

# St. Mary Catholic Church

December 15, 2024 Third Sunday of Advent

## St. Mary Catholic Church

220 West Main Street

Camden, TN 38320

Office: 731-584-6459

Fax: 731-707-4100

Email: smchfhcatholic@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



## A SEASON OF ANTICIPATION AND GRACE

Advent, the season of preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, is a time of joy for the faithful. While the world rushes to celebrate Christmas prematurely, the Church calls her children to pause, reflect, and prepare their hearts for the coming of the Savior. This sacred season, marked by prayer, penance, and hope, is a journey towards the radiant joy Incarnation. The joy of Advent is rooted in the promises of God. In Isaiah, we hear the comforting words of the Lord: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." (Isaiah 9:2) This promise of salvation, given to the world in darkness, fills us with hope and reminds us that God is faithful to His covenant. The anticipation of the coming of Christ the Light of the World, stirs our hearts with joyful longing.

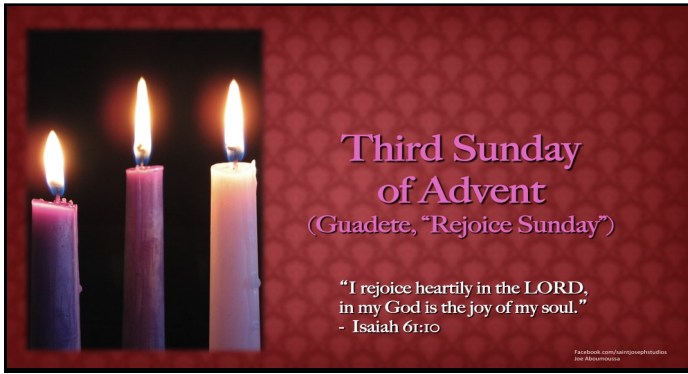
Advent is also a time to remember that God's promises are fulfilled in the fullness of time. St. Paul writes, "But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." (Galatians 4:4-5) This sublime truth invites us to contemplate the mystery of God's providence and to rejoice in His perfect plan of salvation. Each moment of Advent build our anticipation, urging us to trust in the Lord's timing and prepare ourselves for the gift of His presence.

The season of Advent is marked by an atmosphere of penitence and preparation. Yet, even in its penitential character, there is joy. The third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, captures this perfectly. St. Paul exhorts the faithful: "Rejoice in the Lord always." (Philippians 4:4-5). This joy springs from the nearness of Christ and the hope of redemption. Even as we examine our consciences and prepare through prayer and penance, we are consoled by the certainty of God's mercy and the imminent of the Redeemer.

The Blessed Virgin Mary, the exemplar of Advent joy, teaches us how to respond to the coming of Christ. Her Magnificat, proclaimed during her visitation to St. Elizabeth, is a hymn of gratitude and joy: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name." (Luke 1:46-49) The Blessed Mother's song reminds us that true joy is found in recognizing the mighty works of God and trusting in His mercy.

As we light the candles of the Advent wreath, their growing brightness reflects the increasing joy in our hearts as Christmas approaches. These weeks are an opportunity to prepare ourselves spiritually, to cast away the works of darkness, and to adorn our souls with virtues befitting the King of kings. The joy of Advent is the serious recognition that God Himself has entered into human history to save us. In this holy season., let us not be swept away by the distractions of the world and the commercialization of Christmas. Instead, may we embrace the joys of Advent: the joy of hope, the joy of preparation, and the joy of the promise fulfilled in Christ. With hearts made ready, we will greet the Savior with the same faith and joy as the shepherds and wise men, singing with the angels, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

(Rev. Fr. Charles)



### Advent Penance Services Schedule

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| St. Mary    | Monday, December 16<br>immediately following<br>5:00 pm Mass    |
| Holy Family | Wednesday, December 18<br>immediately following<br>5:00 pm Mass |

\*\*There will be **NO** 12:00 pm Masses at St. Mary or Holy Family on December 16 and 18.

### Christmas/New Year Mass Schedule



#### December 24 (Christmas Eve):

|          |       |         |
|----------|-------|---------|
| St. Mary | Choir | 6:30 pm |
|          | Mass  | 7:00 pm |

#### December 25 (Christmas Day):

|             |      |          |
|-------------|------|----------|
| Holy Family | Mass | 8:30 am  |
| St. Mary    | Mass | 10:45 am |

#### January 1 (New Year's Day):

|             |      |          |
|-------------|------|----------|
| Holy Family | Mass | 8:30 am  |
| St. Mary    | Mass | 10:45 am |



|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| December 16 | St. Mary Reconciliation<br>Service 5:00 pm    |
| December 18 | Holy Family Reconciliation<br>Service 5:00 PM |
| December 18 | Knights of Columbus<br>Meeting 6:00 pm (HF)   |
| December 18 | Little Flowers Club 3:45 pm                   |

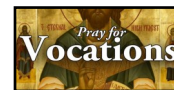
### Need Your Help!!!!

