

Good Shepherd Catholic Church December 21 & 22, 2024

Mass Schedule: Wednesday 9 am Friday 9 am Saturday 4 pm Sunday 11 am

 Confession
 8:15 - 8:45 am

 Confession
 8:15 - 8:45 am

 Confession
 3:00 - 3:45 pm

Livestream Mass on YouTube or Facebook at Good Shepherd Catholic Church McCormick

Fourth Sunday in Advent Glory & Praise Book Cycle C #794



First Reading: Responsorial: Second Reading: Gospel:

Micah 5: 1-4a Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Hebrews 10: 5-10 Luke 1: 39-45

Welcome

We welcome all visitors and invite you to join us again for worship. Please sign our guest book and feel free to write your prayer intentions in our Community Book of Prayer. If you would like to help us with the support of our Church campus, please place an offering in the "Welcome" envelopes located on the back of the pews and drop it in the offertory basket.

Mission Statement

Good Shepherd Catholic Church is passionately committed to service, in accordance with the pastoral vision of the Diocese of Charleston, to being servants of God and good stewards of the Sacred Mysteries. We strive to be a holy and God-centered community growing in joyful righteousness and living without fear by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Spirit, we will help inspire, educate, and support our community and work for unity among the Churches.

Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Jeune, Bishop of Charleston Father Jacob Joseph, CMI Email: jjoseph@charlestondiocese.org Deacon Jeffrey DeFrehn Email: jdefrehn@charlestondiocese.org

Office Telephone: (864) 852-4722 (Emergencies Only (843) 329-3030) Address: P. O. Box 1468, McCormick, SC 29835 Email: gschurch@wctel.net Website: www.goodshepherdmccormick.c Parish Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9 am-Noon

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 21st 4 pm + Kris Adden requested by Don & Michele Raaen Lector: Jerry Wishall EM of HC: Dave Lorenzatti Ushers: Mark Boerner & Mark Leszczynski Sunday, Dec. 22nd 11 am + Frances DeRoller requested by Frank & Debbie DeRoller Lector: Mark Ficocelli EM of HC: Elizabeth Ficocelli **Ushers: Dave & Carol McKloskey** Tuesday, Dec.24th Christmas vigil 4 pm + Anne Marie & Francis DeFalco requested by Ted & Linda Hansen Lector: Linda DeShano **EM of HC: Ginny Vose Ushers: Jerry & Barb Wishall** Wednesday, Dec.25th Christmas Day 11 am + Deceased members of Popejoy/Dreslinski families requested by Tom & Deb Popejoy + Margaret Woodburn requested by Ken & Mary Jane Woodburn Lector: Ruth Obermeyer **EM of HC: Dick Obermeyer** Ushers: Ken & Mary Jane Woodburn Friday Dec. 27th 9 am + Bob & Karen Prost requested by John Balogh Saturday, Dec. 28th 4 pm + Daniel S. Wenners requested by Bob & Ginny Vose Lector :Jackie Novak **EM of HC: Pat Kuech Ushers: Gary & Dae Probst** Sunday, Dec 29th 11 am + Betty Selby requested by **Cindy Woodburn Lector: Dick Balogh EM of HC: Pat Tortorello Ushers: William & Gretchen Keneson**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 22	Decorate Church for Christmas
Dec 24	4 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
Dec 25	11 am Christmas Day Mass
Dec 31	4 pm Vigil Mass – Holy Day
Jan 01	11 am Mass – Holy Day

Pray for our Military Members

Sophie Augustine	Sean Avery
Brianna & Stephen Balogh	Christopher R. Balogh
Sarah Balogh	Aaron T. Bird
David Bobier	Chris Brandon
Eric Brandon	Drew Chadwick
Ryan Chemelewski	Paul Cross
Nate Dreslinski	Jake Ivey
Connor Joyce	Ian Leszczynski
Cassie Newkirk	Noah Neuman
Kaylin Neuman	Stockton Obermeyer
Savanna Obermeyer	Declan Pemberton
Aspen Quam	Daniel O'Donnell
Daniel & Brandi Stricker	Jonathon Taylor
Cody Tiller	Ashley Wulforst
Thomas Wulforst	

Pray for our Sick & Home Bound

Dave Cook, Raymond Crist IV, Matthew Dill, Lana Kittenbrink, Bobby Passafaro, Paul Ruelle, John & Diane Scardace, Skip Tortorello, and Bud Webster

....and those intentions written in our Community Book of Prayer. The recipient or family must clear all requests if possible.

