

Mass/Service Schedule/Intentions

Sat 4/16 6:30 pm People of the parish
Sun 4/17 8:30 am Agnes Burk
~given by Denis Burk
Tue: 4/19 9:30 am
Wed: 4/20 5:30 pm Adoration
6:30 pm
Sat: 4/23 6:30 pm Jamie Barnett (D)
~given by Jim & Laura Barnett
Sun: 4/24 8:30 am John Williamson (D)
~given by Nancy Williamson
Sat 4/30 6:30 pm People of the parish

CONTRIBUTIONS for April 17, 2016

Church Budget \$ 2,100
General Offertory \$ 1,221

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK

Catholic Home Missions

COUNTERS for this week are: Jan Dover and Ruth Manna.

The flowers from two weeks ago was in memory of Thomas David Gearhart requested by the Mayor and Council of the city of Martin.

Parish Committees

Pastoral Council: Deanna Holmer 706-297-7493
Finance Committee: Bob Defenbaugh 706-886-8950
Ladies of Saint Mary: Gerrie Chalk 706-963-0050
Religious Education: Sharon Cook 706-297-8344
Nancy Barbour 706-244-1437
Knights of Columbus: Larry Barbour 706-244-1410
Maintenance Committee: Larry Barbour 706-244-1410
Bulletin editor: Christa O'Barr 706-886-2819;
stmarystoccoa@gmail.com (email)

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are needed. See Fr. Sullivan if interested.

I am sorry we have not had a bulletin. The bulletin computer and printer were acting up again.



Pray for ... PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Zachary Carreno, Kevin Chase, Carl Dowell, Joe Franzmathes, Chuck Hansen, Judy Hawkins, Edna Kane, Ed Kernan, Brenda & Tom McKevlin, Carl Pope, Chloe Smith, Skip Studley, Joe Todd, Jim Zell, Elaine Peterson, Charles Roberts, Glenn Gloeckner, Mary Hennessey, Hubert Jones, Lisa Panatera - Esquivel, Karen Poole, Carlton House, Mac Boswell, Karen Perchinski, & Brion Lanier.

St. Vincent dePaul

St. Vincent dePaul St. Mary's Conference members will meet Wednesdays, May 4th and 18th after the 6:30 PM Mass (about 7:15 PM) in the Religious Education room. Thank you St. Mary parishioners for your generous donations. The \$204 will be used to help the poor & needy in our community. A huge thank you to the members of the St. Louise demarillac conference in Dallas, GA for their \$5,000 donation. We are so blessed to be remembered and will use the funds in our community. Please join us at our meetings as we discuss how best to help those in our community, both spiritually and financially. St. Vincent dePaul, St. Mary's Conference central **HELP-LINE** number for those needing assistance is: **1 (678) 892-6163**.

Ministry of Gods Housekeepers
PLEASE, PLEASE!! Are there two church members who can spend 1 hour, 5 times spread out over the year?? Each will work with another church member of God's HouseKeepers to keep St. Mary's clean. Is this too much to ask? If you can help, please call Ray at (706) 779-2700.

Ministry of Gods Gardeners

We are in great need of some folks to help with the upkeep of the gardens and church grounds. If you are able to help even a couple of hours a week or month, please call or email the church office.

First Communion

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for the reception for First Communion May 1,2016, thanks in advance for your help. The four children are Elena Edenfield, Annastasia Roberson, Darius Roberson and Joseline Ruiz who will be celebrating.

"My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:33-34). What was new? The fact is, the command "that you love one another" was nothing new in New Testament times. The Old Testament used similar words in the commandment to "love your neighbor as yourself." This was an ancient commandment even at the time of Jesus Christ. It says, "You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:18).

In Christ's new command, the significant words are "as I have loved you." Christ's command to love "as I have loved you" is the "new commandment." This depth of love takes the Christian to a whole new way of expressing love for others. The love that Christ had and continues to have for His followers is infinitely more profound than the love expressed in "you shall love your neighbor as yourself." When Christians express love toward others, it should not be just as we love ourselves, but as Christ loves us. Putting into practice His "as I have loved you" kind of love, Jesus Christ willingly paid the price for our sins. As He explained, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:13). The great cost of our sin was His suffering, torture and horrific death. That is the self-sacrificial love He showed for all mankind. Without that love, we would have no hope and no opportunity to live forever. That is the kind of love that Christ has for His Church and, through His new commandment, it is the love He expects Christians to have. In love for us He suffered and died so that we could, like Him, be resurrected and live for all eternity.

Carry the light

When you carry the light, when you take up the torch, there are a lot of emotions involved. Emotions of the honor and privilege of carrying the light. Emotions of fear of letting the light go out! The feeling of duty to make sure that our behavior shows we are full of His light. Not only are there emotions, there are questions. How do I carry the light? How am I supposed to do this? Do I have what it takes to carry the light?

Sometimes, as believers, we question if we really have what it takes to share God's light with others. We're glad God saved us, but we feel inadequate to really carry the torch. I know how I am and God is asking me to carry the light to someone at work or school? My family members saw me yesterday when I said...when I did...how can I carry the light?

Here is the good news. It's God's light and He's the one that places it within us. "I have made you a light..." (ACTS 13)"For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true." (Ephesians 5:9)

God places His light in us and if we will just...**HOLD IT UP**...that's all we have to do. It's the light that produces what is good and right and true. All we have to do as believers is carry the light. We don't create the light, we just carry it. We just hold it up high.

Fr. Vincent Sullivan
Pastor of St. Catherine's -Jefferson & St. Mary's -Toccoa

Lost Key

The church's Tabernacle key is missing, if anybody knows its whereabouts or finds it please turn in to church office. Thanks!