



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

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

E-Mail: terexanhocm@yahoo.com

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

E-Mail: 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

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 1st.

Sunday of the month.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2017

Psalm: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16; Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38

True obedience comes from free choice made in the light of what is true and good; it often requires a great deal of courage because it can involve going against the values of our society. True obedience also aims at putting oneself at the service of something greater than oneself by accepting what God clearly wants us to do or what He wants to do through us. Jesus' own moment of greatness came, like His mother, when He said 'Yes' to His father and Jesus' own obedience is our model. Will we surrender to God and allow God to do what from our human point of view seems impossible? Will we surrender our agenda, our will and our kingdom to God and allow God's agenda, will and kingdom to become a reality? It is by saying, with Jesus and Mary, a wholehearted and totally unconditional 'Yes' to Jesus that He will be re-born in me or maybe even born in me for the first time. By my saying 'Yes', Jesus will be born or re-born in others, too. The good news in today's scripture message is not only that God is making provision for the salvation of His people, but also that He has a plan for each individual person. Just as God called Mary, He calls every mother to raise her child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. In many cases, our work for God seems rather ordinary, but each ordinary task which we carry out, fits into God's plan in ways we cannot yet understand. God desires, not the skill of our hands, but the love of our hearts. Let us show our gratitude to God by living as true followers of Christ, "Here I am Lord, your humble and grateful servant, let it be done to me according to Your word."

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.

December 25 – December 31

Monday, December 25
 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
 (CHRISTMAS)
 Isaiah 52:7-10
 Hebrews 1:1-6
 John 1:1-18

Tuesday, December 26
 St. Stephen, The First Martyr
 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
 Matthew 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27
 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 1 John 1:1-4
 John 20:1a,2-8

Thursday, December 28
 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
 1 John 1:5-2:2
 Matthew 2:13-18

Friday, December 29
St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
 1 John 2:3-11
 Luke 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30
 1 John 2:12-17
 Luke 2:36-40

Sunday, December 31
 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
 MARY AND JOSEPH
 Sirach 3:2-6:12-14
 Colossians 3:12-21
 Luke 2:22-40

PARISH GIFT - \$5,796.00
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, Anita Davis, Peggy Daye, Celeste Donohue, Chuck Dupuis, Gwen Drummer, Heather Emper, John Garrett, John Harris, Emily and Joan Harrison, Ashley Henry, Marie Isley, 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, and Deborah Zargham.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

10:00 A.M. For the Repose of the Soul of Marion Ingram, requested by Elsie Bernard

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 – *Christmas* - December 24 – December 25

Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Musician
5:00P.M. Vigil Mass	Sarah Olenick	Vivian Teachey	Pat King
12:00 A.M Midnight Mass	Nneka Walson	Gloria Bauman – Mercy Kakhu Edith Walson – John Walson	Carol Soter
10:00 AM	Irene Essien-Akpan	Anthony Walson – Sheila Magee Tu Dagout – Chris Fombin	Pat King

Liturgical Ministers - December 30 – December 31

Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Musician
5:30 P.M.	Catherine Shaw	Thelma Hatchett	Pat King
10:00 AM	Virginia Smith	Osigah Kakhu – Usone Kakhu Quyen Cil – Y Ang Hmok	Carol Soter

Liturgical Ministers – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/New Year's Day December 31, 2017 – January 1, 2018

Mass	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Musician
5:00 P.M. Vigil Mass	Thelma Hatchett	Ardelia Matthews	Pat King
10:00 AM	Lorna Lineberry	Osigah Kakhu – Usone Kakhu Quyen Cil – Y Ang Hmok	Pat King

Parish Calendar



MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S

***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24** (ONE SUNDAY MORNING MASS):
10:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)

***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24** (CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY):
5:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)
6:30—MASS IN SPANISH (CENTER)
9:00—MASS IN VIETNAMESE (CENTER)
12:00—MIDNIGHT MASS IN ENGLISH (CHURCH)

***MONDAY, DECEMBER 25** (ONE MORNING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY):
10:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)
12:00 NOON – MONTAGNARD MASS (CENTER)

***TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26** – 9:00 AM MASS (NOT 7:30 AM)

***SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30** (VIGIL MASSES FOR SUNDAY):
5:30—MASS IN ENGLISH (CHURCH)
7:00—MASS IN SPANISH (CENTER)
9:00—MASS IN VIETNAMESE (CENTER)

***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** (ONE SUNDAY MORNING MASS):
10:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)

***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** (NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY):
5:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)
6:30—MASS IN SPANISH (CENTER)
9:00—MASS IN VIETNAMESE (CENTER) FOLLOWED BY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY (CENTER)

***MONDAY, JANUARY 1** (ONE MORNING MASS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY):
10:00—MASS IN ENGLISH (CENTER)

***TUESDAY, JANUARY 2** – 9:00 AM MASS (NOT 7:30 AM)

PARKING LOT NOTICE

For Christmas Eve Masses, please enter the parking lot from Duke Street and please leave the parking lot at Gorrell Street. Please note also that Windsor Center parking lot is available. There are 52 spaces there. This procedure will allow us to better handle the flow of traffic for Christmas Eve.

