



St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

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

2/26/23 – 1st Sunday in Lent

I Domingo de Cuaresma

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted.

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

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

Administrative Assistant to the Pastor / DRC:

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

CONFESSION

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 26th to March 5th

Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	James & Nancy Putnam+
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma – Catholic Social Teaching Session 2	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Kellie & Erik
	4:00 pm	Sunday Mass - WCU	Pro Populo
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	William Conway
Tuesday:	6:00 pm	English Class / Clase de Inglés	
Wednesday:	5:30 pm	Daily Mass	Anna, Lusia, Monika, John & Slawek Gawlik
	6:45 pm	Faith Formation Classes	
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	7:00 pm	Education Commission Meeting	
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Joan McGarry Conway
	10:00 am	First Friday Adoration (until 8:00 pm)	
	10:30 am	Staff Meeting	
	12:15 pm	Daily Mass – WCU	
	6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross / Via Crucis	
	6:30 pm	Game Night (St. John Bosco Center)	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Casimir Pilch+
	5:30 pm	Confirmation Class (Track 2)	
	7:00 pm	Misa en Español	Pro Populo
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Linda Tiller+
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma – Catholic Social Teaching Session 3	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Alexandra Montay
	4:00 pm	<i>No Mass at WCU</i>	

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 4 Mar 7:00 pm	Familia Perez	Patricia Hernandez	
Sunday Mar 5 8:30am		Caryn Raming	Brian Raming Todd Wenberg
Sunday Mar 5 11:30am		Jonathan Fischer	Alister, Gideon, Kristen, Maddie

From the Pastor's Desk

Get Behind Me!

The first reading tells us the story of the temptation and the fall of Adam and Eve. The gospel reading is about the temptation of Jesus and his triumph over Satan. If Satan tempted Adam and Eve, who lacked nothing, how much more will you and I who face all kinds of difficulties day in and day out? If Satan had the courage to tempt Jesus, who is God, who then are we, mortal human beings, to escape Satan's temptation?

Someone says, "To be human is to be tempted." St. Ignatius calls Satan "the enemy of our human nature." We all will continue to encounter temptations until our last breath. Satan acknowledged in Job 1:7, that Satan is always "roaming the earth and patrolling it." That is why the Scripture instructs us, "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent, the devil, is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in faith..." (1 Peter 5:8-9).

Today, we are presented with the way Adam and Eve handled their temptation and the way Jesus handled his temptation. The two ways can help us understand Satan's tricks and be better prepared against our numerous temptations. Adam and Eve abandoned God's good spirits of obedience and self-content, and accepted Satan's bad spirits of disobedience, greed, desire for power, and desire for fame. Satan said to Eve, "No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil." The woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it" (Genesis 3:5-6). "The Lord God therefore banished [them] from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which [they] had been taken. He expelled [them], stationing the cherubim and the fiery revolving sword east of the garden of Eden, to guard the way to the tree of life" (Genesis 3:23-24). Disobedience, greed, desire for possessions, desire for power, and desire for fame have led many people astray and have led many people to their graves!

In Luke 12:15, Jesus says, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." One of the reasons for the fall of Adam and Eve is that Eve dialoged and reasoned with Satan. To overcome Satan's temptations, we must avoid dialoging and reasoning with the devil. We must avoid occasions of sin. St. Paul warns, "Do not be deceived: Bad Company corrupts good morals" (1 Corinthians 15:33). "Do not give the devil any opportunity to work" (Ephesians 4:27).

In the gospel, Satan tempted Jesus after his time of prayer and fasting in the desert. At that time, he was hungry. Jesus was humanly in need. Satan said to Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." Sometimes, it is through what we lack that Satan tempts us. At those times, Satan plants in us ungodly means of finding solutions to our problem. In times of plenty (as in the case of Adam and Eve), or in times of need (as in the case of Jesus), we must be watchful and observant and resist Satan. St. James says, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

In the three temptations, Jesus triumphed because he rejected disobedience, greed, desire for possessions, desire for power, desire for fame, and idolatry. Jesus refused to dialogue and reason with Satan. Rather, Jesus drove Satan away, "Get away, Satan!" When you face that temptation, are you able to mentally and spiritually say: "Get behind me Satan"?

