

PEACE



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

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

12/10/23 Second Sunday of Advent

Segundo Domingo de Adviento

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

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

Administrative Assistant: Flor Widmar (Ext. 101)

DRE: Luci Castillo (Ext. 103)

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul: (Ext. 104)

Liturgical Music: Jonathan Fischer

Bookkeeper: Carla Haire

St. Mary's Book Rack: Mary Ann Kuehl

Office Hours / Horas de Oficina

Monday, Friday & Thursday: 9 to 2; Wednesday 12 to 2

Lunes, Viernes y Jueves : 10 a 2; Miércoles 12 a 2

Appointments with the Pastor

Monday/Lunes: 10:30 to 12:30; Thursday/Jueves: 10 to 2

MASS TIMES at St. Mary Mother of God

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil at 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday at 8:30 am & 11:30 am

Daily Masses:

Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 am

Wednesday at 6:15 pm (Spanish)

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 sábado a las 9:00 am

Miércoles a las 6:15 pm (Español)

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 5:30 pm, Friday at 9:30 am

and Saturday at 5:00 pm

Or by appointment

Tiempos de Confesiones

Domingo 10:45 am, Miércoles 5:30 pm

Viernes 9:30 am, Sábado 5:00 pm

O con cita previa

Adoration and Benediction

1st Friday from 9:30am-8:00 pm

1st Saturday Holy Hour after Mass

4th Thursday Spanish Adoration 7:00-8:00 pm

Last Friday 7:00-8:00 pm

Adoración y Bendición

Primer viernes de 9:30 am a 8:00 pm

Primer sábado Hora Santa después de la Misa

Cuarto Jueves Adoración en español 7:00-8:00 pm

Último viernes 7:00-8:00 pm

Main Line/Reception: 828-586-9496

Sacrament Emergency: 828-631-0576

Email: smmgooffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Calendar – December 10th –December 17th

Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Gloria Beilblocker
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	Jary Jorden, Linwood & Nancy Newsome 50 th Anniversary Pro Populo
	4:00 pm	WCU Mass	
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	+Robert Tisdale
	6:30 pm	English Class / Clase de Inglés	
Tuesday:	6:00 pm	Rosary Procession from El Mercadito	
	8:00 pm	Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe	
Wednesday:	6:15 pm	Misa en Espanol	Claudia Rocha
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	6-8:00 pm	Confession / Confessions	
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	6:00 pm	Family Game Night	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	All souls of purgatory & deceased members of 3 rd order Carmelites
	7:00 pm	Misa en Espanol	+Enrique & Lupe Rocha, +Margarita Zuniga & +Alfonso Garcia
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Pro Populo
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	+Edward Brian Cerniglia

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	Extraordinary Ministers Ministros extraordinarios	Readers/Lecturas	Servers/Monaguillos
Martes, Diciembre 12 8:00 pm	Isis & Cesar Colex, Luci Castillo	Benita Bueno	
Sábado, Diciembre 16 7:00pm	Martha, Javier	Juan Carlos Villegas	
Sunday, December 17 th 8:30am	Tom Coughlin (L), Brian Raming (R) Patty Higgins (Choir)	Brian Raming	
Sunday, December 17 th 11:30am	Wayne Haire (L) Carla Haire (R)	Sara Freeman	

From the Pastor's Desk

Today, we light the second purple candle called the candle of peace. During the second week of our Advent journey, we pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, in our society, in our church, in our country, and in our world. The anger, disagreements, conflicts, fights, and wars everywhere are a clear sign that peace is lacking in many hearts and many places. The more the world claims to have developed, the more discontent, and the more aggressive the world becomes. Jesus Christ, whose birthday we are preparing to celebrate, is the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). Today's Psalm says, "He proclaims peace to his people" (Psalm 85:9). We pray that we do not resist the peace he proclaims. May we receive his peace and share it around. Amen.



