

## St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

**The 36th Annual Ecumenical Good Friday Pilgrimage (Urban Way of the Cross)**, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Atlanta Justice & Peace Ministries is scheduled for Friday, March 25th from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

This multilingual walking prayer is a moving experience that includes scripture readings, reflections, prayer and music as we remember the passion of Christ and the social injustices in our world today. The 2 mile route is considered wheel chair accessible, but please keep in mind that not all of the sidewalks along the route are smooth or wide.

The pilgrimage will begin at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, located at 48 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. We will gather at 8:45 a.m. to begin our journey with opening prayer and a reflection at 9:00 a.m. by Archbishop Wilton Gregory. We will conclude at the crypt of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King with reflection and closing prayer.

Buses will be available to return participants to the Shrine. We encourage carpooling or public transportation as parking is limited.

Please contact Kat Doyle, Director of Justice & Peace Ministries, at [kdoyle@archatl.com](mailto:kdoyle@archatl.com) for more information or to volunteer. All are welcome!

### **Youth Group News –**

The youth ministry program would like to thank everyone who helped out or attended the Picnic Under the Stars dance on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a great evening filled with lots of fun.

### **St Patrick's Day Party**

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

We will have a contest for the Best Irish Dish. So get your recipe ready and maybe the luck of the Irish will be with you to 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.



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.



**The Women's Guild is having  
A Day of Reflection:**

**"Compassion the Heart of the Gospel"**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Sister Susan and Sister Barbara**

**Saturday, March 5th  
9:00am - 3:00pm**

**Cost: \$10/person**

Breakfast and Lunch Provided

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Mass of Healing for Anyone Impacted by Addiction. Every second Saturday of the month, 10:00AM

Mass is celebrated in Our Lady of the Assumption's (Brookhaven) Daily Chapel for all those struggling with any addiction, as well as anyone who is impacted by the addiction of someone else.

Coffee social after Mass. All are welcome! Next Mass: Sat., March 12th at 10:00 AM

Info: [mdannenfelser@olachurch.org](mailto:mdannenfelser@olachurch.org)

**Intercessions for Life**

For young people:  
 May they discover the freedom  
 and peace that comes from following Jesus's call to purity;  
 We pray to the Lord:

**Readings for  
 the Week**

**Monday:**  
 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab  
 Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4  
 Lk 4:24-30

**Tuesday:**  
 Dn 3:25, 34-43  
 Ps 25:4-9  
 Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday:**  
 Dt 4:1, 5-9  
 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20  
 Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:**  
 Jer 7:23-28  
 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9  
 Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:**  
 Hos 14:2-10  
 Ps 81:6-11, 14, 17  
 Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:**  
 Hos 6:1-6  
 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21  
 Lk 18:9-14

**Next Sunday:**  
 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a  
 Ps 23:1-6  
 Eph 5:8-14  
 Jn 9:1-41 or  
 Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Offertory | \$3,853.00 |
| Alms Fund | \$ 438.00  |

| <b>Mass Intentions:</b> | <b>Requested for:</b>                               | <b>Requested By:</b>  |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Feb. 27 Saturday        | Deceased Members of the Huber and Hinson families † |                       |
| Feb. 28 Sunday          | Our Parishioners                                    |                       |
| Mar. 2 Wednesday        | Kevin Abbott †                                      | Faith and Paul Shafer |
| Mar. 3 Thursday         |   |                       |
| Mar. 4 Friday           | Hugh and Marcella Glidewell †                       |                       |
| Mar. 5 Saturday         | Linda Nance †                                       | Emily Ryan            |
| Mar. 6 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.

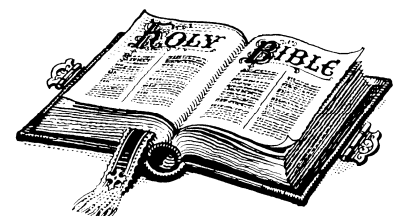
**Liturgical Schedule**

**Saturday, March 5, 4:00 PM**

**Lectors:** Billy Glidewell  
**Extraordinary Ministers:** Eva White and Richard McPhee  
**Altar Servers:** Any Available  
**Ushers:** Tom Matelski and Ron Sicina

**Sunday, March 6, 9:00 AM**

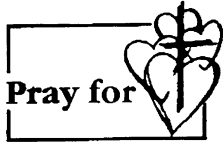
**Lector:** Bob Elwell  
**Extraordinary Ministers:** Kathy Abood, Teresa Miller, Dennis Ordyna, Chris Hotchkiss, and \*\* John Lueken  
**Altar Servers:** Andrew Chapko and Miranda Salinas  
**Crucifer:** Chloe Patterson  
**Gift Bearers:** Chris and Tammy Hotchkiss  
**Ushers:** Carlton Turner and Jerry Holland  
**Greeters:** Dennis and Maureen Ordyna



# 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, George Roberts, John Gardino, Julie Rattray, Sue Dobbs, Jake Unterseher, Ruth Ann Mann, and LaDonna O'Bryon.



