

# St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom

## Catholic Church

January 11, 2026

317 Broad Street (Corner Broad & Highmarket), Georgetown, SC 29440 \* Established 1899 \* Dedicated 1902



### 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

### 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

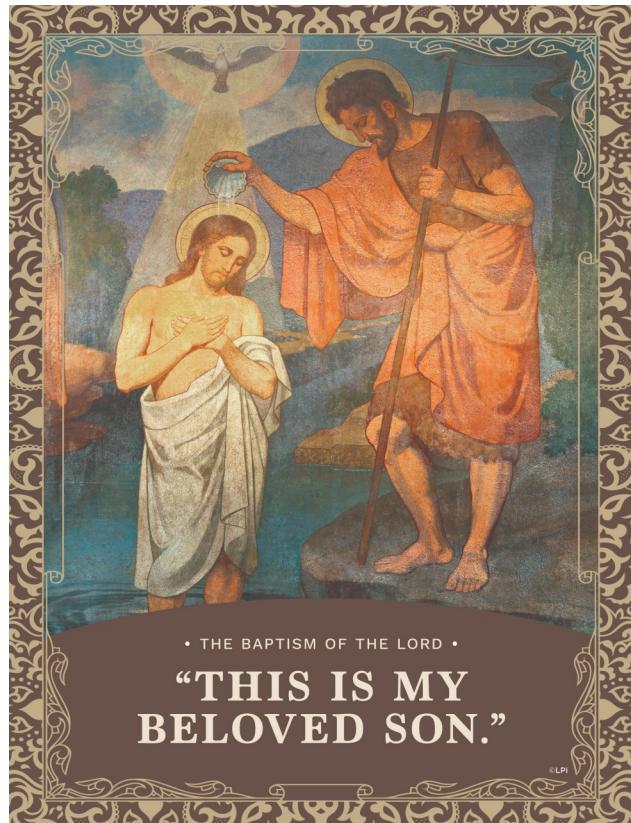
**Facebook:** St Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

### VIA FIDELIS

2026  
Catechesis

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/>



January 11, 2026

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 10, 5:00 PM

†Oliver Fiedler

By Gina Henry

Sunday, January 11, 8:00 AM

†Lynn Smith

By Bob & Neena McMahan

Sunday, January 11, 10:00 AM

†Frank O'Brien, III

By Patrick & Renee O'Brien

Sunday, January 11, 1:00 PM

People of the Parish

Monday, January 12, 8:00 AM

Joshua Carlton

By Cecilia Carlton

Tuesday, January 13

**No Mass**

Wednesday, January 14, 5:30 PM

†Paul & †Natalie Kleschick

By Danny Tursi

Thursday, January 15, 8:00 AM

Maura Duggan

By Mary Flynn

Friday, January 16, 8:00 AM

†Gregory Mika

By Barbara Mika

Saturday, January 17, 5:00 PM

†Peggy Sheehan

By Mary Sheehan

Sunday, January 18, 8:00 AM

James Courtney

By Bob & Neena McMahan

Sunday, January 18, 10:00 AM

Thomas J. Howard, Jr & Family

By Claudia Howard

Sunday, January 18, 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

Monday, January 12

Columbarium Meeting 9:00AM

Monday, January 12

Building and Grounds Meeting at 5:00PM

Saturday, January 17

Two by Two Evangelization Rally, Columbia, SC

Monday, January 19

Priest Convocation—Fr Anthony Out after Mass

Tuesday, January 20

No Mass

Tuesday, January 20

Altar Society Meeting in Parish Hall 10:00AM

Wednesday, January 21

No Mass

Thursday, January 22

Fr Anthony returns, Mass at 8:00AM

Saturday, February 7

Parish Dinner Dance 6:15PM

## Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

### Matthew 3:13-17

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac – Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

*Thank you for worshipping with us!*

*If we can help you in your walk with Christ in any way, please call the church office.*



## Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

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

## Parish Support

The combined offertory collection for December 24th, 25th, 27th and 28th was \$11,139.87. **This includes \$1,273.00 from online giving.** This is \$4,439.87 over our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

Due to 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.

