

## St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

**Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to Rome!** In October of this Year of Mercy, join **Fr. John Howren** in this 20<sup>th</sup> year of his ordination on an 11-Day visit to Rome and its surroundings, including Assisi. In addition to an outdoor audience with Pope Francis we will pass through the Holy Doors while visiting the 4 major basilicas, as well as spend time at other "Jubilee Churches," guided tours of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, ancient catacombs, and many other popular sites to help us enjoy the eternal city in all its ancient majesty and beauty!

For more information contact LeAnn Brand (L.P.J. Pilgrimages) at [LPJpilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:LPJpilgrimage@gmail.com) or [410-897-2538](tel:410-897-2538).

Fr. John can also be reached at [jhowren@saintlaw.org](mailto:jhowren@saintlaw.org). See brochure on his parish website: [www.saintlaw.org](http://www.saintlaw.org).



Every month Pope Francis announces his monthly prayer intentions, and requests that we include the intentions in our personal prayers. For the month of March please remember these:

**Families in Difficulty.** That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

**Persecuted Christians.** That those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted, may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.

### **Youth Group News –**



#### St Patrick's Day Party

Come out and celebrate St Patrick's day on  
Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 pm.

Bring your best Irish dish to enter into the  
"Luck of the Irish potluck contest".

We will vote on the best dish and the winner will win a prize.



There will be fun and food for everyone.

Bring all your friends and family.

We will provide green tea and lemonade. You may bring your favorite green beverage.



On Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 18 people from St Mary's attended the Middle School Catholic Fest 2016 at St John Nuemann Catholic Church in Lilburn, Ga. Part of our day was spent listening to the keynote speaker, Paul J. Kim. Paul is an international youth speaker, vocalist, and beatboxer. All the students really related to him and listened to his wonderful messages. The rest of the day we participated in works of mercy activities, praise and worship, a dance party, games, Adoration, and we ended the day celebrating Mass with Archbishop Gregory. We were truly blessed to be able to attend this amazing event right here in Atlanta. The event was a huge success. It was completely sold out with 800 middle school students in attendance. We are planning on making this an annual youth ministry event.

**Intercessions for Life**

For each person suffering from the loss of a child through abortion:  
may Christ console them in their grief and fill their heart with peace &  
hope;  
We pray to the Lord:



Offertory

\$2,355.00

**Mass Intentions:****Requested for:****Requested By:**

Mar. 5	Saturday	Linda Nance †	Emily Ryan
Mar. 6	Sunday	Our Parishioners	
Mar. 9	Wednesday	Robert Dube †	Rita St. John
Mar. 10	Thursday	Living & Deceased Family & Friends of the Morris'	
Mar. 11	Friday	Living & Deceased Family & Friends of the Morris'	
Mar. 12	Saturday	Patsy Jackson †	Michael Jackson
Mar. 13	Sunday	Our Parishioners	



On the First Friday of each month the schedule is Rosary 10:15am,  
Reconciliation 11:00am, Adoration 10:30-11:45am, and Mass at  
12:00 noon.

The remaining Friday's during the month we will say the Rosary at  
10:45, Adoration 11:00, followed by Mass at 12:00 noon.

**Readings for  
the Week****Monday:**

Is 65:17-21  
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13  
Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday:**

Ez 47:1-9, 12  
Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9  
Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:**

Is 49:8-15  
Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18  
Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:**

Ex 32:7-14  
Ps 106:19-23  
Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:**

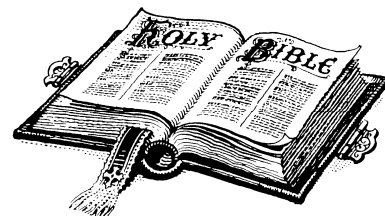
Wis 2:1a, 12-22  
Ps 34:17-21, 23  
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:**

Jer 11:18-20  
Ps 7:2-3, 9-12  
Jn 7:40-53

**Next Sunday:**

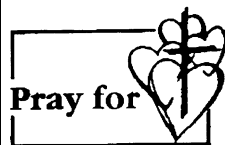
Is 43:16-21  
Ps 126:1-6  
Phil 3:8-14  
Jn 8:1-11

