

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — APRIL 25, 2021

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. — 1 John 3:1

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.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

HOLY MASS

Saturday (Christ the King).....5:00 PM
Sunday9:00 AM; 12:00 PM (Español)

CONFESSION

Saturday (Christ the King)..... 4:15-4:45 PM
Sunday8:15-8:45 AM

*See inside for any schedule changes.
Changes will be announced at Mass, on
Facebook, and sent with Flocknotes.*

Baby Bottle Blessings for the Pregnancy Resource Center



All Baby Bottles should
be returned now.
Thank you for helping
save babies' lives!



Mother's Day and Father's Day Masses

Mother's Day is May 9 and Father's Day is June 20, 2021: on these weekends the Masses will be offered for the intentions of all Mothers and Fathers (living and deceased) who are enrolled in the Masses, and the names of those enrolled will be listed in the bulletin. The deadline to return envelopes for the Mother's Day Masses is **May 3**; the deadline to return envelopes for the Father's Day Masses is **June 14**. These envelopes are part of the regular envelope packs mailed to your homes. Contact the office if you need an extra one, or if you need to sign up for envelope delivery.



Facebook



FlockNote



Website

No daily Mass this week.

MASSES, DEVOTIONS, & MORE

Sunday, April 25

8:15 AM Confession (SM)
9:00 AM Holy Mass (SM)
10:20 AM... Confirmation Class (SM Parish Hall)
11:20 AM... Holy Rosary (SM)
12:00 PM... Holy Mass (Español - SM)

Monday, April 26

9:00 AM Legion of Mary (SM Parish Hall)
7:00 PM Emaús Group (SM Parish Hall)

Tuesday, April 27 - Friday, April 30

No events scheduled

Saturday, May 1

9:30 AM..... 1st Communion class (SM Parish Hall)
4:15 PM Confession (CK)
5:00 PM Holy Mass (CK)

Sunday, April 25

8:15 AM..... Confession (SM)
9:00 AM..... Holy Mass (SM)
10:20 AM ... Confirmation Class (SM Parish Hall)
11:20 AM ... Holy Rosary (SM)
12:00 PM.... Holy Mass (Español - SM)

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The Gospel today is from St. John 10:11-18. The image of Christ as our Good Shepherd has always appealed to human nature. One of the earliest paintings of Christ in the Roman catacombs represents him as carrying an injured sheep on his shoulders. This is a manifestation of love which touches our innermost feelings. We do not mind being likened to sheep in this context. There is something guileless about a sheep, and at the same time a lot of foolishness. Does not this describe the vast majority of men, even many of those who openly oppose Christ? Is there not something very sheeplike about the man who, because God gave him a limited intellect, thinks he knows all things and needs no further help from God? The sheep who thinks it knows as much, and even more, than the shepherd and sets out to fend for itself, is no more foolish than the man who thinks he can do without God's revelation and God's Church.

Indeed we all act like sheep on many occasions, when it comes to the things that concern our spiritual welfare. We often ramble off from the flock to nibble at little bits of forbidden pasture. However, we have a Shepherd who understands us, one whose patience and love are infinite. He is always ready to go after us when we stray too far; his voice is constantly reaching out to us in missions, retreats, sicknesses, crosses and other various ways. How many times have we already felt his loving grace calling and helping us back to the safety of his fold? There are many who are not so fortunate as we, who either through no fault of their own or through their own fault do not hear his voice and do not know or follow him. This is an opportunity he gives us to show how we appreciate all he has done for us. He died on the cross for all men. He wills all men to profit by his death, and his statement "them also I must bring" is a direct appeal to us to cooperate with him in this work. Every Christian is a missionary. The very fact of living the Christian life in its entirety, in the midst of our fellowmen, is of itself a powerful example to outsiders. It influences for good the lax Christian and the non-Christian. It makes them stop and think and look into their consciences. This is generally the first step on the road back to God. The devout Christian will not stop at good example only. If he truly loves God, he must truly love his neighbor and must want him to have a share in his own good fortune. He knows there is welcome and room in heaven for all men, and he knows that the greater the number there the greater will be God's eternal glory. He will strive then by every available means to help his neighbor into Christ's fold. After good example, prayer will be his most potent weapon. Day in, day out the devout Christian must pray for the conversion of his fellowmen who are wandering aimlessly in the barren desert of this life far from God. He must also learn all he can about the truths of his faith in order to be able to help honest enquirers.

The sermon preached by our Savior nearly two thousand years ago is still echoing and re-echoing around the world, calling on his faithful flock to do all in their power to help those other children of God who are still outside the fold. Do not shut your ears to this call of Christ today. Give him a helping hand by helping your fellowman to see the light of the true faith. *(Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.)*



LEGION OF MARY - PILGRIM VIRGIN HOME VISITATION

How beautiful that the Mother of the Lord Jesus has come to this home!

