

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 13, 2020

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. — 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Saint Mary Help of Christians Parish
818 McGowan Road • Shelby, NC 28150 • 704-487-7697
stmaryshelby@charlottediocese.org • SaintMaryShelby.org

Christ the King Mission
714 Stone Street • Kings Mountain
Refer all correspondence to St. Mary

Parish Office: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Closed 1:00-2:00 PM)
Chapel Open: 7:00 AM-6:00 PM, with door code 5440#

Parish Priest..... Rev. Fr. Michael Kottar..... 704-487-7697 x103..... mtkottar@charlottediocese.org
Permanent Deacon..... Rev. Mr. James Trombley ..... 704-487-7697 x307..... jptrombley@charlottediocese.org
Administrative Assistant..... Jean Judge ..... 704-487-7697 x103..... jmjudge@charlottediocese.org
Faith Formation ..... Maureen Westlund..... 704-487-7697 x308..... mpwestlund@charlottediocese.org

For Sacramental emergencies after hours, please call the parish office and follow the prompts.

HOLY MASS

Saturday (Christ the King)..... 5:00 PM
Sunday ..... 9:00 AM; 12:00 PM (Español)
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday ..... 8:00 AM
Friday..... 7:00 PM (Español)
Holy Days of Obligation..... As announced

Changes announced at Mass and with Facebook and FlockNote

ADVENT CONFESSION TIMES

Monday..... 7:15-7:30 PM
Thursday..... After Mass
Friday..... After Mass
Saturday (Christ the King)..... 4:15-4:45 PM
Sunday ..... 8:15-8:45 AM

Also by appointment

ADORATION

Monday..... 7:00-8:00 PM
Thursday ..... After Mass
Friday..... 8:00-9:00 PM

NOVENAS

Miraculous Medal Novena..... Monday after Mass
St. Rita Novena..... Tuesday after Mass

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel:

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

ADVENT CONFESSION TIMES

- Monday - 7:15-7:30 PM
Thursday - After Mass
Friday - After Mass
Saturday (Christ the King) - 4:15-4:45 PM
Sunday - 8:15-8:45 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Chapel is available 7:00 AM-6:00 PM with door code 5440#.
Sunday Mass Signups are normally available on Friday (2 days before Mass), but the Christmas Mass Signup will be available on December 18.



THANK YOU

Thank you to the volunteers who helped make the Novenas and Masses for Our Lady of Guadalupe so beautiful, even during these difficult times.



Facebook



FlockNote



Website

## DEVOTIONS & MORE

*For a listing of Mass intentions each week, visit our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/StMaryShelby](http://www.facebook.com/StMaryShelby)) or our website ([www.SaintMaryShelby.org/mass-intentions](http://www.SaintMaryShelby.org/mass-intentions)). They will also be sent to the parish regularly via FlockNote.*

### Sunday, December 13

8:15 AM....Confession (SM)  
10:20 AM ..Confirmation class (SM Parish hall)  
11:20 AM ..Holy Rosary (SM)

### Monday, December 14

8:00 AM....Mass/Miraculous Medal Novena (SM)  
9:00 AM....Legion of Mary (SM Parish Hall)  
7:00 PM ....Adoration until 8:00 PM (SM)  
7:00 PM ....Knights of Columbus (SM Parish Hall)  
7:00 PM ....Emaús Group (SM Parish Hall)  
7:15 PM ....Confessions until 7:30 PM (SM)

### Tuesday, December 15

8:00 AM....Mass/St. Rita Novena (SM)  
4:00 PM ....RCIA Class (SM Parish Hall)

### Wednesday, December 16

No events scheduled

### Thursday, December 17

8:00 AM ... Mass/Confession; Adoration until 9:30 AM (SM)

### Friday, December 18

7:00 PM.... Mass/ Confession; Adoration until 9:00 PM (SM)

### Saturday, December 19

Morning.... Church cleaning  
4:15 PM.... Confession (CK)

### Sunday, December 20

8:15 AM ... Confession (SM)  
10:20 AM.. Confirmation class (SM Parish hall)  
11:20 AM.. Holy Rosary (SM)

## STEWARDSHIP

- Upcoming Special Collections:
  - Ongoing - Christmas Flowers (Return by Dec 15 to be included in the Christmas Bulletin)
  - December 13 - Retirement for Religious (See info below.)
- Cleaners: 12/13 - Joel, Graciela | 12/20 - El Coro
- Clorox wipes: If you see Clorox wipes (or similar) please consider buying one for our parish to use in sanitizing the Church, Chapel, and parish hall.
- Food Bank / Boost & Ensure: Donations of non-perishable food and Boost & Ensure are urgently needed. Suggested food items: apple sauce, cold cereal, oatmeal, canned soup and pasta, canned fruit, peanut butter, beans, rice, canned vegetables. The food will stay in our parish to help parishioners, but Boost & Ensure will be taken to the Senior center for use by their clients. You can have items delivered directly to St. Mary, 818 McGowan Rd, Shelby, NC 28150. THANK YOU to those who have donated to our food pantry!
- Online Giving: Please consider using online giving for your weekly tithe to St. Mary or Christ the King. You can use credit or debit cards, or your bank account. Text giving is now available at both churches. Learn more at [SaintMaryShelby.org/online-giving](http://SaintMaryShelby.org/online-giving).
- Monthly Offertory: 

|    | <u>September 2020</u> | <u>Monthly Budget</u> | <u>September 2019</u> |
|----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| SM | \$12,267              | \$19,757              | \$18,645              |
| CK | \$1,138               | \$4,510               | \$2,341               |

## 2020 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

**Make a difference:** “Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses,” says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

## **2021 RELIGIOUS ART CALENDARS ARE HERE!**

The 2020 religious art calendars are provided at no charge to our parishioners through the generosity of the Cecil M. Burton Funeral Home in Shelby. Please join me in thanking Mr. Burton for both his thoughtfulness and generosity in providing this unique gift that all of us can use. Please pick one up for yourself and if possible please get one for parishioners you know who are not able to attend Mass due to the pandemic.