**Liturgical Schedule****Saturday, March 12, 4:00 PM****Lectors:** Becky Glidewell**Extraordinary Ministers:** Kathy Abood and Bill Hunter**Altar Servers:** Any Available**Ushers:** Tom Matelski and Ron Sicina**Sunday, March 13, 9:00 AM****Lector:** Chloe Patterson**Extraordinary Ministers:** Emily Marlowe, Margarita Moreno, Adam Marlowe,  
Mike Palka, and \*\* Bill Myles**Altar Servers:** Evan Miller and Lorette Edwards**Crucifer:** Adrianna Chapko**Gift Bearers:** Grace Glidewell, Rhianna Patterson, and Liam Lally**Ushers:** Liam Noel Carr and J.R. Salinas**Greeters:** Jacob Leto and Macuillan Carr

# St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

## **Please remember the following people in your prayers:**

Jan Jost, Sue Samp, Jeanel Wehner, John Potat III, Tommy Glidewell, Gage Van Dyck, Jon Peters, Patsy Burdette, Ashlynn Geringer, Barbara Lynch, Lu Davis-Moore, Rebecca Geringer, Frank Fross, Gary Bennett, Tripp Kelly, Bill Nelson, Steven Mitchell, Bill Bush, Matt Brown, George Roberts, John Gardino, Julie Rattray, Sue Dobbs, Jake Unterseher, Ruth Ann Mann, LaDonna O'Bryon, and Glenda Stein.



It has been decided by our Pastoral Council that names, like always, can be placed on our Prayer List for a period of approximately three months. At that time, if you wish to keep the name of you or your loved one on the Prayer List please call the office. If you or a loved one are in need of prayers and/or the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the office at 770-775-4162.

## **Membership and Registration**

Welcome to St. Mary, Mother of God, Church. We would be delighted to have you join our Parish Family. Please complete a registration form available in the Parish Hall in the Armoire.



Please do not take for granted that you are registered in the parish just because you attend Mass here or that you were registered as a child with your parents. When you become an adult, you should register under your own name. If not, it could become quite embarrassing to us, or to you or your family, if someone wants to make wedding plans, have a baby baptized, or if you have been asked to act as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation which requires a letter from us stating that you are a practicing Catholic. To do this, we should have a record of your membership and attendance. Please take a moment to register. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Thank you.

Remember, the following parishes provide the Catholic chaplains for these hospitals:

- Sylvan Grove Hospital - St. Mary, Mother of God, Jackson 770-775-4162
- Spalding Regional Hospital - Sacred Heart, Griffin 770-227-2378
- Henry Medical Center - St. James, McDonough 770-957-5441
- Southern Regional Hospital - St. Philip Benizi, Jonesboro 770-478-0178
- Piedmont Hospital - Christ the King Cathedral, Atlanta 404-233-2145
- Crawford Long Hospital - Sacred Heart, Atlanta 404-522-6800
- Emory Hospital - St. Thomas More, Decatur 404-378-4588
- Newton General Hospital - St. Augustine's, Covington 770-787-1064

If someone in your family is admitted to one of these hospitals, the parish responsible for that hospital should be notified as well as notifying St. Mary, Mother of God, Church. They will have people serving that hospital on a regular basis and are closest in an emergency situation.

## **SACRAMENTAL GUIDELINES**

**Baptisms-** In order to have a child baptized in this parish: (a) at least one parent must be a practicing Catholic and a registered member of this parish for at least 3 months, and (b) the parents must take the Baptism Class unless they have taken the class within the last 3 years.

**First Holy Communion** –In order to receive First Holy Communion, a child must: (a) be at least 7 years old and a registered member of this parish, (b) be able to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the sacrament, and (c) have been in the Faith Formation program for at least one year prior to the taking the First Holy Communion program.

**Confirmation--** In order to be Confirmed, a youth must (a) be a baptized and practicing Catholic, (b) a registered member of this parish, (c) at least 15 years old or a sophomore in high school, and (d) have been in the Faith Formation program for at least 2 years immediately prior to the Confirmation program. ( Adults and those in OCIA follow different guidelines.)

