

St. Mary Catholic Church

October 19, 2025 Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Secretary: Sandy Simpson

Accounting: Theresa O'Connell

Office Hours:

M, W, Th, F

11:00 AM—3:00 PM



PERSERVING IN PRAYER AND REMAINING FAITHFUL

Christ's parable recorded in Luke 18:1-8, concerning the persistent widow teaches us that prayer is a steadfast way of life. Our Lord introduces the story by teaching the lesson openly to His disciples. "We ought always to pray, and not to faint." Prayer is not only asking for something—it is persevering, trusting that God hears us even when His answer seems delayed. Unlike the unjust judge who yielded only out of weariness, our heavenly Father is ever attentive, moved by love and mercy, not by inconvenience.

The figure of the widow is especially significant for us today. In the Bible, the widow represents one of the most vulnerable and defenseless members of society, dependent upon the justice of others for protection. Yet in this parable, her power lies in persistence. She does not abandon her plea, nor allow silence to discourage her. In this way, she becomes a model for the entire Church, which cries unceasingly for God's kingdom to come, for His will to be done, and for His justice to be revealed upon the earth.

Christ contrasts the unjust judge with the Lord of mercy, asking, "Will not God revenge his elect who cry to him day and night?" If even a corrupt official yields to the perseverance of one widow, how much more shall the just of all respond to the cries of His Beloved children? At times, the Lord's justice may appear delayed in our eyes, but it is never absent; His timing is bound not to human impatience but to divine wisdom. Thus, perseverance in prayer is an act of faith, a confession that God's way are higher than ours and His justice will not fail.

The parable concludes with a searching question. It would benefit everyone of us to pay close attention. "But yet the Son of Man, when he cometh, shall he find, think you, faith on earth?" Here Christ links prayer and faith inseparably. To pray without ceasing is to believe that God is present, attentive, and just. To faint in prayer is to let faith grow cold. The endurance of prayer keeps faith alive until Our Lord's return. Therefore, let us pray with perseverance, not only for our own needs, but also for the Church, for the world, and for the coming of Christ's kingdom, so that when He returns, He may find in us hearts still faithful and voices still lifted in prayer.

(Fr. Charles)





The Family of the Month for September was Jay and Julia Johnson and the Knight of the Month was Bobby Wendt and the Family of the Month for October is Tom and Anna Mills and the Knight of the month is Dennis Blackwell. Thank you for all your do for your church and community.



Our deepest sympathy go out to family and friends of St. Mary parishioner David McCloskey. David passed away on Thursday, October 16. David kept our Web page going and was always there to help with any questions and concerns. He will truly be missed.

Holy Family Council Members

If you are in need of information or have any questions about what is happening at Holy Family Church, you can contact any of the following Council Members

Pastoral Council: Anna Mills, Dennis Blackwell, Sharon Reiter, John Fordon, Dwayne Pierce, Luis Salazar and Brenda LeFever.

Finance Council: Bob LeFever, Pat Long, Bennett Brou, Tom Mills and Karen Pierce.

**“When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”
(Luke 18:8)**

Priests and religious brothers and sisters help to keep faith alive in the world. Could God be calling you to be one of these dedicated servants? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at

(901)373-1244. or via email:
vocationsdirector@vocations.cdom.org



October 22	HF Finance Council Meeting 12:30 pm
October 22	Little Flowers Group (SM) 3:45 pm
October 31	PRE Halloween Party (SM) (5:00 pm)
November 1	St. Mary Ladies Guild Bazaar (8:00 am—3:00 pm)
November 2	Hospitality Sunday (HF)
November 5	Little Flowers Group (SM) (3:45 pm)
November 10	Ladies Guild Meeting (SM) (10:30 am)
November 19	Little Flowers Group (SM) (3:45 PM)
November 19	Knights of Columbus Meeting (SM) (6:00 pm)
November 22	Crafty Ladies (HF) (9:30 pm)
November 22	Bunco Party (HF) (6:00 pm)
November 27	Office Closed (Thanksgiving Break)
November 30	No PRE (Thanksgiving Break)

*Hostesses for Hospitality Sunday in November are Bennett Brou and Sharon Reiter.

