



I AM WHO AM has sent you.

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

Office: 828-586-9496 Fax: 828-586-2167

3/20/22 – 3rd Sunday of Lent

III Domingo de Cuaresma

Pastor: Rev. Paul Asoh, MSP (Ext 102)

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Matthew Newsome
Rev. Mr. John Szarek
Rev. Mr. Daniel Pyles

Administrative Assistant to the Pastor / DRE:

Luci Castillo (Ext 101/103)

Receptionist / Office Assistant: Sarah Brown (Ext 100)

Liturgical Music: Brad Martin / Joe Conway (Ext 104)

Bookkeeper: Ellen Miller

St. Mary's Book Rack: Mary Ann Kuehl

Receptionist: Beth Fields

Office Hours / Horas de Oficina

Monday & Thursday: 10 to 2; Friday: 9 to 2; Saturday: 10 to 1
Lunes y Jueves: 10 to 2; Viernes: 9 to 2 Sabado: 10 to 1

MASS TIMES at St. Mary Mother of God

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil at 7:00 pm (Español)

Sunday at 8:30 am & 11:30 am

Daily Masses:

Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays at
9:00 am; Wednesday at 5:30 pm

Misas de fin de semana:

Vigilia del sábado a las 7:00 pm (Español)

Domingo a las 8:30 am & 11:30 am

Misas diarias:

Lunes, jueves, viernes y sábados a las 9:00 am

Miércoles a las 5:30 pm

Mass Times at WCU: Catholic Campus Ministry
(during the academic school year) Sunday: 4:00 pm
Friday Daily Mass: 12:15 pm

CONFESSION/CONFESIONES

Sunday: 10:45 until 11:15 am

Wednesdays at 4:45 pm, Friday at 9:30 am
and Saturday at 5:00 pm
Or by appointment

Tiempos de confesiones

Miércoles de 4:45-5:15 pm

Viernes 9:30-10:30 am durante la Adoración

Sábado 5:00-6:00 pm

O con cita previa

Adoration and Benediction

Every Friday following Mass until 10:30 am
1st Friday from 9:30 am -9:00 pm
1st Saturday Holy Hour after Mass

Adoración y Bendición

Todos los viernes después de Misa hasta las 10:30 am
Primer viernes de 9:30 am a 10:00 pm
Primer sábado Hora Santa después de la Misa

Main Line/Reception: 828-586-9496

Sacrament Emergency: 828-631-0576

Email: smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Calendar – March 20th to 27th

Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	James Putnam+
	10:00 am	Donuts, Dogma & Scripture	The Search – Why a God?
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Newsom Family
	4:00 pm	Sunday Mass (at WCU)	Pro Populo
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Katie Meyer+
	10:00 am	TOPS (Take Off Pound Sensibly) Meeting	
	6:30 pm	Estudio de Libro – La Vida Es Complicada	
	6:30 pm	Liturgy Commission Meeting	
Tuesday:	6:00 pm	RCIA	Parish Hall
Wednesday:	5:30 pm	Daily Mass	
	6:00 pm	Lenten Mission (until 8:00 pm)	
	6:30 pm	First Communion and Confirmation Classes	
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Bill Merany
	9:30 am	Book Study – Life is Messy (at church)	
	6:30 pm	Lenten Mission (until 8:00 pm)	
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross (bilingual)	
	6:30 pm	Lenten Mission Adoration with Confessions (until 8:00 pm)	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	9:00 am	Confirmation Retreat (at St. John Waynesville) until 4:00 pm	
	11:30 am	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	
	7:00 pm	Misa de Vigilia	
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Nancy Putnam
	10:00 am	Donuts, Dogma & Scripture	The Search – What's Our Story?
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Pro Populo
	4:00 pm	Sunday Mass (at WCU)	

To request a Mass Intention:

Email to massintentions@stmarymotherofgod.com

Use the envelopes near the women's bathroom

Liturgical Minister Schedule – Next Week

Mass / Misa	Ushers / Hospitalidad	Readers / Lecturas	Servers / Monaguillos
Sabado Mar 26 7:00pm	Familia Acosta	Juan Carlos Villegas	
Sunday Mar 27 8:30am	Mike Ensley Don Pierce	Sue Szarek	Todd Wenberg
Sunday Mar 27 11:30am	Robin Starrs Joe Cerniglia	Jonathan Fischer Sue Cerniglia	Newsomes Gideon Freeman

