



# St. Mary's Catholic Church



1414 Gorrell Street, Greensboro, NC 27401

Tel: (336) 272.8650 Fax: (336) 272.3594

Parish Office Hours – Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**Website:** <http://www.stmarysgreensboro.org>

## VINCENTIANS

Fr. Charles P. Strollo, C. M., *Pastor*, Cell: 215.341.1313

E-Mail: [cstrollo1@gmail.com](mailto:cstrollo1@gmail.com)

Fr. Peter Hung Le, C. M., *Parochial Vicar*, Cell: 718.207.8955

E-Mail: [terexanhocm@yahoo.com](mailto:terexanhocm@yahoo.com)

Fr. Abel Osorio, C.M., *Parochial Vicar*

E-Mail: [abelocm63@gmail.com](mailto:abelocm63@gmail.com)

## Deacons

Dcn. Pierre M. K'Briuh (Ret.)

Dcn. Vincent Shaw (Ret.)

Dcn. Emmanuel O. Ukattah, Sr.

## Greensboro / Vicariate Hispanic Ministry

Deacon Enedino Aquino 336.273.2343

## Parish Secretary

Anita Lane – 336.272.8650

E-mail: [anitalane-stmarysrccgbo@outlook.com](mailto:anitalane-stmarysrccgbo@outlook.com)

## Director of Faith Formation

Genevieve T. Weech – 336.272.7138

## Building Manager

Brenda Lapeyrolerie – 336.272.7138

## Sunday Schedule

*All take place in the Parish Center*

**8:30 AM** Eucharist (Eng.)

**9:30 AM** Faith Formation (Eng.)

**11:00 AM** Eucharist (Eng.)

**12 Noon** Faith Formation (Viet.)

**1:30 PM** Eucharist (Viet.)

**4:30 PM** Faith Formation (Spa.)

**5:00-5:30 PM** Sac. Of Recon.

**6:15 PM** Eucharist (Spa.)

## Saturdays

**9:00 AM** Novena in honor of

Our Lady of the Miraculous

Medal (Small Church)

Eucharist follows

**10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon** English

Charismatic Group (Small

Church)

**4:30 PM** Sac. of Recon.

**5:30 PM** Eucharist (Small

Church)

## Daily Eucharist (Mon – Fri)

**7:30 AM** (Small Church).

Coffee and Morning Prayer

follows (Parish Center).

Eucharistic Adoration

**10 A.M – 11: 00 A.M.** On 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sunday of the month.

## THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

September 24, 2017

**Psalm: The Lord is near to all who call upon Him.**

**Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20-24, 27; Matthew 20:1-16**

*What might bother us in the parable is God's equal rewarding of latecomers and newcomers? We are tempted to ask the question "Is it fair that we, the hard-working Christians, are going to be treated like these workers? Is the man who lives a life of sin but who converts on his deathbed going to get the same reward that we receive? Surely we must warrant at least a higher ranking." However, the parable tells us our heavenly reward is not something we earn but rather a free gift. God has made His rewards available to all through faith in Christ Jesus. Is it fair that God gives His grace to all? Fair is the wrong word. God does not deal with us "fairly" and it is a good thing! We should be thankful God does not give us what we deserve. The word we are looking for is grace. The question should be "What is grace?" The answer is, it is that "undeserved love" God has shown us through the death and resurrection of His only Son Jesus Christ. God personally calls each of us to our own ministry and shows us his care by giving us his grace and eternal salvation. To God, we are more than just numbers on a payroll. Our call to God's vineyard is a free gift from Him for which we can never be sufficiently thankful. All our talents and blessings are freely given by God, therefore we should express our gratitude to Him by avoiding sin, rendering loving service to others, by sharing our blessings with the needy, and by constant prayer.*

**We, the parishioners of Saint Mary's Catholic Church, are uniquely diverse, both ethnically and culturally, with varied economic, social and spiritual experiences. This uniqueness of diversity strengthens our unified spiritual bond - a common baptism in Jesus Christ. As worshippers seeking to be more Christ-like, we capitalize on the talents and strengths of all to fortify our efforts while serving each other's needs and those of our larger community. To accomplish this goal, we are dedicated to: serving the poor, the forgotten and the unloved; evangelizing ourselves and our neighbors; showing a loving concern for each other; and strengthening our solidarity with the larger community.**

**September 25 – October 1**

**Monday, September 25**

Ezra 1:1-6  
Luke 8:16-18

**Tuesday, September 26**

*Saint Cosmos and Damian, Martyrs*  
Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20  
Luke 8:19-21

**Wednesday, September 27**

Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest  
Ezra 9:5-9  
Luke 9:1-6

