

Fr. Henry' Thang M. Pham  
**PASTOR**  
frhenryofstmary@gmail.com  
(706) 886-2819 ext – 2  
**Sacramental Emergency**  
770-561-3918

Rev. Mr. Greg Ollick, M.A.  
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**  
gregollick@aol.com  
(404) 918-7472

Mrs. Jessica Burger  
**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION**  
(904) 219-1129

Quyền Hà  
**VIETNAMESE CONNECTION**  
(918) 808 -2575

Ayen Camilli  
**PARISH SECRETARY**  
**Monday to Friday**  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
(706) 886-2819

### **LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Saturday:** 5 PM Vigil Mass  
**Sunday:** 8:30 AM (English)  
12 PM (Tiếng Việt)  
Tue, Thur, Saturday: 9:00 AM  
Mon, Wed, 1<sup>st</sup> Friay: 6:00 PM

### **HOLY HOUR / HOLY ROSARY**

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday  
7:00 AM - 8:45 AM  
Monday; Wednesday; 1<sup>st</sup> Friday:  
4:00 PM - 5:45 PM

### **DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET**

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

### **RECONCILIATION**

Monday - Thursday: After Mass  
**Saturday:** 9:45 AM; 4:00 PM  
**Or:** by appointment



## *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



***JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU***

## Mass schedule & Intentions Apr 15 - 22, 2023

<b>SAT: 04/15 (Vigil)</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY Julian Calendar Easter</b>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Vonnely C. Smith (D)</b> <i>Ladies of St. Mary</i>
<b>SUN: 04/16</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY Julian Calendar Easter</b>
<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Thanksgiving (L)</b> <i>Tien &amp; Chan's</i>
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Thanksgiving (L)</b> <i>Mrs. Van Tran</i>
<b>MON: 04/17</b>	<b>Yom Ha-Shoa (Holocaust Remembrance Day)</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Nancy Cash White (D)</b> <i>Jeffre White</i>
<b>TUE: 04/18</b>	<b>Income Tax Day</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Anna (D)</b> <i>Mrs. Van Tran</i>
<b>WED: 04/19</b>	<b>within the Octave of Easter</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Henry &amp; Chi's family (L)</b> <i>By Chi &amp; Phong's Family</i>
<b>THUR: 04/20</b>	<b>within the Octave of Easter</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Don Cook (D)</b> <i>Helen Biester</i>
<b>FRI: 04/21</b>	<b>St. Anselm of Canterbury</b>
<b>SAT: 04/22</b>	<b>Earth Day</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Janice Sibley (D)</b> <i>Joe Sibley</i>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Nancy Cash White (D)</b> <b>Memorial Mass Jeffery White</b>
<b>SUN: 04/23</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Mrs Van Tran &amp; Mr. Duc Dang (L)</b> <i>Fr. Henry</i>
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Thanksgiving (L)</b> <i>Mrs. Chi &amp; Mr. Henry A. Nguyen</i>

### TODAY'S READINGS

- **First Reading:** Acts 2:42-47;
- **Psalm:** Psalm 118
- **Second Reading:** 1 Peter 1:3-9
- **Gospel:** John 20:19-31

## APRIL - THE HOLY SPIRIT

### Symbols of the Holy Spirit

**1/ Water:** The symbolism of water signifies the Holy Spirit's action in Baptism.

**2/ Anointing:** The symbolism of anointing with oil also signifies the Holy Spirit, to the point of becoming a synonym for the Holy Spirit.



**3/ Fire:** While water signifies birth and the fruitfulness of life given in the Holy Spirit, fire symbolizes the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit's actions.

**4/ Cloud and light:** These two images occur together in the manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

**5/ The seal:** is a symbol close to that of anointing. "The Father has set his seal" on Christ and also seals us in him.

**6/ The hand:** Jesus heals the sick and blesses little children by laying hands on them. In his name the apostles will do the same. Even more pointedly, it is by the Apostles' imposition of hands that the Holy Spirit is given.

**7/ The finger:** "It is by the finger of God that [Jesus] cast out demons." If God's law was written on tablets of stone "by the finger of God," then the "letter from Christ" entrusted to the care of the apostles, is written "with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts." The hymn Veni Creator Spiritus invokes the Holy Spirit as the "finger of the Father's right hand."