There are people who are peace resistant and people who are not channels of peace. These people's Christianity and Christmas celebration are merely superficial. There are people who stir up crises and people who enable conflicts. There are people who are peace blockers. Such people are ungodly and antichrists. When Jesus says, "Blessed are the peace makers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9); does it not also mean, "Cursed are the crises makers for they will be called children of the Evil One"? Does not Isaiah prophesy, "Happy the just, it shall go well with them, the fruit of their works they will eat. Woe to the wicked! It will go ill with them, with the work of their hands they will be repaid"? (Isaiah 3:10-11).

The psalmist continues, "Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss" (Psalm 85:11). O Lord, let there be kindness (fairness), truth, and justice that we may experience your peace; for without fairness, truth, justice, there cannot be peace! The Vatican II maintains that peace is a fruit of justice and love (Gadium et Spes, No. 78). The failure of fairness, truth, justice, and love is the main cause of misunderstandings, conflicts, and sufferings all over the place. We pray for the conversion of men and women of ungodly hearts.

Our crises-ridden generation claims to know everything and have everything but have no peace. What is the value of what we know and what we have if we have no peace? Today, as we light the candle of peace, we pray that this generation and all of us may accept the peace of Christ that the world cannot give (John 14:27); the peace that surpasses all understanding to guard our hearts and minds (Philippians 4:17). Amen.

Housekeeping:

1. The celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe is this Tuesday on December 12, starting with a Rosary procession from El Patron by 6:00 pm, followed by dances and drama, then Mass in Spanish by 8:00 pm and fiesta after Mass.
2. There will be Advent Confessions this Thursday December 14th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We hope to have three or four Priests available to hear Confessions.
3. Our Advent book study this year is Bishop Barron "This Is My Body: A Call To Eucharistic Revival." It is a very good read and would deepen our understanding of and faith in the real presence of Eucharistic, as we prepare to celebrate the National Eucharistic Congress next year summer.
4. Next week December 17th, we will be having the Religious Retirement second collection for all the Religious brothers and sisters working in the Diocese of Charlotte.
5. We are appealing for volunteers to help with the decorations of the Church next week December 17 after the 11:30 am Mass. We continue to encourage donations for the Poinsettias that will be used to decorate the Church and still feel free to pick an angel from the Angel tree with the gifts to be returned tomorrow.

Desde Escritorio del Pastor

Hoy encendemos la segunda vela morada llamada vela de la paz. Durante la segunda semana de nuestro viaje de Adviento, oramos por la paz en nuestros corazones, en nuestros hogares, en nuestras comunidades, en nuestra sociedad, en nuestra iglesia, en nuestro país y en nuestro mundo. La ira, los desacuerdos, los conflictos, las peleas y las guerras en todas partes son una señal clara de que falta la paz en muchos corazones y en muchos lugares. Cuanto más el mundo afirma haberse desarrollado, más descontento y más agresivo se vuelve. Jesucristo, cuyo cumpleaños nos estamos preparando para celebrar, es el Príncipe de Paz (Isaías 9:6). El Salmo de hoy dice: “Él proclama paz a su pueblo” (Salmo 85:9). Oramos para que no nos resistamos a la paz que él proclama. Que recibamos su paz y la compartamos. Amén.



Hay personas que se resisten a la paz y personas que no son canales de paz. El cristianismo y la celebración navideña de esta gente son meramente superficiales. Hay personas que provocan crisis y personas que posibilitan conflictos. Hay personas que bloquean la paz. Esas personas son impías y anticristos. Cuando Jesús dice: “Bienaventurados los pacificadores, porque serán llamados hijos de Dios” (Mateo 5:9); ¿No significa también: “Malditos los que hacen crisis porque serán llamados hijos del Maligno”? ¿No profetiza Isaías: “Felices los justos, les irá bien, comerán el fruto de sus obras? ¡Ay de los malvados! Les irá mal, con el trabajo de sus manos serán recompensados”? (Isaías 3:10-11).

