

St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

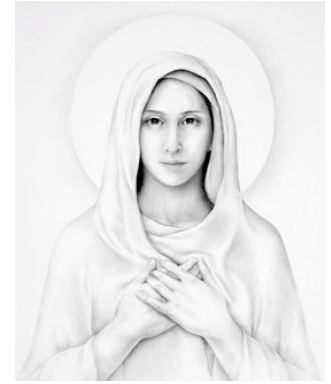
12/26/15	Saturday	4:00 pm	<i>Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family</i>
12/27/14	Sunday	9:00 am	<i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

*Holy Day of Obligation

1/1/16	Friday	10:15am	Rosary
1/1/16	Friday	10:30-11:45am	Eucharistic Adoration
1/1/16	Friday	12:00 noon	Mass
1/1/16	Friday	5:00pm	Mass

Reception following Mass



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

In our politically charged society, I imagine many have heard the quote, "It takes a village..." Whether or not one likes the politics of the author of that quote, in the words are truth. It takes many people to create and sustain a community.

For those of us who are Catholic, we believe in the power of vocations to help spread the Gospel message. And vocations are an important part of the community. The vocations to priesthood, or the diaconate, or religious life are at the center of our efforts to spread the good news. However, we need to also speak about the vocation of married life as service to the church; and furthermore, the vocation of single life. It is at our baptism that we are given the mandate to spread the Gospel through our vocation in the church.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me" (Rv 3:20).

We hear in Scripture that Jesus stands at the door of our heart and knocks. He only invites and never demands or breaks into our lives without our acceptance. He knocks, we open the door, and the invitation and welcome are complete.

Let us pray...

God of the invitation,
you knock upon the door of everyone's heart.

We seek the courage to open that door, for we know the responsibility of saying yes.

We humbly ask you for your wisdom to serve your church with compassion and acceptance.

We believe that when we say yes, you will provide the grace for the work ahead.

Give grace to those men and women who have dedicated their lives to constant service to your church.

Also give grace to those couples and single men and women who work for the church in their secular lives.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord and brother, who live and reign with you and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

"How long has Jesus been knocking at the door of your heart, waiting to enter?"

-St. John Baptist de la Salle

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 parents:
 May their example of sacrificial and life-giving love
 be a source of hope and inspiration;
 We pray to the Lord:



Offertory (for the week of December 13th) \$3,944.00
 Retirement Fund for the Religious \$ 629.00



Readings for the Week

Monday:
 1 Jn 1:5--2:2
 Ps 124:2-5, 7-8
 Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday:
 1 Jn 2:3-11
 Ps 96:1-3, 5-6
 Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday:
 1 Jn 2:12-17
 Ps 96:7-10
 Lk 2:36-40

Thursday:
 1 Jn 2:18-21
 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13
 Jn 1:1-18

Friday:
 Nm 6:22-27
 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
 Gal 4:4-7
 Lk 2:16-21

Saturday:
 1 Jn 2:22-28
 Ps 98:1-4
 Jn 1:19-28

Next Sunday:
 Is 60:1-6
 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
 Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions:

Requested for:

Requested By:

Dec. 26	Saturday	Philis Myles †	
Dec. 27	Sunday	Our Parishioners	
Dec. 30	Wednesday		
Dec. 31	Thursday		
Jan. 1	Friday		
Jan. 1	Friday		
Jan. 2	Saturday	Kristopher Stark †	Stark Family
Jan. 3	Sunday	Our Parishioners	



During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in God's Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist ... By worshiping the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, The Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us. In its fullest essence ... Eucharistic Adoration is "God and Man reaching out for each other, at the same time!" Can you commit to one hour per week to be in the "presence of God"?

On the First Friday of each month the schedule is Rosary 10:15am, Reconciliation 11:00am, Eucharistic 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, Eucharistic Adoration 11:00, followed by Mass at 12:00 noon.

