

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

April 19, 2026

317 Broad Street (Corner of 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
Saturday:	5:00 PM
Confessions:	Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 PM Sunday 12:15 - 12:45 PM (or by appt.)

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/>

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:

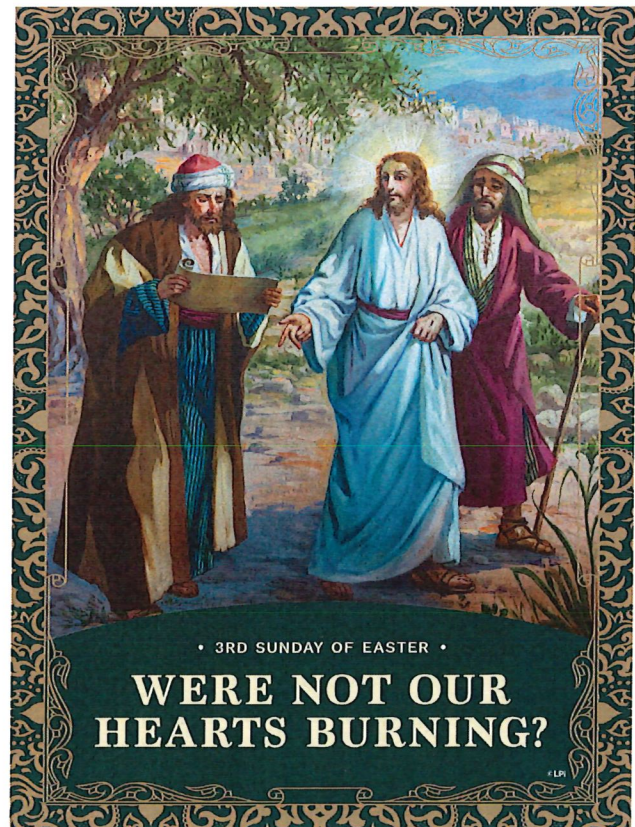
Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 18, 5:30 PM
† Angel Khoury
By Barbara Mathis

Sunday, April 19, 8:00 AM
† John DeRiggs, Sr.
By Cecilia Carlton

Sunday, April 19, 10:00 AM
† Joseph Isaac, Sr.
By Joseph Isaac, Jr. and Family

Sunday, April 19, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Monday, April 20, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, April 21
No Mass

Wednesday, April 22, 5:30 PM
† Agnes Edwards
By Barbara Mathis

Thursday, April 23, 8:00 AM

Friday, April 24, 8:00 AM

Saturday, April 25, 5:00 PM
† Helen Walsh
By Barbara Mathis

Sunday, April 26, 8:00 AM
Kelly, Kaylee and Kenzie DeMarchi
By Joyce Fick

Sunday, April 26, 10:00 AM
† Matthew Heiler
By Barbara Mathis

Sunday, April 26, 1:00 PM
People of the Parish

Parish Support

The combined offertory collection for April 11th and 12th was \$6,571.00 **This includes \$1,158.00 from online giving.** This is \$129.00 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.*

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.

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.

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.



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 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

Monday, April 20
Tuesday, April 21
Sunday, April 26
Thursday, April 30
Wednesday, May 6
Tuesday, May 19

Building & Grounds Meeting, 5:00 PM
Altar Society Meeting, 10:00 AM, Parish Hall
World Youth Day Food Sales, 10:00 AM -3:00 PM
Hispanic Ministry Meeting, 7:00 PM, Parish Hall
Plating Grace Luncheon, 12:00 PM, Parish Hall
Altar Society Luncheon, 12:00 PM, Parish Hall

Practicing Catholic – Beneath The Surface

The Story That Never Ends

The biggest mistake we can make as Christians is to think that the Resurrection is the end of the story.

Of course we know, logically, that it isn't — there are whole books of the Bible that come after it, detailing not just the activities and teachings of the Risen Christ, but the development of the early Church and the Gospel's first baby steps into the wider world. We know this.

But sometimes we don't act like it.

The thing is, we like stories that can be tied up neatly in a bow. It's why "happily ever after" is a thing. These tidy endings are especially satisfying following an emotional gut punch and a twist — for instance, let's say the crucifixion of the story's hero and a gotcha! moment where it turns out he's not dead after all. Drinks all around! And...scene. The curtain falls.

But the curtain didn't fall. It still hasn't.

Look at Cleopas. He has heard the testimony of people he knew, people he trusted — and yet, he's in a world of confusion. He's stumbling along the road, wondering what to believe.

Christ gave us "happily ever after." But what do you do with "happily ever after?" What do you do with the Resurrection? What do you do with salvation?

The Resurrection left loose ends — not because it was insufficient, but because it was not a final chapter. So being a Christian means embracing the life of a loose end. It means figuring out what to do with the Resurrection, with salvation, with forgiveness — with this hard-won "happily ever after" that is a gift but also a commission.

Because the curtain is still up, and we are all characters in the Greatest Story Ever Told.

So, what's the next scene?