El salmista continúa: “La bondad y la verdad se encontrarán; la justicia y la paz se besarán” (Salmo 85:11). Oh Señor, que haya bondad (imparcialidad), verdad y justicia para que podamos experimentar tu paz; ¡Porque sin equidad, verdad y justicia no puede haber paz! El Vaticano II sostiene que la paz es fruto de la justicia y del amor (Gadium et Spes, n. 78). El fracaso de la equidad, la verdad, la justicia y el amor es la causa principal de malentendidos, conflictos y sufrimientos en todas partes. Oramos por la conversión de hombres y mujeres de corazón impío.

Nuestra generación asolada por las crisis afirma saberlo todo y tenerlo todo, pero no tener paz. ¿Cuál es el valor de lo que sabemos y lo que tenemos si no tenemos paz? Hoy, al encender la vela de la paz, oramos para que esta generación y todos nosotros aceptemos la paz de Cristo que el mundo no puede dar (Juan 14:27); la paz que sobrepasa todo entendimiento para guardar nuestros corazones y nuestras mentes (Filipenses 4:17). Amén.

Limpieza interna:

1. La celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es este martes 12 de diciembre, comenzando con una procesión del Rosario desde El Patrón a las 6:00 pm, seguida de bailes y teatro, luego Misa en español a las 8:00 pm y fiesta después de la Misa.
2. Habrá Confesiones de Adviento este jueves 14 de diciembre, de 6:00 pm a 8:00 pm. Esperamos tener tres o cuatro Sacerdotes disponibles para escuchar Confesiones.
3. Nuestro libro de estudio de Adviento de este año es Obispo Barron “Este es mi cuerpo: un llamado al avivamiento eucarístico”. Es una muy buena lectura y profundizaría nuestra comprensión y fe en la presencia real de la Eucaristía, mientras nos preparamos para celebrar el Congreso Eucarístico Nacional el próximo verano.
4. La próxima semana, 17 de diciembre, tendremos la segunda colecta de Jubilación Religiosa para todos los hermanos y hermanas religiosos que trabajan en la Diócesis de Charlotte.
5. Estamos pidiendo voluntarios para ayudar con las decoraciones de la Iglesia la próxima semana el 17 de diciembre después de la Misa de las 11:30 am. Seguimos alentando donaciones para las Poinsettias que se usarán para decorar la Iglesia y aún así siéntete libre de elegir una. ángel del árbol de los ángeles con los regalos que se devolverán mañana.

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 Jakiela, Souhair Kwaham, Rita Lamanna, Daniella Machado, Tim Mann, Sam Matthews, Karen Matulis, Paula McCafferty & McCafferty Family, Peter Namotka, Georgia Newsome, William Newsome, Jr, 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, Teresa Starr, Jay Thorne, Allen Thurston, Joshua Turner, Lewis Turner, Joe Waters, Pauline Watson, Bonnie Welch, Elaine Wilkes, Emilee Ashe Painschab and Caitlyn Basenese, Art Keener, Nell Keener, Johana Zarate, Johannes Widmar, Carmen Trevizo, Adela Treviso, Brian Siewert, Diane Dodge, Woolbright Family

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.*

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

The Mass schedule for the Christmas season can also be found on our website at www.stmarymotherofgod.com

This year, the 4th Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. Both Sunday and Christmas are days of obligation.

4th Sunday of Advent (Special Sunday Mass Schedule)

- Dec. 23 – 4:00 PM Vigil Mass (English)
- Dec. 23 – 7:00 PM Vigil Mass (Spanish)
- Dec. 24 – 10:00 AM Sunday Mass (English)

Christmas

Holy Day of obligation

- Dec. 24 – 4:30 PM Vigil Mass (English)
- Dec. 24 – 7:00 PM Vigil Mass (Spanish)
- Dec. 24 – 11:30 PM Office of Readings with Extended Vigils (English)
- Dec. 25 – 12:00 Midnight Mass (English)
- Dec. 25 – 10:00 AM Mass (English)

