

St. Mary Catholic Church

May 24 2026 Pentecost Sunday

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



SAFE BENEATH THE CROSS

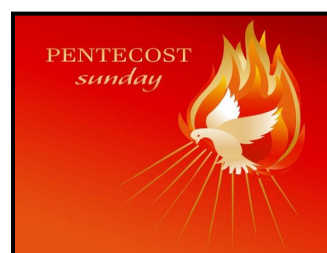
In every age of human history, men and women have searched for safety amid suffering, confusion, temptation, and fear. Our faith teaches that true refuge is found not in earthly power, wealth, or human strength, but in our Lord Jesus Christ. The world is unstable and filled with sorrow, yet Christ remains unchanging. He is the shelter of the weary soul, the defender of the weary soul, the defender of the faithful, and the Shepherd who does not abandon His flock. The Bible repeatedly calls the people of God to place their trust entirely in Him. The Psalmist said, "The Lord is my firmament, and my refuge, and my deliverer. My God is my helper, and in him will I put my trust" (Psalm 17:-3). To take refuge in Christ means to flee to Him with confidence, believing that His mercy is greater than our weakness and His power stronger than every darkness that rises against us.

Taking refuge in our Lord also requires humility and repentance> Many people seek comfort while refusing conversion of heart, yet Christ calls sinners not merely to feel safe, but to return to Him in obedience and faith. The refuge offered by Christ is not an escape from truth, but an entrance into it. Through confession, prayer, fasting, and the Holy Eucharist, the soul is drawn closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, where peace is truly found. Our Lord Himself says, "Come to me, all you who labor, and are burdened, and I will refresh you" (Matthew 11:28). These words are the invitation of the Son of God to every wounded and burdened soul. The Church has always taught that Christ remains near to those who seek Him sincerely, especially through the sacraments He entrusted to His Church.

The saints understood deeply what it meant to hide themselves in Christ. In times of persecution, illness, poverty, and spiritual trial, they turned continually to Him as their fortress. Many saints spoke tenderly of Jesus as a refuge for sinners and a resting place for the afflicted. This devotion reflects the love and mercy flowing from Christ Himself, who opened His Heart for the salvation of the world upon the Cross. Saint Paul writes, "If God be for us, who is against us?" (Romans 8:31). The faithful never deny the reality of suffering, but face it with confidence in God's providence. Even when earthly comforts fail, Christ remains faithful. He does not abandon those who cling to Him in prayer and perseverance.

To take refuge in our Lord means to entrust every part of life to Him daily. It means seeking Him first in moments of temptation, grief, and uncertainty. The soul of the faithful finds safety beneath the Cross, knowing that Christ has conquered sin, death, and hell. This refuge is not temporary, but eternal. Earthly shelters pass away, kingdoms fall, and human strength fades, but Christ remains forever. As the Gospel of Saint John teaches, "And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (John 1:5). In a dark and sinful world, our Lord continues to shine as the true refuge of His people. Those who remain close to Him through faith, prayer, and the life of the Church will never be abandoned, for His mercy endures unto ages of ages.

(Fr. Charles)





First Friday of the Month June 5

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

First Saturday of the Month June 6

Mass, Recitation of the Scriptural Rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begin at 9:00 am.

Dear St. Mary Church Family,

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your thoughtfulness, support and prayers during this significant milestone in my life. Your spiritual guidance and unwavering faith have been a source of strength and inspiration throughout my journey and I feel very blessed.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Michael O'Connell



Prayer for Vocation

Loving and Generous God, it is You who know all us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the Love and Service of our Church as we experience it today. Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice. Bless your Church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our church, families and friends who will serve Your people. Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. **Amen**



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| June 5-6 | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
| June 7 | Hospitality Sunday (Honoring Fr. Herbert and Father Michael) |
| June 8 | Ladies Guild Meeting (10:30 am) |
| June 10 | Holy Family Joint Finance/ Council Meeting (12:30 pm) |
| June 10 | St. Mary Joint Finance/ Pastoral Council Meeting (6:00 pm) |
| June 17 | Knights of Columbus (HF) (6:00 pm) |
| June 20 | Holy Family Crafters (9:30 am) |
| June 21 | Father's Day (Reception for Fr. Herbert and Fr. Michael 12:30 PM) |

**Hospitality hostesses for June are Bob and Brenda LeFever

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.



Goodbye!
 & THANK YOU

Holy Family Parishioners,

Mark your June calendars! Before their departure, we wish to show Father Herbert and Father Michael our appreciation of their services to us. At our regular June 7 Hospitality Sunday, we would like to honor Father Herbert with our normal dish-to-pass along with a cake, and on Sunday, June 14, we would like to honor Father Michael with a cake-and-coffee reception after mass. Please make plans to attend.



WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Week Ending

5/17/2026

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| St. Mary —Enrollment | 75 |
| Regular Offering | \$1651.00 |
| Families Contributing | 22 |
| Holy Family — Enrollment | 59 |
| Regular Offering | \$749.00 |
| Families Contributing | 12 |

ONE COLLECTION

5/31/2026

Regular Offertory

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

May 31, 2026

St. Mary Catholic Church

Lectors

Saturday: Jean Ebeling

Sunday: Walter Melton

Eucharistic Ministers:

Dan and Jean Ebeling (Sat.)

Shelia Melton (Sun.)

Mike Solomon (Sun.)

Kathy Solomon (Sun.)

Counters: Mark and Diane Brodbeck

Holy Family Catholic Church

Lector Evie O'Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers:

John Edwards and Richelle Stokes

Gift Bearers: The Villalobos Family

Counters: Wayne Tedford and Wayne Brooks

| | DATE | CHURCH | TIME | MASS FOR | REQUESTED BY |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 | 5/24/2006 | St. Mary | 10:45 AM | Mike+ and Pat+ Baloga | David Baloga |
| Monday | 5/25/2026 | St. Mary | 12:00 PM | Jim Simpson+ | Barbara Taylor |
| Tuesday | 5/26/2026 | St. Mary | | "No Mass" | |
| Wednesday | 5/27/2026 | Holy Family | 12:00 AM | Tommie Tedford+ | Dan and Jean Ebeling |
| Thursday | 5/28/2026 | Holy Family | 12:00 PM | Gene Sinclair+ | Steve and Leah Koonce |
| Friday | 5/29/2026 | St. Mary | 12:00 PM | Esther Lomax+ and Louise Prater+ | Sandy Simpson |
| Saturday | 5/30/2026 | St. Mary | 5:00 PM | | |
| Sunday | 5/31/2026 | Holy Family | 8:30 AM | Tom Roach+ | Steve and Leah Koonce |
| Sunday | 5/31/2026 | St. Mary | 10:45 AM | Perry Wright+ | Tricia Smothers |

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.