

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Each year from January 18-25, many Christian denominations will celebrate a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This week used to be called Christian Unity Octave. The word "octave," meaning eight days, denotes a Christian week. Since the early part of the last century, the week has been taken up by many Christians the world over. It is a week in which we all pray for unity of not only our faith and works, but furthermore a week to pray that we all may be one in our solidarity. This year's theme will be "Called to Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord" (cf. 1 Pt 2:9). For more information about this week, visit www.geii.org.



Our Father,

We seek you in so many ways and places in our life.

We seek you for guidance and for comfort.

But you have told us that when there is hunger, it is up to us to feed the hungry.

We ask you to help us see you in other Christians and humbly ask you for strength in the search for what we have in common. Bless our efforts to look at all the ways we are united in faith, and grant us courage to change our hearts and minds to realize your will. We ask all this through Christ our Lord and brother, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Youth Group News –

FAMILY DANCE PARTY - Saturday, February 20th we will have a Family Dance Party from 5 – 8 pm. We will have food, refreshments and lots and lots of fun and dancing. Everyone is invited. Please bring your family and friends. The cost is \$3.00 a person. This is a fundraiser for the youth group.

ST PATRICK'S DAY PARTY – Saturday, March 12th, 5-8 pm. Please come and join us for a bit of malarkey and a wee bit o' cheer at our family St Patrick's day party. So put on your green and come dance an Irish jig. Green refreshments and fun will be provided. We will have an Irish dish contest. So stir up your favorite Irish dish and come enter the contest. There is nothing better than a wee lil pot luck competition to get a party started. If you would like a special green refreshment, you are more than welcome to bring it to celebrate. Everyone is invited so bring all your family, friends and neighbors.

Knights of Columbus

Sunday Rosary Prayer Service - The Knights of Columbus will be conducting a rosary service following the 9 am Mass on Sunday the 31st of January. All parishioners are invited to participate in this rosary service.

The Knights of Columbus will be conducting a food drive during the month of February for food to be donated to the CERF house in Jackson, Georgia. Food items donated should not be perishable and have not gone by the expiration dates on the items. A collection point will be established in the parish hall. The Knights thank you in advance for your support of this program and all the programs that you supported that our council conducts.

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.

Intercessions for Life

For all Catholics:

May the Holy Spirit reveal to us how we are called to use our gifts to spread the Gospel of life and joy;

We pray to the Lord:



Readings for the Week

Monday:

1 Sm 15:16-23
Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday:

1 Sm 16:1-13
Ps 89:20-22, 27-28
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51
Ps 144:1-2, 9-10
Mk 3:1-6

Thursday:

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7
Ps 56:2-3, 9-13
Mk 3:7-12

Friday:

1 Sm 24:3-21
Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday:

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27
Ps 80:2-3, 5-7
Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday:

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
Ps 19:8-10, 15
1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27
Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



Offertory \$4,498.00

Mass Intentions:

Jan. 16 Saturday
Jan. 17 Sunday
Jan. 17 Sunday
Jan. 20 Wednesday
Jan. 21 Thursday
Jan. 22 Friday
Jan. 23 Saturday
Jan. 24 Sunday

Requested for:

Otis Burdette †
Our Parishioners
George Steil †
Connie DeLoach †

Our Parishioners

Requested By:

Patsy Burdette

Stark Family
Emily Ryan

The Flowers on the Altar this weekend

were generously donated in Loving Memory of Otis Burdette †



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.

Saturday, January 23, 4:00 PM

Lectors: Chris Hotchkiss

Extraordinary Ministers: Rita Zinner and Tod Stark

Altar Servers: Any Available

Ushers: Tom Matelski and Ron Sicina

Sunday, January 24, 9:00 AM

Lector: LaDonna O'Bryon

Extraordinary Ministers: Tammy Hotchkiss, Margarita Moreno, Teresa Miller, Rita Zinner, **Emily Marlowe

Altar Servers: KC Edwards and Miranda Salinas

Crucifer: Kaylee Pappa

Gift Bearers: Marilyn Potat and Janet Xanders

Ushers: Tim Chapko and Mike Palka

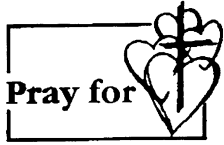
Greeters: Chris and Tammy Hotchkiss

Liturgical Schedule

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, Robert Dube, Frank Fross, Gary Bennett, Tripp Kelly, Bill Nelson, Steven Mitchell, Bill Bush, Matt Brown, and George Roberts.



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.

Everyday Stewardship

When I look back over my life I see so many people who played an important role in my becoming who I am today. Some of them taught me about life, some shared with me stories that made me feel more human, and some showed me how God loves us by mirroring that unconditional love, even if it was imperfectly. At the top of the list of these influential people certainly are my parents, my teachers, my pastors, and now even my wife. I often tell my children that in many ways we are the sum of our experiences and certainly the experiences of family and friendship craft us profoundly.

