

# St. Mary Catholic Church

February 22 2026 First Sunday of Lent

## 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



## ON THE IMPORTANCE OF REPENTANCE

Repentance is not a single moment in the Christian life but a continual disposition of the soul before God. Our Lord begins His public preaching with the command: “Do penance, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 4:17, Douay-Rheims). This summons is addressed not only to the unbeliever but to every disciple. Baptism cleanses us from sin and makes us children of God, yet concupiscence remains, and our frailty is evident. The Church therefore teaches that repentance is a lifelong turning of the heart toward the Father, a daily renunciation of sin and a renewed adherence to grace.

The Bible consistently reveals that God desires contrition rather than empty formality. “A sacrifice to God is an afflicted spirit: a contrite and humbled heart, O God, thou wilt not despise” (Psalm 50:19). Repentance is interior before it is exterior. It is not merely regret for consequences, but sorrow for having offended divine charity. True contrition flows from love of God above all things. From such contrition arise concrete acts such as prayer, fasting, alms-giving, restitution, and a firm purpose of amendment. These are not attempts to earn forgiveness, but expressions of a heart that has been pierced grace.

In her maternal wisdom, the Holy Church provides the Sacrament of Penance as the ordinary means by which post-baptismal sins are forgiven. After His Resurrection, Christ breathed upon the Apostles saying; “Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven; and whose sins are retained, they are retained” (John 20:23). Through the ministry of the priest, acting in the person of Christ, the penitent receives not only absolution but counsel and strength. Frequent confession fosters humility, guards against spiritual complacency, and restores peace to the conscience. It anchors repentance in an objective sacramental reality, rather than leaving it to private sentiment. It anchors repentance in an objective sacramental reality, rather than leaving it to private sentiment.

Finally, lifelong repentance prepares the soul for judgment and deepens union with God. Saint John wrote that “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all iniquity” (1 John 1:9). The Christian who lives in a spirit of repentance does not dwell in fear, but in hope. He recognizes his weakness, yet trusts firmly in divine mercy. By daily examination of conscience, sincere sorrow, therefore, is not a burden imposed upon the faithful, but a gift that continually restores them to grace and strengthens them in holiness.

(Fr. Charles)



### Lenten Penance Services

**Lenten Penance Services:**  
**(both services follow 5:00 pm mass)**

March 26 (Thurs.)	5:30 pm	Holy Family
March 27 (Fri.)	5:30 pm	St. Mary

\*\*Anytime upon request if priest is available.

### Stations of the Cross Weekly Schedule



Holy Family	Friday, 3:00 pm
St. Mary	Friday, 5:00 pm

\*Every Friday through Lent!

### Lenten Baby Bottle Project

Each year during Lent, Holy Family and St. Mary parishioners donate extra change/cash for their designated charity. As in years past, Holy Family will be collecting for Beating Hearts and St. Mary for FYI. Both organizations are there to help protect the born and unborn. Be generous! They both operate mainly through donations and because of your generosity, they can continue their ministries. Pick your empty baby bottle up this week after mass.



**“This is my beloved Son...listen to him”**  
**(Matthew 17:5)**

God’s voice calls us to follow His Son closely. Could priesthood be your path to proclaiming Christ’s message, leading others to listen to Him?

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



February 25	Holy Family Council Meeting (12:30 pm)
February 25	Little Flowers Group (3:45 pm)
March 1	Hospitality Sunday (HF)
March 1	Fellowship Sunday (SM)
March 7-8	First Friday/First Saturday (SM)
March 9	St. Mary Ladies Guild (10:30 am)
March 13	St. Mary Meatless Meal (5:30 pm)
March 18	Knights of Columbus (SM) (6:00 PM)
March 21	Holy Family Crafters (9:30 am)
March 26	Holy Family Penance Service (5:30 pm)
March 27	St. Mary Penance Service (5:30 pm)
March 28	Bunco Party (SM) 5:30 pm
March 29	No PRE (Spring Break)
March 29	Palm Sunday

\*Hostesses for Hospitality Sunday are Dennis Blackwell and Pat Boucher.

\*Hostesses for Fellowship Sunday are Beate Harris, Sandy Simpson and Sharon Latendresse.

### Christ's Cafe



St. Mary's will be hosting Christ's Cafe on Thursday, February 26. We are in need of six #10 cans of green beans and 13 dozen cookies or brownies.

This is a service that we do four times a year in the community. Please call the office to let us know what we are still in need of or you can just bring the items to the office. Your donation will truly be appreciated.



St. Mary Ladies Guild will sponsor a Multi-Family Yard sale in the church parking lot on Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. There are no booth/table fees, but donations will be appreciated. All set up and clean ups are the responsibility of each participant. In case of rain, the sale will move to the weekend of April 24 and 25. If you are interested, please call the office to reserve your space. Deadline for sign up is April 1.

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Bunco Night at St. Mary on Saturday, February 28. All ages are invited to attend. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm with Bunco starting at 6:30 pm. Come join us for a family fun night.



Donation are welcomed.

### 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.



### WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week Ending  
2/15/2026

<b>St. Mary</b> —Enrollment	72
Regular Offering	\$824.00
Families Contributing	13
<b>Holy Family</b> — Enrollment	51
Regular Offering	\$735.00
Families Contributing	11

### TWO COLLECTIONS

3/01/2026

Regular Offertory/Capital Improvement

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 1, 2026

#### St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Joyce Rushing  
Sunday: Walter Melton

Eucharistic Ministers:

Joyce R. and Andrea V. (Sat.)  
Walter Melton (Sun.)  
Shelia Melton (Sun.)  
Glenda Nielson (Sun.)

Counters: Tricia Smothers and Beate Harris

#### Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector Evie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

John Edwards and Otilia Mendez

Gift Bearers:

Dwayne and Karen Pierce

Counters: Wyatt Brooks and Dennis Blackwell

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	2/21/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Ron and Patty Russo	Barbara Taylor
Sunday	2/22/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Bud+ and Katie+ Cabral	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	2/22/2006	St. Mary	10:45 AM	St. Mary Parishioners	
Monday	2/23/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	St. Mary Parishioners	
Tuesday	2/24/2026	St. Mary		"No Mass"	
Wednesday	2/25/2026	Holy Family	12:00 AM	Deborah Blackwell Thorne+	The Blackwell Family
Thursday	2/26/2026	Holy Family	12:00 AM	Mary Boucher+	Pat Boucher
Friday	2/27/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	St. Mary Parishioners	
Saturday	2/28/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Betty Gagnon	Barbara Taylor
Sunday	3/01/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Susana Solares	Antonina Solares
Sunday	3/01/2026	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Poly Mitchell+	Mary Evelyn Mitchell

**Prayer Intentions for Health and Repose of the Soul**



**St. Mary's:** Paul and Mary Olano, Mary Johnson, Michelle Leonard, 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 Bell, Allen York, Dan Ebeling.

**Holy Family:** Ken Bissen, 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:** Jerry Baloga, brother of David Baloga and Michelle Leonard; 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;

Kathy Coltharp; Samantha Moore, granddaughter of

Barbara Taylor; Mark King, nephew of Tricia Smothers; Carolyn Tedore, sister of Pam McMillan; Terry Pace, 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 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.