

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 20, 2020**

*The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. —Luke 1:35*

**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*

**CONFESSION**

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  
Friday..... 8:00-9:00 PM

**NOVENAS**

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

**PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY**

O Holy St. Anthony gentlest of Saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me (request). O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms. The gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

O God, eternal majesty, whose ineffable Word the immaculate Virgin received through the message of an Angel and so became the dwelling-place of divinity, filled with the light of the Holy Spirit, grant, we pray, that by her example we may in humility hold fast to your will. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**ADVENT PRAYER**

Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,  
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.  
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.  
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.  
To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!” Amen.

*- Henri J.M. Nouwen*



Facebook



FlockNote



Website

**CHANGESTHIS WEEK:** No Daily Mass on Thursday. See the Christmas Mass schedule for full details.

## 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 20

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

### Monday, December 21

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 ..... Emaús Group (SM Parish Hall)  
7:15 PM ..... Confessions until 7:30 PM (SM)

### Tuesday, December 22

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

### Wednesday, December 23

No events scheduled

### Thursday, December 24

5:00 PM ..... Christmas Vigil Mass (English - SM)

### Friday, December 25

9:00 AM ..... Christmas Mass (English - SM)  
11:00 AM ... Christmas Mass (Spanish - SM)

### Saturday, December 26

4:15 PM ..... Confession (CK)

### Sunday, December 27

8:15 AM ..... Confession (SM)  
11:20 AM ... Holy Rosary (SM)

## STEWARDSHIP

*Your church and community offer many opportunities for using your time and talent in God's service.*

- Upcoming Special Collections:  
January 17 - Combined Mission Collection; January 31 - Debt Reduction (Christ the King only)
- Thanks for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious! "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." Thank you for donating to last week's second collection.
- Bulletin Sponsorship: Another way to give to the Poor Box is to sponsor the bulletin. See the back page for details.
- Cleaners: 12/20 - El Coro | 12/27 - Norma, Margarita, Jaime
- 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

## 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.

### 15TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE CHARLOTTE — JAN. 8, 2021

The day will begin with a Mass for the Unborn at 9:00 AM at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church at 6828 Old Reid Rd. Charlotte, NC 28210. At 11:00 AM we will start to gather at the parking lot across the street from the Diocese of Charlotte Pastoral Center at 1123 S. Church St. Charlotte. At 12:00 PM we will march to Trade and Tryon where Fr. Noah Carter, Pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Church will preach. After the prolife testimonies we will pray the Most Holy Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Please join others to march and pray for an end to abortion and save babies lives! See schedule details at [www.marchforlifecharlotte.org](http://www.marchforlifecharlotte.org).

### NATIVITY SCENE DONATIONS

Thank you to the donors who helped us round out our outdoor nativity set with additional figures. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity.

- Shepherd with Fire - Anonymously donated
- Shepherd holding Lamb - Anonymously donated
- Cow - from Carla & Don Beam in memory of JP & Ruth Beam
- Donkey - from Bob & Olivia Gossett in memory of Robert B. & Alice Gossett and Armando & Benina Horta
- Two Lambs - from Ellis & Kay Roffe in memory of Leona Singiser
- Lamb - from Mary Allen in memory of Timmy Allen and Peggy Collins in memory of Robert E. Collins

### NOTABLE QUOTABLES

“Christmas! ’Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart.” —*Washington Irving*

“A good conscience is a continual Christmas.” —*Benjamin Franklin*

“If you have too much to do, with God’s help you will find time to do it all.” —*St. Peter Canisius*

### SAINT OF THE DAY FOR DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS

St. Peter Canisius (1521-1597) was born at Nijmegen, Holland, at the very time that Luther began to rebel against the Church and St. Ignatius Loyola was laying the foundations of the Jesuit Order. After studying the arts, civil law and theology, St. Peter joined the Jesuit Order and was ordained a priest in 1546. He is noted especially for the following services to the Church: he defended the Catholic faith against the Protestants; by preaching, writing, founding colleges and seminaries, he caused Catholic life to flourish; he rendered invaluable services to the ecumenical Council of Trent; he wrote many Catechisms which were translated into twelve languages in his own life time. He died in Fribourg, Switzerland.

# CHRISTMAS 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 MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, January 1

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

***Registration is required for these Masses. Christmas Mass registration is underway; the registration link for January 1 will be available December 28, on Flocknote, Facebook, and SaintMaryShelby.org.***

## 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.