

St. Mary Catholic Church

September 8, 2024 Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary Catholic Church

220 West Main Street

Camden, TN 38320

Office: 731-584-6459

Fax: 731-707-4100

Email: smchfchatholic@gmail.com

Website: stmaryscamden.org

Services:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:45 AM

Monday & Friday: 12:00 noon

Confession:

Saturday: 4:00 PM—4:30 PM

Director of Music:

Pam Warren

Director of Religious Education:

Tessa Walker

Holy Family

Catholic Mission

265 Cotham Drive

Huntingdon, TN 38344

731-584-6459

Mailing Address:

220 W. Main Street

Camden, TN 38320

Services:

Sunday: 8:30 AM

Wed. & Thurs.: 12:00 Noon

Confession:

Sun.: 7:30 AM—8:00 AM

Director of Music:

Dorothy Wood

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Herbert Ene

Associate Pastor: Michael Okata

Deacon: Wayne Tedford

Secretary: Sandy Simpson

Accounting: Theresa O'Connell

Office Hours:

M, W, Th, F

11:00 AM—3:00 PM



BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

Today, I am writing a message that cannot be softened or diluted. The way we treat the vulnerable among us, is a direct reflection of our faith. And let me be clear: if we fail in this duty, we fail in our duty to God Himself. St. Paul's words in the Epistle to the Galatians are not optional: "bear ye one another's burdens; and so you shall fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) This is a command-plain and simple. The love of Christ demands that we care for each other, especially those who are weakest among us. And woe to us if we neglect this sacred obligation.

Let us begin with children. They are not just an after thought in our lives; they are the very future of the Church and society. If you do not actively protect, nurture, and guide them in ways of the faith, you are failing them-and failing God. The modern world seeks to corrupt and destroy their innocence at every turn. Are you standing idly by, or are you fiercely guarding their souls? Do not be deceived; you will be held accountable for how you treat the little ones entrusted to you.

The elderly-those who have spent their lives serving God, raising families, and passing down the faith-are often cast aside in today's world. But let me tell you, neglecting the elderly is a grave sin. We are commanded to honor our fathers and mothers, and that commandment does not expire when they grow old. If you abandon your elderly parents or grandparents, if you leave them to suffer in isolation, you are committing grave offence against God. We must ensure that the elderly are cared for with the utmost respect, dignity, and love, as they are precious in the eyes of the Lord. (cf. James 1:27)

The mentally challenged are often ignored or treated as burdens. But I tell you now, their value is beyond measure. In them, we see Christ crucified. If you look down on them, if you ignore them, you are rejecting Christ Himself. Every slight, every act of neglect toward them is a wound inflicted on the Body of Christ. We must be advocates, their protectors, their brothers and sisters in the truest sense.

And what of those with physical disabilities? They are not to be pitied or merely tolerated; they are to be loved and cherished as fellow children of God. If you allow the physically disabled to be marginalized, if you fail to make every effort to include and support them, you are failing to live out the Gospel. It is your duty-our obligation-to ensure that they are fully integrated into the life of your family, your community, and the Church. Anything less is a betrayal of the love of Christ.

Our actions-or lack of action-toward the vulnerable speak louder than any words. Our Lord has warned us: "As long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40) If you neglect the vulnerable, you are neglecting Christ. If you mistreat them, you are mistreating Christ. There will be no excuses, no justifications on the Day of Judgement. You will be asked, "How did you treat My little ones?" to fulfill this duty requires sacrifice-true, costly sacrifice. But that is what we are called to as Catholics. The Cross is not comfortable; it is not easy. But it is the only path to salvation. If you are not willing to bear the burdens of others, especially the weakest among us, then you are not following Christ. I urge you, I implore you: examine your hearts. Look at your lives. Are you truly living out the love of Christ? Are you defending the vulnerable with all your strength? If not, now is the time to change. Now is the time to repent. Do not wait until it is too late.

(Continued on page 2)

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, who stood by the Cross of her Son, intercede for us. May she help us to grow in love, in courage, and in true Christian charity, so that we may care for the vulnerable as Christ has commanded us.

(Continued from page 1, Rev. Fr. Charles Allen)

SACRAMENTS

Confessions

Saturday 4:00-4:30

Sunday

*Any time by appointment.

Baptism

Arranged by appointment. At least one godparent must be a practicing Catholic; the other a practicing Christian may serve as a Christian witness. Parents must be registered with the parish.