**Thursday, September 28**

*Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr;*  
*Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions,*  
*Martyrs*  
Haggai 1:1-8  
Luke 9:7-9

**Friday, September 29**

Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael,  
Archangels  
Revelations 12:7-12a  
John 1:47-51

**Saturday, September 30**

Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the  
Church  
Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a  
Luke 9:43b-45

**Sunday, October 1**

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF  
ORDINARY TIME  
Ezra 18:25-28  
Philippians 2:1-11  
Matthew 21:28-32

**PARISH GIFT - \$5,905.00  
THANK YOU!**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

We ask the charity of your prayers for the following members and friends of our parish who are ill:

Y'Blim Adrong, Paul Adup, Claude Anderson, Carl and Barbara Brady, Terry Bradshaw, Mickey Burchfield, Maria Castillo (mother of Victor Castillo), Mary Ann Coleman, Ronald Coleman, Anita Davis, Peggy Daye, Celeste Donohue, Chuck Dupuis, Gwen Drummer, Heather Emper, Alma England-Little, John Garrett, John Harris, Emily and Joan Harrison, Ashley Henry, Marie Isley, Christine Jones, Craig Jones, Loretta Jones, Ellen Kerr, Tom Kerr, Fr. Daniel Kramer, C.M., Essie Laughlin, Brenda MacDonald, Carol McFarland, Betty McKinney, Harry McNeill, Ashley Moore, Kinsley Nellis, H' Ju Nie, Charles Norman, Gabrielle Parker, Cheryl, Billy, Kim, Neal, and Paris Patillo, Marianne Polickoski, Fr. Robert J. Prior, C.M., Halo Rankin, Pat Roberts, Sherry Ross, Melinda Ruffin, Mary Scotton, Rose Simpson, Thomas Scott, Florine Stafford, Ana Swauger, Michael Taylor, Sandra Tinnely, Helen Walson, Paulette Young Soares, and Deborah Zargham.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

5:30 P.M. For the Intentions of Maria Nguyen Thi Hong

8:30 A.M. For World Peace

11:00 A.M. For the Repose of the Soul of Anthony Akoto, requested by Helen Inedu

**PRAYER TO CARE FOR CREATION (OUR COMMON HOME)**

Father of all, Creator and ruler of the universe, you entrusted your world to us as a gift. Help us to care for it and all people, that we may live in right relationship-- with You, with ourselves, with one another, and with creation. Christ our Lord, both divine and human, you lived among us and died for our sins. Help us to imitate your love for the human family by recognizing that we are all connected— to our brothers and sisters around the world, to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation, and to future generations. Holy Spirit, giver of wisdom and love, you breathe life in us and guide us. Help us to live according to your vision, stirring to action the hearts of all— individuals and families, communities of faith, and civil and political leaders. Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home. Amen.

**Liturgical Ministers, September 30 – October 1**

Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Musician
5:30 P.M.	Thelma Hatchett	Bernie McHale	Patricia King
8:30 A.M.	Catherine Shaw	Anthony Walson – Sheila Magee Tu Dagout – Chris Fombin	Carol Soter
11:00 A.M.	Michael Diamond	Marquita Hunter – Elsie Bernard Benedict Nnodi – Kathy Jefferson	Carol Soter

## Parish Calendar

### PARISH WEBSITE

Please be sure to visit the Parish Website and its new section on Vincentian Family news and the new link, [cmeast.org](http://cmeast.org). St. Mary's website address is [stmarysgreensboro.org](http://stmarysgreensboro.org).

### PARISH NURSE – CHANGE IN SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

Please note that during the month of September, Havy McIntosh will not be here at St. Mary's. If you need her assistance, please call the parish office at 336.272.8650 and arrangements will be made. Havy's regular office hours should resume as of Thursday, October 5.

### SECOND COLLECTION FOR DISASTER RELIEF: TODAY

The Diocese of Charlotte is responding to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in collecting funds to be used to support disaster recovery efforts. Disasters such as these create a situation of human suffering that victims cannot alleviate without assistance. The Catholic community of the Diocese of Charlotte is responding by collecting funds to be used in short-term and long-term relief and recovery efforts. If you wish to donate, please place your contributions in today's second collection, making checks payable to St. Mary's Parish for Disaster Relief, and we will send the collected money forward to the Diocese to support these efforts. **CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE PARISH BECAUSE THE RECORDING OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS COLLECTION TAKES PLACE AT THE PARISH LEVEL AND NOT THE DIOCESAN LEVEL.** Thank you.