Holy Family will be building the manger on Saturday, December 21 at 9 am. Please come to the church and help. We will also be decorating for Christmas after Mass on December 22. Please stay and help. Your help is truly appreciated.

### "Rejoice in the Lord always." (Phil 4:4)

Are you filled with joy at the Lord's invitation to serve Him as a priest, deacon, or in consecrated life? This deep sense of joy is a sign that God may be calling you to share His love with others in a special way. Talk to your priest or

**Visit:** [www.memphisvocations.com](http://www.memphisvocations.com) or call the Office of Vocations at 373-1244



### 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.



# CHRISTMAS PARTY!



## WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week Ending

12/15/2024

**St. Mary**—Enrollment 64  
Regular Offering \$2221.00

Families Contributing 18

**Holy Family** — Enrollment 47

Regular Offering \$1803.00

Families Contributing 14

## ONE COLLECTION

12/22/2024

Regular Offertory

## Ministry Schedule

December 22, 2024

### St. Mary Catholic Church

*Lectors*

Saturday: Jean Ebeling

Sunday: Michael O'Connell

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dan and Jean Ebeling (Sat.)

Theresa O'Connell (Sun.)

Beate Harris (Sun.)

*Counters: Dan and Jean Ebeling*

### Holy Family Catholic Church

*Lector*

Sunday: Evie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

Tom O'Bryant and Leah Koonce

Gift Bearers: Dillon Koonce Family

Counters: Richele Stokes and Tom O'Bryant



|           | DATE       | CHURCH      | TIME     | MASS FOR              | REQUESTED BY            |
|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday  | 12/14/2024 | St. Mary    | 5:00 PM  | St. Mary Parishioners |                         |
| Sunday    | 12/15/2024 | Holy Family | 8:30 AM  | Father Herbert Ene    | Tom and Debbie O'Bryant |
| Sunday    | 12/15/2024 | St. Mary    | 10:45 AM | Jack Matthew Brown    | Erin Ortega Simpson     |
| Monday    | 12/16/2024 | St. Mary    | 12:00 PM | St. Mary Parishioners |                         |
| Tuesday   | 12/17/2024 | No Mass     | 12:00 PM | NO MASS               |                         |
| Wednesday | 12/18/2024 | Holy Family | 12:00 PM | Deborah Thorne+       | Garry and Lila Korbel   |
| Thursday  | 12/19/2024 | Holy Family | 12:00 PM | Ramona Loggains+      | Garry and Lila Korbel   |
| Friday    | 12/20/2024 | St. Mary    | 12:00 PM | St. Mary Parishioners |                         |
| Saturday  | 12/21/2024 | St. Mary    | 5:00 PM  | St. Mary Parishioners |                         |
| Sunday    | 12/22/2024 | Holy Family | 8:30 AM  | Edwin Pelz+           | John and Pam Fordon     |
| Sunday    | 12/22/2024 | St. Mary    | 10:45 AM | Joyce Parker          | Jim and Sandy Simpson   |

### ***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:** Irene Latendresse, 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, Lorna Huot, Betty Gagnon, Barbara Taylor, Jack Dashper, Greg Garza, Patrick Schasser, Pam McMillon, Roger Gibbons, James Davenport, Vicky Story, Allen York, Janet Robbearts, Joyce Parker, Dan Ebeling, Polly Mitchell.

**Holy Family:** Toni Stokes, Wyatt Brooks, 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, Paul Multon, Leon Thorne, Sissy Munoz.

**For Our Extended Family:** Nicholas Carmichael, grandson of Betty Gagnon; John Parker, son of Joyce Parker; Tonya Smothers, friend of Joyce Rushing; Mike Dashper, son of Jack and Mary Dashper; Teresa Reiter, daughter-in-law of Sharon Reiter; Joy Ross, friend of Norma Villalobos; Lily Mills, granddaughter of Tom and Anna Mills; John Parker, son of Joyce Parker; 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; Scott Henderson, friend of Craig and Kathy Coltharp; Samantha Moore, granddaughter of Barbara Taylor; Mark King, nephew of Tricia Smothers; Barbara

Gillespie, sister of Dan Ebeling; Carolyn Tedore, sister of Pam McMillan; Terry Pace, John Waters; Kaelynn Bressler; Ruel Carmicheal; son of Betty Gagnon, Lucy Connolly; sister of Lila Korbel, Gus Palmieri; friend of Jessica Glendora; John Brinker; uncle of Carrie Etter; Extended family of Barbara Taylor; Dee Vohnoutka; sister of Garry Korbel; Anissa Jeanne Hendrix; Deacon Wayne Tedford's niece, 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.