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration: January 1st

Saturday, January 2, 4:00 PM

Lectors: Billy Glidewell
Extraordinary Ministers: Eva White and LaDonna O'Bryon
Altar Servers: Any Available
Ushers: Tom Matelski and Ron Sicina

Sunday, January 3, 9:00 AM

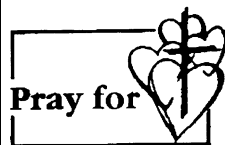
Lector: Craig Breyne
Extraordinary Ministers: Bill Hunter, Teresa Miller, Margarita Moreno, Mike Palka, **Bill Myles
Altar Servers: Andrew Chapko and Kaylee Pappa
Crucifer: Chloe Patterson
Gift Bearers: Mike and Erma Gozdick
Ushers: Jerry Holland and Dennis Ordyna
Greeters: Mike and Erma Gozdick

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, and Matt Brown.



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

Pope Francis said in an address from 2013, "Mary, whose 'yes' opened the door for God to undo the knot of the ancient disobedience, is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul by his fatherly mercy." What would this Jubilee Year of Mercy look like without Mary saying yes to God's plan for her? Would we even have such a year?

Mary is the Mother who lovingly brings us to God, the one who turns human yesses into miracles. Mary not only gave birth to the Son of God, she gave birth to our hope that by our own affirmative reply to God's calling in our life, that God will comfort and care for us as his own. Our Lady is then not only the Mother of God, but the Mother of Mercy, for without her, the pathway of mercy and grace does not break into our world.

We then must demonstrate our gratefulness for her answer to God by becoming vessels of God's mercy for others. Just as he turned her yes into the Incarnation, God can turn our yes into a way for others to encounter Jesus Christ. God can untangle knots in others through our generosity and compassion. He can shower mercy upon a world in such desperate need of it through our actions and gestures of love. This is what it means to be a mature disciple and to live a stewardship way of life. Mary is the Mother of God, but she is our Mother as well. What better way to give thanks to the woman who made this possible with her gesture of love than by offering that same love to the world?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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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



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 "A Divine Mercy" Author: Sheldon Vanauken. 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.

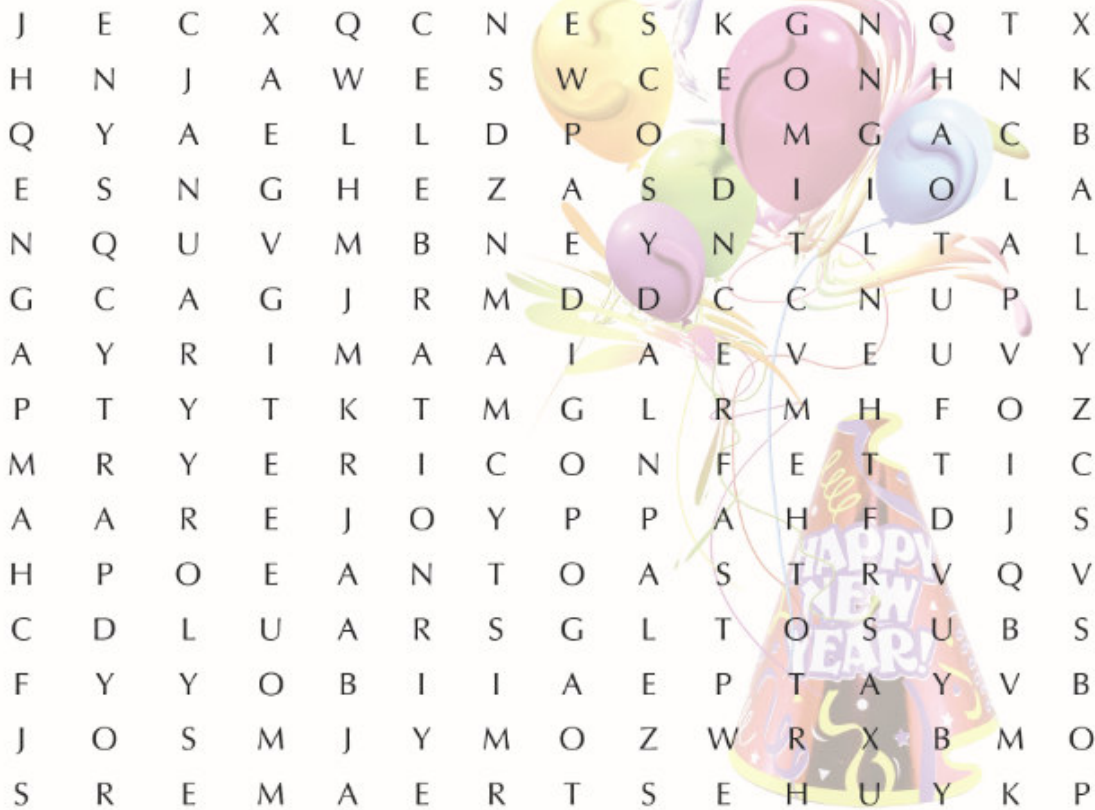
If you wish to have an item placed into the weekly church bulletin. It must be to the church office no later than 12 noon on Monday (**at least 2 weeks before your scheduled event**). It must be in writing, there are forms in the church office or you can email it to stmarysinjackson@bellsouth.net.