Collection Report

Weekend of December 14 & 15 2024

<u>Offertory</u> \$6,824.00 <u>Budget</u> \$5,319.00 <u>Variance</u> +\$1,505.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS. You can mail your contributions to Good Shepherd Church, P. O. Box 1468, McCormick, SC 2983

GRANDMOTHER MINISTRY

The following items are needed for this ministry: fruit cups, canned or microwave spaghetti, mac



& cheese, cereal, soup, regular grits, peanut butter and jelly or any other non-perishable items that kids will eat or drink. Please also consider toilet paper, cleaning products, cash and gift cards from Food Lion or the Dollar stores. Please drop

off your items in the Life Center marked "Billie". Thank you for your generosity.



FOOD PANTRY

Items for this month are soups; tuna fish and canned meats Please drop off items in the Life Center marked Food Pantry"



Hearing assistance devices are available for use during Mass. The devices are on the ledge by the choir area in a basket.

Please return after using



Women's Club Spaghetti Dinner w/Meatballs Friday, January 17, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 5 PM IN PARISH LIFE CENTER SIT DOWN DINNER WITH 6 TO A TABLE ONLY 120 TICKETS SOLD FOR SIT DOWN DINNER

TICKETS FOR TAKE-OUT ARE AVAILABLE

ADULTS \$25.00 CHILDREN 12 & UNDER \$10.00 TO RESERVE TICKETS FOR INDIVIDUAL OR TABLE OF SIX

> CALL Ginny Vose @ 617-584-6900 OR EMAIL bobginvose@yahoo.com

Tickets will be available the weekend of December 28th and 29th. & January 4th & 5th after Mass.



PLEASE JOIN US as we decorate our Church for the Christmas Season on Sunday December22nd following the 11:00am Mass.

Thank you to all that donated gifts to the Angel Tree this year. Here is a picture of the

Women's Club members who prepared the Christmas gifts for each family. God bless everyone who supported this cause in the true spirit of Christmas.





The Rosary is taken from the Latin word "rosarium" which means "crown of roses" or "garland of roses." To us members of the Catholic Faith, the Rosary is a form of prayer that we use along with its namesake prayer beads.

According to pious tradition, the idea of the Rosary was given to Saint Dominic when the Virgin Mary appeared to him in an apparition in the year 1214. This

Marian apparition is given the title of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Dominican priest and theologian Alanus de Rupe promoted the practice of the Rosary by establishing the "fifteen rosary promises" and founding several rosary confraternities. Devotion to the Rosary is one of the most distinguishable features of popular Catholic spirituality. The Rosary inspires us to meditate on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary. Meditation is an important of our lives as Catholics. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, meditation "engages thought, imagination, emotion and desire. This mobilization of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart and strengthen our will to follow Christ."

Praying the Rosary

The Rosary is a devotion in honor of the Virgin Mary. It is made up of a set number of prayers. At the start of the Rosary are the introductory prayers which are composed of one Apostle's Creed, one Our Father, three Hail Mary's and one Glory Be.

In the 16th century, Pope Pius V established the standard fifteen Mysteries of the Rosaries which are grouped into three, the Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries and the Glorious Mysteries. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added a set of five to the existing fifteen mysteries and these became known as the Luminous Mysteries. Today, the total number of mysteries is twenty.

The Joyful Mysteries include the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38), the Visitation (Luke 1:40-56), the Nativity (Luke 2:6-20), the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:21-39), and the Finding of the child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-51).

Then comes the Sorrowful Mysteries include the Agony in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-46), the Scourging (Matt. 27:26), the Crowning with Thorns (Matt. 27:29), the Carrying of the Cross (John 19:17), and the Crucifixion (Luke 23:33-46).

The third mystery is Glorious Mysteries which are the Resurrection (Luke 24:1-12), the Ascension (Luke 24:50-51), the Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4), the Assumption of Mary into heaven (Rev. 12), and her Coronation (Rev. 12:1).

The Luminous Mysteries include the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, the Wedding at Cana, Jesus' Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist.