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPI

Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

Our council is holding "clean up" days at the yard of a parishioner in need of help. We will be conducting the project on April 23, 24, and 25. If you can volunteer for one or more days your assistance will be most appreciated! Contact GK Dwight Frazier if you can volunteer. Dwight's phone number is 609-351-4422.

The next Cor session will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Life Center. Cor is a flexible framework of prayer, formation and fraternity that helps focus men on Jesus through building Christ-centered brotherhood. Men do not need to be a Knight of Columbus to participate.

Congratulations to Richard Swieck who became a Knight on April 9th! 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.

The monthly food pantry drive will be the weekend of April 18 and 19. Please drop off your non-perishable food in the Narthex. All donations go to Helping Hands of Georgetown to help those in need in the local area.

The Benefits of Membership

We warmly welcome new members to our parish community! 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. Please register with our parish in order to participate in our various programs, ministries and activities. Please either visit our website at www.stmaryourladyofransom.org and complete the form under "Newcomers" or visit the church office and fill out a registration form.

Third Sunday of Easter



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11
1 Pt 1:17-21 Lk 24:13-35

Monday: Acts 6:8-15 Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a
Ps 31:3c-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17 21ab Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20
Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17
Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Ps 23:1-6
1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10

Liturgical Roles

April 25 Saturday 5:00 PM	April 26 Sunday 8:00 AM	April 26 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: D Wagner	E Teller	B Yacavino
Ushers: J McCrorey P Medved	T Clarke J Joseph T/D Corvelli	T Macmanus E Kimbrough H Moore
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
A Starnes A Wagner P Lareau	N McMahan B Pittman Volunteer	M/L Walsh G Swierk
Altar Servers: B Mathis	M Carlton	P Lux L Lux
Altar Care: D Macedo	D Kimbrough	Assigned Extraordinary Ministers
<u>If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.</u>		

CONGRATULATIONS

To Regina Sophia Perez Bravo and Leonardo Morales Arreaga who were united in marriage on Saturday, April 11, 2026.

To Elda Janeth Soto Diaz and Hilario de la Cruz Soto whose sons, Jason and Justin, were baptized on April 12, 2026.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Luke 24:13-35

When I first read Homer's Odyssey as a teenager, one scene captured my imagination: Odysseus finally returning home after 20 years, yet no one recognized him. Disguised as a beggar, he speaks with his wife, his son, and even his enemies. He is fully present, yet hidden. Only at the right moment does he reveal himself, and everyone realizes he has been with them all along. I was struck by the mystery that he could be so close to his loved ones, and yet they simply could not identify him.

A similar mystery is at the heart of today's Gospel. Two disciples walk the road to Emmaus with Jesus, but "their eyes were prevented from recognizing him." (Luke 24:16) He listens, teaches, and eats with them, yet they remain blind until he breaks the bread. Suddenly their eyes are opened — and at that very moment, he vanishes. His disappearance is not absence. Rather, it is revelation. The Risen Lord is now present in a new way, in the breaking of the bread and in the life of His Church.

Faith is this shift of vision. Instead of searching for a visible Jesus as if he were absent, we learn to recognize him unveiled in hidden ways — in Scripture proclaimed, in the Eucharist, in the sacraments, in the very life of the Church.

And what is true of him is true of us. Just as he disappears into the mission of his Body, we too are meant to be hidden in him. When we live hidden in Christ, we are seen for who we really are.

Father John Muir ©LPI

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 Wook book, Bible or Word Among Us to follow along.

St. Mary's Altar Society

St. Mary's Altar Society meets from September through 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.

Plating Grace Luncheon

May 6, 12-2 PM

Mark the date! All are invited to join us for our next Plating Grace Luncheon on Wednesday, May 6, from 12 noon to 2:00 PM in the parish hall. Enjoy a beautiful meal, fellowship, and reflections on **Inspire Us, Ignite Us, Infuse Us, Unite Us - A Journey with the Holy Spirit.**

Religious Education

Join us for an exciting evening of fun and fellowship on Sunday, April 19! The youth groups of St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom and Precious Blood of Christ Church are coming together for a friendly soccer match and a great time together. We will meet at the PBOC campus at 5:00 pm. Come ready to play against their team or cheer us on and enjoy the community. You don't want to miss it!

Registration has begun for 2026-2027 OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) sessions. The initial meeting will be on May 4 at 7:00pm (Spanish) and May 6 at 5:00pm (English). Please contact Cecilia Carlton in the parish office if you are interested in enrolling. Classes run for one year, beginning and concluding during the Easter season.

\$50 Food Lion cards are available after the Masses and in the afternoons in the office. Please see Cecilia Carlton.

The end-of-year Youth Ministry trip will take place on Saturday, May 16th at Carowinds. All high school students are invited; some restrictions may apply. Please see Cecilia Carlton for details and submit payment of \$70 per person by Monday, April 20th.

