM, Courtyard
 Stations of the Cross after 8:00AM Mass, English
 Bilingual Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM
 Followed by Lenten Soup Meal

Sunday, March 1

Friday, March 6

Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"



Council 3067 will be hosting a Seminarian Breakfast on Sunday, February 22nd from 9 AM – 11:30 AM. The breakfast will include Scrambled eggs, grits, bacon, sausage, pancakes, and French toast. In conjunction with the breakfast, we will be accepting donations after each mass. Your donations support two seminarians who are on their journey to priesthood.

Our Council is responsible for providing the soup and bread for the Lenten supper after Stations of the Cross on Friday 3/20/26. If you can provide either a pot of soup or bread, please sign up on the clipboard in the church narthex.

The first COR session was held in January and was a success. Our next COR session will be on Thursday, February 26th from 6:00 PM – 7:00PM in the Parish Life Center. The topic will be "Saint Joseph the patron saint of fathers, and how he is saint for men." All men are welcome (You don't need to be a Knight).

Cor (Latin for "heart"), a Knights of Columbus initiative, is a Catholic men's program designed to strengthen faith, virtue, and brotherhood through prayer, formation, and fellowship.

Launched in 2023, it fosters, through Christ-centered meetings, a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, preparing men to lead their families and communities.

The purpose of Cor is to build authentic, Christ-centered brotherhood and encourage men in their vocation as husbands, fathers, and disciples of Christ.

Through your generous support of the Knights of Columbus Food Drive, we have donated 300 pounds of food to Helping Hands Food Pantry this month.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

Father John Muir ©LPI

The First Sunday of Lent



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22
2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9

Liturgical Roles

February 28 Saturday 5:00 PM	March 1 Sunday 8:00 AM	March 1 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: J McCrorey	E Teller	B Yacavino
Ushers: J Blevins	T Clarke N Giesler T/D Corvelli	M/S Edwards G Martinez J Martinez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
M Lee K Macedo	B/MJ Clark B Pittman	M/L Walsh G Swierk
Altar Servers: B Mathis	B McMahan	D Angeles A Angeles R Angeles
Altar Care: D Macedo	D Stamm	Assigned Extraordinary Ministers
<u>If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.</u>		

Devotions, Explained!

Fasting, Explained

The practice of fasting predates Christianity. The Old Testament is full of examples of righteous men and women mortifying their flesh for the purpose of making atonement or simply to grow closer to God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days and forty nights in preparation for the beginning of his public ministry, and we see his disciples following his example in the Acts of the Apostles.

Fasting continues to be an important part of Christian devotional life today. Many people feel the practice of fasting enhances their prayer and helps them fulfill St. Paul's advice to "put to death the deeds of the body" (Romans 8:13) to grow in the Spirit. Most Catholics will associate fasting with the liturgical season of Lent, which begins and ends with obligatory fasting for all members of the Latin Catholic Church between ages 18 and 59. ©LPI

Our community of faith extends their deepest sympathy to the family of Thomas Clark, who passed away on Monday, February 16th. Please keep Brian, Mary Jo and the Clark family in your prayers May his soul rest in peace.

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.

PARISH EVENTS



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

To Dedicate Flowers for the Altar for 2026 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

The Knights of Columbus will be supplying \$50 Food Lion cards with the proceeds going to the World Youth event. It's easy and it does not have any addition costs. Purchase a Food Lion card from one of the World Youth participants for \$50. The card is worth \$50 but after you make your purchase, Food Lion will give back a small percentage to be credited to our fundraising efforts.

Our Religious Education Lenten Project is collecting for Birthright. Baby bottles are available at the back of the church. All funds go directly to Birthright. To participate, take a bottle, enclose your donation, and return it by Palm Sunday. Birthright provides free, confidential support to women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant, including information on pregnancy, childbirth, adoption, prenatal care, counseling, childcare, and parenting skills. They offer referrals for medical, financial, legal, and housing, as well as free pregnancy tests and a 24-hour help line. Informational cards are available in the Narthex.

It's not too late to register for Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life, a 10-week video study that explores the life of Christ and what He means for us today. The program will meet on Mondays at 5:30 PM. Each week includes a video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by group discussion and fellowship. For more information or to register, contact Cecilia Carlton. We hope you can join us!

Quinceañera preparation classes began on February 19th at 6:00 PM. Please note that the next opportunity to begin classes after this session will not be until September. All five required classes must be completed before the Quinceañera celebration can be scheduled. If you plan to celebrate a Quinceañera this year, it is very important to attend this February session. Please contact Cecilia Carlton to register or if you have any questions. Registration will close on March 2th .

Everyday Stewardship -Recognizing God in Your Ordinary Moments

First Sunday of Lent

A covenant is a formal agreement between two parties. Assuming both parties enter into the covenant of their own free will, it is a bond that cannot be broken. As time goes on, that covenant will be tested and its validity questioned by skeptics, but it will remain if it is real.

God's covenant with his people is real. It began with a promise made to Noah and was renewed in the person of Jesus Christ. It has been tested by man through sin and by evil through Jesus' trials in the desert. But here in 2015, it still remains as strong as ever.

This Lent, take time to rediscover and reflect on this covenant God has with us. Reclaim your baptism and make it a motivating factor in how you live your life. Take the opportunity this Lenten season provides to increase your devotion and spirituality. You will be tested and you will suffer trials, for life is not always easy. But God has always upheld his part of the agreement. Now is the time to take our part in this covenant more seriously. —T Earl Welliver, MTS



Columbiettes—Joseph M Ros Auxiliary

The initiation and officer installation for the new **Joseph M. Ros Columbiettes auxiliary** is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, at 5:00 PM with a reception to follow.