The Legion of Mary invites you to bring our Lady of Fatima - the Pilgrim Virgin - into your home for a 2-week visit. You will enjoy praying the Holy Rosary with her and bringing your family together to share in the special time of prayer to deepen your faith, hope, and charity. Due to COVID-19, we deliver and pick up the Pilgrim Virgin, but we do not come into your home. Visit www.SaintMaryShelby.org and follow the sign up link, then contact Peggy Collins at 704-300-5136 to arrange the visitation.

STEWARDSHIP

- Upcoming Special Collections: 4/25 - Debt Reduction (CK only); 5/16 - International/National Combined Collection
- Cleaners THANKYOU: 4/25 - Salvador, Margarita S, Jaime | 5/2 - Joel, Graciela A, Ignacia
- Donations of non-perishable food will be used to help parishioners. Suggested items: apple sauce, cold cereal, oatmeal, canned soup and pasta, canned fruit, peanut butter, beans, rice, canned vegetables.
- Boost & Ensure donations will be taken to the Senior center for use by their clients. THANKYOU!
- 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.
- Parishioner in need of prayers / Poor box donations: A longtime St. Mary parishioner from the Latino community suffered a stroke leaving him paralyzed on one side and unable to work, and does not receive government assistance. The parish is helping him with a few basic needs. If you would like to help defray the cost, please contribute to the Poor Box or place a check in the collection basket with "Poor Box" on the memo line. Please keep him in your prayers.

• Monthly Offertory:	<u>February 2021</u>	<u>Monthly Budget</u>	<u>February 2020</u>
	SM \$15,330	\$20,215	\$16,489
	CK \$3,730	\$4,510	\$1,964

Join Father Kottar on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land — November 7-16, 2021



As we look beyond the pandemic, our thoughts turn to God. Maybe you are praying for a special grace for yourself or a loved one. Or you want to say "thank you" to Him for remaining at your side in the dark times. Many Christians make a personal sacrifice to visit the Holy Land. The graces received are numerous. He touches hearts in unexpected ways. No one returns home unchanged. The Lord will not be outdone in generosity.

The Holy Land has been called the Fifth Gospel. The sacred sites have their own way of proclaiming Christ and they deepen our understanding of the Gospels. I know the pilgrimage will reaffirm and strengthen your faith. I will be with you every day to pray, celebrate Mass, hear confessions, and to offer spiritual direction. I look forward to sharing this unforgettable experience with you. —Fr. Michael Kottar

\$3,899 from Charlotte • Featuring Lufthansa Airlines
For more information contact the parish office: 704-487-7697 x103

Vocations Camps for Young Men & Women

Attention all Catholic young men ages 15-19! Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for you! You are invited to attend the eighth annual Quo Vadis Days camp to spend time with other young men your age looking at the Lord's call in your life while having fun. QVD is led by priests and seminarians of the diocese and is supported by the diocesan Office of Vocations. Quo Vadis Days will be held from **June 14-18, 2021** at Belmont Abbey College. The cost of the camp is \$150. **Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 9**, but don't delay as this could sell out. If you are interested, please visit www.charlottediocese.org/vocations/quo-vadis-days or contact Father Brian Becker, Diocesan Promoter of Vocations at bjbecker@charlottediocese.org.

Attention all Catholic young women ages 15-19! Do you know where your life is going? Do you have a desire to grow deeper after the role model of our Lady? You are invited to attend the fifth annual Duc In Altum camp to spend time with other young women your age looking at the Lord's call in your life, while having fun and receiving the tools for a strong prayer life. DIA is led by priests and Religious of the diocese and is supported by the diocesan Office of Vocations. Duc In Altum camp will be held from **June 21-25, 2021** at Belmont Abbey College. The cost of the camp is \$150. **Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 16**, but don't delay as this could sell out. If you are interested, please visit www.charlottevocations.org, or contact Sister Mary Raphael at 704-370-3402 or mraphael@charlottediocese.org or Lainie Lord at 704-370-3401 or ldlord@charlottediocese.org.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL (DSA)

The DSA helps provide the annual funding for 50 ministries and programs necessary to carry out the mission of our diocese. Our parish's assessed goals are \$26,181 at St. Mary and \$2,741 at Christ the King. Please be as generous as possible to the DSA. Thanks to those who have given already.

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	Bob Kingery
Bill Campbell	Butch Lowery
Berney Gehring	Joe McNamara
Karl Giffin	Dick Nann
Bill Hill	Conway Pagett
Rev. Michael Hoban	Paul Pasco
Dave Hobart	Ibrahim Sara
Joe Izzi	Paul Territo
Paul Judge	Ed Vito
Marty Kane	

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.

These spaces are available for \$15/week donation to Poor Box. Contact the office for details.