Rev. Henry Thang M. Pham PASTOR

frhenryofstmary@gmail.com (706) 886-2819 ext- 1

Sacramental Emergency

770-561-3918

Rev. Mr. Greg Ollick, M.A. Deacon & Administrator

gregollick@aol.com (404) 918-7472

PARISH OFFICE

Monday: 12PM - 2PM Tuesday through Thursday: 10AM - 2PM

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5 PM Vigil Mass Sunday: 8:30 AM (English) 12 PM (Tiếng Việt) Tues, Thurs, Sat: 9 AM

Monday; Wednesday: 6PM

1st Friday Only: 6PM

DIVINE OFFICE

Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday 7:00AM—8:45AM Monday; Wednesday; 1st Friday 4PM-5:45PM

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Saturday: 8:30 AM Sunday: 8:00 AM

RECONCILIATION

Monday -Thursday after Mass Saturday: 9:45 AM & 4 PM Or by appointment

BAPTISM & MATRIMONY

Contact Deacon Greg 404-918-7472

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sharon Cook (706) 297-8344 Jessica Burger (904) 219-1129

ADULT FAITH FORMATION RCIA

Deacon Greg Ollick (404) 918-7472



December 11, 2022

St Mary Catholic Church

Our time is now Let's grow together

231 Rothell Rd Ext. Toccoa Ga 30577

Email: stmarystoccoa@gmail.com

Office: (706) 886-2819

Website: www.stmarystoccoa.org

FaceBook: stmarystoccoa

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song.

ISAIAH 35:1-2

THE ONE FOR WHOM OUR HEARTS LONG

Put yourself in the scene of today's Gospel passage. John the Baptist is in prison. He has heard stories of what Jesus is doing, and wants reassurance that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah. John's disciples and those who surrounded Jesus were faithful Jews who would have known Isaiah's prophecies by heart. God would send One who would bring sight to the blind, healing to those who were ill, salvation to all who longed to know God's mercy and peace. Jesus' response to the disciples' question rings as powerfully in our ears today as it surely did for the people who were with him that day. His actions are precisely those that the people had been told to expect. Jesus is the One for whom the people have been patiently yet anxiously waiting, like the farmer who waits for the fruits of his labor. Jesus is the One for whom our hearts long.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading:Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 Psalm: Psalm 146

Second Reading: James 5:7-10 Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11



tác quốc tế mới.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for December Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Cầu cho các tổ chức tự nguyện vô vị lợi

Chúng ta cầu nguyện cho các tổ chức tình nguyện vô vị lợi biết cùng nhau cam kết phát triển con người. Giúp họ có được nhiều người tận tâm vì lợi ích chung và không ngừng tìm kiếm những con đường hợp

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS 12/10 - 17/2022

SAT: 12/10: (VIRGIL) - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 PM: Rita Nash (D) Joe Franzmathes

SUN: 12/11: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM: Rita Nash (D) - Ladies of St Mary
12:00 PM: Giuse Phạm Thái (L) Fr. Henry

MON: 12/12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:00 PM: Daminh Ta (D) Nguyệt Nguyễn

TUE: 12/13 St. Lucy

9:00 AM: Rita Nash (D) Karen Roberts

WED: 12/14 St. John of the Cross

6:00 PM: Maria Phen (D) Nguyệt Nguyễn

THUR: 12/15

9:00 AM: Pio (D) Nguyet Nguyen

FRI: 12/16 Las Posadas begins

SAT: 12/17

9:00 AM: Giuse Trúc (L) Fr. Henry

5:00 PM: Rita Nash (D) Derrick & Cynthia Li

SUN: 12/18: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM: Nguyet Nguyen (L) Nguyệt Nguyễn

12:00 PM: Toma & Maria (D) Tú Nguyễn

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt

13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,

or any readings from the Common of the Blessed

Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;

Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;

Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday:Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30Friday:Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36Saturday:Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17Sunday:Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12)

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, first appeared to Cuauhtlatzin (Juan Diego) on December 9, 1531 while he was on his way to a Eucharistic celebration in Tlatelolco, Mexico. The Virgin addressed him by his indigenous



name, asking him to go to the palace of Archbishop Zumárraga to request that a shrine be erected there at the site of the apparition, in Tepeyac, so as to share her love and compassion for all believers. Juan Diego did so, but the archbishop did not believe him, demanding proof of his story and of the Lady's identity. He returned to Our Lady daily, and on December 12, he conveyed to her the archbishop's request for proof. She showed him Castilian roses blooming there through the stony ground despite the winter's cold. He picked the flowers and carried them in his tilma (mantle) to the archbishop. When he unfolded his tilma to present the roses, Mary's image was imprinted on the mantle! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Please keep the following people in your prayers

