

St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

February 15, 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 / 1:00 PM (Spanish)
Monday: 8:00 AM
Tuesday: No Mass
Wednesday: 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday
7:00 PM (Spanish)
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.)

VIA FIDELIS

2

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/>

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:

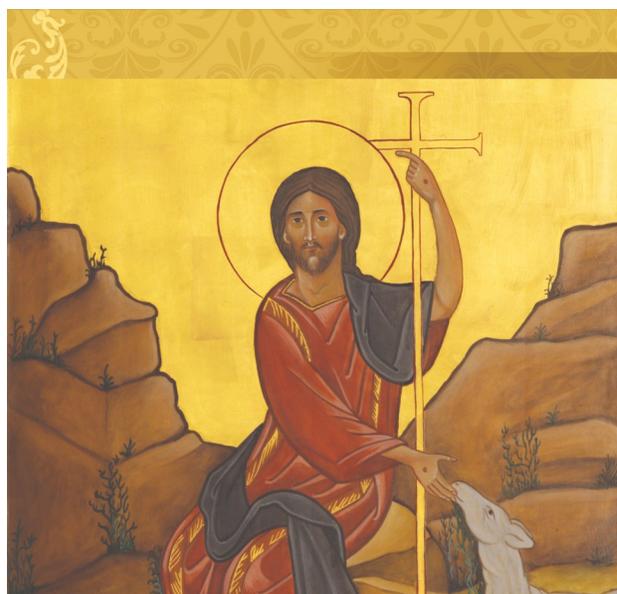
Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

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



6th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"Jesus said to his disciples: 'I tell you, unless your
righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and
Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.'
Mt 5:20

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 14, 5:00 PM
 † Innocent Victims,
 American Citizens and Immigrants,
 of ICE Campaigns in America
 By Jim Dumm

Sunday, February 15, 8:00 AM
 † John (Pat) Wiley
 By Mary Lou Leonard

Sunday, February 15, 10:00 AM
 † Donald Williams
 By Matt & Carolyn Wesolowski

Sunday, February 15, 1:00 PM
 People of the Parish

Monday, February 16, 8:00 AM
 † Ida Elizabeth Brecka
 By Frank & Suzanne Brecka

Tuesday, February 17
No Mass

Wednesday, February 18, 12:00 PM
 7:00 PM Spanish

Thursday, February 19, 8:00 AM
 † David Wagner
 By Doug & Amy Wagner

Friday, February 20, 8:00 AM
 † Justin Chafin
 By Doug & Amy Wagner

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

Sunday, February 22, 8:00 AM
 Alexis Shaffer
 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

Parish Support

The combined offertory collection for February 7th and 8th was \$7,848.00 **This includes \$1,033.00 from online giving.** This is \$1,148.00 over our weekly goal of \$6,700.00.

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.

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 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 Cavaliere, Andy Crocker, Chet Maslowski, Cecilia McGee, Sandy Peterson, Fr. Dan Carson, Ann Wilson, Scott Stecz, 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

Monday, February 16
 Tuesday, February 17

Wednesday, February 18
 Thursday, February 19

Friday, February 20

Monday, February 23

Knights of Columbus Pancake Supper 6-7:00 PM
 Altar Society Meeting at 10:00 AM
 Red Cross Blood Drive, Parish Hall 11:00 AM -7:00 PM
 Ash Wednesday Mass 12:00 PM English, 7:00 PM Spanish
 Building & Grounds Meeting at 5:00 PM
 Columbiettes Meeting, Parish Hall at 6:00 PM
 Stations of the Cross after 8:00 AM Mass in English
 Bilingual Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM
 followed by Lenten Soup Meal
 Pastoral Council Meeting at 6:00 PM

We will resume offering the Blood of Christ during Communion beginning February 21, 2026.



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

The monthly Food Pantry Drive is next weekend, February 14-15. Please drop off non-perishable food supplies in the Narthex of the church. We will deliver the supplies to Helping Hands of Georgetown.

The parish "Fat Tuesday" pancake and egg dinner will be Monday, February 16, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. We are having the dinner on Monday due to the Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday.