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

Housekeeping:

1. Please be generous to the Diocesan Support Appeal. As we look at our lives and the many ways God has blessed us, let us give back a proportionate gift to the DSA as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. God will never be outdone in generosity. If you did not turn in your completed pledge envelope during last week's Mass, you may complete a pledge envelope and return it to the Parish office or go to www.charlottediocese.org/dsa to make a gift online. Your contribution to the Diocesan Support Appeal is a way to act with love for our sisters and brothers throughout the diocese and to continue the saving work begun by Jesus.
2. Our Lenten Book Study begins this week, and two wonderful books have been given out this in participation of Lent. They are "Jesus and the Jewish origin of the Eucharist" and "The Art of Living" Spanish version. Please sign up for either the English or Spanish book studies.
3. The Diocese of Charlotte Catholic Charities is bringing the MANNA Express free food and diaper distribution event to Sylva, taking place on Thursday, March 9, from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Mother of God. There will also be toiletries, hygiene products, other resources, and information available at this event. We are also appealing for volunteers to help us set up from 2 pm to 4 pm.
4. We are all invited to the Lenten Parish Mission with the theme "Presence" starting with a Mass for the sick with Sacramental anointing of Saturday, March 11, at 11:30 am. Talk on Eucharistic Presence on Monday & Tuesday, March 13 & 14, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The Parish Mission ends on March 15 with Lenten confessions and Eucharistic Adoration from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. There will also be three or four Priests available for Confessions.



Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

¡Aléjate de Mí!

La primera lectura nos cuenta la historia de la tentación y la caída de Adán y Eva. La lectura del evangelio trata sobre la tentación de Jesús y su triunfo sobre Satanás. Si Satanás tentó a Adán y Eva, a quienes nada les faltaba, ¿cuánto más lo haremos tú y yo que enfrentamos todo tipo de dificultades día tras día? Si Satanás tuvo el valor de tentar a Jesús, que es Dios, ¿quiénes somos nosotros, los seres humanos mortales, para escapar de la tentación de Satanás?

Alguien dice: “Ser humano es ser tentado”. San Ignacio llama a Satanás “el enemigo de nuestra naturaleza humana”. Todos seguiremos encontrando tentaciones hasta nuestro último aliento. Satanás reconoció en Job 1:7 que Satanás siempre está “recorriendo la tierra y patrullándola”. Por eso la Escritura nos instruye: “Sed sobrios y vigilantes. Tu oponente, el diablo, ronda como león rugiente buscando a quien devorar. Resístanlo, firmes en la fe...” (1 Pedro 5:8-9).

Hoy, se nos presenta la forma en que Adán y Eva manejaron su tentación y la forma en que Jesús manejó su tentación. Los dos caminos pueden ayudarnos a comprender los trucos de Satanás y estar mejor preparados contra nuestras numerosas tentaciones. Adán y Eva abandonaron los buenos espíritus de obediencia y autosatisfacción de Dios, y aceptaron los malos espíritus de desobediencia, codicia, deseo de poder y deseo de fama de Satanás. Satanás le dijo a Eva: "No, Dios sabe bien que en el momento en que comas de él, se te abrirán los ojos y serás como dioses que saben lo que es bueno y lo que es malo". La mujer vio que el árbol estaba bueno para comer y agradable a los ojos, y el árbol era deseable para adquirir sabiduría. Entonces ella tomó de su fruto y lo comió; y también dio de ella a su marido, que estaba con ella, y él comió” (Génesis 3:5-6). “Por tanto, el Señor Dios [los] desterró del jardín de Edén, para que labraran la tierra de la cual [ellos] habían sido tomados. Él [los] expulsó, colocando los querubines y la espada de fuego giratoria al este del jardín de Edén, para guardar el camino al árbol de la vida” (Génesis 3:23-24). ¡La desobediencia, la codicia, el deseo de poseer, el deseo de poder y el deseo de fama han descarriado a muchas personas y han llevado a muchas personas a sus tumbas!