### **CAROLINA CATHOLIC RADIO**

Carolina Catholic Radio is Dynamic, faithful Catholic programming. Learn, Love and Live Your Catholic Faith. Their programming is designed to draw you deeper into your Catholic faith, feed you spiritually and encourage you to be a Beacon of Light in a dark, divided secular culture. Apps available for Apple & Android. Visit [www.CarolinaCatholicRadio.org](http://www.CarolinaCatholicRadio.org) for more information and to listen online.

### **SAINT OF THE DAY FOR DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS**

Saint John of the Cross was born Juan de Yepes y Alvarez, in Fontiveros, Avila, Spain in 1542. His father was employed by wealthy family members as an accountant, but they disowned him when he married a poor woman. His father died when he was three and his older brother Luis died two years later. John was sent to a boarding school for poor and orphaned children. He was given a religious education from a young age and as he grew older, he went to work in a hospital while attending a Jesuit school. In 1563, he was able to join the Carmelite Order and took the name, "John of St. Matthias." He made vows the following year, and was sent to the university in Salamanca to study theology and philosophy. John became a priest in 1567 and considered joining the Carthusian Order, however, he encountered Theresa of Avila, a charismatic Carmelite nun. Theresa asked John to follow her.

John was attracted by the strict routine followed by Theresa, a routine she hoped to reintroduce to her order, as well as her devotion to prayer and simplicity. Her followers went barefoot, and were therefore known as the discalced Carmelites. On Nov. 28, 1568, Theresa founded a new monastery. The same day, John changed his name again to John of the Cross. In 1572, John traveled to Avila at the invitation of Theresa to become her confessor and spiritual guide. He remained in Avila until 1577. While there, he had a vision of Christ and made a drawing that remains to this day called, "Christ from Above," which shows Christ looking down on him from the cross.

Around 1575, a rift within the Carmelite order began to grow and create controversy between various monastic houses. Theresa, along with John, sought to restore the original stricter rule. The Carmelites had been undergoing reform since 1566, leading to dramatic, even violent, disagreement between the Carmelites. In late 1577, John was ordered to leave the monastery in Avila and to return to his original house. However, his reform had already been approved by the Papal Nuncio and John chose to stay. On December 2, 1577, John was taken by force to the order's main house in Toledo. He was brought before a court and placed on trial for disobedience. He was imprisoned in a cell so small he could barely lie on the floor. He was fed only bread and water, and occasional scraps of salt fish. Each week he was taken into public and lashed, then returned to his cell. His only luxuries were a prayer book and an oil lamp. He wrote poems on paper smuggled to him by the friar guarding his cell.

John became known as a remarkable poet, and has been cited as an influence to many poets, mystics, and artists, even Salvador Dali. After nine months, John managed to escape. He joined Teresa's nuns in Toledo, and spent six weeks in the hospital to recover. In 1579, he was sent to the town of Baeza to be rector of a new college and to support the Discalced Carmelites in Andalusia. In 1580, Pope Gregory formally authorized the split between the Discalced Carmelites and the rest of the order. This ended the rift within the order. At that time, there were about 500 members in the order living in 22 houses. During the last few years of his life, John traveled and established new houses across Spain. St. John died on December 14, 1591. He was beatified by Pope Clement X in 1675, and Canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726. He is the patron of Contemplatives, mystics and Spanish poets and his feast day is celebrated on December 14. (Catholic.org)

**\*\*UPDATED SCHEDULE\*\***  
**CHRISTMAS 2020 HOLY MASS SCHEDULE**

Thursday, December 24

5:00 PM (English)

Friday, December 25

9:00 AM (English) | 11:00 AM (Spanish)

**MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD HOLY MASS SCHEDULE**

Friday, January 1

9:00 AM (English) | 11:00 AM (Spanish)

***Registration will be required for these Masses.***

***The Signup Genius registration link will be available December 18, on Flocknote, Facebook, and SaintMaryShelby.org.***

**FILIPINO FOOD SALE**

Thank you (Cooks, Diners, and others) for your support of the Filipino Food sale on December 5. We were able to raise \$1,467 to help our sister parish Notre Dame de Guadalupe in Carrefour, Haiti.

**Bulletin Sponsorship**

This Space is available!

Bulletin Sponsorship is a suggested donation of \$15/week. All donations are for the Poor Box and will be used for charitable needs in our community. Sponsorship will be announced by name, or any other message (as appropriate) that will fit in this space, or you may remain anonymous. Contact the office for more information.



Pray for the repose of the souls of the deceased members of Knights of Columbus Council 11946:

**Anibal Angel**  
**Bill Campbell**  
**Berney Gehring**  
**Karl Giffin**  
**Bill Hill**  
**Dave Hobart**  
**Joe Izzi**  
**Paul Judge**  
**Marty Kane**  
**Bob Kingery**

**Butch Lowery**  
**Joe McNamara**  
**Dick Nann**  
**Conway Pagett**  
**Paul Pasco**  
**Ibrahim Sara**  
**Paul Territo**  
**Ed Vito**  
**Rev. Michael Hoban**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.