Joe Franzmathes, Laura Barnett, June Webb, Sharon Cook, Eddie Hallford, Jay McAtee, John Craton, Lucca Fiorillo, Melissa Grigg, James Meyn , Dan Dwyer, Calvin Isbell, Jerry Powell, Alice Marold, Kim Kellams, Danny Carter, Joachim Phạm Tường, Davis Trương HD, Chip O'Neil, Tim

Glone Jr.,

McGlone Sr., Timothy McGlone Jr., Robert McGlone, Laura Meyh, Christen Cook, Karen Poole, Lindsey McDonald, Helen Biester, Rebecca Gonzalez and for all others not mentioned here.

If you want to submit an individual for Prayer Intentions, please contact Christa (706) 886-2819. or Mrs. Gerrie Chalk at: 706 -963-0050 of a loved one who is sick. Our homebound Ministers are please to bring you Holy Communion and Weekly Bulletin.

Meditation: Third Advent Sunday, December 11, 2022 Are you the one who is to come?

(Matthew 11:3)

Do you ever have doubts? Everyone does, even John the Baptist. Herod had thrown John into prison and kept the threat of execution hanging over him. Sitting in that cell, John began to wonder if he had labored for nothing. So he sent his disciples to ask Jesus a question: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" (Matthew 11:3).

Why would John ask such a pointed question? Probably because Jesus' ministry didn't fit John's idea of what God's kingdom should look like. Unlike John, Jesus wasn't a fire-and-brimstone preacher. He seemed more concerned with healing sick people than with overthrowing Herod. He wasn't popular with many Jewish leaders either. So doubts about Jesus began to creep in.

Rather than rebuking John's disciples, Jesus described his ministry: the sick are healed, the dead are raised, and the poor hear the good news (Matthew 11:5). John's disciples would have recognized these as signs of the Messiah foretold by Isaiah (35:6).

Jesus wasn't put off by John's doubts. Quite the opposite, he praised John as the greatest of all those "born of women" (Matthew 11:11). Jesus knew John; he loved him and understood the trial he was enduring. Knowing what John was going through, he treated him with compassion. And he will do the same for you.

You may have doubts. Bring them to Jesus. Ask him to help you recall his work in your life: when you experienced his forgiveness, knew his love, or felt his presence. Let him reassure you that he knows you and loves you. Let him strengthen your faith. As Isaiah proclaims in another prophecy, "A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench" (Isaiah 42:3). With his love, Jesus can set your doubts to rest and fan your smoldering faith into a blazing fire.

"Jesus, help me to believe in you more and more each day."

Nguồn: WAU, December 2022 Sr. Maria Trần Thị Ngọc Hương chuyển ngữ

Suy niệm: Chúa Nhật III Mùa Vọng ngày 11.12.2022 Ngài có phải là Đấng phải đến không?

(Mt 11, 3)

Anh em có bao giờ nghi ngờ chưa? Tất cả mọi người đều vậy, ngay cả Gioan tẩy giả. Vua Hêrôđê đã tống Gioan vào tù và giữ mối đe dọa hành quyết luôn đeo bám ông. Ngôi trong phòng giam đó, Gioan bắt đầu tự hỏi liệu mình có làm việc vô ích không. Vì vậy, ông sai các môn đồ đến hỏi Chúa Giêsu một câu: "Thầy có phải là Đấng sẽ đến, hay chúng ta nên đi tìm người khác?" (Mt 11,3).

Tại sao Gioan lại hỏi một câu hỏi cụ thể như vậy? Có lẽ vì sứ mạng của Chúa Giêsu không phù hợp với ý tưởng của Gioan về vương quốc của Thiên Chúa sẽ trông như thế nào. Không giống như Gioan, Chúa Giêsu không phải là một nhà thuyết giáo lửa và diêm sinh. Dường như Ngài quan tâm đến việc chữa lành những người bệnh hơn là lật đổ Hêrôđê. Ngài cũng không được nhiều nhà lãnh đạo Do Thái yêu thích. Vì vậy, những nghi ngờ về Chúa Giêsu bắt đầu len lỏi.