**St. Mary will not be having Fellowship Sunday in the month of November due to the Craft Bazaar.

The PRE children are in need of candy to pass out at their community Trick-Or-Treating on Halloween night at St. Mary Church. If you can donate, please bring it to the office anytime. It will be most appreciated.



Great Community Activity

You are
Appreciated

The Parish Picnic was a huge success, and we would be remiss if we did not thank all who contributed in making it such a success. Thank you to Julia Johnson for getting all the activities together, the Knights of Columbus for the over 25 years of cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, Bobby, Jeff and Terry Latendresse for their delicious and generous bounty of meat, all who came to set up and stayed to take down, all who brought such an abundance of food and especially to those who came from both churches to just enjoy the fellowship and the beautiful day that God provided. God Is Good all the Time!



Due to your generosity, the PRE children were able to take many bags of dog and cat food and other needed items to the Camden Animal Shelter. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PRE PROJECT!

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



WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week Ending

10/12/2025

St. Mary —Enrollment	69
Regular Offering	\$1675.00
Families Contributing	20
Holy Family — Enrollment	47
Regular Offering	\$973.00
Families Contributing	13

TWO COLLECTIONS

10/26/2025

Regular Offertory/Faith West Tennessee

Ministry Schedule

October 26, 2025

St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Jean Ebeling

Sunday: Glenda Nielson

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dan and Jean Ebeling (Sat.)

Glenda Nielson (Sun.)

Sandy Simpson (Sun.)

Theresa O'Connell (Sun.)

Counters: Mike and Kathy Solomon

Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector

Sunday: Evie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

Tom O'Bryant and Leah Koonce

Gift Bearers: Bob and Brenda LeFever

Counters: Richell Stokes and Tom O'Bryant

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	10/18/2025	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Steve and Jackie Ruhlman	Dan and Jean Ebeling
Sunday	10/19/2025	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Ron Reiter+	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	10/19/2025	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Richard Howerton+	Adele Howerton
Monday	10/20/2025	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Sandy Simpson	James and Debra Davenport
Tuesday	10/21/2025	St. Mary		NO MASS	
Wednesday	10/22/2025	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Mary Boucher+	Pat Boucher
Thursday	10/23/2025	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Richard Howerton+	Adele Howerton
Friday	10/24/2025	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Sandy Simpson	Dan and Jean Ebeling
Saturday	10/25/2025	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Ron and Patty Russo	Dan and Jean Ebeling
Sunday	10/26/2025	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Jim Simpson+	Garry and Lila Korbelt
Sunday	10/26/2025	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Julie Michel	Tricia Smothers

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: Shirley Petit, Grace Garza, Tom O'Connell, Tricia Smothers, Kenneth Smothers, Steve Ruhlman, Jackie Ruhlman, Father Herbert, Nydia Hernandez, Larry Weibel, Craig Coltharp, Ron and Patty Russo, Lorna Huot, Betty Gagnon, Barbara Taylor, Jack Dashper, Greg Garza, Patrick Schasser, Pam McMillon, Roger Gibbons, James Davenport, Vicky Story, Allen York, Dan Ebeling, Polly Mitchell.

Holy Family: Wayne Tedford, Pat Long, Tomasas Ocho-Villasenor, Toni Stokes, Wyatt Brooks, Lila Korbelt, Barry Raidt, Tommie Tedford, Anna Mills, Kamila Cerda, Mary Jane Klinzing, Donna Reindl, Garry Korbelt, Johanna Salma, Dick Stokes, Tommy Long, Paul Multon, Leon Thorne, Sissy Munoz.

For Our Extended Family: Jan Scarborough, friend of Tricia Smothers; Sherry Tarwater, friend of Toni Stokes and Sandy Simpson; Nicholas Carmichael, grandson of Betty Gagnon; Tonya Smothers, friend of Joyce Rushing; Mike Dashper, son of Jack and Mary Dashper; Teresa Reiter, daughter-in-law of Sharon Reiter; Lily Mills, granddaughter of Tom and Anna Mills; John and Tammy Carroll; friends of Barbara Taylor; Susan Johnston, daughter-in-law of Barbara Taylor; Carl Reetz, friend of Holy Family Parishioners; John and Don Parker, sons 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 Korbelt, Gus Palmieri; friend of Jessica Glendora; John Brinker; ;Extended family of Barbara Taylor; Dee Vohnoutka; sister of Garry Korbelt; 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.