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (*Parish feast day*)

(not a Holy Day of obligation this year)

- Jan. 1 – 10:00 AM (English)

Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$5,064 / Budget: \$3,923

December month to date: \$5,064 / Budget: \$15,692

Year to Date: \$90,357 Actual; Budget \$83,692

DSA: \$17,816 Actual + \$2,264 Pledged = \$19,920 (100.23%)

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$5,064/ Presupuesto: \$3,923

Mes de Diciembre a la fecha: \$5,064 / Presupuesto: \$15,692

Año hasta la fecha: \$90,357 reales; Presupuesto de \$83,692

DSA: \$17,816 Real + Prometido: \$2,264 = \$19,920 (100.23%)

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: Sara Freeman

DRE: Luci Castillo

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

Liturgy Commission

Chair: Jonathan Fischer

- Altar Guild: Sue Szarek

Hispanic Community Commission

Chair: Juan Carlos y Deisi Villegas

Parish Life Commission

Chair: Lucinda Rose & Victor O'Brien

- 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

To contact any Commission with ideas or to volunteer, contact Brian Raming at pcchair@stmarymotherofgod.com

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.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

The Retrouvaille Program is for Married Couples Facing Difficult Challenges and has helped tens of thousands of couples at ALL stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. We save marriages! **Next Charlotte-area Weekend is Jan 19-21st**, and is halfway filled.

More Information at: www.helpourmarriage.org.

Phone: 800-470-2230 or email: 3062ac@helpourmarriage.org .

All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.



FAMILY GAME NIGHT IS BACK!

Family game night will now be on the 2nd Friday of the month.

The next family game night hosted by the Knights of Columbus

will start at 6:00pm on Friday December 15th in the Joseph Conway Hall.

Snacks will be provided! Attendees are welcome to bring their favorite card or board game.

Come and have fun playing non-electronic games with other Parish members!

¡VUELVE LA NOCHE DE JUEGOS FAMILIARES!

La noche de juegos familiares ahora será el segundo viernes del mes.

La próxima noche de juegos familiares organizada por Caballeros de Colón comenzará a las 6:00 pm el viernes 10 de noviembre en el Joseph Conway Hall.

¡Se proporcionarán refrigerios! Los asistentes pueden traer su juego de cartas o de mesa favorito.

¡Ven y diviértete jugando juegos no electrónicos con otros miembros de la parroquia!





Fr. Paul **thinks all the youth** who helped to make the youth-led bilingual Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception a success! A **special thank you** to the parents and ministries who contributed their time and talent in preparing the youth for this liturgical celebration. Now that the youth have shown they got what it takes to assist with Mass...be prepared for more youth-led masses/youth choir this upcoming year!



Reminder **Youth Choir and Actors**: The **final rehearsals** for St. Mary's Bilingual **Christmas Pageant** "The Stations of the Nativity," are on **Monday, December 11th from 5-7 p.m.** and **Wednesday, December 13th from 4:30-5:30 p.m.** at St. Mary's Parish. We all look forward to seeing all of your hard work pay off this week, so keep up the dedication and prayerful hard work!



Youth Group Game Night on **Friday, December 15th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at the Joe Conway Memorial Hall. Expect **food, fun, faith** and **fellowship**--but during game night, be prepared to bring your "A-game" to win **prizes** and bragging rights! All **6-12th grade** parish youth and friends/family of parish **youth are invited**. POC for St. Mary's Youth Group is Rayanne Herrera, Cell: 910-354-5131.



It's Here! The **Stations of the Nativity Bilingual Christmas Pageant** will be on **Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m.** at **St. Mary's Church**. The youth actors and choir members have been working hard to present this full production to the **faithful, friends and family of St. Mary's Parish**. Afterwards, please **join us** for a **fun-filled reception** to thank all of the participants and family members for their hard work and dedication in celebrating the Advent season and the Coming of our Savior, Jesus

Christ 🎄

Thank you for being part of our **Advent celebration!**