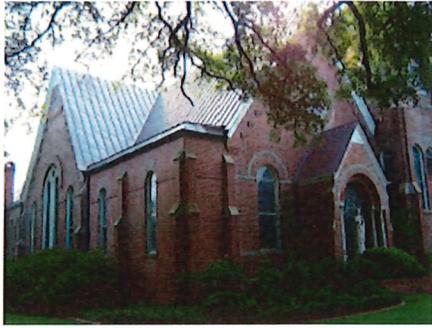


St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church

March 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@charlestdiocese.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)
Saturday:	5:00 PM
Confessions:	<i>Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 PM Sunday 12:15 - 12:45 PM (or by appt.)</i>

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://charlestdiocese.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:

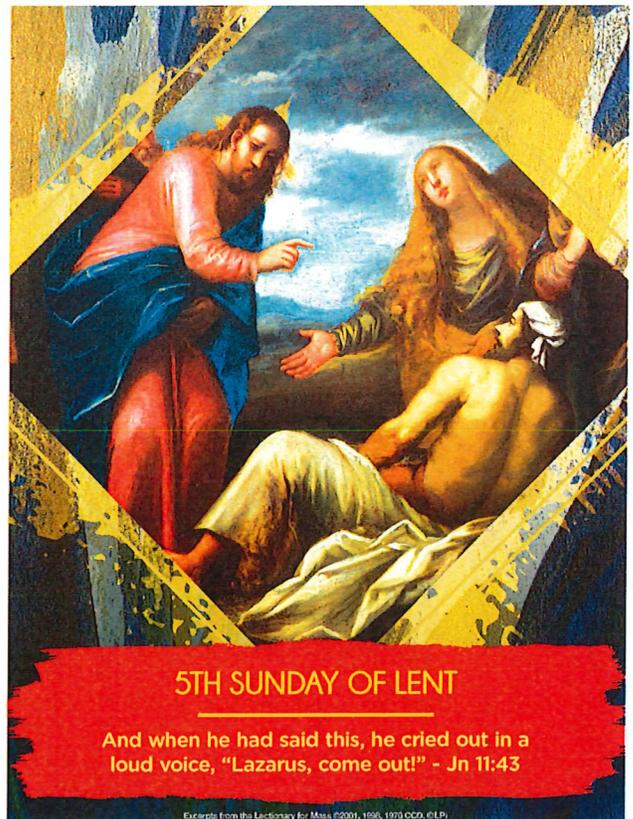
Monday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

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



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

And when he had said this, he cried out in a
loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" - Jn 11:43

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 21, 5:00 PM
 †Tito Arena
 By Jim Cavanaugh

Sunday, March 22, 8:00 AM
 † Thomas Clark
 By Danny & Barbara Pittman

Sunday, March 22, 10:00 AM
 † Liz Fischer
 By Grace Swierk

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

Monday, March 23, 8:00 AM

Tuesday, March 24
No Mass

Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 PM

Thursday, March 26, 8:00 AM

Friday, March 27, 8:00 AM

Saturday, March 28, 5:00 PM
 †John Howard
 By Barbara Mathis

Sunday, March 29, 8:00 AM
 † Thomas Clark
 By Mike & Karen Macedo

Sunday, March 29, 10:00 AM

Sunday, March 29, 1:00 PM
 People of the Parish

Parish Support

The combined offertory collection for March 14th and 15th was \$6,113.56 **This includes \$1,423.00 from online giving.** This is \$586.44 under 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.

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 2: 7:00PM Bilingual
 Friday, April 3: 3:00PM English
 7:00PM Spanish
 Saturday, April 4: 8:30PM Vigil Mass
 Bilingual
 Sunday, April 5: 8:00AM
 10:00AM
 1:00PM Spanish

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.
 Friday, March 27, 2026 we will have Living Stations of the Cross at 6:30 in the Courtyard. Sandwiches available.



