

You are . . .
the salt
of the
earth

Matt. 5:13-16

St. Mary Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

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

2/5/23 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
V Domingo en el Tiempo Ordinario

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

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Matthew Newsome
Rev. Mr. John Szarek (retired)
Rev. Mr. Daniel Pyles

Administrative Assistant to the Pastor / DRE:

Luci Castillo (Ext 101/103)

Receptionist / Office Assistant: Sarah Brown (Ext 100)

Liturgical Music: Trinity Leger / Joe Conway

Bookkeeper: Carla Haire

St. Mary's Book Rack: Mary Ann Kuehl

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

CONFESION

Sunday: 10:45 until 11:15 am
Wednesdays at 5:00 pm, Friday at 9:30 am
and Saturday at 5:00 pm
Or by appointment

Tiempos de Confesiones

Domingo 10:45 am, Miércoles 5:00 pm
Viernes 9:30 am, Sabado 5:00 pm
O con cita previa

Adoration and Benediction

1st Friday from 9:30-8:00 pm
1st Saturday Holy Hour after Mass
Last Friday 7:00-8:00 pm (Emmaus)

Adoración y Bendición

Primer viernes de 9:30 am a 8:00 pm
Primer sábado Hora Santa después de la Misa
Último viernes 7:00-8:00 pm (Emaús)

Main Line/Reception: 828-586-9496

Sacrament Emergency: 828-631-0576

Email: smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Calendar – February 5th to 12th

Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Linda Tiller+
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma – Restored Session 5	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	William Newsom+
	4:00 pm	Sunday Mass - WCU	Pro Populo
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Deceased of the Kennedy & Maurro Families+
Tuesday:	6:00 pm	English Class / Clase de Inglés	
Wednesday:	5:30 pm	Daily Mass	
	6:30 pm	Faith Formation Classes	
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Deceased of the Bubb & Nigriny Families+
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Renee Pierce
	12:15 pm	Daily Mass - WCU	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	9:30 am	Knights of Columbus 4 th Degree Meeting	
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Class (Track 2)	
	7:00 pm	Misa en Español	
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma – Restored Session 6	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Newsom Family
	4:00 pm	Sunday Mass - WCU	Pro Populo

To request a Mass Intention:

Email to massintentions@stmarymotherofgod.com

Or use the envelopes near the women's restroom

Liturgical Minister Schedule – Next Week

Mass / Misa	Ushers / Hospitalidad	Readers / Lecturas	Servers / Monaguillos
Sabado 11 Feb 7:00 pm	Familia Perez	Patricia Hernandez	
Sunday Feb 12 8:30am		Brian Raming	Brian Raming Todd Wenberg
Sunday Feb 12 11:30am		Sue Cerniglia	Alister, Gideon, Kristen, Maddie

From the Pastor's Desk

You Are Salt; You Are Light

Jesus says in today's gospel, "You are the salt of the earth." Salt is very essential to a human's health. Lack of it adversely affects the functioning of body cells, nerves, muscles, and bones. Salt is used to season food in order to enhance flavor and taste. Before the invention of fridges and freezers, salt was an important preserving agent. It is widely believed that salt was the oldest method of food preservation. Salt has played a great role in medicine since the beginning of humankind. It has been used for cleaning, washing, sanitizing, purifying, and disinfecting. The importance of salt to humanity must be the reason Jesus calls his followers "the salt of the earth."

