

St. Mary Catholic Church

October 26, 2025 Thirtieth 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



HUMILITY IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

In the parable we read in Luke 18:9-14, our Lord gives us a tender but searching lesson on the nature of true prayer and justification. Two men went up to the temple, one a Pharisee, outwardly religious, and the other a publican, despised as a sinner. Both addressed their words to God, but the spirit of their prayer could have not been more different. The Pharisee's words were filled with pride, rehearsing his own achievements and looking down upon his neighbor. The publican, by contrast, could only raise a cry from a humbles heart: "Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

The Pharisee represents the danger of trusting in ourselves. His prayer was not truly a prayer, but a monologue with his own ego, for he "prayed thus with himself." How often are we tempted to measure our worth by our own works, to imagine ourselves superior to others, or to reduce religion to a record of personal accomplishments? Our Lord shows us that such a path leads not to communion with God, but to self-deception. True righteousness does not begin with comparing ourselves to others, but with standing honestly before God in humility.

The publican stands before us as the model of prayer. He remains at a distance, not daring to lift his eyes, but striking his breast as he utters the words of repentance. In this posture we recognize the very spirit of the Church's prayer—"Lord, have mercy." Such a cry is never rejected. God draws near to the contrite, for "a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 50:19). The simplicity of the publican's prayer reveals what God desires most, not long speeches, nor self-justification, but the offering of a humble heart open to His mercy.

Christ concludes with the great reversal. "Every one that exalteth himself shall be humbled, and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." Here is both warning and consolation. Pride shuts the door to grace, but humility opens it wide. The publican returned home justified because he entrusted himself to God's mercy rather than to his own merit. So too must we approach the Lord in prayer—not boasting of our strength, but acknowledging our weakness, not despising others, but embracing them in compassion. In this way, we also shall be lifted up, not by our own hands, but by the mercy of God who delights to exalt the humble.

(Fr. Charles)



First Friday of the Month November 7

Exposition of the Blessed sacrament will begin at 9:00 am and Mass will begin at 12:00 pm

First Saturday of the Month November 1

Mass, recitation of the scriptural rosary and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Mass begins at 9:00 am

Fall **Bazaar**

St. Mary's Ladies Guild Fall Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, November 1. If you are interested in reserving a table, please contact Debra Davenport at 731-336-0259. The table fee is \$20.00. Come and support this fund raiser. The money that is made at the bazaar helps to purchase all cleaning supplies, paper products, coffee, etc. for the church.

**"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself will be
exalted."
(Luke 18:14)**

Humility is essential in all vocations, whether it be sacramental marriage, priesthood, or consecrated life. What are some ways you can work on becoming humbler in your life? Have you humbled yourself to ask God what His plan is for you? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (901)373-1244. or via email: vocationsdirector@vocations.cdom.org



Church Calendar

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 20	St. Mary Parish Council Meeting (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.



Please keep the family of long time St. Mary parishioner, Joyce Parker in your thoughts and prayers. Joyce passed away peacefully on Friday, October 17.

Holy Family Extended Parking Lot Phase 1



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.



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

10/19/2025

St. Mary—Enrollment	67
Regular Offering	\$1932.00
Families Contributing	23
Holy Family — Enrollment	47
Regular Offering	\$635.00
Families Contributing	13

THREECOLLECTIONS

11/02/2025

Regular Offertory/Building Fund/All Souls

Ministry Schedule

November 9, 2025

St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Joyce Rushing

Sunday: Michael O'Connell

Eucharistic Ministers:

Joyce R. and Andrea V. (Sat.)

Tricia Smothers (Sun.)

Sandy Simpson (Sun.)

Beate Harris (Sun.)

Counters: Jeff and Sharon Latendresse

Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector

Sunday: Debbie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

Luisa Bautista and Karen Pierce

Gift Bearers: The Salma Family

Counters: John Edwards and Wyatt Brooks

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
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 Korbel
Sunday	10/26/2025	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Julie Michel	Tricia Smothers
Monday	10/27/2025	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Kendall Roudebush+	Barbara Taylor
Tuesday	10/28/2025	St. Mary		NO MASS	
Wednesday	10/29/2025	Holy Family	12:00 PM	David McCloskey+	Holy Family Legions of Mary
Thursday	10/30/2025	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Sharon Reiter	Tricia Smothers
Friday	10/31/2025	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Jim Simpson+	Garry and Lila Korbel
Saturday	11/01/2025	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Richard Gagnon+ and Edward Taylor+	Betty Gagnon and Barbara Taylor
Sunday	11/02/2025	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Mae Roach+	Steve and Leah Koonce
Sunday	11/02/2025	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Richard Howerton+	Adele Howerton

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 Korbel, Barry Raidt, Tommie Tedford, 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: 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 Korbel, Gus Palmieri; friend of Jessica Glendora; John Brinker; ;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.

