

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

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

3/10/24 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma

JOHN 3:16

For GOD so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have

Everlasting life.

LAETARE

SUNDAY

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

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

Administrative Assistant: Salomon Salinas (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, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9 am – 2 pm

Lunes, Miércoles, Jueves y Viernes: 9 am – 2 pm

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)

Stations of the Cross/ Estaciones de la Cruz

Friday/ Viernes 6:00 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 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: smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com

Calendar – March 10th – March 17th

Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Yolanda Vidal
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	+Casimir Pilch
	4:00 pm	WCU Mass	
Monday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	Bill McCraney
	6:30 pm	English Class / Clase de Inglés	
Tuesday:			
Wednesday:	5:30 pm	Confession	
	6:30 pm	Misa en Español	
Thursday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
Friday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	
	5:00-7:00 pm	KofC Fish Fry	
	6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross (bilingual)	
Saturday:	9:00 am	Daily Mass	All souls of purgatory and deceased of 3 rd Order Lay Carmelites
	7:00 pm	Misa en Español	
Sunday	8:30 am	Sunday Mass	+Roger Grenier & +Carole Lemay
	10:00 am	Donuts & Dogma	
	11:30 am	Sunday Mass	
	4:00 pm	WCU Mass	

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
Sábado, marzo 16 7:00pm		Juan Carlos Villegas	
Sunday, March 17 th 8:30am	Kenneth Wingard (choir)	Sue Szarek	
Sunday, March 17 th 11:30am		Jonathan Fischer	

From the Pastor's Desk

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called 'Laetare' Sunday. 'Laetare' is a Latin word that means 'Rejoice.' Amid our Lenten penance, Laetare Sunday puts us in hopeful expectation of the Easter joy. Today's Mass entrance antiphon is, "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast" (Isaiah 66:10-11).

The first reading is what happened to the people of Israel when they turned away from God and continued to sin. "All the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple... The Lord ... sent messengers to them ... But they mocked the messengers of God, despised their warnings, and scoffed at his prophets ..." They moved away from God and fell into the hands of their enemies who conquered them. "Their enemies burned down the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all the palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon ..." This is a story of sin and the consequence of refusal to repent.

The consequence of the rejection of God by the people of Israel happens to anyone and any people who turn away from God and turn to evil. This explains the reasons for so much disintegration in our homes, society, and world.

Underdevelopment, poverty, hunger, sickness, hardship, migration, and so on are consequences of the sins of the 'princes' (rulers), the priests (religious leaders), and the people. God has not designed or ascribed impoverishment and suffering to any group of people or any part of the world. The Book of Wisdom 1:12-16 says, "... God did not make death nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. For he fashioned all things that they might have being, and the creatures of the world are wholesome. ... It was the wicked who, with hands and words, invited death"

God admonishes us through Prophet Ezekiel, "I do not want the wicked to die but rather that they turn from their evil ways and live" (Ezekiel 33:11). And in 2 Chronicles 7:14 God says, "And my people who bear my name humble themselves, and pray and look for me, and turn from their wicked ways, then I myself will hear from heaven and forgive their sins and restore their land."

The first reading tells us that after seventy years, the Persians conquered the Babylonian Empire, and surprisingly, King Cyrus of Persia released the people of Israel to return to their land. The people of Israel believed he was chosen by God for this. Jesus is the new and real King who has redeemed us and sets us free from captivity and enslavement caused by sin and evil. In this fourth week of Lent, we are invited to examine ourselves to see if we are held captive and enslaved either by sin or weakness or concerns of life; and turn to Jesus to free and liberate us. He tells us to prefer him, the Light, instead of darkness. He says, "And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works are evil" (John 3:19). It must not be so with us.

St. Paul in the second reading says, "God who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us [his handiwork], even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ..." (Ephesians 2:4). Jesus says in today's gospel, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:16-17).

Housekeeping:

1. DSA: On behalf of those who benefit from the Diocesan Support Appeal, thank you for your generosity. The theme of the 2024 Diocesan Support Appeal is "One Body in Christ." Inspired by 1 Corinthians 12:12, it reminds us that we are called to join together in Christ's love to serve one another with compassion. This aligns with our new pastoral priorities for the diocese calling the faithful to draw from our communion with Christ in the Eucharist to strengthen communion within families and within the Church.

2. The retreat for the youth 8th through 12th grade takes place at the Living Waters Retreat Center in Maggie Valley from March 15th through the 17th, Please sign up if you not yet done so!