In today's Gospel Acclamation from John 8:12, Jesus says about himself, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will have the light of life." Then, in the gospel reading, Jesus tells us, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." It is very striking that what Jesus says about himself, he also says about us. This is because we are supposed to be reflections of the glory of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18). We are supposed to be fragrance of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:15). Christ is our head, and we are supposed to be his body (Colossians 1:18). We are supposed to be ambassadors of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Isaiah reminds us in the first reading how we can be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We are to feed the hungry, shelter the oppressed and homeless, cloth the naked, and attend to the afflicted. Around us are people in need of our help, love, care, and support. They are the elderly, the lonely, the sick, the troubled, the grieving, the hungry, the deprived, the incapacitated, the wounded, the oppressed, the heartbroken, the poor, the abandoned and so on. For some of these people, life is tasteless. As salt, we are to bring flavor to their life. Some of them see only darkness and hopelessness around them. As light, we are to light up their darkness and restore hope. We will not be able to engage faithfully in works of mercy if we lack qualities of salt and light.

May I conclude by inviting us to pray for Nigeria, my country. There will be a presidential election in Nigeria on the 25th of this month. The dilapidation, insecurity, corruption, and persecution of Christians in Nigeria and the sufferings of Nigerians are constantly in the world news. The news items are only a tip of the iceberg of the precarious situation. In 2022, over 40 priests and religious were abducted for ransom. At least 39 priests were murdered in cold blood. These figures do not include leaders of other Christian denominations who suffered the same fate. Countless number of churches and church properties were burned down or destroyed. The number of Nigerians kidnapped for ransom or killed is unknown. Large sections of Nigeria are controlled by terrorists and armed gangs. The Nigerian government is bogged down in corruption and incompetence. Please, pray for God's special intervention in Nigeria. May God's Hosts repel all destabilizing forces against the election so that there will be a safe, peaceful, free, and fair election. May the voters make the right choice, and not put their lamps under a bushel basket, because God helps those who help themselves. St. Augustine says, "God who created us without our help will not save us without our consent."

Finally, the Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Council, are organizing a day of prayer for the coming elections in Nigeria. They are inviting us to come together to say the Rosary on Thursday, February 23rd (two days before the election) at 6:00 pm. Spanish Mass at 6:30 pm will take place after the Rosary.

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

Housekeeping:

1. "To Serve is to Love" is the theme of the 2023 Diocesan Support Appeal. I thank you all for supporting the DSA last year. Last week, you received a letter or postcard from Bishop Jugis asking for your generous support of the DSA; and this weekend we are viewing the DSA video, so we can all have an understanding of how the funds given to the DSA impact our diocese. Bishop Jugis asks each of us to prayerfully consider a gift to the DSA as a way of serving Christ through service to thousands of Catholics in western North Carolina. Last year our Parish raised \$20,707.25 for the DSA. By now you should have received a letter or postcard from Bishop Jugis asking for your generous support of the Diocesan Support Appeal. Please give prayerful consideration to how you will respond by filling out your pledge and mailing it this week.
2. We are having a Volunteer Appreciation dinner for all our Parish volunteers and their families on February 21st at 6:30 pm in the Parish hall.
3. Please let us remember to book Masses for our special intentions, for our departed loved ones and the souls in Purgatory.



Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

Eres Sal; Eres Luz

Jesús dice en el evangelio de hoy: “Vosotros sois la sal de la tierra”. La sal es muy esencial para la salud humana. Su falta afecta negativamente el funcionamiento de las células del cuerpo, los nervios, los músculos y los huesos. La sal se utiliza para sazonar los alimentos con el fin de mejorar el sabor y el gusto. Antes de la invención de los frigoríficos y congeladores, la sal era un importante agente conservante. Se cree ampliamente que la sal era el método más antiguo de conservación de alimentos. La sal ha jugado un gran papel en la medicina desde el comienzo de la humanidad. Se ha utilizado para limpiar, lavar, higienizar, purificar y desinfectar. La importancia de la sal para la humanidad debe ser la razón por la que Jesús llama a sus seguidores “la sal de la tierra”.