**Marriage** – A couple wishing to be married at St. Mary, Mother of God must fulfill these requirements: (a) at least one of them must be a practicing Catholic and registered in this parish ( a former member of the parish or others must have a letter of permission from their current pastor authorizing them to marry outside of that parish); (b) they must have indicated to the priest or deacon of this parish their desire to be married here at least 6 months prior to the projected date of their marriage; and (c) have completed the required Marriage Preparation program. No arrangements for a reception should be made until the date for the projected marriage has been confirmed by the Parish Office.

**4th Sunday of Lent: 2nd Scrutiny**

"Jesus answered, 'Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.'" At this point, Jesus' disciples were still subject to the prevailing idea that physical disabilities were a punishment for sin. When they saw the man blind from birth, they simply assumed his lack of sight was the result of sin; they only wondered whose sin was responsible. But Jesus cast the entire question in another light. By telling his disciples that sin wasn't at work here, but that God was at work, Jesus must have shocked his hearers. How could God's work be made visible through a blind man?

It didn't take long to find out. Jesus used the opportunity to work a miracle. He anointed the man with mud, sent him to wash, and the man "came back able to see." This healing of course became a testament to the power of Christ, for those who were willing to see it.

As we face trials and tribulations in our lives, we also face the challenge of seeing how "the works of God might be made visible" through them. Understanding that God's love and care are still at work even in the most troublesome situations of life is a challenge to be sure. It requires a kind of spiritual vision that comes with purity of heart. In other words, the more we overcome the blindness caused by our sins, the more we are able to truly "see" the way things are and the way God works.

Jesus tells us today, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind." Thus we receive the same warning the Lord gave to the self-righteous Pharisees: we must humbly acknowledge our sins in order to clearly behold the way God is working in our lives.

**Bulletin Mailing List**

If you would like to be added to the list to receive our weekly bulletin by email, please email Cathy at: [stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net](mailto:stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net) Please know that your email will be kept confidential.



**St. Mary, Mother of God Mission Statement**

The mission of St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church is given by Christ's command to go out into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all the people. This is done in union with , and subject to our Holy Father Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Atlanta, Wilton Gregory. We answer God's call to enter his Mystical Body, known through his visible Church on earth. Striving to be his holy people, we avail ourselves of God's means of grace, especially the frequent reception of the sacraments, fervent prayer and our connection to the teachings and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church.

**Evangelization Committee:**

Please pray for the efforts of our parish. Those desiring to participate in any way to help spread the catholic faith, especially through prayer, as we discern a plan, should contact Turner Duffey: 678-508-2745 or [turnerduffey@hotmail.com](mailto:turnerduffey@hotmail.com)

**Prayer & Study Group:**

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church, Thursdays, at 1:15pm. Come join us for fellowship, knowledge, and prayer. During the next session we will be studying "The Transformative Power of Faith" Author: Grayson Warren Brown. For more information please call the facilitator LaDonna O'Bryon at (706)468-8905 or Rita Zinner at (770)775-1888.



**Archdiocesan Abuse Reporting Hotline**  
**1-888-437-0764**  
**(24 hours a day)**

**PATH:** If you need help in healing from an abortion. Brochures can be found in the Armoire. Please call Mary Ann McNeil at 404-896-6521.

If you wish to have an item placed into the weekly church bulletin. It must be to the church office no later than 12 noon on Monday (**at least 2 weeks before your scheduled event**). It must be in writing, there are forms in the church office or you can email it to [stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net](mailto:stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net).

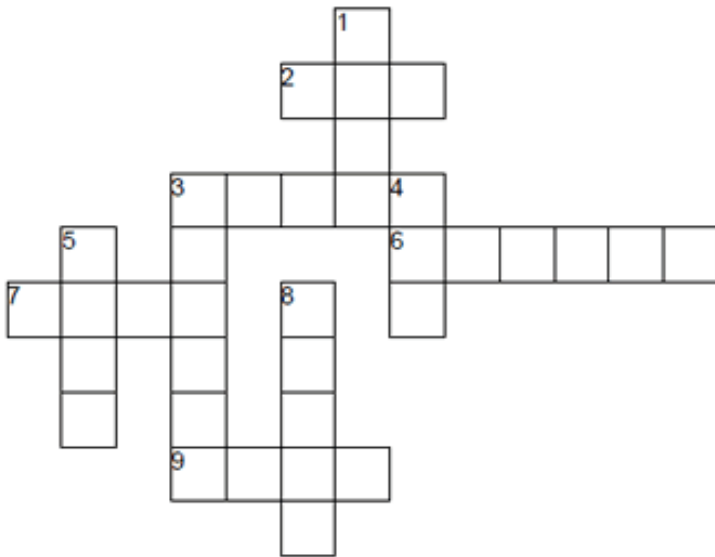
Thank you.



