

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2014

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself" - Leviticus 19:18

If you still have a pledge balance to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, please complete your payments as soon as possible.

For those who make charitable contributions at the end of the year, please consider gifts to your parish and to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of Archbishop Gregory, Fr. Diosmar Natad, and our parish staff, thank you for supporting your neighbors in north and central Georgia, as well as around the world. Every gift is important and appreciated.

If you wish to be part of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, please contact our Stewardship Office at 404-920-7600 or at annualappeal@archatl.com.



KNIGHTS WE'VE MISSED YOU!!

Brother Knight's lets all join together on Monday, January 12th at 7:00 o'clock for our Knights meeting, fellowship, and dinner.

HELP US HELP OTHERS



Mary, Mother of God—Solemnity
Holy Day of Obligation
January 1, 2015
Mass Schedule

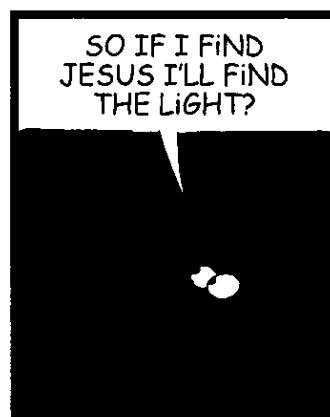
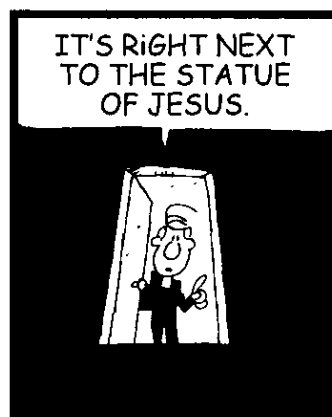
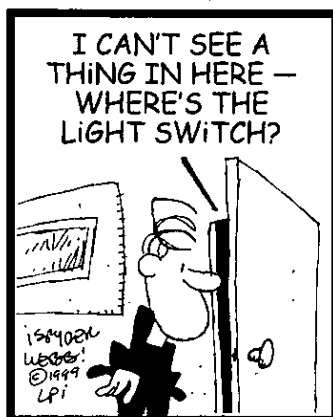
Mass	12:00 noon
Mass	5:00pm



Reception in honor of the Solemnity of Mary will follow 5:00pm Mass.

The first reading today recalls God's special blessing upon the Israelites. The Lord has been gracious to us as well, pouring into our hearts that spirit which knows Him as Father and makes us His children. May we, like Mary, treasure these things in our hearts and live grateful!

CHRISTMAS



Intercessions for Life

For all families: That they may foster a loving environment that welcomes new life; We pray to the Lord:

Readings for the Week

Monday:
1 Jn 2:3-11
Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday:
1 Jn 2:12-17
Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday:
1 Jn 2:18-21
Jn 1:1-18

Thursday:
Nm 6:22-27
Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

Friday:
1 Jn 2:22-28
Jn 1:19-28

Saturday:
1 Jn 2:29--3:6
Jn 1:29-34

Sunday:
Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

There will be Adoration the first Friday of every month from 10:30AM to 11:45AM followed by Mass at 12 noon. The next date will be January 3rd

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Liturgical Schedule



Offertory \$5,720.00

Mass Intentions:

Dec. 27 Saturday
Dec. 28 Sunday
Dec. 31 Wednesday
Jan. 1 Thursday
Jan. 2 Friday
Jan. 3 Saturday
Jan. 4 Sunday

Requested for:

Kristopher Stark †
Our Parishioners
Hugh and Marcella Glidewell †
Our Parishioners

Requested By:

Stark Family

Peace

Good Tidings

Rejoice

Wednesday, December 31, 6:30pm

Lector: Janice Lueken
Extraordinary Ministers: John Lueken

Thursday, January 1, 12:00 Noon

Lector: Michael Jackson
Extraordinary Ministers: Dennis Ordyna
Altar Servers: Any Available