Everyday Stewardship

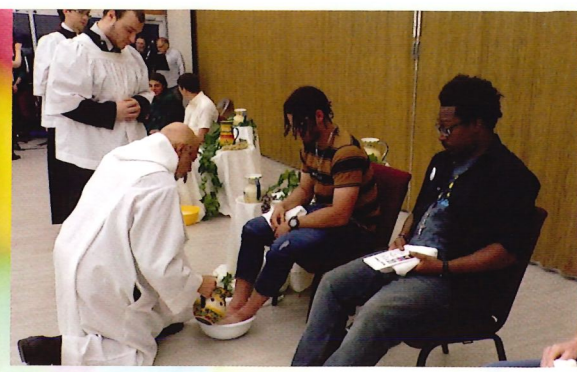
The road to Emmaus is one of my favorite Gospel stories because it shows a Jesus that is masterful at reaching people. First, when he comes upon those walking on the road, he asks them what they are talking about and then asks them to explain. How often are we too eager to just start talking at people when we feel they need to hear what we have to say? Jesus offers an invitation for them to share first. Allowing them to share first opens them up for what Jesus will do next.

Second, Jesus takes time to interpret for them the words of the prophets. He gave them their turn and now it is his. Not only wise, but a movement of respect. After a long walk, they invite Jesus stay with them and dine. Third and finally, Jesus breaks bread with them and they are able to see that he is no ordinary traveler. He is the risen One. He could have just told them who he was, but allowing them by their experience to uncover who he was had the greater impact.

Jesus demonstrated to us in these actions how to be gracious and impactful when sharing the good news. If we are to be good stewards and fruitful disciples then we must imitate him in this regard. This Easter season let us practice the following: 1) Allow others first to share what they have to say. 2) Then be willing to take the time to explain fully or to the best of our ability our faith. And 3) help others find a way to experience firsthand the message you have shared. No one can understand love without witnessing love. In this way, your words and deeds will become a pathway to Jesus for others.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME



In nearly 75 dioceses in the United States and its territories, funds from Catholic Home Missions are a lifeline for churches in rural areas where small Catholic populations are unable to sustain basic pastoral ministries without outside assistance.

In southern Illinois, the challenges facing the Diocese of Belleville are particularly acute. Most of the diocese's 28 counties are rural and have small Catholic populations, while the cities within the diocese are among the poorest in the entire country. Although the diocese lacks necessary material resources, it is blessed with dedicated men and women who faithfully carry out their mission to share the Gospel in ministries including catechesis, Hispanic/Latino ministry among the area's growing Spanish-speaking population, and campus ministry for the students at Southern Illinois

University (SIU) in Carbondale and other college campuses in the area.

The Newman Center campus ministry located on the SIU campus strengthens the faith of Catholic young adults with faith formation programs, fellowship, and prayer, as well as community service opportunities beyond campus. By participating at Sunday and weekday Masses and in student-led retreats, weekly dinners, and outreach to families in need, these students grow in their faith and prepare to be church leaders. Working with the diocesan vocation director, the campus ministry program helps nurture priestly vocations—a record of success made possible through support received from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which funds the full-time campus minister's position. For more information about Catholic Home Missions, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

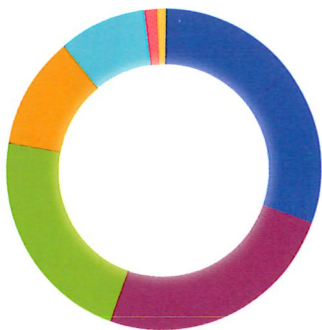
If you prefer to donate online, see QR code.



What Is a "Home Mission" Diocese?

Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and its former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered home mission dioceses.

CHMA FINANCIALS 2024



Totals by Program Area

• Diocesan and Parish Assistance	\$2,485,000
• Faith Formation	\$2,045,000
• Vocations and Formation of Deacons, Priests, and Religious	\$1,810,000
• Special Grants*	\$938,475
• Cultural Ministries**	\$725,000
• Strengthening Marriage and Family Life	\$125,000
• Life and Dignity of the Human Person†	\$50,000

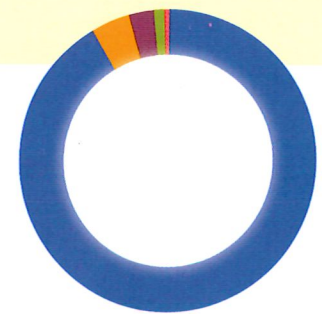
Total: \$8,178,475

*Special Grants include the following:

- Support for the Installation of a New Home Mission Bishop \$90,000
- Support for USCCB Initiatives (Eucharistic Revival, Synodal Journey) \$740,000
- Diocesan Professional Development Opportunities \$108,475

** Including Hispanic/Latino, Black, Asian, and Native American ministries.

† Including ministries for persons with disabilities.



• Grants and Donations	\$8,076,036
• Program Costs	\$478,207
• Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$389,274
• Administrative Expenses	\$98,290
• Allocations – Internal Grants	\$29,825

Total Expenses: \$9,071,632



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington, DC 20017-1194

202-541-3400 • fax 202-541-3460 • www.usccb.org/nationalcollections



Strengthening the Church at Home