

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

What is in a name? Why is it so important?

Those of us who are parents know how much time we spend thinking and discussing about what name to give our newborn children. It is the same with the church. Recall the Scripture passage about how the animals were named in Genesis. Changing our name is also a way to mark an important moment in our lives. Think of Saul who persecuted the Christians. His name was changed to Paul when he realized that Jesus was the Son of God. And even our popes change their names and take on a new name; Jorge Mario Bergoglio became Francis.

The entrance antiphon for the feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus gives us a glimpse into how important Jesus' name is:

At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The history of the Holy Name of Jesus goes back to the earliest years of Christianity. How many of you remember the symbol IHS? It is a monogram. It comes from the Greek word for Jesus. This reverence continued into the medieval devotions promoted by St. Anselm of Canterbury.

It was only during the Council of Lyons in 1274 that the Church added the date to our liturgical calendar. There are some writings that call the Holy Name of Jesus a healing ointment for the soul.

So the next time you think of the name of someone, recall the long and important history of Jesus' name and why we hold, with such reverence, Jesus' holy name.

Catholic Day at the Capitol

The Archdiocese of Atlanta and Diocese of Savannah invite Georgia Catholics to the State Capitol in Atlanta on Thursday, February 4, 2016 from 8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m. The day will start with a legislative briefing at 8:30 a.m. at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 48 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303.

We will walk together to the Capitol to view the opening of the session and meet your legislators. Lunch will be on your own. The event is free, but registration is required so that we can communicate last minute changes.

For more information or to register, please call 404-920-7340 or email communications@archatl.com.

Second Saturday Winter Games

Bunco Game Night

Saturday, January 9th

5:00-8:00pm

Sponsored by: Women's Guild



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.



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 Christians on the Feast of the Epiphany,
that we might always see the image of Christ in others;

We pray to the Lord:



Offertory (for the week of December 27th) \$3,661.00

Mass Intentions:

Requested for:

Requested By:

Jan. 2	Saturday	Kristopher Stark †	
Jan. 3	Sunday	Our Parishioners	
Jan. 6	Wednesday		
Jan. 7	Thursday		
Jan. 8	Friday	George Steil	
Jan. 9	Saturday		
Jan. 10	Sunday	Our Parishioners	

Stark Family

Stark Family



**The Flowers on the Altar
this weekend**

were generously donated in

Loving Memory of
Marcella Glidewell †



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 9, 4:00 PM

Lectors: Becky Glidewell

Extraordinary Ministers: Kathy Abood and Tod Stark

Altar Servers: Any Available

Ushers: Tom Matelski and Ron Sicina

Sunday, January 10, 9:00 AM

Lector: Bob Elwell

Extraordinary Ministers: Rita Zinner, Adam Marlowe, Emily Marlowe, Dennis Ordyna, **John Lueken

Altar Servers: Lorette Edwards and Evan Miller

Crucifer: KC Edwards

Gift Bearers: Eric and Torrie Sunstrom

Ushers: Chloe Patterson and Melina Patterson

Greeters: Eric and Torrie Sunstrom



**Readings for
the Week**

Monday:

1 Jn 3:22--4:6
Ps 2:7-8, 10-12
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday:

1 Jn 4:7-10
Ps 72:1-4, 7-8
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday:

1 Jn 4:11-18
Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday:

1 Jn 4:19--5:4
Ps 72:1-2, 14-15, 17
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday:

1 Jn 5:5-13
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday:

1 Jn 5:14-21
Ps 149:1-6, 9
Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday:

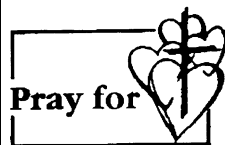
Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or
Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30
Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 or
Acts 10:34-38
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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, Darlene Vela-Lewis, Mark Cole, 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

As I get older, gifts on birthdays or at Christmas just don't seem that important to me. I love giving gifts, especially to my wife and children. I like to find that gift that brings a tear to the eye or elicits a great surprise. But for myself, what I receive does not seem like a big deal. It was different not so long ago. As a young adult, I loved to receive cool gadgets and tech toys. However, I can say I feel pretty satisfied now that I am more mature.