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 Cavaliere, 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

Bring in Last Year's Palms for Burning
 Handing of the Lord's Prayer, 5:30PM Mass
 Prince George Tour of Homes Event, Parish Hall
 Stations of the Cross after 8:00AM Mass, English
 Live Stations of the Cross at 6:30PM
 Sandwiches available in the Courtyard
 Prince George Tour of Homes Event, Parish Hall
 Office Closed
 No Mass
 Finance Council Meeting, 5:00PM
 Columbiettes Meeting, 6:00PM, Parish Hall
 Altar Society Meeting, 10:00AM, Parish Hall

Weekend of March 21-22
 Wednesday, March 25
 Friday, March 27

Saturday, March 28
 Friday, April 3
 Monday, April 6
 Monday, April 13
 Thursday, April 16
 Tuesday, April 21



Knights Corner

"Holy Family Light Our Way in Love and Charity"

Council 3067 presented donation checks on Thursday March 12, 2026 to The J.O.Y. School, Georgetown County Board of Disabilities & Special Needs, and Special Olympics. The funds were raised during our 2025 Columbus Hope fundraising drives at Walmart. Thanks to all those who volunteered to collect the funds, and everyone who donated at these events.

Thanks to all who donated food to our monthly food pantry drive last weekend. Our monthly food pantry drives occur on the second weekend of each month. Your donations of non-perishable food are delivered to Helping Hands of Georgetown for distribution to those in need.

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

Our community of faith extends their deepest sympathy to the family of Mary Triana who passed away on Thursday, March 5, 2026. Please keep Mark and Terri and the Triana family in your prayers May her soul rest in peace.

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

John 11:1-45

A friend of mine wrote an imaginative reflection on the raising of Lazarus that caught me off guard. She proposed that when Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb, the man was not joyful but angry and annoyed. After so much suffering, maybe death felt like a release. He had finally escaped the pain. And then, suddenly, Jesus' voice cuts through the silence: "Lazarus, come out!" (John 11:43) The light stings his eyes. The pain returns. And now he is dragged back into a world that had broken him.

It startled me at first, but the more I sat with it, the more it made sense. Sometimes, people do not want to be raised. Not at first. Think of those in the grip of addiction, despair, or numbness. The tomb can feel safer than the risk of living again. Yet Jesus, moved by the grief and faith of others (Martha, Mary, the community) calls the dead man out. Lazarus obeys. But he is still bound, head to foot. Jesus says to the bystanders, "Untie him and let him go" (John 11:44).

That is often how healing happens: slowly, reluctantly. Not just by a personal decision, but through the love and persistence of others. Resurrection is not always euphoric. It may begin in protest and confusion and only later turn to gratitude and freedom. But Christ's voice breaks through, anyway.

Lenten challenge: Who in your life needs to be called back to life? Pray for them. If that person is you, listen for the voice. It is calling even now.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent



Weekly Readings

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14 Ps 130:1-8 Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6
Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Ps 40:7-11 Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28 Jr 31:10-12d, 13 Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20,
23-24 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11
Mt 26:14-27:66

Liturgical Roles

March 28 Saturday 5:00 PM	March 29 Sunday 8:00 AM	March 29 Sunday 10:00 AM
Lector: P Ness D Macedo	B Clark B Pittman	M. Duggan
Ushers: P Wolfe P Medved	T Clarke B Roberts C Bryant	J Tupacz B Kwarteng C Lindner
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:		
P Lareau A Vega	N McMahan B Pittman MJ Clark	M/L Walsh G Swierk Volunteer
Altar Servers: B Mathis	B McMahan	R Angeles A Angeles J Servin
Altar Care: C Ramsey	D Stamm	Assigned Extraordinary Ministers
If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please remember to find a substitute.		

Devotions, Explained!

Anima Christi, Explained!

The Anima Christi prayer takes its name from its opening lines: Soul of Christ — "Anima Christi" in Latin. In this prayer, the faithful invoke the image of Christ crucified, calling upon the salvific elements of his wounds, his Body and his Blood to strengthen them, imploring him to save them from "the malicious enemy" and to bring them, in their final hour, to his presence.

The author of this prayer is unknown, but it originated in the 14th century and was referenced in St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises. It is traditionally said after or before receiving the Eucharist. ©LPI

Thank you for worshipping with us!

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

Lenten Penance Services

Lent is a wonderful time to come to our Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Penance Services in the area:

St. James: Monday, March 23, 2026
English 4:30-6:00pm
Spanish 7:00-8:30pm

Precious Blood of Christ:
Thursday, March 26, 2026 6:00pm

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

If you feel called to share your faith and help others grow closer to Christ, consider becoming a Catechist for OCIA or Adult Formation. It is a rewarding and faith-filled experience to walk with others as they learn more about the teachings of the Church and deepen their relationship with God. Anyone interested in serving in this ministry is invited to contact Cecilia Carlton for more information. We would love to have you join us in this important and meaningful work.