## ST MARY'S ANGEL TREE

Our Parish's Advent Outreach

*This year's Angel Tree raised a total of \$15,850.00. Your generosity will help build homes for deeply impoverished families in Guatemala through our donation to Cross Catholic Outreach.*

## 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.

# The Baptism of the Lord



## Weekly Readings

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10  
Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17

**Monday:** 1 Sm 1:1-8 Ps 116:12-1 Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:9-20 1 Sam 2:1, 4-8abcd  
Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10  
Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25  
Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-19  
Mk 2:1-12

**Saturday:** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1 Ps 21:2-7  
Mk 2:13-17

**Next Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4-10 1 Cor 1:1-3  
Jn 1:29-34

## Liturgical Roles

January 17 Saturday	January 18 Sunday	January 18 Sunday
5:00 PM	8:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>Lector:</b> P Ness	B Pittman	C Carasco
<b>Ushers:</b> P Wolfe P Medved	T Clarke N Giesler T/D Corvelli	M/S Edwards G Martinez J Martinez
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:</b> Volunteer	B/N McMahan B Pittman	M/L Walsh G Swierk
<b>Altar Servers:</b> B Mathis	R Arreaga I Arreaga	C Chaj P Lux D Angeles
<b>Altar Care:</b> P Lareau	D Kimbrough	L Ortiz L Hernandez M Huerta
<b>If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.</b>		

In the interest of protecting the health of our parishioners during flu season, we will not be offering the Blood of Christ at Communion.

### Devotions, Explained!

#### Joy, Explained!

Though it is often used as a synonym for happiness, joy has far more to do with the choices we make than the emotions we feel.

Joy is the experience of achieving what we most desire — and what we most desire is love. God made us in love and for love, and so, in the same way that a flower seeks the sunlight, our souls seek the warmth of true, selfless love. The virtue of joy, therefore, is a fruit of the virtue of love, or charity (CCC 1829).

"We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done," said Saint Pope John Paul II. "We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy."

©LPi

*Congratulations to Jean-Pierre Jacques Alexandre Nonnet and Dana Victoria Nonnet on the Baptism of their daughter, Daphne Isabel Nonnet on December 20, 2025.*

#### 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 Workbook, 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

Join us for a fun and festive evening at St. Mary's Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 7th at 6:15 p.m. Enjoy a tasty three-course meal, music, dancing, and plenty of good company.

Tickets go on sale today, so grab yours and come celebrate with us—we'd love to see you there! All proceeds will go towards the 2027 World Youth Day event.

*The flowers on the altar last weekend were given in memory of Robert Teller by Evanna Teller*

#### Practicing Catholic – Beneath The Surface

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPi

#### When Jesus Wades In

Usually, when God comes to us, we aren't ready.

We think we are. Like John the Baptist, we stand in our waters of baptism, certain of our mission. We know how it's going to go. We know what's going to be asked of us. We're sure of it.

Christ wades into the waters. And he screws up all our plans.

To be clear, I don't think John the Baptist lacks faith when he balks at the idea of baptizing Jesus. I think it is, in fact, a testament to his humility. But whatever motivated John's actions, he is — if even for a brief moment — hesitating to do the will of God. Just a few chapters after this in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus will acknowledge that John is the greatest person "born of women" — with the caveat that even he is not perfect enough for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Not yet.

Jesus didn't give John an explanation as the two stood in the River Jordan. He merely said, "Allow it for now." John could have resisted further, demanding to understand why. He could have grown suspicious at the simplicity of Jesus' answer, at the strangeness of this request. He could have clung desperately to his version of How Things Are Supposed To Be, and in doing so, fostered doubt in his heart. He could have even stormed off, confused and angry.

He did none of these things, because John is, as Jesus says, the greatest born of women.

When the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God declares, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," he is referring, of course, to Jesus. But I think He would say the same of John the Baptist — and of all those who welcome Jesus into the waters, ready to do as he bids.

#### 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.*

#### 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,