

# St. Mary Catholic Church

May 17 2026 Seventh Sunday of Easter

## 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



## LOVING MARY BY IMITATING HER LIFE

The Blessed Virgin Mary is not honored rightly if she is remembered only with words while her example is ignored in daily life. The Church has always taught that true devotion to Mary leads us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ. She was chosen by God not because of earthly greatness, but because of her humility, obedience, purity, and unwavering faith. When the angel Gabriel announced the coming of Christ, Mary answered with complete surrender to the will of God: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). Her words reveal the heart of authentic holiness. Mary placed herself entirely in the hands of God. To honor her properly means learning to imitate that same obedience in our own lives, especially when the will of God is difficult, painful, or misunderstood by the world.

Many Christians claim to love Mary, yet devotion without becomes empty sentiment. The Virgin Mary lived a hidden and sacrificial life. She did not seek glory, praise, or recognition. Her greatness rested in her fidelity to God within ordinary duties. She cared for the Christ Child, supported Saint Joseph, endured poverty, fled into Egypt, and remained faithful even beneath the Cross. The Gospel says, "And Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Her silence is not seen as weakness, but rather as spiritual strength. Modern society encourages noise, vanity, pride, and self-promotion, yet the Blessed Mother teaches recollection, modesty, patience, and interior peace. We honor her not by replacing Christ with her, but by recognizing that no human creature reflected Christ more perfectly than His own mother.

Imitating Mary also requires charity toward others. At the visitation, after learning she would bear the Messiah, Mary immediately went to assist St. Elizabeth. She did not remain focused upon herself or her privileges. Her love expressed itself through action. The soul devoted to Mary must therefore become more compassionate, merciful, and willing to serve. Genuine Marian devotion should produce holiness in conduct, purity in speech, kindness toward the suffering, and greater faithfulness in prayer. The rosary itself is not intended to be mechanical repetition, but meditation upon the life of Christ through the eyes of His mother. Through Mary, we learn humility before God and mercy toward neighbor.

At Calvary, Mary remained beside her crucified Son when many others fled in fear. There the sword foretold by Simeon pierced her soul fully. Yet she did not abandon Christ in His suffering. The modern world abandons truth whenever truth becomes costly, But Mary remained faithful to the end. This is why the Church, throughout the centuries, has looked to her as the model disciple. To honor Mary only with statues, hymns, or feast days while refusing to imitate her faithfulness would be incomplete devotion. The Blessed Virgin calls us to deeper conversion, greater purity, stronger faith, and steadfast endurance. In loving Mary rightly, we are continually directed toward Christ Himself, for every aspect of her life proclaims the words spoken at Cana: "Do whatever He shall say to You" (John 2:5).

(Fr. Charles)

**REMEMBER WHEN !!!!!**



- May 17 Graduates Recognition (SM) (10:45 am)
- May 20 Holy Family Finance Council Meeting (12:30 pm)
- May 20 St. Mary Finance Council Meeting (6:00 pm)
- May 20 Knights of Columbus Meeting (6:00 pm)
- May 21 St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

**Attention St. Mary Church  
Key Bearers**

We have once again had to call a Locksmith to get the church door open. He stated that someone is forcing their key into the lock which is causing the lock to jam. If you are having problems, please call the office and someone will come to lock the door. Thank you in advance.

If you are the bearer of any key or keys to St. Mary, please check with the office at 731-584-6459. We need an accurate record of all keys out.

**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.





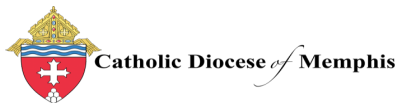
A special shout out to the high school graduates from Holy Family and St. Mary. Jullienne Salma will graduate on Saturday, May 16 from Huntingdon High School, and Neveah Harris and Michael O'Connell will graduate from Camden High School on Friday, May 15. Keep them in your prayers as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.



Congratulations to the Chaparro family on the Baptism of all four children; Sofia Elizabeth, Einar Aleksander, Leif Anders and Daisy Eloise. May Gods blessings be with them always.

***Prayer for Vocations***

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.



**WEEKLY OFFERTORY**

**Week Ending**

5/10/2026

<b>St. Mary</b> —Enrollment	75
Regular Offering	\$1258.00
Families Contributing	21
<b>Holy Family</b> — Enrollment	59
Regular Offering	\$3677.00
Families Contributing	15

**ONE COLLECTION**

5/17/2026

Regular Offertory

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

May 24, 2026

**St. Mary Catholic Church**

Lectors

Saturday: Joyce Rushing

Sunday: Gleda Nielson

Eucharistic Ministers:

Joyce R. and Andrea V. (Sat.)

Glenda Nielson (Sun.)

Sharon Latendresse (Sun.)

Tricia Smothers (Sun.)

Counters: Jeff and Sharon Latendresse

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

Lector Phyllis Wendt

Eucharistic Ministers:

Leah Koonce and Tom O'Bryant

Gift Bearers: The Ochoa Family

Counters: Tom O'Bryant and Richelle Stokes

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	5/16/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Jose and Celina Conchas	Dan and Jean Ebeling
Sunday	5/17/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Tommie Tedford+	Dane and Karen Pierce
Sunday	5/17/2006	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Joe Don Baker+	Linda Carter
Monday	5/18/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Mike and Pat Baloga+	David Baloga
Tuesday	5/19/2026	St. Mary		"No Mass"	
Wednesday	5/20/2026	Holy Family	12:00 AM	Tommie Tedford+	St. Mary's Ladies Guild
Thursday	5/21/2026	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Betty Roach+	Steve and Leah Koonce
Friday	5/22/2026	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Leigh Ann Barnett+	Tricia Smothers
Saturday	5/23/2026	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Leon and Ellena Houle+	Betty Gagnon
Sunday	5/24/2026	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Dustin Wilbanks	Dwayne and Karen Pierce
Sunday	5/24/2026	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Mike and Pat Baloga+	David Baloga

**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:** Vicky Baloga, sister-in-law of David Baloga, Joyce King, friend of St. Mary, 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 and Kathy Coltharp, 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.