Desde Escritorio del Pastor

El Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma se llama Domingo 'Laetare'. 'Laetare' es una palabra latina que significa 'Alégrate'. En medio de nuestra penitencia de Cuaresma, el Domingo de Laetare nos pone en una expectativa esperanzada del gozo pascual. La antifona de entrada a la Misa de hoy es: “Alégrate, Jerusalén y todos los que están de luto; Alégrate y sáciate de su pecho consolador” (Isaías 66:10-11).



La primera lectura es lo que le sucedió al pueblo de Israel cuando se alejaron de Dios y continuaron pecando. “Todos los príncipes de Judá, los sacerdotes y el pueblo, sumaron infidelidad tras infidelidad, practicando todas las abominaciones de las naciones y profanando el templo del Señor... El Señor... les envió mensajeros... Pero ellos se burlaron de los mensajeros de Dios, despreciaron sus advertencias, y se burlaron de sus profetas...” Se alejaron de Dios y cayeron en manos de sus enemigos que los conquistaron. “Sus enemigos quemaron la casa de Dios, derribaron los muros de Jerusalén, incendiaron todos los palacios y destruyeron todos sus objetos preciosos. Los que escaparon de la espada fueron llevados cautivos a Babilonia...” Esta es una historia de pecado y la consecuencia de la negativa a arrepentirse.

La consecuencia del rechazo de Dios por parte del pueblo de Israel le sucede a cualquiera y a cualquier pueblo que se aleja de Dios y se vuelve al mal. Esto explica las razones de tanta desintegración en nuestros hogares, sociedad y mundo. El subdesarrollo, la pobreza, el hambre, las enfermedades, las dificultades, la migración, etc., son consecuencias de los pecados de los “príncipes” (gobernantes), los sacerdotes (líderes religiosos) y el pueblo. Dios no ha diseñado ni atribuido empobrecimiento y sufrimiento a ningún grupo de personas ni a ninguna parte del mundo. El Libro de la Sabiduría 1:12-16 dice: “...Dios no hizo la muerte ni se alegra de la destrucción de los vivos. Porque él creó todas las cosas para que existieran, y las criaturas del mundo son sanas. ... Fueron los malvados quienes, con manos y palabras, invitaron a la muerte...”

Dios nos amonesta a través del profeta Ezequiel: “No quiero que los impíos mueran, sino que se conviertan de sus malos caminos y vivan” (Ezequiel 33:11). Y en 2 Crónicas 7:14 Dios dice: “Y mi pueblo que lleva mi nombre se humilla, y ora, y me busca, y se vuelve de sus malos caminos, entonces yo mismo oiré desde el cielo y perdonaré sus pecados y restauraré su tierra. ”

La primera lectura nos dice que después de setenta años, los persas conquistaron el Imperio Babilónico y, sorprendentemente, el rey Ciro de Persia liberó al pueblo de Israel para que regresara a su tierra. El pueblo de Israel creía que él había sido elegido por Dios para esto. Jesús es el nuevo y real Rey que nos ha redimido y nos libera del cautiverio y la esclavitud causados por el pecado y el mal. En esta cuarta semana de Cuaresma, estamos invitados a examinarnos a nosotros mismos para ver si estamos cautivos y esclavizados ya sea por el pecado o por la debilidad o por las preocupaciones de la vida; y acudir a Jesús para que nos libre y libere. Nos dice que lo prefiramos a él, la Luz, en lugar de las tinieblas. Él dice: “Y este es el veredicto: que la luz vino al mundo, pero los hombres prefirieron las tinieblas a la luz, porque sus obras son malas” (Juan 3:19). No debe ser así con nosotros.

San Pablo en la segunda lectura dice: “Dios, que es rico en misericordia, por el gran amor que nos tuvo [su obra], incluso cuando estábamos muertos en nuestras transgresiones, nos resucitó con Cristo...” (Efesios 2:4). Jesús dice en el evangelio de hoy: “Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que dio a su Hijo único, para que todo el que cree en él no perezca, sino que tenga vida eterna. Porque Dios no envió a su Hijo al mundo para condenar al mundo, sino para que el mundo sea salvo por él” (Juan 3:16-17).