En Lucas 12:15, Jesús dice: “¡Cuidado! Manténganse en guardia contra toda clase de codicia; la vida no consiste en la abundancia de bienes.” Una de las razones de la caída de Adán y Eva es que Eva dialogó y razonó con Satanás. Para vencer las tentaciones de Satanás, debemos evitar dialogar y razonar con el diablo. Debemos evitar las ocasiones de pecado. San Pablo advierte: “No se engañen: las malas compañías corrompen las buenas costumbres” (1 Corintios 15:33). “No deis al diablo oportunidad de obrar” (Efesios 4:27).

En el evangelio, Satanás tentó a Jesús después de su tiempo de oración y ayuno en el desierto. En ese momento, tenía hambre. Jesús estaba humanamente necesitado. Satanás le dijo a Jesús: “Si eres Hijo de Dios, di que estas piedras se conviertan en hogazas de pan”. A veces, es a través de lo que nos falta que Satanás nos tienta. En esos momentos, Satanás planta en nosotros medios impíos para encontrar soluciones a nuestro problema. En tiempos de abundancia (como en el caso de Adán y Eva), o en tiempos de necesidad (como en el caso de Jesús), debemos ser vigilantes y observadores y resistir a Satanás. Santiago dice: “Resistid al diablo, y huirá de vosotros” (Santiago 4:7).

En las tres tentaciones, Jesús triunfó porque rechazó la desobediencia, la codicia, el deseo de poseer, el deseo de poder, el deseo de fama y la idolatría. Jesús se negó a dialogar y razonar con Satanás. Más bien, Jesús ahuyentó a Satanás: “¡Aléjate, Satanás!” Cuando te enfrentas a esa tentación, ¿eres capaz de decir mental y espiritualmente: "Aléjate de mí, Satanás"?

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

Noticias

1. Sea generoso con la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano. Mientras miramos nuestras vidas y las muchas maneras en que Dios nos ha bendecido, devolvamos un regalo proporcional a la DSA como una forma de agradecer al Señor. Dios nunca será superado en generosidad. Si no entregó su sobre de compromiso completo durante la misa de la semana pasada, puede completar un sobre de compromiso y devolverlo a la oficina parroquial o visitar www.charlottediocese.org/dsa para hacer una donación en línea. Su contribución a la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano es una forma de actuar con amor por nuestras hermanas y hermanos en toda la diócesis y continuar la obra de salvación iniciada por Jesús.
2. Nuestro estudio de libros de Cuaresma comienza esta semana, y se han entregado dos libros maravillosos en participación de la Cuaresma. Son “Jesús y el origen judío de la Eucaristía” y “El Arte de Vivir” versión en español. Inscríbese para los estudios de libros en inglés o español.
3. Las Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Charlotte traerán el evento de distribución de pañales y comida gratis MANNA Express a Sylva, que tendrá lugar el jueves 9 de marzo, de 4:00 a 6:30 pm en Santa María Madre de Dios. También habrá artículos de tocador, productos de higiene, otros recursos e información disponible en este evento. También estamos solicitando voluntarios para que nos ayuden a instalarnos de 2:00 a 4:00 pm.
4. Estamos todos invitados a la Misión Parroquial de Cuaresma con el tema “Presencia” comenzando con una Misa por los enfermos con Unción Sacramental el sábado 11 de marzo a las 11:30 am. Charla sobre Presencia Eucarística los días lunes y martes 13 y 14 de marzo de 6:30 a 8:30 pm. La Misión Parroquial finaliza el 15 de marzo con las confesiones de Cuaresma y la Adoración Eucarística de 6:30 a 8:30 pm. También habrá tres o cuatro Sacerdotes disponibles para las Confesiones.



Religious Education

The next Faith Formation Class day is March 1

El próximo día de la Clase de Formación de Fe es el 1 de marzo.