From the Pastor's Desk

Lenten Mission – Beyond Sin to Mercy

We begin our Lenten Mission from Wednesday through Friday with the theme: Beyond Sin to Mercy. This gives us the opportunity to embrace Jesus' invitation to repentance and to walk into the desert with Him and reflect on the word of God and message of the Lenten Mission facilitator Fr Bernard Oleru, MSP. The image of the Cross stands tall showing the height of God's love and mercy in giving up His only begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation. A message we are all called to take to heart, no matter the burden of our sins or the frequent times we have failed, God's mercy and love is boundless. That is the theme of our Lenten Mission. Please make it a priority to participate. The cross calls us to conversion, Jesus Christ through His Paschal mystery restores and renews us. That is the full package of conversion in Christ. Such conversion, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches or lets us understand is at the heart of our reconciliation with others and the forgiveness that we owe all who have hurt us and those whom we ourselves have offended. It explains that we are taught: "in daily life by gestures of reconciliation, concern for the poor, the exercise and defense of justice, life and right, by the admission of faults to one's brethren, fraternal correction, revision of life, examination of conscience, spiritual direction, acceptance of suffering, endurance of persecution for the sake of righteousness. Taking up one's cross each day and following Jesus is the surest way of penance."



We are called to conversion in our daily lives and to trust God's mercy and forgiveness, as this helps us also to forgive ourselves. Conversion is a major theme in the Bible. The Old Testament prophets from Isaiah, Amos, Elijah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and many others preached repentance and restoration. In the New Testament, St. John the Baptist and St. Peter preached about the call to conversion. Jesus began his public ministry with the words, "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). No matter what we are facing, whether feeling lost, misunderstood or broken hearted, we should remember Psalm 134 that says that the Lord is close to the broken hearted.

The Lord's first words to us were a call to conversion. For Jesus, we are all in need of repentance from our sins, and His mercy and grace leads us to restoration and renewal. There is much need for mercy for ourselves as individuals, our families, community, Church, country and the world. More so, during these pandemic when many have lost so much, the high inflation and news of war makes many of us sad, afraid or angry. We all need to recognize our failings and sins and need to place our trust in God's merciful love. Lent helps to deepen our relationship with Jesus which has positive horizontal impact on our relationship with each other. A Parish Mission has helped me and many others during major moments of our spiritual and personal lives. This Lenten mission is much needed for each and everyone of us.

This week, we welcome our Parish Lenten Mission Preacher Revd. Bernard Oleru, MSP to St Mary Mother of God and we pray that the Holy Spirit guides him as he directs us through this Lenten Mission and the sacrament of reconciliation on Friday. Please let us seize the opportunity to participate, and also for confession to any of the four or five priests available. May God bless and strengthen us to continue to bear good fruits.

Sincerely in Christ, Pastor, Fr. Paul Asoh, MSP

Housekeeping:

1. You are all invited to the Lenten Mission/Retreat starting Wednesday evening with Mass at 5:30 pm followed with talk at 6:30 pm, Thursday at 6:30 pm and Friday Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm with Penance Service and confessions at 6:30 pm.
2. Friday, March 25, at the 9:00 am Mass we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation, when "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us".
3. As a reminder to everyone, to ensure their safety, please make sure an adult accompanies any minor children going to the restroom during Mass.

Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

Misión Cuaresmal – Más Allá del Pecado a la Misericordia

Comenzamos nuestra Misión de Cuaresma de miércoles a viernes con el tema: Más allá del pecado a la misericordia. Esto nos da la oportunidad de abrazar la invitación de Jesús al arrepentimiento y caminar en el desierto con Él y reflexionar sobre la palabra de Dios y el mensaje del facilitador de la Misión de Cuaresma, el P. Bernard Oleru, MSP. La imagen de la Cruz se yergue mostrando la altura del amor y la misericordia de Dios al entregar a Su Hijo unigénito, nuestro Señor Jesucristo, por nuestra salvación. Un mensaje que todos estamos llamados a tomar en serio, sin importar la carga de nuestros pecados o las frecuentes veces que hemos fallado, la misericordia y el amor de Dios no tienen límites. Ese es el tema de nuestra Misión Cuaresmal. Por favor, haga que sea una prioridad para participar. La cruz nos llama a la conversión, Jesucristo a través de su misterio pascual nos restaura y renueva. Ese es el paquete completo de conversión en Cristo. Tal conversión, enseña o nos hace entender el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, está en el centro de nuestra reconciliación con los demás y del perdón que debemos a todos los que nos han hecho daño ya los que nosotros mismos hemos ofendido. Explica que se nos enseña: “en la vida diaria con los gestos de reconciliación, la preocupación por los pobres, el ejercicio y la defensa de la justicia, de la vida y del derecho, con la confesión de las faltas a los hermanos, con la corrección fraterna, con la revisión de vida, con el examen de conciencia, dirección espiritual, aceptación del sufrimiento, resistencia a la persecución por causa de la justicia. Tomar la propia cruz cada día y seguir a Jesús es el camino más seguro de penitencia”.