En la Aclamación del Evangelio de hoy de Juan 8:12, Jesús dice acerca de sí mismo: “Yo soy la luz del mundo; el que me sigue tendrá la luz de la vida.” Luego, en la lectura del evangelio, Jesús nos dice: “Vosotros sois la luz del mundo. Una ciudad asentada sobre una montaña no se puede ocultar. Tampoco encienden una lámpara y luego la ponen debajo de un clemén; está puesto sobre un candelero, donde alumbría a todos en la casa. Así mismo, vuestra luz debe brillar ante los demás, para que vean vuestras buenas obras y glorifiquen a vuestro Padre celestial”. Es muy llamativo que lo que Jesús dice de sí mismo, lo dice también de nosotros. Esto se debe a que se supone que somos reflejos de la gloria de Jesucristo (2 Corintios 3:18). Se supone que somos fragancia de Cristo (2 Corintios 2:15). Cristo es nuestra cabeza, y se supone que somos su cuerpo (Colosenses 1:18). Se supone que debemos ser embajadores de Cristo (2 Corintios 5:20).



Isaías nos recuerda en la primera lectura cómo podemos ser sal de la tierra y luz del mundo. Debemos alimentar a los hambrientos, albergar a los oprimidos y sin hogar, vestir a los desnudos y atender a los afligidos. A nuestro alrededor hay personas que necesitan nuestra ayuda, amor, cuidado y apoyo. Son los ancianos, los solitarios, los enfermos, los afligidos, los hambrientos, los desposeídos, los incapacitados, los heridos, los oprimidos, los desconsolados, los pobres, los abandonados, etc. Para algunas de estas personas, la vida no tiene sabor. Como sal, debemos darle sabor a su vida. Algunos de ellos solo ven oscuridad y desesperanza a su alrededor. Como luz, debemos iluminar su oscuridad y restaurar la esperanza. No podremos dedicarnos fielmente a las obras de misericordia si nos faltan las cualidades de la sal y la luz..

Permítanme concluir invitándonos a orar por Nigeria, mi país. Habrá elecciones presidenciales en Nigeria el 25 de este mes. El deterioro, la inseguridad, la corrupción y la persecución de los cristianos en Nigeria y los sufrimientos de los nigerianos están constantemente en las noticias del mundo. Las noticias son sólo la punta del iceberg de la precaria situación. En 2022, más de 40 sacerdotes y religiosos fueron secuestrados para pedir rescate. Al menos 39 sacerdotes fueron asesinados a sangre fría. Estas cifras no incluyen a los líderes de otras denominaciones cristianas que sufrieron la misma suerte. Innumerables iglesias y propiedades de iglesias fueron incendiadas o destruidas. Se desconoce el número de nigerianos secuestrados para pedir rescate o asesinados. Grandes sectores de Nigeria están controlados por terroristas y bandas armadas. El gobierno de Nigeria está empantanado en la corrupción y la incompetencia. Por favor, oren por la intervención especial de Dios en Nigeria. Que las Huestes de Dios repelan todas las fuerzas desestabilizadoras contra la elección para que haya una elección segura, pacífica, libre y justa. Que los votantes tomen la decisión correcta y no pongan sus lámparas debajo de una cesta de fanegas, porque Dios ayuda a los que se ayudan a sí mismos. San Agustín dice: “Dios, que nos creó sin nuestra ayuda, no nos salvará sin nuestro consentimiento”.

Finalmente, los Caballeros de Colón, el Consejo de Santa María, están organizando un día de oración por las próximas elecciones en Nigeria. Nos están invitando a reunirnos para rezar el Rosario el jueves 23 de febrero (dos días antes de las elecciones) a las 6:00 pm. La misa en español a las 6:30 pm se llevará a cabo después del Rosario.