### PARISH PICNIC ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

On Sunday, September 24, we will have our Parish Picnic. There will be the English Mass at 8:30 AM, then the Trilingual Mass at 11:00 AM which will be followed by the picnic. There will be a \$1.00 charge for each beverage, each hot dog and each hamburger. Please bring some food typical of your culture and then join us in the parish center as we celebrate the blessings of our various cultures in dance and song.

### ST. MARY'S LIFE CHAIN

Life chain will be Sunday, October 1 between 2:30 PM and 3:30 PM. St Mary's will be at our usual place - on the sidewalk that runs by the Caldwell Shopping Center on Battleground Avenue (Omega Sports) Please call Bernie and Elaine McHale at 336.292.1118 with any questions.

### CROP HUNGER WALK

Please come out to support the Crop Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 15. It will begin at First National Bank Field in Downtown Greensboro. Registration will begin at 1:30 PM and the walk begin at 2:30 PM. For additional information, please visit [Crophungerwalk.org/GreensboroNC](http://Crophungerwalk.org/GreensboroNC), [GreaterGreensboroCROPWalk.org](http://GreaterGreensboroCROPWalk.org) or [Facebook.com/GreaterGreensboroCROPHungerWalk](https://www.facebook.com/GreaterGreensboroCROPHungerWalk).

## Parish News

### STANDING UNDER THE INFLUENCE ON ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The life and the teachings of Saint Vincent de Paul impact our lives as individuals and as a faith community in "Sharing God's Good News with the Poor". In this year of 2017, we join with other members of the worldwide Vincentian Family in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the birth of the Vincentian charism "To Share God's Good News with the Poor". The theme for this year's celebration is: "Welcoming the Stranger". Let us ask ourselves: Who are the strangers in our midst? How are we welcoming them?" Then let us move forward together TO IDENTIFY who are the strangers in our midst AND TO WELCOME the strangers in our midst--so that WE are no longer strangers to each other."

**SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES AT THE PARISH CENTER**  
**ALL ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS in the Parish Center must be scheduled with Anita Lane, the parish secretary.** She will put these activities (including the recurring ones!) on the Google Calendar in the Parish Secretary's Office. Please call or email Anita Lane directly. Her phone number and email are on the front page of the parish bulletin. Her office hours are 8:00 AM to 4:30PM Monday through Friday.

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please send all announcements for weekend bulletins to Anita Lane (anitalane-stmarysrccgbo@outlook.com) by no later than Wednesday afternoon at 4:00PM.** This will enable us to place your announcement in that particular weekend's bulletin.

### THANK YOU FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY!

The Ladies' Auxiliary would like to thank all of those who attended the retreat and made it such a great success!

### INTERESTED IN LEARNING ENGLISH?

The Montagnard Dega Association is offering free classes to learn English to all Montagnard adults who are interested. For additional information, please contact H'Yua Liana Androng at 336.37318.12 or [liana@mda-greensboro.org](mailto:liana@mda-greensboro.org).

### DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL 2017 (DSA)

Target amount - \$45,268.00.  
Amount collected - \$56,410.31  
Pledge balance - \$3,628.00

### SHARE AND CARE!

Please keep all areas of the parish in a clean and orderly condition; namely, the Parish Center and its storage rooms and sacristy, the grounds, the Small Church (church and basement), the shed, the garage, and the rectory storage rooms. Thank you.

### LET'S USE THE WINDSOR CENTER PARKING LOT

To cut down on the overcrowding in the parish parking lot, Windsor Center has given us 52 parking spaces EVERY SUNDAY. Now that it is Daylight Saving Time until November, we ask you to use Windsor Center Parking Lot. Thank you.

### DRIVING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Refugee Ministry at St. Mary's Parish needs volunteers (with reliable vehicles) who will help to transport refugees to Mass every Sunday. Most of the families live about 2 miles from St. Mary's

Church, at “Legacy Crossing” off Franklyn Boulevard in Greensboro. For details contact Chris Walson at (336) 383.0795, or Chris Fombin at (336) 339.7251. If you are willing and able to drive parishioners to Mass on Sundays, please see Father Charlie.

## Features

### FAITH BOOK

#### *From today's Gospel reading:*

“Are you envious because I am generous?”

#### *Reflection:*

In light of the God revealed in this parable, we are challenged to act towards others as God has acted towards us. God has passed judgement, paid the laborers their wages – compassion and grace. Now, we are called to do likewise, go into the vineyard and practice generosity of heart towards others, even if we do not think they have earned it.

#### *So we ask ourselves:*

- 1) Can we name one significant time when we received mercy from God?
- 2) How has that affected how we treat others, particularly those who have offended us?

### SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE CORNER

#### Human Dignity

We believe that **every person** is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person. Love one another, contribute to the needs of others, live peaceably with all. (Romans 12:9-18)

In the biblical view, social justice involves ensuring that people have what they need for a dignified and productive life.

#### Current Issue:

Sometimes it means just spending time with another, especially if that other no longer feels needed in society. Are you willing to spend time with the families in sanctuary here in Greensboro?

### PROJECT LIFE: A CULTURE OF LIFE CORNER

**WEEK 27** - My nervous system is continuing to develop so I can breathe and swallow. It also helps to regulate my body temperature so I will not be too hot.

## Community News

### COMMUNITY PRO-LIFE EVENTS

- 40 Days for Life will have their kickoff event on Wednesday, September 27 on the public sidewalk by A Woman’s Choice Abortion Clinic at 2425 Randleman Road Greensboro at 5:30 pm...for more information, contact Jennifer McGowan at [40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlife@gmail.com).
- Room At The Inn will be having their fund-raising banquet at the Sheraton Hotel beside Four Seasons Mall on Wednesday, October 4 5:30 PM...contact Jennifer at [40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlife@gmail.com) if you would like to attend...reservations are required.

### GIFT FOR LIFE BLOCK WALK AND HEALTH FAIR

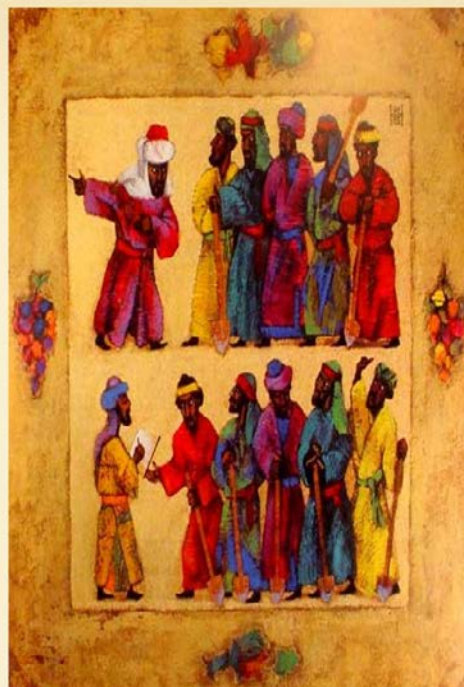
On Saturday, September 30, the Sisters Network of Greensboro will host the 7<sup>th</sup> annual “Gift for Life Block Walk and Health Fair” at Windsor Recreation Center from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Sisters Network is a national breast cancer survivorship organization founded in 1994 for African-American women. The health fair will include free screenings, health/wellness information and door prizes. For more information, please contact Nora Jones at 336.272.0092 or [greensboronc@sistersnetworkinc.org](mailto:greensboronc@sistersnetworkinc.org).

### SPECIAL EVENT AT OUR LADY OF GRACE

A pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima blessed by our Holy Father is coming to Our Lady of Grace in Greensboro, NC from October 6 – 8. She will be a part of our **First Friday-First Saturday Vigil** on October 6 & 7 beginning on the First Friday at **6:45 PM** with a special welcoming and recitation of the rosary followed by Holy Mass at 7:30 PM and ending with the 8:00 AM Holy Mass on the First Saturday. Confessions will be available following the First Friday Holy Mass. **Our Lady of Fatima will be at all the OLG Masses the weekend of October 6 -8 with a special program blessed by our Holy Father reflecting the desires of Our Lady as she has requested during her apparitions at Fatima.** For more information contact Geri Breeding @ 336.420.1430 or OLG @ 336.274.6520.

### FROM TODAY’S GOSPEL READING:

## Vineyard Workers (Mt 20:1-16)



## **TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR—YEAR A—9/24/17**

Many of us are all-day diligent workers. We are pluggers, applying our energies to doing the job right. Many of us say: “If it’s not done right, it’s not worth doing.” We are not slouches. We get up early enough, go to work and, when necessary, work until we complete what we started. Perhaps, we also work hard with the hope that we will be noticed, singled out, and even given a job at a higher position—with more pay. At the same time, many of us were baptized as infants, which means we have been at this a long time. Our coming to church today shows how seriously we take our faith. We don’t come merely because it’s a rule or someone is checking on us. We come because we want to be here. It’s also part of our hard-working character to do things right and proper. So, we work hard, try to be good, come regularly to church, do our best to raise good kids or do our best to be good kids, and we pray.