Thay vì quở trách các môn đồ của Gioan, Chúa Giêsu mô tả về sứ mạng của Ngài: kẻ đau được chữa lành, kẻ chết sống lại và người nghèo nghe tin mừng (Mt 11,5). Các môn đồ của Gioan hẳn đã nhận ra đây là những dấu hiệu của Đấng Mêsia mà Isaia đã báo trước (35,6).

Chúa Giêsu không hề thắc mắc gì về những nghi ngờ của Gioan. Hoàn toàn ngược lại, Ngài ca ngợi Gioan là người vĩ đại nhất trong số những người "sinh ra bởi phụ nữ" (Mt 11,11). Chúa Giêsu biết Gioan; Ngài yêu mến ông và hiểu sự thử thách mà ông đang phải chịu đựng. Biết được những gì Gioan phải trải qua, Ngài đã đối xử với ông bằng lòng trắc ẩn. Và Ngài cũng sẽ làm như vậy với bạn.

Bạn có thể có những nghi ngờ. Hãy đưa chúng đến với Chúa Giêsu. Hấy cầu xin Ngài giúp bạn nhớ lại công việc của Ngài trong cuộc sống của bạn: khi bạn cảm nhận được sự tha thứ của Ngài, biết được tình yêu của Ngài hoặc cảm nhận được sự hiện diện của Ngài. Hãy để Ngài trấn an bạn rằng Ngài biết bạn và yêu thương bạn. Hãy để Ngài củng cố niềm tin của bạn. Như Isaia đã tuyên bố trong một lời tiên tri khác, "Cây sậy thâm tím sẽ không gãy, và ngọn bấc cháy mờ sẽ không dập tắt" (Is 42,3). Với tình yêu của mình, Chúa Giêsu có thể khiến những nghi ngờ của bạn tan biến và thổi niềm tin âm ỉ của bạn thành ngọn lửa rực cháy.

Lạy Chúa Giêsu, xin giúp con ngày càng tin tưởng Chúa nhiều hơn.

Thank You!

Sincere thanks to all the grandparents, brothers and sisters and all the children who responded to the invitation of the Parish, all of whom worked so hard and dedicated. I would also like to thank all the sick and elderly people who can't travel to help the parish through the work, but everyone has collaborated with the parish in many ways, especially prayer. May God, the Father of all holiness and goodness, always accompany each of us, each of our families. May all the hard sacrifices ... that we have made for the Parish will contribute to the expansion and development of FAITH - LOVE OF GOD -FRIENDLY, especially the Kingdom of God right in the parish of St. Mary's, right here in Toccoa City. Once again I sincerely thank you all and may God bless us all.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Xin chân thành cảm ơn tất cả quý Ông Bà anh chị em cùng tất cả các cháu đã đáp lời mời gọi của Giáo Xứ, tất cả đã làm việc rất chăm chỉ và vất vả. Con cũng xin cám ơn mọi người đau yếu, cao niên không thể đi lại giúp Giáo Xứ qua các công việc, nhưng mọi người đã cùng cộng tác với Giáo xứ bằng nhiều cách, nhất là lời cầu nguyện. Xin Thiên Chúa là Cha của mọi sự Thánh Thiện và Tốt Lành luôn đồng hành với từng người, từng Gia Đình chúng ta. Ước gì tất cả những hy sinh vất vả ... mà chúng ta đã làm cho Giáo Xứ sẽ góp phần mở mang và phát triển ĐỨC TIN -LÒNG YÊU MÊN CHÚA-TÌNH HUYNH ĐÊ, nhất là Nước Chúa ngay trong Giáo Xứ St. Mary's, ngay tại Thành Phố Toccoa này. Một lần nữa con xin chân thành tri ân mọi người và xin (Chúa chúc lành cho tất cả chúng ta.

KÍNH CHÚC MỘI NGƯỜI MÙA GIÁNG SINH THÁNH THIỆN BÌNH AN. NĂM MỚI BÌNH AN HẠNH PHÚC

HELLO TO ALL

Thanks be to God, in the past few years, although we have not developed as strongly and aggressively as other parishes do, in our modest Human Resources and Finance, our parish has grown significantly. We have been trying to rebuild the facilities which are no longer being used for safety reasons. We would



like to accommodate the increasing number of members, especially because the children deserve a sound and safe environment for them to learn the Faith and encounter each other in Christ.