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

Noticias

1. “Servir es amar” es el tema de la Campaña de apoyo diocesano de 2023. Les agradezco a todos por apoyar a la DSA el año pasado. La semana pasada, recibí una carta o postal del obispo Jugis solicitando su generoso apoyo a la DSA; y este fin de semana estamos viendo el video de DSA, para que todos podamos comprender cómo los fondos otorgados a DSA impactan nuestra diócesis. El obispo Jugis nos pide a cada uno de nosotros que, en oración, consideremos una donación a la DSA como una forma de servir a Cristo a través del servicio a miles de católicos en el oeste de Carolina del Norte. El año pasado nuestra Parroquia recaudó \$20,707.25 para el DSA. A estas alturas ya debería haber recibido una carta o postal del obispo Jugis solicitando su generoso apoyo para la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano. Considere en oración cómo responderá completando su compromiso y enviándolo por correo esta semana.
2. Tendremos una cena de Agradecimiento a los Voluntarios para todos nuestros voluntarios de la Parroquia y sus familias el 21 de febrero a las 6:30 pm en el salón de la Parroquia.
3. Por favor, recordemos reservar Misas por nuestras intenciones especiales, por nuestros seres queridos difuntos y las almas del Purgatorio.

Religious Education

The next Faith Formation Class day is February 8

El próximo día de la Clase de Formación de Fe es el 8 de febrero.



St. Mary Bookrack / Estante de Libros

We have the 2023 Christian prayer and Liturgy of the Hours guides and the new Sunday missals.

Beginning February 12, there will be Lenten items available.

Tenemos las guías de oración cristiana y Liturgia de las Horas 2023 y los nuevos misales dominicales.

A partir del 12 de febrero, habrá artículos de Cuaresma disponibles.

WCU Campus Ministry

Attention College Students!

Give Your Heart Away

February 24-25, 2023

at the Smith Campus Ministry Center, Greensboro, NC

Join college students from across the Diocese of Charlotte for two days of learning and reflection on Catholic Social Teaching. More information and registration at catholiconcampus.com/gya/



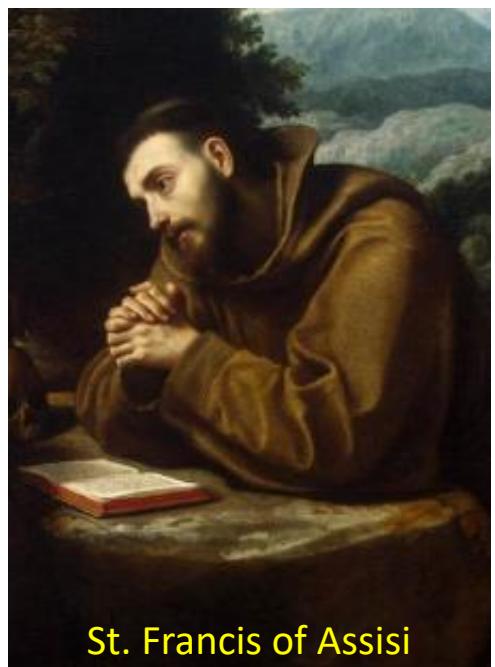
Eucharistic Revival / Avivamiento Eucarístico

Let everyone be ***struck with fear***, let the whole world tremble, and let the heavens exult when Christ, the Son of the living God, is present on the altar in the hands of a priest!

O wonderful loftiness and stupendous dignity! ***O sublime humility!*** O humble sublimity! The Lord of the universe, God and the Son of God, so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under an ordinary piece of bread! Humble yourselves that you may be exalted by Him! ***Hold back nothing of yourselves***, that He Who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally!

¡Que todo el mundo ***se asuste***, que el mundo entero tiemble y que los cielos se regocijen cuando Cristo, el Hijo del Dios vivo, esté presente en el altar en manos de un sacerdote!

¡Oh maravillosa altivez y estupenda dignidad! ***¡Oh sublime humildad!*** ¡Oh humilde sublimidad! ¡El Señor del universo, Dios e Hijo de Dios, se humilla tanto que para nuestra salvación se esconde debajo de un simple trozo de pan! ¡Humillaos para que seáis exaltados por Él! ***¡Nada retengan de ustedes mismos***, para que Aquel que se entrega totalmente a ustedes los reciba totalmente!



