



*“This son of mine was lost,
and has been found.”*

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

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

3/27/22 – 3rd Sunday of Lent

IV 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: smmgooffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Calendar – March 27th to April 3rd

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)	
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	6:30 pm	Estudio de Libro – La Vida Es Complicada	
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	
Tuesday:	6:00 pm	RCIA	Parish Hall
Wednesday:	5:30 pm	Daily Mass	
	6:30 pm	Synod Conversation #3 (bilingual)	
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	9:40 am	Book Study – Life is Messy (at church)	
	6:30 pm	Book Study – Life is Messy (on zoom)	
	6:30 pm	Misa en Español con Adoración	
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	9:30 am	First Friday Adoration (until 9:00 pm)	
	5:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Fish Fry (until 7:00 pm)	
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross (bilingual)	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	10:00 am	Spring Clean Up	
	7:00 pm	Misa de Vigilia	
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Bill Lyons
	10:00 am	Donuts, Dogma & Scripture	The Search – Who Is Jesus?
	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 Apr 2 7:00pm	Familia Perez	Benita Bueno	
Sunday Apr 3 8:30am	Mike Ensley Don Pierce	Caryn Raming	Brian Raming
Sunday Apr 3 11:30am	Robin Starrs Joe Cerniglia	Sara Freeman Bella Core	Newsomes Gideon Freeman

From the Pastor's Desk

Mercy, Compassion, Patience and Generosity

In a bird's-eye view, who among the two sons was truly obedient to their father in the parable of the prodigal son? Who should win the pick? The younger or the elder son? There is a sharp contrast between the words of these two brothers to their father upon their return. Although the younger son was returning from a strayed path, but he came and pledged an unconditional obedience to his father: "I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." (Lk 15:19). Put differently, he was saying: "I am not here to claim anything. I am only here to serve you needing nothing in return." This pledge of obedience is unconditional. It is pure because there are no incentives attached. It is service for the sake of service. Conversely, the return of the elder son from the field and his reaction towards his father uncovered something about him. He complained to his father of not being rewarded despite his long years of commitment. It was as though he stayed put serving his father because of what he would get in return and was becoming increasingly frustrated as his father wasn't yielding. This conditional obedience of the elder son is flawed and doesn't appeal to God. Conditional obedience is when we lay claim to God's mercy and favour on the ground of good actions. When we begin to think that with our good actions, we can bend God to our will.



Perhaps both attitudes towards God are represented by the two sons in our story. The younger one eventually recognize his sinfulness and "drew near" to his father in that tender moment of return. The older one's tone of voice has an edge of complaint in it if you examine it closely. Conditional versus unconditional obedience also calls to mind yesterday's gospel of the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector who went to pray in the temple in Luke 18:9-14. The tax collector and not the Pharisee went home blessed just as in today's parable, the younger son was celebrated and not the elder son.

If we are honest with ourselves, we have the heart of both sons within our own. We cycle between repentance and arrogance (or stiff indifference at best) in the spiritual life. But more poignant than that is the steadfastness of the father's character in his dealing with both the sons. It is the father's person that is the striking character in the story. What mercy and compassion are lavished on the wayward son! What patience and generosity given to the older son! And so God the Father is with us!

Why does the Church give us this familiar passage to reflect upon during this season of Lent? Perhaps, it is given to us to remind us that both sons in our story have sinned, both experience the magnanimous character of the father, and I imagine that both are changed by it as they both are welcomed into the father's house for the celebration. I can only imagine what the conversation was between these sons in the days following the party. They gave witness to each other of how they found themselves at the celebration. We are all prodigals who have left the Father's house in reality (like the younger son) or in our hearts and mind (like the older son). We all have stories of being proverbially lost and running in the wrong direction. But it helps us to be reminded that others are on the narrow path of faith as well. When we hear testimonies of how people overcame personal struggles, we are encouraged. If others can find God's mercy in their troubles, then so can we..

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

Housekeeping:

1. All are encouraged to join our Synod conversation on Wednesday, March 30, at 6:30pm to identify the steps the Holy Spirit is suggesting to better live out our vocation.
2. Just as we did at Christmas, we are accepting donations for Easter flowers. You may donate online or in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers". Many thanks for your generosity.

Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

Misericordia, Compasión, Paciencia y Generosidad

Quién de los dos hijos fue verdaderamente obediente a su padre en la parábola del hijo pródigo?" ¿Quién debería ganar la selección? ¿El hijo menor o el mayor? Hay un marcado contraste entre las palabras de estos dos hermanos a su padre a su regreso. Aunque el hijo menor regresaba de un camino extraviado, vino y juró una obediencia incondicional a su padre: "Ya no soy digno de ser llamado hijo tuyo; trátame como a uno de tus jornaleros". (Lc 15,19). Dicho de otra manera, estaba diciendo: "No estoy aquí para reclamar nada. Solo estoy aquí para servirte y no necesito nada a cambio. Este juramento de obediencia es incondicional. Es puro porque no hay incentivos adjuntos. Es el servicio por el bien del servicio. Por el contrario, el regreso del hijo mayor del campo y su reacción hacia su padre revelaron algo sobre él. Se quejó con su padre de no ser recompensado a pesar de sus largos años de compromiso. Era como si se quedara sirviendo a su padre por lo que obtendría a cambio y se sintiera cada vez más frustrado porque su padre no estaba cediendo. Esta obediencia condicional del hijo mayor es defectuosa y no atrae a Dios. La obediencia condicional es cuando reclamamos la misericordia y el favor de Dios sobre la base de buenas acciones. Cuando comenzamos a pensar que con nuestras buenas acciones, podemos doblegar a Dios a nuestra voluntad.



Quizás ambas actitudes hacia Dios estén representadas por los dos hijos de nuestra historia. El más joven finalmente reconoció su pecaminosidad y "se acercó" a su padre en ese tierno momento de regreso. El tono de voz del mayor tiene un tono de queja si lo examinas de cerca. La obediencia condicional versus la incondicional también recuerda el evangelio de ayer de la parábola del fariseo y el recaudador de impuestos que fueron a orar al templo en Lucas 18:9-14. El recaudador de impuestos y no el fariseo se fue a casa bendecido tal como en la parábola de hoy, el hijo menor fue celebrado y no el hijo mayor.

Si somos honestos con nosotros mismos, tenemos el corazón de ambos hijos dentro del nuestro. Circulamos entre el arrepentimiento y la arrogancia (o la rígida indiferencia en el mejor de los casos) en la vida espiritual. Pero más conmovedor que eso es la firmeza del carácter del padre en su trato con ambos hijos. Es la persona del padre el personaje llamativo de la historia. ¡Qué misericordia y compasión se prodigan al hijo descarriado! ¡Qué paciencia y generosidad dada al hijo mayor! ¡Y así Dios Padre está con nosotros!

¿Por qué la Iglesia nos da este pasaje familiar para reflexionar durante este tiempo de Cuaresma? Tal vez, se nos da para recordarnos que ambos hijos en nuestra historia han pecado, ambos experimentan el carácter magnánimo del padre, y me imagino que ambos son cambiados por eso, ya que ambos son bienvenidos a la casa del padre para la celebración. Solo puedo imaginar cuál fue la conversación entre estos hijos en los días posteriores a la fiesta. Se dieron testimonio unos a otros de cómo se encontraban en la celebración. Todos somos pródigos que hemos dejado la casa del Padre en la realidad (como el hijo menor) o en el corazón y la mente (como el hijo mayor). Todos tenemos historias de estar proverbialmente perdidos y corriendo en la dirección equivocada. Pero nos ayuda recordar que otros también están en el camino angosto de la fe. Cuando escuchamos testimonios de cómo las personas superaron sus luchas personales, nos animamos. Si otros pueden encontrar la misericordia de Dios en sus problemas, nosotros también podemos.

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

Noticias:

1. Se anima a todos a unirse a nuestra conversación sinodal el miércoles 30 de marzo a las 6:30 p. m. para identificar los pasos que sugiere el Espíritu Santo para vivir mejor nuestra vocación.
2. Tal como lo hicimos en Navidad, estamos aceptando donaciones para flores de Pascua. Puede donar en línea o en un sobre marcado como "Flores de Pascua". Muchas gracias por tu generosidad.

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: \$2,988 / Month to date: \$11,686

DSA Status: Collected and pledged \$15,238 (80% of goal) / Goal \$19,146

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$2,988 / Mes hasta la fecha: \$11,686

Estado DSA: Recaudado y compromisos \$15,238 (80% de la meta) / Meta \$19,146

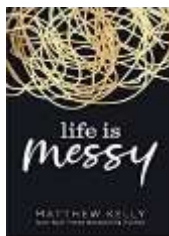
Lenten Book Study / Estudio de Libro de Cuaresma

Book Study Group – In English

Groups meet weekly:

Thursday at 9:30 am – In person
Thursday 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 a las 6:30 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 KEEP IN 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 Coller, 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.*

Spring Clean Up / 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

Chair: Bonnie Dodge

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: Javier & Analise Comacho

- 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/stmarysylva

instagram.com/stmarysylva

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

Picnic – March 27 – Bridge Park



Picnic
"Planting hope
Harvesting future"

**SUNDAY
MARCH
27TH** **2:00-5:00
PM/ET**

Picnic
"Siembrando
esperanza
Cosechando futuro"

**DOMINGO
27 DE
MARZO** **2:00-5:00 P.M.**

**Bridge Park
76 Railroad Ave, Sylva, NC
28779**

VECINOS
ihola!
CAROLINA

UNIDXS **NC COUNTS COALITION** **UNETE**