These people are gifts. Plain and simple, they are some of the greatest gifts God will ever give to each of us. The commandment to honor thy mother and father has much greater implications for us than simply the need for us to obey parents or authority. Inherent in the commandment is the need for respect of anyone God has given to us in this life to mold and shape us. By honoring God's gift to us, we honor the One who created them.

Jesus received more at his birth than the gifts from the Magi. He received two earthly parents to care for him. They were certainly gifts worth more than any precious metals or oil. The story of the wedding feast in Cana speaks of his response to those gifts, particularly his mother. It was out of honor that he complied with Mary's request. One could say it was his great sense of stewardship that compelled him to honor the gift he had been given. By his actions, he gave us an example of how we must honor God's gifts of our loved ones. At the end of the day, these gifts are more valuable than a gift any earthly king might offer.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications Inc

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

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 Please know that your email will be kept confidential.



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.



Anyone wishing to request a Mass intention or flowers for the Altar should contact the church office for date and availability.

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.

Thank you.



St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

X W T N N A J A R S X Y V S K
U E K G A L I L E E K L E U D
H D L A S T M O I F A L S K Z
W D B E S T P U W N P N E M D
C I H G L O R Y A I G G R V M
H N C C S M Y C C I L L V T A
G G Z W A X I S S T Q F A L S
P M G I V V I R M M I A N F T
L H O W E D H H A A J I T I E
Q V S W D M V B T C A T S L R
X A K A M H O A K A U H N L D
S D B T Q B W X T W S L O E V
S V K E H O I A F G U T O D A
B F R R B A N Q U E T P E U Z
A A B R I D E G R O O M P D S

Jesus Turns Water into Wine



wedding	faith	best	last	Cana
Galilee	tasted	bridegroom	filled	glory
wine	disciples	servants	master	water
saved	banquet	signs	jars	miraculous

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Jesus told them, 'Fill the jars with water.' So they filled them to the brim." And then look what happened! The water became wine! And not only that, but it became "the good wine." Jesus transformed plain water into the very best wine served at that wedding feast in Cana. And he can do the same with our lives.

Sometimes, we come to Jesus with empty jars. We feel we have nothing to offer, that our efforts have failed and our energy has run dry. It may seem impossible that anything good could come out of our situation. Even our hope has often disappeared in these moments. But today's Gospel should restore our confidence; we don't need to work the miracle. We just need to "do whatever he tells" us.

In many cases, this will mean doing something that doesn't make sense on the surface. The servers were probably skeptical that filling their jugs with water would have any benefit. But they did it anyway. And they did it wholeheartedly, filling them up "to the brim." In our moments of emptiness, we too need to do what Jesus asks of us, all the way, without reservation. We need to continue to pray (even when we don't hear an answer). We need to continue to participate in the sacraments (even when they don't seem to help). We need to continue to follow the commandments (even when they strike us as difficult or irrelevant). We need to continue to love our neighbors (even when they don't love us back). All of this is like pouring water into those jars. We simply need to do what Jesus asks of us and then allow him to do the rest. Only when we are willing to follow his directions can he transform our emptiness into an overabundance of joy.

Archdiocesan Hispanic Ministries
 2nd collection
 January 23-24, 2016

Please welcome as the newest member of
 St. Mary, Mother of God.

Mark James

The Archdiocese of Atlanta is blessed and enriched by the presence of a diverse, vibrant and growing Hispanic/Latino community both resident and migrant. Their presence among us is a great source of hope as well as a challenge. We embrace this challenge with a renewed apostolic zeal and a missionary spirit as we seek ways to promote and facilitate their full participation into the life and mission of the Church which is also their Church. Next weekend the archdiocese has designated the second collection to Hispanic Ministries. All contributions will stay in the Archdiocese to help all the established Hispanic ministries. Please be generous.

If you attend St. Mary, Mother of God on a regular basis and have not registered we ask you to complete the following and drop it in the offertory basket. A parish registration form will be mailed to you. Or if your information has simply changed let us know. Thank you.

Name _____

Address _____

Change of Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

The office of St. Mary, Mother of God will be closed
 Monday, January 18th in observance of
 Martin Luther King Day.



Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of Jan. 18 – Jan. 24

Monday, January 18	Church Office closed	
Tuesday, January 19		
Wednesday, January 20	Novena	6:15pm
	Mass	6:30pm
Thursday, January 21	Reconciliation	11:00am
	Rosary	11:35am
	Mass	12:00 noon
	Prayer Group	1:15pm
Friday, January 22	Rosary	10:45am
	Eucharistic Adoration	11:00am
	Reconciliation	11:00am
	Mass	12:00 noon
Saturday, January 23	Reconciliation	3:00-3:45pm
	Mass	4:00pm
Sunday, January 24	Choir	8:20-8:50am
	Rosary	8:30-8:45am
	Mass	9:00am
	Faith Formation classes	
	Women's Guild Meeting	