In responding to our sacred mission call, the entire Community has contributed and sacrificed in many ways. Regrading the Capital campaign, we have achieved the goal beyond hope and imagination, even before the deadline. Unfortunately, due to the economic crisis, as the inflation of today, we have not been able to start construction. Today, first of all, I thank God for all the blessings He has bestowed on each family and the friends of St. Mary. I ask you AGAIN, in your ability to join hands in prayer and reconsider making further financial contributions ... Hoping that in the new year, your efforts will render the construction in early Springs of 2023 possible, beginning with the rebuilding of the new Parish Life Center, so that our children can have a healthy and decent place. A worthy center to welcome everyone who would like to encounter Christ and learn the Faith.

Kính chào quý Ông Bà, anh chị em cùng các cháu

Tạ ơn Chúa trong mấy năm qua, mặc dù chúng ta không phát triển mạnh mẽ và rầm rộ như những Giáo Xứ khác, nhưng trong sự khiêm tốn về Nhân Sự cũng như Tài Chánh, thì Giáo xứ của chúng ta đã phát triển rất mạnh, cả về VẬT CHẤT LẪN TINH THẦN. Đã rất lâu, Giáo xứ chúng ta mơ ước được trùng tu lại hoặc xây thêm cơ sở để chúng ta và nhất là con em chúng ta có những chỗ sinh hoạt sạch sẽ và lành mạnh.

Đáp lại lời kêu gọi, cả giáo xứ chúng ta đã cống hiến và hy sinh rất nhiều, hầu như mọi gia đình đã hy sinh, đã cố gắng đóng góp về mọi mặt. Chúng ta đã đạt được kết quả ngoài hy vọng và sức tưởng tượng. Chỉ không may vì tình trạng khủng hoảng kinh tế, và cho tới hôm nay, chúng ta vẫn chưa thể bắt đầu khởi công. Hôm nay, trước tiên Tạ Ơn Thiên Chúa vì muôn phúc lành Ngài ban cho từng gia đình và Giáo xứ chúng ta, con xin MỘT LẦN NỮA, mời gọi mỗi người trong khả năng có thể chúng ta hãy chung tay góp sức bằng lời cầu nguyện, bằng đóng góp tài chánh...để hy vọng sang năm mới chúng ta có thể khởi công xây dựng công trình của Giáo xứ, để chúng ta cùng con em chúng ta có có một nơi khang trang để sinh hoạt, và là nơi xứng đáng để đón tiếp mọi người muốn tìm đến Chúa.

Our time is now. Let's grow together!

Come out to meet and greet other Ladies of St. Mary's.

To all the Ladies of St. Mary's, you are invited to our Christmas Luncheon, December 14th at 12:00 PM. Location will be at Donna Smith's home, 3574 Highway 123, Toccoa. Please call or email Donna to confirm your attendance, so she can plan accordingly.

Donna's contact information is: Cell: 678-851-7170 Email: dmasmith1@gmail.com. Please bring a gift to exchange. Cost of \$10.00 maximum.

UPDATE FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

There will be a meeting late this week with John Schiavone (Catholic Construction Services), Larry Dodd (Dodd Construction), Harry Scott (City of Toccoa), and new neighbor Rick Phillips (Jarrett Phillips Construction) to discuss the sewage tap in for our Building Project along with the Church. Rick Phillips has agreed to share in the cost as he wants to extend the sewage line to his recently acquired property next to us at Big A Road and Rothell Road Extension.

Offertory/Contribution Weekend of December 03 & 04, 2022

Weekly Budget	\$3,100.00
Offertory	\$2,910.41
Building Campaign	\$2,570.78

The counters for this week are:
Jan Ollick, Cathy Staley & William King
Second collection on December 17, 18 is for
St. Vincent DePaul St. Mary Conference
If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, contact
Nancy Williamson for training via Christa in the office.
706-886-2819.

Thank you for your generosity!



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGES

Please remember to keep up with your Capital Campaign Pledge contribution. By doing this, it will help to keep us on track to make this a successful build.

Please make your checks out to St. Mary's Building Fund. Thank you!

God's House Need Your Help!