Estamos llamados a la conversión en nuestra vida diaria y a confiar en la misericordia y el perdón de Dios, ya que esto nos ayuda también a perdonarnos a nosotros mismos. La conversión es un tema principal en la Biblia. Los profetas del Antiguo Testamento de Isaías, Amós, Elías, Jeremías, Ezequiel y muchos otros predicaron el arrepentimiento y la restauración. En el Nuevo Testamento, San Juan Bautista y San Pedro predicaron sobre el llamado a la conversión. Jesús comenzó su ministerio público con las palabras: “Este es el tiempo del cumplimiento. El reino de Dios está cerca. Arrepentíos, y creed en el evangelio” (Marcos 1:15). No importa a lo que nos enfrentemos, ya sea sintiéndonos perdidos, incomprensidos o con el corazón roto, debemos recordar el Salmo 134 que dice que el Señor está cerca de los quebrantados de corazón.

Las primeras palabras del Señor para nosotros fueron un llamado a la conversión. Para Jesús, todos necesitamos arrepentimos de nuestros pecados, y Su misericordia y gracia nos llevan a la restauración y renovación. Hay mucha necesidad de misericordia para nosotros como individuos, nuestras familias, comunidad, Iglesia, país y el mundo. Más aún, durante esta pandemia en la que muchos han perdido tanto, la alta inflación y las noticias de guerra nos entristecen, temen o enojan a muchos de nosotros. Todos necesitamos reconocer nuestras fallas y pecados y debemos depositar nuestra confianza en el amor misericordioso de Dios. La Cuaresma ayuda a profundizar nuestra relación con Jesús, lo que tiene un impacto horizontal positivo en nuestra relación con los demás. Una Misión Parroquial me ha ayudado a mí ya muchos otros en momentos importantes de nuestra vida espiritual y personal. Esta misión de Cuaresma es muy necesaria para todos y cada uno de nosotros.

Esta semana, le damos la bienvenida a nuestro Predicador Misionero Parroquial de Cuaresma Revd. Bernard Oleru, MSP a Santa María Madre de Dios y oramos para que el Espíritu Santo lo guíe mientras nos dirige a través de esta Misión Cuaresmal y el sacramento de la reconciliación el viernes. Por favor, aprovechemos la oportunidad de participar y también de confesarnos con cualquiera de los cuatro o cinco sacerdotes disponibles. Que Dios nos bendiga y fortalezca para seguir dando buenos frutos.

Sinceramente en Cristo, Pastor, P. Paul Asoh, MSP

Noticias:

1. Están todos invitados a la Misión/Retiro de Cuaresma que comienza el miércoles por la noche con la Misa a las 5:30 pm seguida de una charla a las 6:30 pm, el jueves a las 6:30 pm y el Vía Crucis del viernes a las 6:00 pm con Penitencia Servicio y confesiones a las 6:30 pm.
2. El viernes 25 de marzo, en la Misa de las 9:00 am celebraremos la Solemnidad de la Anunciación, cuando “el Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros”.
3. Como recordatorio para todos, para garantizar su seguridad, asegúrese de que un adulto acompañe a los niños menores de edad que van al baño durante la misa.

Religious Education

The next Faith Formation Class will be April 6 at 6:30 pm.

Early registration for Faith Formation for next year (2022/23) has started. Signup with Luci.
If you are interested in volunteering please talk to Luci. We appreciate your help!

La próxima Clase de Formación de Fe será el 6 de abril a las 6:30 p. m.

Ha comenzado la inscripción anticipada para la formación en la fe para el próximo año (2022/23). Regístrese con Luci.
Si está interesado en ser voluntario, hable con Luci. ¡Apreciamos su ayuda!

New Bookrack Items

Lent is here! Check out new materials in the Bookrack.

¡Ha comenzado la cuaresma! Echa un vistazo a los nuevos materiales en el Bookrack.

Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$3,914 / Month to date: \$8,698

DSA Status: Collected \$7,655 / With pledges \$11,561 (60% of goal) / Goal \$19,146

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$3,914 / Mes hasta la fecha: \$8,698

Estado DSA: Recaudado \$7,655 / Con compromisos \$11,561 (60% de la meta) / Meta \$19,146

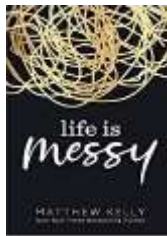
Lenten Book Study / Estudio de Libro de Cuaresma

Book Study Group – In English

Groups meet weekly beginning:

Thursday, March 10, at 9:30 am – In person
Thursday, March 10, at 6:30 pm – By Zoom

Be encouraged and accompanied during Lent.