Matrimony

Arranged with the Pastor. Please call the office.

Anointing & Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please call the office if someone is hospitalized or ill at home and/or would like to receive Holy Communion, Confession, and/or Anointing of the Sick. (NOTE: the hospital does not notify the church about admissions.)



Holy Family Mission



Sacramental classes for children who are age appropriate for First Holy Eucharist and Confirmation will begin at Holy Family on Wednesday, September 18 at 4:00 pm. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Debbie O'Bryant at 901-237-5200 or Anna Mills at 856-341-4893.



September, 2024

September 8	SM Fellowship Sunday
September 9	SM Ladies Guild 10:30 AM
September 12	OCIA Begins (SM) 6:00 PM (Every Thursday)
September 18	Knights of Columbus (SM) 6:00 PM
September 21	HF Crafters 9:30 AM
September 23	SM Pastoral Council Meeting 6:00 PM
September 30	SM Finance Council Meeting 6:00 PM

** Hostesses for SM Fellowship Sunday are:
Sandy Simpson, Tessa, Maxine and Freya Walker

Quote of the Week:

"Father, I am seeking: I am hesitant and uncertain, but will you, O God, watch over each step of mine and guide me."

St. Augustine Hippo

Procedure for Reporting Sexual Abuse

Anyone who has knowledge of or who has cause to suspect an incident of sexual abuse should report the information to the appropriate civil authorities first at 1-877-237-0004, then to the Diocesan Director Child & Youth Protection at 901-359-2027 or the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 901-652-4066.

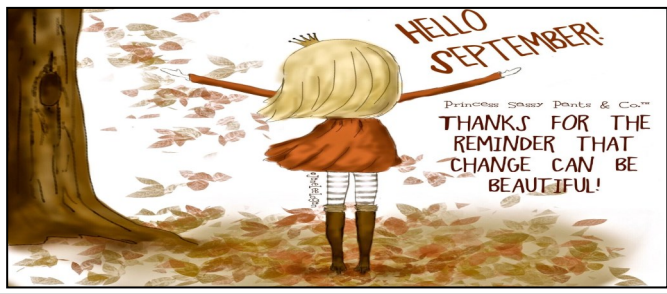




Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

The **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** is the class where an adult of any background, non-religious or faith, is able to learn about Catholicism to consider joining the Catholic Church and also where a baptized Catholic adult is able to continue learning about their Catholic Faith in order to complete one or more of their Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion.

OCIA classes begin at St. Mary on Thursday, September 12 at 6:00 pm. Call the office at 731-584-6459 for further information or to enroll in the class.



HARVEST BAZAAR

St. Mary's Ladies Guild is now renting tables for their Harvest Bazaar being held on Saturday, October 12. The price per table is \$20.00. You can call the office at 731-584-6459 to secure a table.



Please pray for the success of our Diocese's Strategic Pastoral Planning process and participate in one of the 12 scheduled Listening Session(s) in our Deanery.

Our Parish is in the **NORTHERN** Deanery
You can also complete the online survey at :
<https://cdom.org/strategic-pastoral-planning/>



WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week Ending

9/01/2024

St. Mary—Enrollment 73
Regular Offering \$3463.00

Families Contributing 22

Holy Family — Enrollment 53

Regular Offering \$595.00

Families Contributing 14

TWO COLLECTIONS

9/15/2024

Regular Offertory/Religious Education

Ministry Schedule

September 15, 2024

St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Jean Ebeling

Sunday: Tricia Smothers

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dan and Jean Ebeling (Sat)

Beate Harris (Sun.)

Sandy Simpson (Sun.)

Counters:

Tricia Smothers and Beate Harris

Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector

Sunday: Tom O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

Tom O'Bryant and Leah Koonce

Gift Bearers: Pat Allen and Alma Bissen

Counters: Wayne Tedford and Dennis Blackwell

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	09/07/2024	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Richard Gagnon+ and Edward Taylor+	Betty Gagnon and Barbara Taylor
Sunday	09/08/2024	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Debra Thorne	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	09/08/2024	St. Mary	10:45 AM	St. Mary Parishioners	Joyce Rushing
Monday	09/09/2024	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Cary Royston+	Ernie and Stacy Byrd
Tuesday	09/10/2024	No Mass	12:00 PM	NO MASS	
Wednesday	09/11/2024	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Sharon Harris+	Robert Kryszak
Thursday	09/12/2024	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Mary Boucher+	Pat Boucher
Friday	09/13/2024	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Cary Royston+	Ernie and Stacy Byrd
Saturday	09/14/2024	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Richard Gagnon+ and Edward Taylor+	Betty Gagnon and Barbara Taylor
Sunday	09/15/2024	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Delores Cantore+	Mary Jane Klinzing
Sunday	09/15/2024	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Cary Royston+	Ernie and Stacy Byrd