Thank you.



St. Mary, Mother of God Catholic Church

New Year's Word Search



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

AULD
 BALL
 CALENDAR
 CELEBRATION
 CHAMPAGNE
 CLOCK

CONFETTI
 COUNTDOWN
 DAY
 DROP
 EVE
 HAPPY

JANUARY
 LANG
 MIDNIGHT
 NEW
 NOISEMAKER
 PARTY

SQUARE
 STREAMERS
 SYNE
 TIMES
 TOAST
 YEAR

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

"He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them." We might be tempted to think that Jesus more or less raised himself. As the Son of God, it might appear on first glance that earthly parents would be a mere formality for this particular child. But it wasn't so. Mary and Joseph had real influence, and real authority, over their son.

Although Jesus apparently understood from a tender age how he related to God ("Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"), he also knew that he owed appropriate respect to his parents. This is why he stayed in their home in Nazareth and was obedient to them. And because of this obedience, clearly Mary and Joseph must have been deeply influential in his life. Their direction, their teachings, their example, and their rules would all have shaped Jesus in his humanity. It was thanks in no small part to the matriarch and patriarch of the Holy Family that Jesus "advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man."

We should be advancing in these ways too! And those of us who are parents are likewise called to direct and guide our children to develop as Jesus did, not only forming our sons and daughters to succeed in the eyes of men, but also leading them on the path of "favor before God." The Holy Family serves as a beautiful model for us in this regard. They help us learn how to submit our lives to the loving leadership of our heavenly Father. But more than this, Mary and Joseph also serve as intercessors who, like any faithful family member or friend, want to pray with us and for us. Let us turn, then, to the intercession of the Holy Family asking that our families may be holy too.

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year!

The office of St. Mary, Mother of God will be closed for the Christmas Season we will reopen January 4th.

If you have a sacramental emergency call 678-967-1376.
Have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season.

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.

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., Jan. 9 at 10:00 AM

Info: mdannenfelser@olachurch.org



Upcoming events here at St. Mary, Mother of God for the week of Dec. 28 - Jan.

Monday, December 28	Knights of Columbus Mtg.	7:00pm
Tuesday, December 29		
Wednesday, December 30	Novena	6:15pm
	Mass	6:30pm
Thursday, December 31	Reconciliation	11:00am
	Rosary	11:35am
	Mass	12:00 noon
Friday, January 1	<i>Solemnity of Mary</i>	
	Rosary	10:15am
	Reconciliation	11:00am
	First Friday Eucharistic Adoration	10:30-11:45am
	Mass	12:00 noon
	Mass	5:00pm
	Dinner	6:00pm
Saturday, January 2	Mass	4:00pm
Sunday, January 3	<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	
	Choir	8:20-8:50am
	Rosary	8:30-8:45am
	Mass	9:00am
	Knights of Columbus Breakfast	