**8/ The dove:** At the end of the flood, whose symbolism refers to Baptism, a dove released by Noah returns with a fresh olive-tree branch in its beak as a sign that the earth was again habitable. When Christ comes up from the water of his baptism, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes down upon him and remains with him. The Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of the baptized.

Excerpted from the Catechism of the Catholic Church

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
- Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11;  
1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY  
MEDITATION: 04/16/2023**

**“... praising God and enjoying  
favor with all the people”. (Acts 2:47)**

What a beautiful vision! The first believers' experience of the Spirit was so life-changing that they felt compelled to come together to worship the Lord and love one another as family.

But this ideal situation didn't last long. Only a short time later, prejudice and tribalism crept in, leading some to neglect the needs of the poorer widows among them (Acts 6:1). Later, some members of this mostly Jewish Christian community began telling Gentiles – falsely – that they had to be circumcised if they wanted to “be saved” (15:1). This attempt to treat Gentiles as second-class citizens caused “no little dissension” among the believers (15:2).

Stories like these might make us wonder, If the first Christians couldn't live together, what hope does our Church have?

But today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Today we celebrate the good news that God is always ready to forgive and to heal divisions. Take the early Church, for example. By all counts, it should not have lasted more than a decade or two. But in fact, it not only survived but continued to grow and spread. That's because God's mercy, poured out at every Eucharist and every time his people gathered together, softened believers' hearts and moved them to resolve their conflicts peacefully and lovingly. What a powerful testament to a God whose merciful love triumphs over every imaginable obstacle!

Even today, God's mercy continues to flow. Every division and conflict can be overcome as we come together to worship him, confess our need for him, and strive to make love our aim. Every sin can be washed away and every relationship restored! Jesus, our merciful Savior, is always ready to help us love one another.

***“Lord Jesus Christ, merciful Son  
of God, draw your people  
together in love!”***

(Chuyển ngữ: Sr. Mary Trần Thị Ngọc Hương - Source: WAU)

**CHÚA NHẬT HAI PHỤC SINH  
KÍNH LÒNG THƯƠNG XÓT CHÚA  
SUY NIỆM: 04/16/2023**

**“(Họ)... ca tụng Thiên Chúa và được  
toàn dân thương mến” (Cv 2,47).**

Quả là một viễn cảnh đẹp! Kinh nghiệm về Thánh Thần của các tín hữu đầu tiên là cuộc sống biến đổi nhiều đến độ họ cảm thấy được thúc đẩy đến với nhau để thờ phượng Chúa và yêu thương nhau như một gia đình.

Nhưng tình huống lý tưởng này đã không kéo dài. Chỉ một thời gian ngắn sau đó, định kiến và chủ nghĩa bộ tộc đã len lỏi vào, khiến một số người bỏ lơ nhu cầu của những bà góa nghèo khó hơn trong số họ (x. Cv 6,1). Sau đó, một số thành viên của nhóm cộng đồng Kitô Giáo hầu hết là người Do Thái này đã bắt đầu nói với những Người Dân Ngoại – một cách sai lầm – rằng họ phải chịu cắt bì nếu họ muốn “được cứu độ” (Cv 15,1). Nỗ lực đối xử với những Người Dân Ngoại như những công dân hạng hai đã gây ra “mối bất đồng không nhỏ” giữa các tín hữu (x. Cv 15,2).

Những câu chuyện như thế này có thể khiến chúng ta thắc mắc, nếu các Kitô hữu đầu tiên không thể sống với nhau, thì liệu Giáo Hội có niềm hy vọng nào không?

Nhưng hôm nay là Chúa Nhật Lòng Chúa Thương Xót. Hôm nay, chúng ta cử hành tin vui Thiên Chúa luôn luôn sẵn sàng tha thứ và chữa lành các mối chia rẽ. Bạn hãy lấy Giáo Hội sơ khai làm điển hình. Theo tất cả các trình thuật, có lẽ nó không kéo dài hơn một hay hai thập kỷ. Tuy nhiên, trên thực tế, nó đã không chỉ sống sót mà còn tiếp tục phát triển và lan rộng. Đó là nhờ lòng thương xót của Thiên Chúa, đã tuôn đổ ra nơi mỗi Thánh Lễ và mỗi lần dân Chúa tụ họp với nhau, làm mềm lòng các tín hữu và thúc đẩy họ giải quyết những cuộc xung đột của họ cách bình an và yêu thương. Quả là một lời tuyên bố hùng hồn về một Vị Thiên Chúa mà tình yêu thương xót của Người chiến thắng mọi rào cản có thể tưởng tượng được!