You may mail or drop off your \$25 initiation fee to the church office. Please place your cash or a check made out to Joseph M. Ros Columbiettes in an envelope marked Columbiettes Initiation.

All ladies, age 18 or older and in full communion with the Catholic Church, are welcomed and encouraged to join. Membership forms are available in the church office.



LET'S BE TOGETHER.

Pledge Weekend

Please make your commitment to the 2026 **Catholic Appeal of South Carolina** today!

How to Participate

In the spirit of Christian stewardship, giving back a portion of our gifts to God, we ask each family to prayerfully consider a contribution in one of the following ways:

ONE TIME GIFT

Payable by cash, check, credit and debit card, securities, or direct debit.

A PLEDGE

A pledge may be paid over a period of ten months. Pledges may include down payments, but they are not required. Pledge reminders and a special payment envelope will be mailed to you in accordance with your payment plan.

DIRECT DEBIT

A monthly debit from your checking account. Please complete the information on your pledge card or visit charlestandioocese.org.

CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

A one-time or monthly charge to your credit or debit card for the amount of your gift. Please complete the information on your pledge card or go online.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Gifts of appreciated stock/mutual funds may afford significant tax advantages. Please contact the Office of Stewardship and Mission Advancement for details: catholicappeal@charlestandioocese.org or 843-261-0438.

IRA MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION

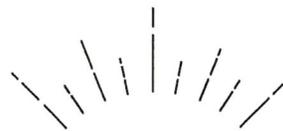
Direct transfers to charitable organizations offer significant tax advantages. To learn more, contact us: 843-261-0438 or catholicappeal@charlestandioocese.org.

AS YOU MAKE YOUR PLEDGE, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Payments may be made over a period of ten (10) months.
- Pledges need to be completed by **Dec. 31, 2026**.
- Payment reminders will be mailed to you in accordance with your payment plan. You may also use the CASC envelopes you have received from your parish.
- All contributions to the Catholic Appeal of South Carolina are fully tax deductible.
- Donations and pledges may now be made online at charlestandioocese.org/donate.
- Please make checks payable to: **Catholic Appeal of South Carolina**.

SUGGESTED GIVING PLANS

CAN YOU SACRIFICE	TOTAL PLEDGE	10 MONTHLY PAYMENTS
\$32.68 /day	\$10,000	\$1,000
\$16.34 /day	\$5,000	\$500
\$8.17 /day	\$2,500	\$250
\$5.00 /day	\$1,000	\$150
\$2.50 /day	\$750	\$75
\$1.67 /day	\$500	\$50
\$0.83 /day	\$250	\$25



VIA FIDELIS: UNDERSTAND THE FAITH

THE FAITHFUL WAY **March 2026**

charlestdiocese.org/via-fidelis

UNDERSTAND THE FAITH | MONTHLY ACTIVITY

March | Small Groups

Join or start a small faith group – either using the weekly study guide provided by the diocese or discuss the points below!



HOW DO WE KNOW GOD?

See *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 31-38, 46-47, 50-53, 68-69

- God created us with a natural desire to know Him, even if this desire is sometimes ignored on our part
- God also gave us the ability to know Him prior to Revelation
- Human beings can naturally know God's existence
- We can particularly know Him as the origin and end of all creation and as truth, beauty and goodness
- Even though we can know God's existence and his attributes of perfection naturally, God is always greater than what is accessible to human reason alone
- Furthermore, simply knowing about God is not the same as being in relationship with Him
- In order to communicate the mystery which God is in Himself, which is not accessible to human reason, God has revealed Himself to us
- This *Divine Revelation* also gives us surety of some things that are naturally accessible to human reason
- By words and deeds throughout "salvation history," God reveals Himself and His loving plan for us
- This plan is that all people might share in the divine life by "adoption" through Christ
- Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God, is the fullness of Revelation

Feasts & Solemnities

MARCH 17: MEMORIAL OF ST. PATRICK, BISHOP

Shhh! Don't tell anyone, but St. Patrick was actually British. Yet, his love for Ireland and her people led him to return there as a missionary. He was originally taken into captivity in Ireland as a young man. St. Patrick is an example of the zeal – enthusiasm – that comes with sharing the Gospel in love.

MARCH 19: SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

St. Joseph plays a key role in the birth and life of Jesus. Yet, not a single word of his is recorded in Scripture – if you don't believe us, go look it up yourself! St. Joseph is an example of quiet obedience and service to the Lord.

MARCH 25: SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION

We celebrate the solemnity of the Annunciation – when Mary is informed that she will give birth to Jesus – on March 25, nine months before we celebrate Christmas (Dec. 25). Several of the early Church Fathers, like St. Augustine of Hippo, believed that the date of Jesus' death corresponded with the date of his crucifixion, with both occurring on March 25.

MARCH 29: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, which we call *holy* because we commemorate the events surrounding the passion, death and resurrection of Christ, by which salvation is made possible for us.

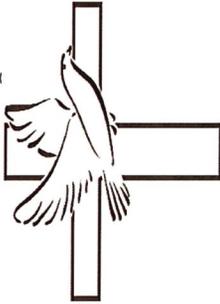


LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

APRIL 11 – 12, 2026 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM St. Michael's Duffy Center
REGISTRATION OPEN NOW..... Call Judy at 843-997-2530

The **Life in the Spirit Seminar** is a weekend of experiencing the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit as Christ deepens our faith, reconciles our sins, heals our deep hurts, increases our prayer life, and leads us to a new relationship with Him.

Experience a Powerful Spiritual Journey



Baptism in the Holy Spirit

God's Love
Salvation
Growth

New Life
Receiving Gifts
Transformation