

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

The ABC's of:

What God does for You

Accepts you as you are, **B**elieves in you always, **C**alls to you deep in your heart, **D**oesn't give up on you, **E**nvisions the whole of you—even the unfinished parts, **F**orgives your mistakes, **G**ives to you unconditionally, **H**elps you, **I**nvites you **J**ust to be with Him through the sacraments, the scriptures and prayer, **K**eeps you close to His heart, **L**oves you for who you are, **M**akes a difference in your life, **N**ever judges you harshly, **O**ffers you constant strength and courage, **P**icks you up, **Q**uiets your fears, **R**aises your hopes, **S**hows you how to live like Jesus, **T**ells you the truth when you need to hear it. **U**nderstands you. **V**alues you. **W**alks beside you. **X**-plains the meaning of life to you through people of faith and wisdom. "Yes, no or wait" is His answer to every prayer, **Z**aps you back to reality when you lose your way.

What You can do for God

Accept differences, **B**e kind to everyone, **C**ount your blessings, **D**o good even when you don't feel like it, **E**xpress thanks for all your blessings, **F**orgive *and* forget, **G**ive freely, **H**arm no one, **I**magine more, **J**ettison anger, **K**eeep confidences, **L**ove truly, **M**aster something, **N**urture hope, **O**pen your mind, **P**ack lightly, **Q**uell rumors, **R**eturn favors, **S**eek wisdom, **T**ouch hearts, **U**nderstand, **V**alue truth more than success, **W**ork to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and build up His Church, **X**-amine your own heart instead of judging others, **Y**earn for peace, **Z**ealously support worthy causes with your abilities, time and money.

KNIGHTS
WE'VE MISSED YOU!!

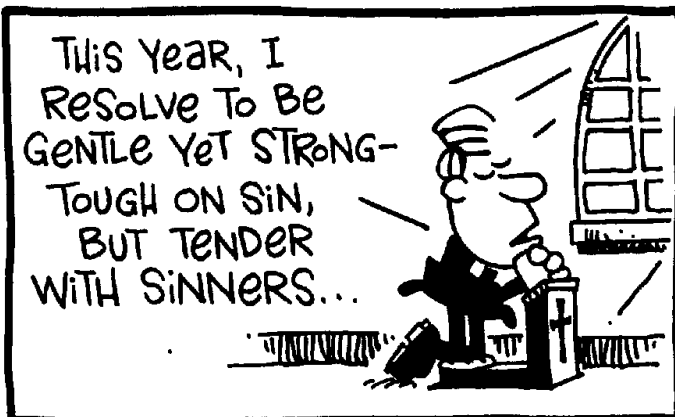
Brother Knight's lets all join together
on Monday, January 12th at 7:00 o'clock for our Knights
meeting, fellowship, and dinner.

HELP US HELP OTHERS



EPIPHANY

NEW YEAR



Intercessions for Life

For all vulnerable people:
That we may love and care for them as the special gifts from God that they are;

We pray to the Lord:



Offertory (12/14/2014) \$5,056.00
Retirement Fund for Religious \$ 675.00

<u>Mass Intentions:</u>	<u>Requested for:</u>	<u>Requested By:</u>
Jan. 3 Saturday		
Jan. 4 Sunday	Our Parishioners	
Jan. 7 Wednesday	Joe and Bevely Deptula †	Mays Family
Jan. 8 Thursday	George H. Steil	Stark Family
Jan. 9 Friday		
Jan. 10 Saturday	Joey Lueken †	Lueken Family
Jan. 11 Sunday	Our Parishioners	

Word of Life

"The concerns for non-violence, sustainable development, justice and peace, and care for our environment are of vital importance for humanity. They cannot, however, be understood apart from a profound reflection upon the innate dignity of every human life from conception to natural death: a dignity conferred by God Himself and thus inviolable."

— Pope Benedict XVI, "Welcoming Celebration by the Young People," July 17, 2008

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Readings for the Week

Monday:
1 Jn 3:22--4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday:
1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday:
1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday:
1 Jn 4:19--5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday:
1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday:
1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

Sunday:
Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7
1 Jn 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38
Mk 1:7-11

The Flowers on the Altar this weekend

were generously donated in
Loving Memory of
Marcella Glidewell



Saturday, January 10, 4:00 PM

Lector: Craig Breyne
Extraordinary Ministers: Kathy Abood and Eva White
Ushers: Ron Sicina and Tom Matelski

Sunday, January 11, 9:00 AM

Lector: Riley Newman
Extraordinary Ministers: Bill Hunter, Teresa Miller, Carlton Turner, James Watson, and **John Lueken
Altar Servers: Rachel Weaver and KC Edwards
Crucifer: Logan Fitz
Gift Bearers: Eric and Torrie Sunstrom
Ushers: Chloe Patterson and Melina Patterson
Greeters: Eric and Torrie Sunstrom

Liturgical Schedule

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.



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

Universal: Peace

That those from diverse religious traditions and all people of good will may work together for peace.

Evangelization: Consecrated life

That in this year dedicated to consecrated life, religious men and women may rediscover the joy of following Christ and strive to serve the poor with zeal.