My sisters and brothers, now comes this Gospel parable today to mess up our small world, proper religion, and our expectations of how we the diligent ones expect to be treated in this world and the next. We thought we knew the rules about how to succeed in this system. If this parable is true, the ground beneath our feet is not as secure as we once thought. To make matters worse, this parable is not an exception to the rule. Notice how Jesus introduces this parable of how things are with God and how God works: “The kingdom of heaven is like. . . .” In fact, immediately preceding this parable, Jesus tells his disciples: “Many who are first, shall come last, and the last shall come first.” This parable certainly illustrates what Jesus has just said and done from the beginning of his public ministry. Interestingly enough, the audience in Matthew’s gospel parallels the workers in this parable. There were people in St. Matthew’s community who probably went back to Jesus’s time and maybe even knew him personally, and so they were the “old timers”. There were also more recent members, the Gentile converts. As a result, there was a struggle in St. Matthew’s community BETWEEN those who considered themselves the more authentic community members who had been out in the hot sun longer, worked hard as disciples, and struggled under persecution longer AND the recently arrived last hour Gentile converts. So, we could almost hear the bewilderment of these people saying something like this: “How could God not treat us—the hard, long-suffering workers in the vineyard better than those who did not seem to have done as much to gain their reward? What kind of God do we have anyway?” This parable answers this question this way: “Our God is a generous and a just God who does not play favorites, but continually invites us all into the vineyard and treats us all equally.” That is, we are all God’s favorites. We cannot claim that God owes us any special treatment. God rewards us all out of God’s generosity—that is, “the usual daily wage”, “the daily bread” that God is constantly giving us—enough to feed us and to strengthen us daily--in serving God’s people. So, some of us have been at this a long time; others of us not so long. Still, we all are in the right place, doing the right thing—responding to God’s call whenever and wherever we have heard God’s call.

My sisters and brothers, WE AS A CULTURALLY DIVERSE FAITH COMMUNITY WITH ONE FAITH ARE TO LIVE IN THE LIGHT OF THIS PARABLE. This parable is not telling

us that it does not matter what we do or how we live. Otherwise, we would easily be tempted to sit back, relax (chill), and only work a little bit. This parable is not that crass! The God of this parable is a “fulltime, all-day worker”—who is always calling us to further change, always sending us to some section of the vineyard where our presence and labors are needed. We serve a wonderful, generous, and loving God, and our service is a gift. To work a full day serving God, in whatever way we are called, is a blessing. Also, the parable reminds us that it is NEVER too late to respond to God’s call. Finally, God has generously given us personally compassion and grace. **SO, THE POINT IS THIS: GOD CALLS US TO GO INTO THE VINEYARD OF OUR CULTURALLY DIVERSE FAITH COMMUNITY IN ONE FAITH AND TO PRACTICE GENEROSITY OF HEART TOWARD ONE ANOTHER AND TOWARD OTHERS, EVEN IF WE DO NOT THINK THAT THEY HAVE EARNED IT.** Let me share with you 2 reflections today as a Vincentian pastor in this Vincentian parish on how we can live in the light of this parable.

FIRST, St. Vincent de Paul, in encouraging one of his communities to overcome obstacles, said this: “Love is inventive, even to infinity. As a result, Vincent de Paul recognized that he would need to gather, motivate, and negotiate with diverse groups of people to serve the poor. He was inventive in the recognition of potential helpers. He tapped assistance, skills, and talents from socialites, politicians, professors, jailers, military officers, wives, prisoners, farm laborers, merchants, parish priests, and even cloistered nuns. He did not play favorites but treated them all equally. In a similar way, God calls us to treat each other equally without playing favorites—whether we are “old timers” or “recently arrived” or “in-between”. In the concrete, “inventive” means to be welcoming to each other and to be developing some kind of bond with each other. “Become friends with people who are not your age. Hang out with people whose first language is not the same as yours. Get to know someone who does not come from your social class. This is how you see the REAL world. This is how you REALLY grow.” “Love is inventive even to infinity”—it’s practicing generosity of heart toward one another, even if we do not think that others have earned it.

Second, here at St. Mary’s we have diverse cultural and faith events—for example, the Hispanic Kermes; the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival; the National Black Catholic Month celebration; the African picnic; the Montagnard Mass every other year on Christmas Day; the Hispanic Our Lady of Guadalupe; the Vietnamese New Year; the Black History Month celebration; the intercultural youth retreats. These events are not limited only to these particular cultures. Our call is for each culture to invite and to welcome other cultures to these cultural and faith events. AND our call is for each culture to accept this invite to hang out with people whose first language is not the same as ours. In the concrete, we become MORE REALLY a culturally diverse faith community in one faith, one parish rather than 3 or 4 parishes.