The Rosary and Meditation

All throughout the history of the Catholic Church, many popes and saints have encouraged praying the Rosary. As we begin to understand and appreciate the Rosary and pray it more frequently, we come to see the true meaning of its meditations. We begin to appreciate how its prayers are reminders not only of Mary the Mother of God but of Christ himself.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CYCLE C

Our scripture readings are especially appropriate because they remind us of the fulfillment of the promises and hopes and of the power of the simplicities of Christmas, those simple but powerful truths that are the real spiritual fuel of this wonderful season. In today's first reading the prophet Micah announces the great promise of God: that the small tribe which settled in the insignificant town of Bethlehem will one day produce the ruler of Israel. But between that promise and its fulfillment there is a long interim period of destruction, suffering and exile. It is precisely that promise that gives substance to the hope of the people and gives a direction to their lives. At the end of the exile the remnant who still believe return to rebuild their lives in the hope that God will indeed keep his promises. Until now the prophet we have heard spoke about the Messiah in terms of a restored glory to the Temple and the city of Jerusalem. But Micah looks away from Jerusalem to the small town of Bethlehem. He says Messiah will be born not in the glitter and majesty of Jerusalem but in Bethlehem. His words remind us that the Lord is found in ordinary places.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews speaks here of the great sacrifice of Christ not in terms of Temple rituals but in terms of Jesus' life completely dedicated to the Father. "I have come to do your will." The greatest gift that we can give to the Lord and others is ourselves. At the beginning of Luke's Gospel, we are introduced to an aged, married couple who stay alive on that hope – Zechariah and Elizabeth, the parents of John the Baptist. They represent the hope that did not die, and they see fulfilled in their son, John, who is to prepare the way for the one from Bethlehem. And it is the fulfilled hope of that old couple which is given to Mary as a sign: "Know this too, your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son... for nothing is impossible with God."

Mary hurries to see this sign of hope fulfilled. In the meeting of the old Elizabeth and young Mary the Old Testament meets the New Testament, the ancient promise meets its fulfillment in two mothers – Elizabeth, the mother of the last prophet who will go before the Lord, and Mary, the mother of the Lord himself. It is a time of good news, of great blessing. The old promises are new events, and now is the time of their long-awaited fulfillment. Mary's great gift to Elizabeth was the gift of her time, her assistance and support. There have been many deeply theological and spiritual reflections on the significance of the visitation. We should not forget that it was also a very human three-month visit of one relative to help another. And in the Gospel reading, Elizabeth tells Mary that she is blessed not only because she is soon to be a mother, but because she has believed that God's word would come to true. Beneath all the glitter and warmth of this festive season, a profound mystery is at work. But it can be perceived only with the eyes of faith. We look in the crib and see a God who loves us, not from distance, but in our very midst, as one of us. In addition to the fulfillment of God's promises and our hopes there are few simple truths of Christmas in all these readings. The Lord can come into the life of any person, into any place and he comes freely. The message of Micah about the little town of Bethlehem is that the light of Christ is among us where we are to illuminate the darkest streets of any person's life.

Second, the gift of ourselves is the most significant gift that we can give. Our commitment to the gospel and to the family is more important than anything else. The most important truth about Christmas is that Mary's visit to Elizabeth reminds us that the Lord's work and our most important gift takes place not just in moments of high drama but in the ordinary transactions of human contact and care. Mary's simple helping visit was Elizabeth's "Christmas". Let these simple truths of today's readings help us to go forward in our life. On Christmas day let us open our hearts wide to receive Christ the Lord.

Father Jacob Joseph



Southeastern Women's Retreat ARISE!

Dates: April 25-27, 2025 (Deadline to Register is March 21) Location: Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, Maggie Valley, NC Cost: \$260 per person (with option for dinner Friday, \$275) Check-In: 3:30-5:30 p.m. on Friday Check-Out: 11:30 a.m. Sunday Themes: Mercy, Healing, Forgiveness Contact: Sarah Hankes, Director @ sewomensretreat@gmail.com To Register, Scan QR Code Provided Here (Payment Link Will Be Sent by Email)

Speaker: Fr. Ambrose Criste, O.Praem, Norbertine canon regular, St. Michael's Abbey in Orange County, California.





WELCOME HOME: WHERE LIFE IS CELEBRATED

PROUDLY PRO-LIFE WEEKEND 2025 | JANUARY 10-11, 2025 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia, SC