In fact, on Father's Day my oldest son was coming home from college and he asked what I wanted as a gift. He asked looking for a concrete gift suggestion, preferably in his college student bank account range. I immediately had an answer for him. I told him, "As long as you get home in time to go to Mass with me and the family, that is all I want." I just wanted to witness his faith being fed along with the rest of us. For me, there could be no greater gift.

We hear every year the story of the Magi bringing rich gifts to honor Jesus. They were honoring this newborn King the only way they really knew. And, yes, I believe that whatever they could have offered him would have been appreciated. But I think it was the gift of themselves that mattered the most. They didn't send the gifts to him by some form of courier. They traveled a far distance to be there in person. For what else could Jesus really have asked?

What gifts do you have to offer Jesus? You could offer gifts of treasure or time. He would love those. But could you offer him your presence in prayer. Just spend time giving yourself over to him, for what else could he really ask?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications Inc

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: Interreligious Dialogue

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.

Evangelization: Christian Unity

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.

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



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

On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

PRIESTS	MYRRH	BETHLEHEM	KING	CHRIST
GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD

Epiphany of the Lord

"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." These Magi did not know the person they were seeking to honor. They had not met Jesus, but had embarked upon a long and arduous journey in order to come into his presence. Although they were not from among the Jewish people who had received the ancient promises of a Messiah, they were nonetheless anticipating his arrival. And when they found him, "they were overjoyed." Their quest had come to its moment of fulfillment when "they saw the child with Mary his mother."

For those of us who have been raised Christian since our infancy, it's important to reflect on the joy of the Magi. They found Christ as a result of great effort and expense. The very trials of their journey, and the hope that was fulfilled when it was successful, made them appreciate their encounter with Jesus in a profound way as "they prostrated themselves... and offered him gifts." Converts to the faith may have a kind of advantage in comprehending the experience of the Magi. But cradle Catholics may need to exert a bit more effort to share in the wonder. Even when Jesus has always been a part of someone's life, it is still important to stand in awe of him. On the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we meditate on what it means to "find" Jesus. For some of us, this means remembering a conversion experience, but for others it means imagining what life would be like without him, and then rejoicing in the fact that he is truly with us. No matter how we found the Lord, we too should fall down on our knees in adoration and offer him the precious treasures of our lives: our fervent devotion and our will to serve him.



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

Amanda Weiser and Family

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 _____

RESOLUTIONS

SHOW KINDNESS...

It's a choice. Please choose it.

SHOW PATIENCE...

Just remember, you're not perfect either.

SHOW ENCOURAGEMENT...

if you do, people will strive for more.

SHOW COMPASSION...Put yourself in someone else's shoes.

SHOW WISDOM...It's in short supply these days.

SHOW FAIRNESS...Don't stack the deck in anyone's favor.

Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of Jan. 4 – Jan. 10

Monday, January 4

Tuesday, January 5

Wednesday, January 6

Novena
Mass

6:15pm
6:30pm

Thursday, January 7

Reconciliation
Rosary
Mass
Prayer Group

11:00am
11:35am
12:00 noon
1:15pm

Friday, January 8

Rosary
Eucharistic Adoration
Reconciliation
Mass

10:45am
11:00am
11:00am
12:00 noon

Saturday, January 9

Reconciliation
Mass
Anointing of the Sick
WG Winter Games - Bunco Night

3:00-3:45pm
4:00pm
5:00-8:00pm

Sunday, January 10

The Baptism of the Lord
Choir
Rosary
Mass
Anointing of the Sick
Faith Formation classes

8:20-8:50am
8:30-8:45am
9:00am