Thursday, January 1, 5:00 PM

Lector: Ben Montedonico
Extraordinary Ministers: Bill Hunter and Eva White
Altar Servers: Jim Lally and Ken White
Crucifer: Mike Gozdick
Ushers: Jerry Holland

Saturday, January 3, 4:00 PM

Lector: Bill Glidewell
Extraordinary Ministers: Rich McPhee and LaDonna O'Bryon
Ushers: Ron Sicina and Tom Matelski

Sunday, January 4, 9:00 AM

Lector: Bob Lipscomb
Extraordinary Ministers: Bill Lewis, Kathy Abood, Margarita Moreno, Mike Palka, and **Bill Myles
Altar Servers: Andrew Chapko and Chloe Patterson
Crucifer: Melina Patterson
Gift Bearers: Any Available
Ushers: Jerry Holland and Dennis Ordyna
Greeters: Bob and Mary Ann Lipscomb

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Jan Jost, Butch Corcoran, Patricia Tideswell, Loretta Zach, Pat Eldred, Mack Goins, Margarita Rodriguez, Rick Hines, Andrew Payne, Danny Foster, Tech Dipalma, Vanessa Atkinson, Jenn, Julian Myers, Bob Abood, Lucile Gardner, Marianne Beating, Bill Wagner, Pat Zimmerman, Lisa Steele, Alvin Crusan, Edna Kelley Daniels, Christine Horton, Tony Davison, Tommy Glidewell, Margaret Gates, Sue Samp, Yvonne Truett, Diane Davis, Leony Natad, Lucas Holland, Lidia Lower, Ashlynn Geringer, Patsy Burdette, Jeanel Wehner, Teresa Giambalvo, Cameron Taylor, Strickland Family, Carolyn Wright, Hurley Turner, and Carlton Turner.



If you know of a person whose name should be added or deleted from this prayer list, please let someone in the church office know. If you or a loved one is in need of prayers and/or the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the office at 770-775-4162. If you are unable to reach Fr. Natad, and you are in Griffin/Spalding please call the office of Sacred Heart 770-227-2378. If you are in Henry Co. please call the office of St. James 770-957-5441.

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.

Q I was always fascinated by Mary and have had a devotion to her for many years. Why does Mary have so many titles? Isn't Mother of God enough?

A We all have many different roles to play and each title we have is based on a relationship. For instance, a person might be a daughter, mother, wife, cousin, niece, employer, boss, friend, sponsor, and customer all in the same day! Our titles identify who we are at a given moment.

Mary is the same way. Certainly "Mother of God" is her greatest title. Because of her trust in God and in the message of the angel, Jesus was born, becoming one of us. But all of Mary's titles are important. Each title highlights an aspect of her unique relationship with Jesus, with the church, with each of us. She is wife, mother, intercessor, patroness, mediatrix, God-bearer, and a host of other roles. Sometimes her title is one given by a local community of faith; other times, the universal church gives her a title that all recognize. Above all, it is her faith and her willingness to say yes to God's plan that places her in a special place of honor among believers. In her humanity, she shows us how we too will be filled with grace, as we say yes to the Lord's plan for us. We believe that what happens to Mary will happen to us. She is our model, our mother in faith.

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Word of Life

"[W]e are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life."

— Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, 28

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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.

Prayer & Study Group

St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church, Thursdays, at 1:15pm. Come join us for fellowship, knowledge, and prayer. For more information please call the facilitator LaDonna O'Bryon at (706)468-8905 or Rita Zinner at (770)775-1888.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING
1-888-437-0764 (24 hours a day) or
404-888-7804