FAITH
FORMATION

St. Mary Bookrack / Estante de Libros

We have the 2023 Christian prayer and Liturgy of the Hours guides and the new Sunday missals.
There are now Lenten items available.

Tenemos las guías de oración cristiana y Liturgia de las Horas 2023 y los nuevos misales dominicales.
Ahora hay artículos de Cuaresma disponibles.

WCU Campus Ministry

CAMPUS MINISTRY SPRING RETREAT - March 24-26 **St Francis House at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC** ***"Thy Will Be Done"***

College students are invited to escape the stress of campus for a weekend of prayer, fellowship, and exploration of what it means to accept God's will for your life. Registration is \$50 payable to "Catholic Campus Ministry." This retreat allows for both sleeping indoors as well as a camping option. Contact Deacon Matt Newsome for more information at ccm@wucatholic.org.

Go to www.wucatholic.org/retreats to register online.

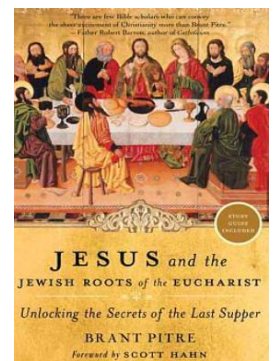


Lenten Study Groups / Grupos de Estudio de Cuaresma

Sign Up Now!

Join or lead a study group to read and discuss "*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*" during Lent. Books will be given to all St. Mary's families at the beginning of Lent.

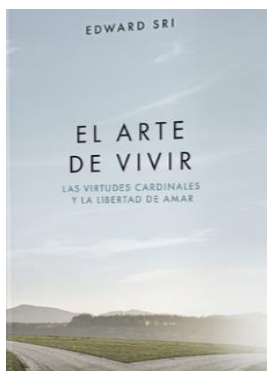
An exhaustive examination of the Old Testament roots of the Eucharist from the daily manna in the desert to the bread of the Presence in the temple. *The rich overtones of the Passover sacrifice are wrenchingly fulfilled in the life and death of Jesus.* In-depth biblical scholarship told in sparkling prose.



¡Regístrate ahora!

Únase o dirija un grupo de estudio para leer y discutir "*El Arte de Vivir*" durante la Cuaresma. Los libros se entregarán a todas las familias de Santa María al comienzo de la Cuaresma.

En este nuevo libro del autor más vendido, Edward Sri, descubrimos la estrecha *conexión entre crecer en las virtudes y crecer en amistad y comunidad* con los demás.



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, Joan Conway, Will Crain, Rebecca & Russell Ensley, Diane Glover, Jim Glover, Rory Glover, Monica Glover, Rita Goffinet, Marisa Graham, Miles Harris, Debbie Hentschel, Barbara Jakiela, Souhair Kwaham, Rita Lamanna, Daniella Machado, Tim Mann, Sam Matthews, Karen Matulis, Paula McCafferty & McCafferty Family, Peter Namotka, William Newsom, Jr., 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.

Catholic Social Teaching

The Catholic Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom for building a just society and *living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society*. From apostolic times, the Church has engaged the biggest questions about citizenship, economics, labor, and the common good. This series will explore the *seven main themes of Catholic Social Teaching* and ponder how Catholics should live here and now while knowing they were made for a kingdom “not of this world”.

At Donuts & Dogma

Continues every
Sunday at 10:00am
in the Fellowship Hall



Human Dignity Everyone is special.

What is best for everyone? **Common Good**



Solidarity We are one big family.



All people should have a say! **Subsidiarity**



Participation We all want to work and contribute to our communities.



We are part of and need to care for creation. **Care for Our Common Home**



Preferential Option for the Poor Some people need extra help.

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 desechados*. Tome un poco de la caja en el Narthex.



Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$3,333 / Budget: \$3,292
February month to date: \$11,090 / Budget: \$13,168

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$3,333 / Meta: \$3,292
Mes de enero a la fecha: \$11,090 / Meta: \$13,168

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: smmgooffice@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

March 17

March 31

Serving 5 pm to 7 pm

Adult \$12 Child \$7

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

1972 • ANNIVERSARY • 2022
50th