Estudio del Libros – En Español

Los grupos se reúnan semanalmente a partir:

Lunes 14 de marzo, a las 7:00 pm

Anímate y acompaña durante la Cuaresma.

Contact: Joe Conway at 864-320-4786 or joeconway5287@gmail.com

WCU Campus Ministry News

Mass is celebrated at the Catholic Campus Ministry Student Center
during the academic semester every ***Sunday at 4:00 PM*** and ***Friday at 12:15 PM***

View our full schedule and find more information about our campus ministry at www.WCUCatholic.org

Give Your Heart Away: A Pilgrimage Toward Justice – April 1-2

The Diocese of Charlotte is sponsoring an educational trip for college students to Greensboro to explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement in North Carolina as it relates to the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching. Students will ***spend Friday night*** in the Campus Ministry Center on the campus of UNC Greensboro and visit the ***Greensboro Civil Rights Museum*** on Saturday. There will be Mass and opportunity for Confession, presentations on Catholic Social Teaching, and time for prayer and small group discussion. Visit www.WCUCatholic.org/gyha to register.

PLEASE KEEPIN YOUR PRAYERS - POR FAVOR GUARDE EN SUS ORACIONES:

Charlotte Alexander, Alonso Family, Ángel Esteban Arrua, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena, Mary Ann Asbury, Justin Basenese, Jacki Bautista, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Michael Burke, Cáceres Family, Jonathan Castillo, Moon Chung, Verónica Natalia Chávez, Jim Clark, Sheila Collier, Will Crain, Martin Espinoza+, Diane Glover, Jim Glover, Rory Glover, Monica Glover, Marisa Graham, Miles Harris, Debbie Hentschel, Mary Illis+, Barbara Jakiela,, Souhair Kwaham, Rita Lamanna, Daniella Machado, Tim Mann, Sam Matthews, Karen Matulis, Paula McCafferty & McCafferty Family, Peter Namotka, Georgia Newsom, William Newsom, Jr., William Newsom, Sr.+, Linwood Newsome, Tom Nicoletti & Nicoletti Family, William Owen, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Pérez, Cathleen Pilch, Stephen Pilch, Zig Pilch, Cynthia Pitts, Alicia Ramirez, Rios Family, Verónica Rodríguez, SantaCruz Family, Stuart and Janet Snyder, María Sol Montel, Jay Thorne, Allen Thurston, Joshua Turner, Lewis Turner, Joe Waters, Pauline Watson, Bonnie Welch, Elaine Wilkes

Those Called to Active Duty: Luke Turner

Serving a Vocation: Sr. Catherine, OCD and Fr. Joseph Wasswa (Diocese of Charlotte)

and for all the prayers written in our parish book of prayers.

*If you know of someone to be added to the prayer list
or is homebound that would like a visit please email or call the office.*

SpringCleanUp / Limpieza de Primavera

***It's time to clean & spruce up our
Church before the Easter Celebration!***

Can you spare an hour or two
(or more!) to sweep, dust, and do
general cleaning in our church?

Our goal is to have the whole building
clean & shining! ***We need YOUR help*** to
make this happen! Please join us on:

Saturday, April 2nd starting at 10:00 AM.

We'll start in the hall and work our way
into the church. Since this is a 1st Saturday,
Adoration will be going on.

Lunch will be served!

Many hands make light work!

Thanks for your help!

To volunteer or for more information, ***please contact:***



***¡Es hora de limpiar y arreglar nuestro
Iglesia antes de Pascua!***

¿Puedes dedicarme una hora o dos
(¡o más!) para barrer, desempolvar y
limpieza general en nuestra iglesia?

¡Nuestro objetivo es tener todo el edificio
limpio y brillante! ***Necesitamos SU ayuda***
para haz que pase. Unase a nosotros en:

Sábado 2 de Abril a partir a 10:00 am

Comenzaremos en el pasillo y seguiremos
nuestro camino hasta la iglesia. Dado que
Este es un primer sábado, continuará la adoración.

¡Se servirá el almuerzo!

¡Muchas manos hacen trabajo liviano!

¡Gracias port tu ayuda!