NO SATURDAY 9:00 AM MASS

Please note that there will be no 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday, December 30.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S

The Parish Office will be closed on the following dates:

-MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

-MONDAY, JANUARY 1

-TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

PARISH CENTER CLOSURE SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S

The Parish Center will be closed on the following dates:

-MONDAY DECEMBER 25 (FOLLOWING MONTAGNARD MASS)

-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

-MONDAY, JANUARY 1

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

English language faith formation will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2018.

ADDITIONAL YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

At this time of year, if you are looking for opportunities for directed giving, please consider any of the following: 1) St. Mary's Needy Families Fund 2) upkeep and maintenance of our church and Parish Center and 3) Faith Formation. Please place your contribution in a separate envelope with your name (if you wish) designating one of these three areas in the Weekend Collections on the weekends of December 23-25 and December 30 - January 1. Thank you very much for your generosity toward people in need and toward our church.

2018 DONATION ENVELOPES

Your 2018 Donation Envelopes will be available for pickup in the Parish Center this weekend as well as the weekend of December 30 & December 31. The envelopes for surnames A-M will be in Classroom 3; the envelopes for surnames N-Z will be in Classroom 4.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES MEETING

The next Social Ministries meeting will be on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center.

Parish News

NOTE ABOUT CONTRIBUTIONS

As you may be aware, for our parishioners aged 70 ½ or older, the IRS has permanently extended the provision for a trustee to trustee transfer of funds from your IRA/401k as a required minimum distribution permanently. Transferring funds in this manner allows you to make a "contribution" to St. Mary without paying income tax upon the RMD withdrawal. These "contributions" are not posted to your contribution statement because they are NOT deductible on your income tax. We appreciate your considering doing a trustee to trustee transfer in this manner, if you so desire, to add to your pledge for the Capital Campaign.

SNOW ALERT!

Please check the parish website (stmarysgreensboro.org) for any cancellations/delays caused by snow or other inclement weather.

Features

FAITH BOOK – DECEMBER 24

From today's Gospel reading:

...but Mary was greatly troubled at what (the angel) said to her and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Reflection:

Mary's Galilee was a conflicted land and her responses show her own inner confusion and doubt. However, she doesn't get a road map from the angel to clear up the present and tell her where the future would take her. Instead, she makes room for God in her life and trusts. This is what we too must do when we say our own "Yes" to God.

So we ask ourselves:

- 1) What is conflicted in our life these days?
- 2) What are we doing to resolve the issue?
- 3) Has prayer helped? How?

FAITH BOOK – DECEMBER 25

From today's Gospel reading:

Mary wrapped the child in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room in the inn.

Reflection:

If we are looking for God's glory among the world's brilliance and power we will not see it. The story invites us to look elsewhere for God's shining forth – among poor and peripheral people. We need to look around our world, past the mall music, extravagant displays and over-the-top gifts. Fake glory.

So we ask ourselves:

- 1) Where's Christ being born and coming to us today?
- 2) Is today's "holy family" in a refugee camp waiting to be admitted by a host country?

SOCIAL MINISTRIES CORNER

Catholic Social Justice Teachings

Solidarity: At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that "if you want peace, work for justice." The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict. "Blessed are the peacemakers, they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9) "The solidarity which binds all men together as members of a common family makes it impossible for wealthy nations to look with indifference upon the hunger, misery and poverty of other nations whose citizens are unable to enjoy even elementary human rights. The nations of the world are becoming more and more dependent on one another and it will not be possible to preserve a lasting peace so long as glaring economic and social imbalances persist." (On Christianity and Social Progress)

Current issue: According to Pope John XXIII, there can be "no peace among people unless there is peace in each person." How can you promote this insight in concrete ways?

PROJECT LIFE: A CULTURE OF LIFE CORNER

Week 40 – For 40 weeks I have been growing in my mother's womb, and tonight I will be born. I can't wait to say "Hello, world! It's me!"



**COME CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ST.
MARY'S!!!**



You are all invited to the Parish New Year's Eve Party with the Vietnamese Community! The party will be held in the Parish Center following the 9:00 PM Vietnamese Mass on Sunday, December 31. Please feel free to join the Vietnamese Community for the Mass being held prior to the festivities.