## The Parable of the Lost Son

So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

Luke 15:20



### ACROSS

2. Farm animals with pink, brown, or black skin, short legs, and a flat nose.
3. A large special meal to celebrate something or honor someone.
6. A large amount of money and other valuable possessions.
7. To not be able to be found. (I \_\_\_\_ my dog.)
9. A piece of jewelry, generally made of precious metal and worn on the finger.

### DOWN

1. To touch or press your lips against another person as a greeting or to express love.
3. A male parent.
4. The number that is equal to one plus one.
5. Your male children.
8. When something which was lost has been relocated. (I \_\_\_\_ my dog).



"The Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'" Jesus crossed lines that weren't supposed to be crossed. He talked to women in public, touched the "unclean" to heal them, and chummed it up with tax collectors and sinners. This didn't make sense. It didn't fit into the standard categories. And so the religious leaders began to complain.

In response to this, Jesus told the parable of the prodigal son. Through this story, he illustrated that God loves all of his children even when they have not behaved perfectly. But more than this, the tale also deals with the resentment of the older son--the one who always followed the law. Like the self-righteous Pharisees and scribes, the older brother complained. "All these years I served you," the son said, "and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends." But how does the father respond? "My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours." In other words, the older brother had no reason to complain or be angry. He already enjoyed all good gifts. The father simply wanted him to rejoice that his brother had returned home. "He was lost and has been found."

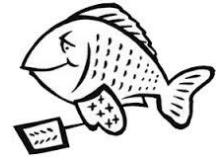
It's important for those of us who attend Mass regularly, participate in the sacraments, and serve in our parishes not to fall into the trap of being like the bitter older brother or the complaining Pharisees. We must welcome everyone in our midst with joy, not resentment or judgment. It can be easy to think that others don't deserve as much as we do, and to forget to be grateful for all that we have. But we are ALL called to "celebrate and rejoice" when the lost return home.



The Danny McMichael Council of the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring their annual Lenten Fish Fry beginning on February 12th here at church. Everyone is invited to join us for a dinner of Tilapia fish, fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, and a refreshment.

Tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 12.

To honor our emergency services, all uniformed fire fighters, police officers, sheriff deputies and EMS personnel will only pay \$3.00 per plate. Come and join us on Friday evenings between 4:30 - 6:30PM. The Fish Fry will be followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00PM.



**Women's Guild upcoming events:**

On the Friday's during LENT, The Women's Guild will be providing desserts for a donation at the KOC FISH FRY!

Just a reminder to move you clocks forward on Sunday, March 13th. Beginning Saturday, March 19th mass time for Saturday's will change back to 5:00pm.



**Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of March 7 – March 13**

Monday, March 7

Tuesday, March 8

Wednesday, March 9	Novena	6:15pm
	Mass	6:30pm
Thursday, March 10	Reconciliation	11:00am
	Rosary	11:35am
	Mass	12:00 noon
	Prayer Group	1:15pm

Friday, March 11	Rosary	10:45am
	Eucharistic Adoration	11:00am
	Reconciliation	11:00am
	Mass	12:00 noon
	Knights of Columbus Fish Fry	4:30-6:30pm
	Stations of the Cross	7:00pm

Saturday, March 12	Reconciliation	3:00-3:45pm
	Mass	4:00pm
	Anointing of the Sick	
	Daylight Savings - Time change tonight	

Sunday, March 13	Choir	8:20-8:50am
	Rosary	8:30-8:45am
	Mass	9:00am
	Anointing of the Sick	
	Faith Formation classes	