Ngay cả ngày nay, lòng thương xót của Thiên Chúa vẫn tiếp tục tuôn chảy. Mọi sự chia rẽ và xung đột có thể được khắc phục khi chúng ta cùng nhau đến thờ lạy Người, thổ lộ với Người nhu cầu và nỗ lực muốn sống yêu thương của chúng ta. Mọi tội lỗi có thể được tẩy sạch và mọi mối tương quan được phục hồi! Chúa Giêsu, Đấng Cứu Độ đầy lòng thương xót của chúng ta, luôn luôn sẵn sàng giúp chúng ta yêu thương nhau.

***“Lạy Chúa Giêsu Kitô, Con Thiên Chúa  
giàu lòng xót thương, xin hãy lôi kéo dân  
của Chúa lại với nhau trong tình yêu!”***

(Chuyển ngữ: Sr. Maria Trần Thị Ngọc Hương - Nguồn: WAU)

## THANKS BE TO GOD & CONGRATULATION!

Thanks be to God for what He has done for our Parish, may God bless all of our Parishioners and all of our activities, so that in whatever we do will build our Spirits and brotherhood in our Parish and our neighbor.



### EXEMPLAR OF THE FAITH

Poor Thomas. Singled out from among the disciples because he refused to believe what they were telling him—that they had seen, in the flesh, their friend and their Lord, Jesus Christ. Can any of us really blame him? All of the disciples were terrified, crestfallen, hiding. But what of Thomas? Just where was he when Jesus appeared the first time to the group huddled in fear? He had gone “out”—out of the community where his faith had life. Maybe this was actually a blessing for Thomas and not the curse associated with the “doubting Thomas” moniker bestowed on him by tradition. Oh, the divine mercy of the Lord! Could Thomas be the forerunner of all of us who come in fragile hope and uncertainty to the Christian community, so beautifully described in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles? Could Thomas be an ultimate exemplar of the faith described in the First Letter of Peter? Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

### DOUBT

There lives more faith in honest doubt,  
Believe me, than in half the creeds. —Alfred, Lord Tennyson

### OUR FASCINATING FAITH DIVINE MERCY

Saint John Paul II named the Second Sunday of Easter “Sunday of Divine Mercy” in response to Saint Faustina Kowalska’s Divine Mercy devotion, which offered spiritual comfort to hearts worldwide. But Pope Francis challenges us to make the comfort that we receive a gift we gladly share, saying that because mercy was first shown to us we are therefore called to show mercy ourselves. The clearest expression of merciful love, says Francis, is pardoning others. He acknowledges how difficult it can be to forgive sometimes, but if we are to achieve peace in our hearts, pardon is the tool that has been put into our very fallible hands. The necessary condition for living joyfully? We must let go of anger, hatred, revenge, and violence. A tall order in a world seemingly bent on the destruction of every peaceful impulse. May Divine Mercy Sunday remind us that Jesus made mercy our life’s ideal and a criterion for our faith’s credibility: “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy” (Matthew 5:7).

—Peter Scagnelli, 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 M. Tường, Tim McGlone Sr., Timothy McGlone Jr., Robert McGlone, Laura Meyh, Christen Cook, Lindsey McDonald, Helen Biester, Rebecca Gonzalez, Joy Powell, Nancy Barbour, Gordon Nash, and for all others not mentioned here.

If you want to submit an individual for Prayer Intentions, please contact Mrs. Ayen Camilli ((706) 886-2819 ext – 1 or Mrs. Gerrie Chalk at: 706 -963-0050 for a loved one who is sick. Our homebound Ministers are please to bring you the Holy Communion and Weekly Bulletin.



## Pope Francis' prayer intention 04/2023

**For a culture of peace and non-violence**

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



## Cầu cho nền văn hóa hòa bình và bất bạo lực

Chúng ta hãy cầu nguyện cho hòa bình và bất bạo lực được lan tỏa khắp nơi, nhờ các quốc gia và người dân biết giảm bớt sử dụng vũ khí.