Council 3067 is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive on Tuesday, February 17, from 1:00 - 6:00 PM in the Parish Life Center. If you are able to donate blood, please register on the Red Cross website or contact Jim Lauro at 610-513-2869.

The annual free throw competition will be held this Sunday, February 15, at 2:30 PM in the Courtyard at St Mary's. Boys and girls ages 9-14 are encouraged to participate. Children do not need to be parishioners to participate in the challenge.

Congratulations to the following:

Family of the Month: Brian and Mary Jo Clark. Brian led our "Coats for Kids" project which resulted in providing 48 winter coats to children in the Georgetown area. Brian also leads our monthly Food Pantry drives, and the Food Lion gift cards that will raise funds for the World Youth Day trip. Brian is a lector and volunteers for numerous council projects. Mary Jo is a member of the altar society, an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister, and volunteers whenever there is a need in the parish.

Knight of the Month: Bill Hudson: Bill has taken on the leadership of the council's COR initiative which is available to all men. COR is a way for men to get together and talk about our faith in a way that brings us closer to God. Bill led our first one-hour COR session on January 29. We will be continuing with COR with monthly meetings under Bill's leadership. Bill is also a member of the choir and is a regular volunteer on many council projects.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Matthew 5:17-37

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One" (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekly Readings

- Sunday:** Sir 15:15-20 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34, 1Cor 2:6-10 Mt 5:17-37
or Mt 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34, 37
- Monday:** Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76 Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday:** Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25
- Friday:** Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6b, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32
- Next 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

Liturgical Roles

February 18 Wednesday 12:00 PM	Lector: Altar Care:	N McMahan M Roberts
February 21 Saturday 5:00 PM	February 22 Sunday 8:00 AM	February 22 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: C Ramsey	L Altman	J Pizzi
Ushers: P Wolfe P Medved	T Clarke J Joseph T/D Corvelli	T Mcmanus E Kimbrough B Yacavino H Moore
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
A Starnes A Wagner	B/MJ Clark D Stamm	T Howard J Pizzi D Wright
Altar Servers: B Mathis	N Giesler	M Angeles A Angeles Y Angeles
Altar Care: P Lareau	D Kimbrough	Assigned Extraordinary Ministers
If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.		

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 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

Our Religious Education Lenten Service Project is collecting donations for Birthright using baby bottles available at the back of the church. All funds collected go directly to Birthright. If you would like to participate, please take a bottle, fill it with 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 also offer referrals for medical, financial, legal, and housing assistance, as well as free pregnancy tests and a 24-hour help line. Informational cards are available in the Narthex.

As part of Bishop Fabre-Jeune's five-year pastoral plan, this year's theme is "Understand the Faith: Catechesis," inviting us to grow in our knowledge of the faith so we can live and share it more fully. Jesus is our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics and Christians — but do we really know Him as we should? Is Jesus part of your life, or truly at the center of your life? We invite you to make Him the center of your life by joining us 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. St. Mary's will begin the study on February 16 at 5:30 PM. Each week includes an engaging 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 will begin on February 19 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.

COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

We are planning to build a Columbarium on the church campus. A representative from the Columbarium Committee will be available outside after each Mass for the next two weekends with a brief, two-question survey to measure interest. If you are interested, please plan to stop by and fill out the survey.

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.

Devotions, Explained! Stations of the Cross

In the earliest years of Christianity, the locations central to the story of Holy Week — the Garden of Gethsemane, Calvary, the Holy Sepulcher, and more — were destinations for pilgrims who wanted to experience Christ's sacrificial love for us in a physical way. In the years after the Crusades, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became impossible for most Christians, and the Stations of the Cross was popularized as a devotional means to pray through the passion and death of Christ.

Throughout history the number of stations has varied, with different traditions focusing on different events. In the 18th century, the number was officially fixed at 14 by Pope Clement XII. These stations are taken from the Gospel accounts of Christ's passion and death, though there are several which are derived from tradition and apocryphal sources, such as the meeting of Mother and Son and St. Veronica wiping the face of Christ.

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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.