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

J O H I S R A E L D D L E F J J M I A A P E H L O E O O M K B R P W L H Z V V I I V V C K K I K R V J P B E C G Z O E C L G Y T A L S I Z A O H H U S U H U E T I H I G R L U T F T A T S M I I S M M E K E R Z Y J E A P O E Q E O E O W D T V E O C L N P C G D B O N H F S S U R E O J Z R V J T N S M Q U S I S P I R I T Z O M Q A N S J F E P A R E N T S S H F T P L I P P R O M I S E D E J P B B C C K Z M A R Y P Y R P U R O E M V M C H I L D P N O H	<h3 style="text-align: center;"><u>Simeon Recognizes Jesus</u></h3>  <p>Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Luke 2:25-26 (NIV)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Based on Luke 2:22-40 (NIV)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">SPIRIT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">RIGHTEOUS</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">PRAISED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">COURTS</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">TEMPLE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">CHILD</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">DEVOUT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">LIGHT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">JOSEPH</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">JESUS</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">PARENTS</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">SALVATION</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">ISRAEL</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">REVEALED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">PIGEONS</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">SIMEON</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">PROMISED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">DOVES</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">SACRIFICE</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">MARY</td> </tr> </table>	SPIRIT	RIGHTEOUS	PRAISED	COURTS	TEMPLE	CHILD	DEVOUT	LIGHT	JOSEPH	JESUS	PARENTS	SALVATION	ISRAEL	REVEALED	PIGEONS	SIMEON	PROMISED	DOVES	SACRIFICE	MARY
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SIMEON	PROMISED	DOVES	SACRIFICE	MARY																	

The Holy Family

"Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'And you yourself a sword will pierce.'" This old man in the Temple, a man filled with the Holy Spirit, uttered these ominous, prophetic words. Right in the midst of a religious celebration that could be considered a kind of parallel to Christian baptism, Simeon started talking about suffering. Although this might have put a damper on the joy of the occasion, it was nonetheless a precious moment. God was speaking through the mouth of the Spirit-filled Simeon and actually doing Mary a great service. God was helping Mary to prepare herself for what lay ahead. And the truth was, the road in front of her family was destined to be marked by the cross.

Our families also bear this mark. Although in a different way from Mary, we all have our crosses to deal with. Whether it be the sickness or death of a loved one, conflicts among siblings or spouses, or unexpected challenges like infertility or a lost job, no family is without its share of trouble. As we navigate these difficulties, we would do well to remember Simeon's words to Mary: suffering is going to happen, sometimes very painful, heart-piercing suffering. But instead of being shocked or angry at God, we can call to mind the fact that this is part of life in a fallen world. We can also remind ourselves that although Mary suffered when her son suffered, she also rejoiced when he rejoiced. Ultimately, every cross she bore as his mother was trumped in the end by the victory of the Resurrection. We share in this triumph as well. After all, our families are in the loving care of a heavenly Father. We are not just the children of our parents; we are also the children of God.



Beginning this month are changing the time for our Saturday evening mass time from 5:00pm to 4:00pm.

The office of St. Mary, Mother of God will be closed for the Christmas Season we will reopen January 2nd. If you have an emergency please call the office and leave a message; we will be notified and someone will return your call.

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year!

On Saturday, December 27th following the 4:00pm mass St. Mary, Mother of God will have a dinner honoring all of our wonderful volunteers. Please RSVP by either calling the office 770-775-4162, signing the sign up sheet in the Gathering hall, or emailing at stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net. This meal will be catered so to make sure we have enough food please let us know if you will be attending. Thank you and God Bless.



Thank you everyone who helped this year with our Giving Tree. Once again with your generous donations we were able to help five family's have a wonderful Christmas.

Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of December 29 - January 4

Monday, December 29

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31

Novena 6:15pm
Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass 6:30pm

Thursday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary
Mass 12:00 & 5:00pm
Reception in honor of the Solemnity of Mary following Mass

Friday, January 2

First Friday Adoration 10:30-11:45am
Reconciliation 11:35am
Mass 12:00 noon

Saturday, January 3

Mass 4:00pm

Sunday, January 4

The Epiphany of the Lord
Choir 8:20-8:50am
Rosary 8:30-8:45am
Mass 9:00am
Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Faith Formation Classes 10:20-11:20am