## Pray for the future Priests of the Archdiocese



Please pray for me

**NICHOLAS LE**  
Called by the Church to the  
SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTS  
by His Excellency, the Most Reverend  
GREGORY J. HARTMAYER  
Archbishop of Atlanta



SATURDAY, THE TWENTY SEVENTH OF MAY  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY THREE

Please pray for the future priests of the archdiocese of Atlanta who will be ordained on **May 27, 2023** at **Holy Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church** in Norcross. Fr. Nicholas Le is among them. He will Come to St. Mary's Church to offer **Thanksgiving Mass** on **Jun 11, 2023** at **8:30 am & 12 pm**.

## Offertory/Contribution

**Weekend of April 06, 07, 08 & 09, 2023**

<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$3,100.00</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$4,770.00</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	<b>\$ 211.00</b>
<b>Archdiocesan Seminarians</b>	<b>\$ 1,007.00</b>
<b>Youth Ministry</b>	<b>\$632.00</b>
<b>Holy Land</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

The counters for this week are:

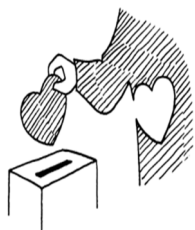
Jan Ollick, William King & Connie Tirico

The second collection for this weekend is

## Capital Campaign

**Next week is for Catholic Home Missions**

**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!

## Religious Education announcement Up Coming Events

- ♦ **Saturday May 06: First Reconciliation in this chapel**
- ♦ **Sunday May 07: First Holy Communion, at 8:30 am**
- ♦ **Sunday, May 28: The Graduation Mass**
- ♦ **June 19-23. Vacation Bible School this summer**
- ♦ **July 7-9: Steubenville Conference for high school students. We need to register soon with a \$50 deposit/ \$210 registration per person. Especially, WE NEED SPONSORS**
- ♦ **Saturday September 09: Rescue Atlanta from 8:00 AM – 5:00PM . In response to the call for a Eucharistic Revival, the Archdiocese of Atlanta is grateful to be partnering with ACTS XXIX in bringing Rescue Atlanta to this local Church. Register early (18 yrs +). The Parish agree with Mrs. Michel, Director of PCL to pay a portion of the tickets. If you need for information, please contact: Mrs. Jessica Burger:**

**904-219 - 1129; jnburger4@gmail.com**

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday /1 month

#### Parish Breakfasts:

on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday/1month

## Ladies of St.Mary's

The Ladies of St. Mary serve to provide a community of fellowship 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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed/ month (Sept—May)  
at 10 AM in Parish Hall

#### Co-Presidents:

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

## In Memory of

### Matilde



In Loving  
Memory of  
Don Cook



## Saint Vincent de Paul Society Saint Mary Toccoa Conference



**Help Telephone #**  
**(678) 892-6163**

## Gunsmithing Services

FIREARMS \* INSTRUCTION  
APPRAISALS \* CONSULTING

- \*CERTIFIED GUNSMITH
- \*NRA FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR
- \*RANGE SAFETY OFFICER
- \*PERSONAL SAFETY/PROTECTION OFFICER
- \*SALES
- \*PURCHASE BROKEN FIREARMS

Bill Mercure  
NRA Life Member  
Toccoa, GA  
Cell (404)372-2771  
Ph/Fax(706)779-0301  
mercure@bellsouth.net



Helping you  
come home.

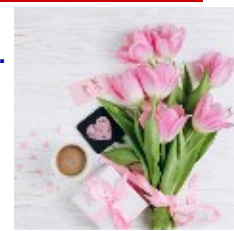
Donna M. Smith

donnasmithrealestate@gmail.com  
678-851-7170



## Alexander's Flowers & Gifts

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



## 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

**15% Discount for all  
New Clients**



## Brother John's Subs



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

## Lagniappe Dulcimer Shop

Instruments & Accessories

Free Lessons with Purchase of Dulcimer

OPEN: Thursday—Friday—10:00 AM —4:30 PM

Saturday—10:00 AM—2:00 PM

1572 Falls Road

**(706) 599-1107**



## Friends Of The Ritz Theatre

139 E Doyle Street  
Toccoa, Georgia 30577

Gary Cortellino  
Board member

for event schedule visit:

FRIENDS OF THE  
**RITZ**

e-mail: garycortel@aol.com  
cell: 678 360-2545

ritztheatretoccoa.com

**PEACH  
HOUSE  
FARM**  
CURRAHEE  
MOUNTAIN

**2950 W Currahee Street  
Toccoa GA 30577**  
**www.peachhousefarm.com**  
**Instagram @peachhousefarm**



## 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

**Modern  
Nails**

Waxing & Tanning

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

**706-886-7599**

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