Limpieza interna:

1. DSA: En nombre de quienes se benefician de la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano, gracias por su generosidad. El tema de la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano de 2024 es “Un Cuerpo en Cristo”. Inspirado en 1 Corintios 12:12, nos recuerda que estamos llamados a unirnos en el amor de Cristo para servirnos unos a otros con compasión. Esto se alinea con nuestro llamado a los fieles a aprovechar nuestra comunión con Cristo en la Eucaristía para fortalecer la comunión dentro de las familias y dentro de la Iglesia.

2. El retiro para jóvenes de 8.º a 12.º grado se llevará a cabo en el Living Waters Retreat Center en Maggie Valley del 15 al 17 de marzo. ¡Regístrese si aún no lo ha hecho!

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.*

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Retreat into the Passion of Jesus

One night, March 22-23, 2024

Just in time to fully make the most of the Palm Sunday reading of the Passion!

There may be no better way to prepare to enter the holiest week of the year than to spend a day away learning about the final hours of the life of Jesus – what they meant then, and what they mean in your own life today.

This retreat will be held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. It will be led by Deacon Scott. D. Gilfillan. Registration for the retreat includes one night, all retreat fees, and full-course meals from dinner Friday through Saturday lunch.

For more information and to register:

<https://catholicconference.org/passion/>

ST. MARY'S BOOKRACK

Stop by the St Mary's Bookrack for Lenten resources.

Books, devotionals, and family activity items are some of the things available.

Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$2,904/ Budget: \$3,923
March month to date: \$2,904/Budget: \$3,923
Fiscal Year to Date: Actual \$136,625; Budget \$138,614
DSA: \$6,148 of \$20,240 (30.38%)

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$2,904 / Presupuesto: \$3,923
Mes de marzo a la fecha: \$2,904/ Presupuesto: \$3,923
Año hasta la fecha: reales \$136,625; Presupuesto de \$138,614
DSA: \$6,148 of \$20,240 (30.38%)

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

LAST CHANCE THIS WEEK!! Our last fish fry is this Friday, March 15th. All monies raised go to our parish Knights of Columbus to distribute to charitable and parish needs. The food is good and the community is even better!

¡¡ÚLTIMA OPORTUNIDAD ESTA SEMANA!! Nuestra última fritura de pescado es este viernes 15 de marzo. Todo el dinero recaudado se destina a los Caballeros de Colón de nuestra parroquia para distribuirlo a las necesidades caritativas y parroquiales. ¡La comida es buena y la comunidad es aún mejor!

★ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 9722 ★

FRIDAY FISH FRY



March 15, 2024

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Meal includes: fried fish, mac 'n cheese,
hushpuppies, and dessert

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH
22 BARTLETT ST. SYLVA, NC

\$12 / ADULTS
\$7 / KIDS
12 & UNDER

Indoor dining and take away this year!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday

- March 28 | 6:30 PM: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (Bilingual) and Adoration at the Altar of Repose in the Joe Conway hall.

Good Friday

- March 29 | 12 – 1:30 PM: Confessions
- March 29 | 3:00 PM: *Via Crucis* Living Way of the Cross (Spanish)
- March 29 | 5:00 PM: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross (Bilingual)

Holy Saturday

- March 30 | 9:00 AM: Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (Matins & Lauds)
 - *We will be decorating the Church afterwards – volunteer help is appreciated!*

Easter Sunday

- March 30 | 8:45 PM: Easter Vigil Mass (Bilingual)
- March 31 | 8:30 AM: Easter Mass (English)
- March 31 | 11:30 AM: Easter Mass (English)

Jueves Santo

- 28 de marzo | 6:30 PM: Misa vespertina de la Cena del Señor (bilingüe) y Adoración en el Altar de Reposo en el salón Joe Conway.

Buen viernes

- 29 de marzo | 12 – 13:30: Confesiones
- 29 de marzo | 3:00 PM: Vía Crucis Vía Crucis Viviente (español)
- 29 de marzo | 5:00 PM: Conmemoración de la Pasión del Señor con Veneración de la Cruz (Bilingüe)

Sábado Santo

- 30 de marzo | 9:00 AM: Oficio de Lecturas y Oración de la Mañana (Maitines y Laudes)
 - Después decoraremos la Iglesia. ¡Se agradece la ayuda de los voluntarios!

Domingo de Pascua

- 30 de marzo | 8:45 PM: Misa de Vigilia Pascual (bilingüe)
- 31 de marzo | 8:30 AM: Misa de Pascua (inglés)
- 31 de marzo | 11:30 AM: Misa de Pascua (inglés)