St. Francis of Assisi

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, Fran Berry, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Michael Burke, Cáceres Family, Moon Chung, Verónica Natalia Chávez, Jim Clark, Will Crain, Rebecca & Russell Ensley, Diane Glover, Jim Glover, Rory Glover, Monica Glover, Rita Goffinet, Marisa Graham, Miles Harris, Debbie Hentschel, Barbara Jakielo, Souhair Kwaham, Rita Lamanna, Daniella Machado, Tim Mann, Sam Matthews, Karen Matulis, Paula McCafferty & McCafferty Family, Peter Namotka, Georgia Newsom, William Newsom, Jr., Linwood Newsome, Tom Nicoletti & Nicoletti Family, William Owen, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Pérez, Don Pierce, Cathleen Pilch, Stephen Pilch, Zig Pilch, Cynthia Pitts, Alicia Ramirez, Rios Family, Verónica Rodríguez, SantaCruz Family, Stuart and Janet Snyder, María Sol Montel, Kathy Starr, Teresa Starrs, 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.*

Restored – Donuts & Dogma

Restored: Stories of Encounter is a six-part documentary series on **individuals who had radical encounters with Christ and went on to make a real difference in the world**. This series provides vivid and deeply human role models for all who desire life in Christ.

Every subject of this series is a moving example of Christ's perfect love for the poor, the lost, and the weak. They can inspire anyone who wants to do something good to take the leap. All our subjects did was **let their great love move them to action**.

Donuts & Dogma

Continues

Sunday at 10:00am

in the Fellowship Hall



Protecting God's Children

Help protect all of God's children

Everyone has a role to play in protecting children. If you have information about possible sexual abuse or misconduct by any clergy, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Charlotte, report concerns securely and anonymously over the phone or online: 888-630-5929 or www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC.

Ayuda a proteger a todos los niños de Dios

Todo el mundo tiene un papel que desempeñar en la protección de los niños. Si tiene información sobre un posible abuso sexual o mala conducta por parte de cualquier miembro del clero, empleado o voluntario de la Diócesis de Charlotte, por favor reportar sus inquietudes de forma segura y anónima las por teléfono o en línea: 1-888-630-5929 o www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC.

Used Candles / Velas Usadas

Do you want to have blessed candles at home? The candle stubs from the altar are available for you to burn at home; they must be burned not thrown away. Take some from the box in the Narthex.



¿Quieres tener velas benditas en casa? Los cabos de vela del altar están disponibles para que los quemes en casa; deben ser quemados, no desecharlos. Tome un poco de la caja en el Narthex.

Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$2,423 / Budget: \$3,292
January month to date: \$15,340 / Budget: \$16,462
Fiscal year to date: \$106,409 / Budget: \$99,872

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$2.423 / Meta: \$3.292
Mes de enero a la fecha: \$15,340 / Meta: \$16,462
Año fiscal a la fecha: \$106,409 / Meta: \$99,872

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: Linda Gray

- Online & Social Media Resources:
Deacon Matt and Linda Gray

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

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

Liturgical Commission

Chair: Joe Conway

· Altar Guild: Sue Szarek

Hispanic Community Commission

Chair: Juan Carlos y Deisi Villegas

Parish Life Commission

Chair: Javier & Analise Comacho

- Knights of Columbus: Joe Cerniglia
- 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.

Want to volunteer? 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.

¿Quieres ser voluntario? Llame a la oficina y lo ayudaremos a compartir su tiempo y talentos dentro de la parroquia.

Lenten Fish Fry

For three Fridays:

February 24

March 17

March 31

Serving 5 pm to 7 pm

Dine in or take out



Meal includes:

**Fried fish, mac-n-cheese,
hushpuppies, dessert and water**

Open to the public!

Provided by the Knights of Columbus



DIOCESE of
CHARLOTTE

50th
1972 - ANNIVERSARY - 2022