God's Housekeepers will be starting a new year. We need more members to volunteer to clean the Church. Volunteers usually have 4 cleaning days a year. Cleaning consists of vacuuming, dusting and cleaning the bathrooms in the Church. If you're interested, please contact:

LaVerne Tilley: cell: 770-539-0460 (call or text) email: lhtilley@gmail.com



The time of Christmas Season is coming, if you would like to contribute the flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out a Christmas Flowers Offering Envelope and put

them into the offertory plate. We are suggesting \$7 per plant. Thank you very much for your generous to make our Church more beautiful in respect and worship our God!

YOUTH MINISTRY



Folks, our Church will have the *Youth and Family Mass* on the First Sunday of each month, at 8:30 AM. We need young Lectors, Altar Severs, Extraordinary - Eucharist Ministers, Ushers and choir members... If you would like to help, please contact:

Ashley: 706-768-7899; Or Jessica:904-219-1129.

Thank you for your participation!

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION ON DECEMBER

Confirmation Sat: 6:00 PM—8:30 PM Grades PK-9 Sun: 9:30 AM—11:30 AM



遊	Class	Date
	PSR	Dec 04
1	PSR	Dec 11
	PSR	Dec 18
17	NO CLASS	Dec 25
	Confirmation	Dec 17

The Knights of Columbus Joseph M. Malik Council 9975

The Knights of Columbus is a worldwide organization of Catholic Men who are in communion with the Church and function under the four principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The members of Council 9975 are a hardy "Band of Brothers" to coin a phrase, that are dedicated to support our Pastor Fr. Henry Pham in his efforts as leader of our parish here at St. Mary's.

For more information please look for any parishioner that is wearing a Bright Yellow Name Tag for more information.

Meeting & Activities

Membership Meetings the 4th Tuesday /1 month Parish Breakfasts:

on the 1st or 2nd Sunday/1month

Ladies of St. Mary's

The Ladies of St. Mary serve to provide a community of fellow-

ship and growth in faith, reaching out to serve and support our pastor, parish families and the community. We serve God through a commitment and uniting our members through prayer, work and service.

Meet: 2nd Wed/ month (Sept—May) at 10AM in Parish Hall

Co-Presidents:

Martha Barrs (770) 540-6820 Helen Biester (706) 391-0462





In Loving Memory of Don Cook





Alexander's Flowers & Gifts

147 Center Plaza Dr. Toccoa, Ga 30577 (706) 886-9431



Gunsmithing Services

FIREARMS * INSTRUCTION **APPRAISALS * CONSULTING**

- *CERTIFIED GUNSMITH
- *NRA FIREARMS INSTUCTOR
- *RANGE SAFETY OFFICER
- *PERSONAL SAFETY/PROTECTION OFFICER
- *PURCHASE BROKEN FIREARMS

Bill Mercure NRA Life Member

Cell (404)372-2771 Ph/Fax(706)779-0301



Helping you come home. Donna M. Smith

donnamsmithrealestate@gmail.com 678-851-7170 | 404-697-3225

bellarealtygroup.net

Arbor Heights (706) 244-2300

FREE Estimates

- ♦ Removals
- ◆ Pruning◆ Cabling/ Bracing
- ◆ Planting
- ♦ Tree Risk Assessments



John Stelmack, CPA

11 Business Center Drive Suite 203 Eastanollee, Ga 30538 (Next to Home Depot)

Phone: 706-244-6846 Fax: 706-886-1301 JohnS@StelmackCPA.biz



Brother John's Subs



27 Stephens Circle, Toccoa, GA 30557 (Next to 1st Franklin Financial) (706) 886-9597 Hallie Edenfield

Lagniappe Dulcimer Shop

Saturday-10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Instruments & Accessories

Free Lessons with Purchase of Dulcimer OPEN: Thursday—Friday—10:00 AM —4:30 PM

1572 Falls Road

(706) 599-1107



Friends Of The Ritz Theatre

139 E Doyle Street



Gary Cortellino Board member

for event schedule visit:

ritztheatretoccoa.com



KING'S BEVERAGE PACKAGE STORE

801 Big A Road S (706) 827-0099

Mention about St. Mary's and the sale profit will be donated to our Building Fund



2950 W Currahee Street

Toccoa GA 30577 www.peachhousefarm.com Instagram @peachhousefarm



Complete Professional Nail Care for Ladies & Gentlemen 162 Walmart Way Eastanollee, GA 30538

706-886-7599

Mon-Sat: 10am-7pm Sunday: Closed