On Friday, March 27, our Religious Education students will present the Living Stations at 6:30 pm in the church. This is a beautiful prayerful experience as the students reflect on the Passion of Jesus through the Stations of the Cross. Everyone is warmly invited to come, pray with them, and show your support for the students as they share this meaningful Lenten devotion.

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

Reminder, please return your Birthright donation bottles by Palm Sunday. The 2026-2027 OCIA classes in Spanish will begin on May 4th at 7pm.

Practicing Catholic – Beneath The Surface

What Lazarus Wanted

"It must be so crazy, being God," one of my friends said in high school. "Does it feel like playing The Sims all day? Just making people do stuff because you want to see what happens?"

I think we all sometimes fall into this warped manner of thinking about God's omnipotence. It's understandable, to a degree. The flimsiness of our own agency in this world, our real ability to impact or change anything ... well, it all feels especially puny when you put it next to the power of the Creator. "Oh God, thy sea is so great," goes the old fisherman's prayer. "And my boat is so small."

But today, in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, we are reminded that God is all about giving us agency.

Jesus could have raised any random person from the dead on this, the Fifth Sunday of Lent. His intention was clear: to foreshadow his own passion, death and resurrection, and to exhibit the closeness of God to those who mourn. "This illness is not to end in death," he tells his companions. "But is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." (John 11:4)

So if it could have been anyone, why was it Lazarus?

I think the answer has to be that this was something Lazarus agreed to. Perhaps not in an explicit way, for he didn't know the mind or the plans of God. But in his friendship with Jesus, in the strength of his faith and the depth of his devotion to God, in every prayer he ever uttered — "Lord, let your will be done" — he was agreeing to it. Over and over, in what he said and what he did, Lazarus, beloved friend of Christ, said, "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

In this last full week of Lent, let us say it with him: "Lord, I love you. Lord, use me."

St Mary Our Lady of Ransom

The Customs and Liturgies of Holy Week

The Tridium and Easter Sunday



Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026

7:00 PM Bilingual

The Liturgy

Lent ends at sundown and the Paschal Tridium begins. The gospel of John tells us that Jesus, while he was at supper, got up and washed the feet of his disciples. In the Middle East, where people's feet easily become dusty, and before the days of convenient plumbing, this washing was an act of hospitality. Rich people usually had servants to perform this service, so the apostle Peter was embarrassed and told Jesus not to do it. But Jesus warned Peter, "Unless I was you, you can have no share with me." Then Jesus said, "I have given you an example. You should do for each other what I have done for you."

During tonight's liturgy, in accord with the Gospel mandate, we will have the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to ministerial service in a very meaningful and symbolic way.

After celebrating the Eucharist and sharing Communion, we will carry the Consecrated Elements out of the church in a solemn procession. Nightwatch Begins!

Nightwatch

The Eucharist is placed *in* repose. Tonight, Jesus asks each of us to keep watch with him as he did with his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane so long ago. Please plan to spend some time with Him this evening.

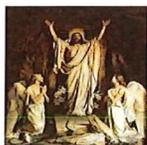


Good Friday, April 3, 2026

3:00 PM English, 7:00 PM Spanish

Liturgy of the Passion

This day is part of something bigger than itself. The liturgies of Good Friday have no formal beginnings or endings, no greetings nor dismissals. The services are part of the single, three-day liturgy of the Tridium. The Eucharist is not celebrated. The Passion in John's Gospel shows us how God's glory is seen in the suffering and death of Jesus.



Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, April 4, 2026

8:30 PM Bilingual

At nightfall on Holy Saturday, the blessed Sabbath is over. The first day of the week begins. After the Sabbath, according to custom, the first work to be done is to make a fire and kindle the evening lamp. That is what the Church does. This is how the Easter Vigil begins.

On this night, every member of the Church is asked to gather the soon-to-be-baptized. We keep watch together. We settle down and retell our family stories. St. Augustine said that, on this night above all nights, the Church keeps watch for the Lord and the Lord keeps watch over the Church.