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**

What happens when people are allowed to do anything they want without any repercussions? A monster is created. Have you seen the parents who never correct or chastise their children? How about the person who keeps bullying others without anybody standing up to him? Then there are institutions like banks and corporations that continually scam the public without even so much as getting a slap on the wrist! The problem is a lack of accountability. Also, unfortunately, without accountability a person has no chance of changing.

In a Year of Mercy, certainly this is the time to give people the opportunity to repent and change. But oftentimes without a person or community that holds them accountable, people never find the incentive to change. Even after one is held accountable, there should be assistance in trying to turn over a new leaf and become better.

Being accountable is a primary characteristic of an Everyday Steward. We must always be willing to accept that we just might be like a fig tree that is bearing no fruit. The good news is that if we are willing to have that pointed out to us, we have the chance to change. A stewardship way of life is not easy and it does not happen overnight. At times, we will find ourselves in need of good gardening tactics involving fertilization and watering. The sad reality is that we live in a world, and even sometimes a church, where accountability is seen as harsh or judgmental. However, we let ourselves and others down by not helping each other see the reality of our actions. Would you want to be that fruitless fig tree that gets cut down without a chance to grow? That would be really harsh. Let's help one another to be the best stewards and disciples we can be.

**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.

**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

**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.

Thank you.



## St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

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



And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?'" - Lk 13:6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

|           |       |          |       |       |
|-----------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| YEARS     | THREE | LOOK     | LEAVE | FRUIT |
| DOWN      | FIND  | VINEYARD | MAN   | TOLD  |
| PLANTED   | USE   | SOIL     | ALONE | FIG   |
| FERTILIZE | DIG   | PARABLE  | TREE  | CUT   |



### **Third Sunday of Lent--1st Scrutiny**

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst." The woman at the well was longing for something that no one had been able to give her. She had been married to five different men and was now with a sixth. This chain of relationships had apparently not fulfilled her. She was continually looking for something (someONE) new to satisfy her longing. Then, she encountered Jesus. He promised her a kind of satisfaction that would not fade away, and she was intrigued. "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

The woman kept coming to the same "well" time after time. She kept trying to find her happiness through the various men in her life. But time after time, it didn't work out. Here now, she finally finds the one man who CAN offer her true, unending, eternal happiness: the Messiah. "I am he, the one speaking with you."

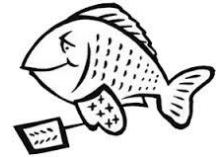
Jesus is the One. He is the One we have been waiting for, searching for, longing for. Even though we may not have known it, our restlessness and our emptiness have been leading us to him. He alone can satisfy our desire for contentment that doesn't end, for joy that trumps the sorrows of life, and for the peace that surpasses understanding. We, for our part, must stop looking to satisfy our thirst at the wrong well. We must relinquish our worldly water and begin to drink of the "living water" that comes when we "worship the Father in Spirit and truth." This requires real change in our lives. For the woman, it meant that she "left her water jar." Today, let us each pause to identify what it is that WE must leave behind.



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!

**First Scrutiny**

Why do we continue to climb that hill day after day for water, when we have been given everlasting water by the One who came to reconcile us to the Father? Those seeking to be cleansed in baptismal waters at Easter go through Scrutinies "to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good" (RCIA 141). The story of the woman at the well speaks to all of us of everlasting water that heals us and gives us strength for the journey. There are those among us who long for this, but we who have been marked for Christ a long time ago already possess it. But too often we continue to climb high hills looking for something else to satisfy us. The Samaritan woman leaves behind her container at the well when she leaves, for there is no reason for her ever to return. You and I have left our vessels at the well also. Stop climbing that hill. Today, as you listen to the words of the Scrutiny prayers and ritual, let us be resolved to drink again from that everlasting water God has given to us.

**Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of Feb. 29 – Mar. 6**

Monday, February 29

Tuesday, March 1

|                    |        |        |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Wednesday, March 2 | Novena | 6:15pm |
|                    | Mass   | 6:30pm |

|                   |                |            |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Thursday, March 3 | Reconciliation | 11:00am    |
|                   | Rosary         | 11:35am    |
|                   | Mass           | 12:00 noon |
|                   | Prayer Group   | 1:15pm     |

|                 |                                    |               |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Friday, March 4 | Rosary                             | 10:15am       |
|                 | First Friday Eucharistic Adoration | 10:30-11:45am |
|                 | Reconciliation                     | 11:00am       |
|                 | Mass                               | 12:00 noon    |
|                 | Knights of Columbus Fish Fry       | 4:30-6:30pm   |
|                 | Stations of the Cross              | 7:00pm        |

|                   |                                 |             |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Saturday, March 5 | Women’s Guild Day of Reflection | 9:00-3:00pm |
|                   | Mass                            | 4:00pm      |

|                 |                               |             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday, March 6 | Choir                         | 8:20-8:50am |
|                 | Rosary                        | 8:30-8:45am |
|                 | Mass                          | 9:00am      |
|                 | Faith Formation classes       |             |
|                 | Knights of Columbus Breakfast |             |

