

St. Mary Catholic Church

March 8, 2026 Third Sunday of Lent

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

Secretary: Sandy Simpson

Accounting: Theresa O'Connell

Office Hours:

M, W, Th, F

11:00 AM—3:00 PM



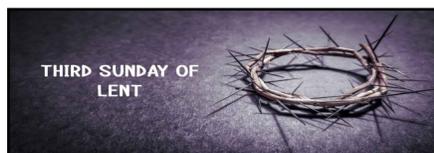
A SAFE TOWER IN THE STORMS

The Bible teaches us that our Lord Himself is our refuge and stronghold. In the Book of Proverbs we read: “The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the just runneth to it, and shall be exalted” (Proverbs 18:10, Douay-Rheims). A tower is not a fragile hastily assembled against passing trouble; it is a fortified place, built high and firm, able to withstand assault. It is the same with Christ our Lord. His holy Name, invoked with faith, is a defense. When the winds of anxiety, persecution, sickness, or grief rise against the soul, the faithful do not stand exposed in their own strength. They ascend by prayer into the security of Him who cannot be shaken.

The storms of life are neither imagined nor exaggerated. Our Lord Himself warned that the rain would fall, the floods would come, and the winds would blow. Yet he distinguished between the house founded upon sand and the house founded upon rock. “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and they beat upon that house, and it fell not, for it was founded on a rock” (Matthew 7:25). Christ is the rock. The soul who builds upon His teaching, who receives His Sacraments faithfully, and who clings to His Church, stands secure even when outward circumstances tremble. The tempest may rage, but it cannot overthrow what is established upon Him.

The Psalms speak repeatedly of this divine protection. “God is our refuge and strength: a helper in troubles, which have found us exceedingly. Therefore we will not fear, and when the earth shall be troubled” (Psalm 45/46-2)-3). This verse does not promise the absence of trouble; it promised the presence of God within it. This distraction is vital. Our faith does not promise the absence of trouble; it promises the presence of God within it. This distinction is vital. Our faith does not deny suffering, but it proclaims that suffering is not sovereign. The Lord stands above the chaos of history and the turmoil of the human heart. He permits trials for our purification and sanctification, yet He never abandons those who trust in Him. Within Him provide once, even the fiercest storm becomes the means of drawing the soul more closely to Himself.

When confronted by uncertainty or fear, the faithful must not scatter in panic, nor seek merely human fortification. “Be thou unto me a God, a protector, and a house of refuge, to save me” (Psalm 30/31:3). The Church, guided by Christ, continues to offer that safe tower through her doctrine, her liturgy, and her sacramental life. In confession, the wounded soul finds shelter; in the Holy Eucharist, the weary hearts find strength; in prayer, the troubled mind finds peace. Our Lord is not distant from the storm; He stands as the unassailable fortress within it. Those who run to Him shall not be confounded.



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

Lenten Diaper Drive



St. Mary's PRE students will once again be having their Annual Diaper Drive for FYI Clinic. These diapers help mothers and babies in need. There will be a table set up in the Fellowship Hall to place donations. Please be generous.

Thank you and God Bless!

Meatless Pasta Dinner Friday, March 13



St. Mary will be hosting a meatless pasta dinner on March 13 beginning at 5:30 pm. All are invited to come and enjoy the delicious pasta and fellowship.



March 9	St. Mary Ladies Guild (10:30 am)
March 11	Little Flowers Group (3:45 pm)
March 13	St. Mary Meatless Meal (5:30 pm)
March 14	Holy Family Crafters (9:30 am)
March 18	Knights of Columbus (SM) (6:00 PM)
March 25	Little Flowers Group (5:30 pm)
March 26	Holy Family Penance Service (5:30 pm)
March 27	St. Mary Penance Service (5:30 pm)
March 29	No PRE (Spring Break)
March 29	Palm Sunday



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.



"This is my beloved Son... listen to him" - Mt 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

Or call the Office of Vocations at 373-1244



Ready to answer the call? Email us at VocationsDirector@vocations.cdom.org



**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
2026**



The Annual Catholic Appeal supports ministries and services that bring love and mercy of Christ to the Diocese of Memphis. Your prayers and support of the Annual Appeal will help the faithful of West Tennessee through the ministries of the Church. If you are unable to support monetarily, please pray for it's success.

ST. Mary Goal: \$7775.00
Holy Family Goal: \$3150.00

"Bunco Fun for All"



**WEEKLY OFFERTORY
Week Ending
3/01/2026**

St. Mary —Enrollment	72
Regular Offering	\$4036.21
Families Contributing	30
Holy Family — Enrollment	51
Regular Offering	\$2127.00
Families Contributing	14

TWO COLLECTIONS
3/15/2026
Regular Offertory/Maintenance

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
March 15, 2026**

St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Jean Ebeling
Sunday: Theresa O'Connell

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dan and Jean Ebeling (Sat.)
Theresa O'Connell (Sun.)
Walter Melton (Sun.)
Shelia Melton (Sun.)

Counters: Tricia Smothers and Beate Harris

Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector Debbie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

Bennette Brou and Pat Long

Gift Bearers: Louisa Bautista and Josselyn H.

Counters: Dennis Blackwell and Wayne Tedford

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.



	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	3/07/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Edward Taylor+ and Richard Gagnon+	Barbara Taylor and Betty Gagnon
Sunday	3/08/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Francois Buclez+	Steve and Leah Koonce
Sunday	3/08/2006	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Carmen Bauer+	James and Debra Davenport
Monday	3/09/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Gerry Baloga	David Baloga
Tuesday	3/10/2026	St. Mary		"No Mass"	
Wednesday	3/11/2026	Holy Family	12:00 AM	Wally Emerson+	Steve and Leah Koonce
Thursday	3/12/2026	Holy Family	12:00 AM	Mary Boucher+	Pat Boucher
Friday	3/13/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Michelle Tezak	Tricia Smothers
Saturday	3/14/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Jim Simpson+	Sandy Simpson
Sunday	3/15/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Anna Mills	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	3/15/2026	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Mae Roach+	Steve and Leah Koonce

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, Anna Mills, Kamila Cerda, Mary Jane Klinzing, Donna Reindl, Garry Korbel, Johanna Salma, Dick Stokes, Tommy Long, Paul Multon, Sissy Munoz.

For Our Extended Family: Gerry 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; 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.