Para ser voluntario o obtener más información,
comuníquese con:

Sue at 630-267-7533 or dogs34me@comcast.net

Fish Fry/Pescado Frito

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry:

Friday evening:

April 1

5:00pm to 7:00pm

Adults \$10 / Kids \$5



Pescado Frito Caballeros de Colón:

Viernes por la tarde:

1 de Abril

5:00 pm hasta 7:00pm

Adultos \$10 / Niños \$5

Parish Organizations

Parish Council

Chair: Brian Raming

Secretary: Sue Szarek

Parish Finance Council

Chair: Robin Starrs

Buildings & Grounds Commission

Chair: Don Pierce

Communications & Evangelization Commission

Chair: Mike Ensley

- Online & Social Media Resources:
Deacon Matt and Brittany Lester

Community Outreach Commission

Chair: Elaina Quijada

- Food Pantry: Yenny Sanchez
- Respect Life: Sue Szarek
- Prison Ministry: Steve Kuehl

Faith Education & Formation Commission

DRE: Luci Castillo

- RCIA Coordinator: Mike Ensley
- Contact Luci for sacramental needs

Liturgical Commission

Chair: Joe Conway

- Altar Guild: Sue Szarek

Hispanic Community Commission

Chair: Javier and Marta Espinoza

Parish Life Commission

Chair: Beth Fields

- Knights of Columbus: Jonathan Fischer
- Lay Carmelites Director: Jean Burton

Stewardship Committee

Chair: Brian Raming

WCU Campus Ministry

Campus Minister: Deacon Matt Newsome

Email: smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Website: stmarymotherofgod.com

Social Media:

facebook.com/stmarysylvia

instagram.com/stmarysylvia

youtube.com/c/StMaryMotherofGod

Main Line/Reception: 828-586-9496

Sacramental Emergency: 828-631-0576

New to the parish?

Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Hall and complete a registration form.

If interested in volunteer opportunities please call the office
and we will help you share your time and talents within the parish.

¿Nuevo en la parroquia?

Pase por el mostrador de bienvenida en el salón y complete un formulario de registro.

Si está interesado en oportunidades de voluntariado, llame a la oficina
y veremos cómo compartir su tiempo y talentos dentro de la parroquia.

Questions for Synod Conversations / Preguntas para las Conversaciones

Pope Francis invites the whole Church into “an exercise of mutual listening involving the entire People of God.”

We will discuss three questions:

1. What are the most significant signs of the Lord's presence in your life?
2. What are the biggest challenges or questions you face in responding to the Lord's call?
3. What steps is the Holy Spirit suggesting to you and your community to respond more fully to the Christian vocation?

Please take this opportunity to make your voices heard!

Wednesday, March 30, 6:30 pm Bilingual

For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

El Papa Francisco invita a toda la Iglesia a “un ejercicio de escucha mutua, realizado en todo el Pueblo de Dios”.

Hablaremos de tres cuestiones:

1. ¿Cuáles son los signos más significativos de la presencia del Señor en tu vida?
2. ¿Cuáles son los mayores desafíos or preguntas que enfrenta al responder al llamado del Señor?
3. ¿Qué pasos te sugiere el Espíritu Santo a ti y a tu comunidad para responder más plenamente a la vocación Cristiana?

¡Aproveche esta oportunidad para hacer oír su voz!

Miércoles 30 de marzo, 6:30 pm Bilingue

Por una Iglesia sinodal
comunión | participación | misión

Respect Life / Respetar la Vida

We are called to Respect Life – All life. Even when it's across the globe.

We've all heard the news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. We've seen the refugees and destruction.

How can we help?

DONATE – Prayerfully consider a donation to Catholic Relief Services. There are already 2.9 million people desperately in need of assistance, with more coming daily. CRS has 'boots on the ground' now to help, and with CRS 92% of your donation goes directly to the cause. Please see [CRS.org](https://www.crs.org) to donate. Every donation helps.

PRAY – Our prayers matter, and we need to pray throughout this crisis. Cardinal Blasé Cupich of the Archdiocese of Chicago called all people of faith to join the call of the Chief Rabbi of Ukraine to recite **Psalms 31** out loud:

For the People of Ukraine:

Praise be to the Lord,

For He showed me the wonders of His love
when I was under siege.

In my alarm I said:

“I am cut off from your sight!”

Yet You heard my cry for mercy
when I called to You for help.

Love the Lord, all His faithful people!

The Lord preserves those who are true to him,
but the proud he repays in full.

Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who hope in the Lord!

Let us also remember the people of Russia:

Please Lord,

Soften the hearts of the leaders and soldiers,
Bring this war to an end.



*Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
lit in blue and yellow for solidarity with the Ukraine.*