Prayer Intentions for the Health and Recovery of our Parish Family

God is our refuge and our strength, an ever present help in distress.
The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob. (Ps. 46)



St. Mary's: Grace Garza, Tom O'Connell, James Story, Tricia Smothers, Jim Simpson, Kenneth Smothers, Steve Ruhlman, Jackie Ruhlman, Father Herbert, Nydia Hernandez, Mickey Baloga, Larry Weibel, Craig Coltharp, Patty Russo, Joe Griggs, Kitty Shelton, Lorna Huot, Betty Gagnon, Barbara Taylor, Jack Dashper, Greg Garza, Patrick Schasser, Sherrie Goldman, Pam McMillon, Roger Gibbons, James Davenport, Vicky Story, Allen York, Janet Robbearts, Joyce Parker, Dan Ebeling, Polly Mitchell.

Holy Family: Wyatt Brooks, Ramona Loggains, Lila Korbel, Barry Raidt, Tommie Tedford, Dorothy Wood, Anna Mills, Kamila Cerda, Mary Jane Klinzing, Donna Reindl, Garry Korbel, Johanna Salma, Dick Stokes, Tommy Long, Deborah Thorne, Paul Multon, Leon Thorne, Sissy Munoz.

For Our Extended Family: Nicholas Carmichael, grandson of Betty Gagnon; John Parker, son of Joyce Parker; Ken Roach, father of Leah Koonce; Tonya Smothers, friend of Joyce Rushing; Mike Dashper, son of Jack and Mary Dashper; Teresa Reiter, daughter-in-law of Sharon Reiter; Louise Taaffe, mother of Marco Taaffe; Joy Ross, friend of Norma Villalobos; Lily Mills, granddaughter of Tom and Anna Mills; John Parker, son of Joyce Parker; Katy Walker; mother of Patrick Walker; Nancy Engerski, cousin of Jean Ebeling; TJ Haines, John and Tammy Carroll; friends of Barbara Taylor; Susan

Johnston, daughter-in-law of Barbara Taylor; Carl Reetz, friend of Holy Family Parishioners; Don Parker, son of Joyce Parker; Becky Orr, Scott Henderson, friend of Craig and Kathy Coltharp, Samantha Moore, granddaughter of Barbara Taylor; Nancy Vargas; mother of Bob Vargas; Mark King, nephew of Tricia Smothers; Barbara Gillespie, sister of Dan Ebeling; Carolyn Tedore, sister of Pam McMillan; Kitty Shelton, Terry Pace, John Waters; Kaelynn Bressler; niece of Dan and Jean Ebeling, Ruel Carmicheal; son of Betty Gagnon, Barbara and James Harrison; friends of Donna Melton, Lucy Connolly; sister of Lila Korbel, Gus Palmieri; friend of Jessica Glendora; John Brinker; uncle of Carrie Etter; Extended family of Barbara Taylor; Ruth Johnson; Aunt of Jean Ebeling; Dee Vohnoutka; sister of Garry Korbel; Anissa Jeanne Hendrix; Deacon Wayne Tedford's niece, Matthew Ebeling; son of Dan & Jean Ebeling; Charles Glover; Brenda Boodman.

For those on active duty in the military:

Bridget Bissen, granddaughter of Kenneth and Alma Bissen; Hudson Hazlerig, grandson of Jay and Julia Johnson; Kyle Moore, grandson of Barbara Taylor; Kyle Bissen, grandson of Kenneth and Alma Bissen; Jonathon Placido, son-in-law of Arlene Conrad; Zakkary Klinzing, grandson of Mary Jane Klinzing; Eric Huot, husband of Lorna Johnson Huot; Joshua Parker, grandson of Willis & Joyce Parker; Thomas O'Bryant III, son of Thomas & Debbie O'Bryant; Daniel Stanfill.