National Migration Week

Pope Francis said this about the international emergency of migrants: "A change of attitude towards migrants and refugees is needed on the part of everyone, moving away from attitudes of defensiveness and fear, indifference and marginalization, all typical of a throwaway culture, towards attitudes based on a culture of encounter, the only culture capable of building a better, more just and fraternal world."

The plight of migrants is not just a national concern but also an international concern. As we mark National Migration Week here in the US, let us begin to realize that we all need to open our hearts and doors to those who leave their homes in search of a better life. Let us pray this prayer of the Holy Father from his Message for the 101st World Day of Migrants and Refugees:

Dear migrants and refugees! You have a special place in the heart of the Church, and you help her to enlarge her heart and to manifest her motherhood towards the entire human family. Do not lose your faith and hope! Let us think of the Holy Family during the flight in Egypt: Just as the maternal heart of the Blessed Virgin and the kind heart of Saint Joseph kept alive the confidence that God would never abandon them, so in you may the same hope in the Lord never be wanting.

EMPTY INK CARTRIDGE?

We will take it! Please recycle your used computer ink cartridges to the church. The church receives credit for every cartridge that is donated. That money is used for church supplies and materials. There are donation baskets in the armoire in the gathering hall. Thank you everyone who have donated their used cartridges.

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

*New
Years
Eve
Word
Search*

AULD	CONFETTI	JANUARY	SQUARE
BALL	COUNTDOWN	LANG	STREAMERS
CALENDAR	DAY	MIDNIGHT	SYNE
CELEBRATION	DROP	NEW	TIMES
CHAMPAGNE	EVE	NOISEMAKER	TOAST
CLOCK	HAPPY	PARTY	YEAR

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is the oldest celebration of Mary in the Catholic Church. The custom of honoring the Virgin on the first day of the New Year originates in the sixth century, when her celebration was tied to the octave day of Christmas, the eighth day after December 25. In doing so, ancient preachers would remind their congregations about the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. Jesus was born of a woman, and so, as Eucharistic Prayer 4 states, "Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin." The human nature of Christ is rooted in his being born like us. As we round out the Christmas celebration with its Octave Day on January 1, we venerate the woman who gave birth to him.

There is a dual action in today's Gospel that is sometimes overlooked. The shepherds find the infant in the manger as has been told to them by the angel. And then they go out to tell others about the child. In the meantime, Mary reflects on all these things in her heart. These are the two complementary stances of the Christian: action and reflection. Both are needed for a balanced spiritual life. It is, in effect, putting into practice the two great commandments: love God and love your neighbor.

As we begin the New Year, it is customary to make resolutions: to diet, to exercise, to change something in one's life. Like Mary, who reflected on the events surrounding the birth of her child, we take some time to reflect on our own lives: where we have been, and where we are going. The Gospel gives us the opportunity to situate that reflection in a spiritual context. What does the birth of Jesus mean for me spiritually (reflection), and what do I intend to do about that in my daily life (action)?

The Epiphany of the Lord

"They departed for their country by another way." Things were different now. An encounter with the baby Jesus changed the Magi. Before finding the child, they had made a secret alliance with a worldly king, Herod. But after seeing this infant resting in the arms of Mary, their allegiance shifted. Now they became servants of the little Lord Jesus. They had a kind of conversion through their encounter with Christ, and they knew that they could no longer serve the whims of a wicked ruler.

We call this Sunday "Epiphany" because that's what the three wise men had: an epiphany, a moment of realizing the truth about God. In this moment these three men--kings that they were--"prostrated themselves and did homage" to the King of Kings. Then they went home by a different route, undoubtedly as different men. Now, their own authority as worldly leaders took on a new character. Now, they were men who served a power greater than themselves. As it was prophesied in the Old Testament reading from Isaiah, even kings would walk by the "shining radiance" of the Lord.

Let us ask ourselves today how the Epiphany of the Lord can redirect us. What worldly allegiances have we made that need to be changed? Are we servants of our neighbors' good opinion or of the power of money? Are we secretly aligned with popularity or prestige? No matter what "rules" our hearts, we are invited to change our direction. We are invited to encounter the little Lord Jesus and offer ourselves to his gentle and loving guidance. After all, his is a kingship of concern for us. As today's psalm says, this King "shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him."

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Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of January 5 - January 11

Monday, January 5

Tuesday, January 6

Wednesday, January 7

Novena	6:15pm
Mass	6:30pm
Choir	7:00pm

Thursday, January 8

Reconciliation	11:00am
Rosary	11:35am
Mass	12:00 noon
Prayer Group	1:15pm

Friday, January 9

Reconciliation	11:35am
Rosary	11:35am
Mass	12:00 noon

Saturday, January 10

Reconciliation	3:00-3:45pm
Mass	4:00pm
Anointing of the Sick	
Women's Guild Soup Night following Mass	

Sunday, January 11

<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	
Choir	8:20-8:50am
Rosary	8:30-8:45am
Mass	9:00am
Anointing of the Sick	
Faith Formation Classes	10:20-11:20am