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PARISH OFFICE

(706) 886-2819

Monday: 12PM – 4PM

Tuesday to Thursday

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8:30 AM (English)

12: PM (Tiếng Việt)

Monday, Wednesday; 1st Friday

6:00 PM

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

9:00 AM

HOLY HOUR

Monday; Wednesday; 1st Friday

4:30 PM

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

7:30 AM

WEEKEND HOLY HOUR

Saturday Evening: 4: 00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM & 11:30 AM

RECONCILIATION

After Mass

Monday - Thursday & Saturday

Or: by appointment



St Mary Catholic Church

Our time is now - Let's grow together

231 Rothell Rd Ext. Toccoa Ga 30577

MAILING ADDRESS

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TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08. 24. 2025

“Strive to enter by the narrow door”. Luke 13:22-30

The Pope Leo's Intention

In August 2025



For mutual coexistence:

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

Cầu cho việc cùng nhau chung sống:

Chúng ta hãy cầu nguyện cho những xã hội nơi mà sự chung sống dường như khó khăn hơn sẽ không khuất phục trước sự cám dỗ đối đầu bởi lý do sắc tộc, chính trị, tôn giáo hoặc ý thức hệ.

Mass Intentions 08. 23 - 30. 2025

SAT: 08/23	(Vigil)	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30
5:00 PM		Lh. Theresa Phạm Thị Hiền <i>AC Trinh & Thành</i>
SUN: 08/24		TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30
8:30 AM		Anthony Sigler's birthday (L) <i>Joyce Sigler</i>
12:00 PM		Cầu cho tất cả các thành viên trong gia đình, còn sống cũng như đã qua đời - Cô Nguyễn Nguyệt
MON: 08/25		St Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22
6:00 PM		Lh. Têrêsa <i>AC Trinh & Thành</i>
TUE: 08/26		Weekday 1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26
9:00 AM		Favorable weather for crops <i>Eileen Helgeland</i>
WED: 08/27		Saint Monica - Memorial 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32
6:00 PM		Shirley and Rusty Lincoln's birthday (L) Joyce Sigler
THU: 08/28		Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - Memorial 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51
9:00 AM		Lh. Phanxicô Xaviê Phan Văn Thăng <i>Fr. Henry</i>
FRI: 08/29		The Passion of Saint John the Baptist 1 Thes 4:1-8/ Mk 6:17-29 NO MASS
SAT 08/30		Weekday - BVM 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 25:14-30
9:00 AM		George J. Lincoln's birthday (L) <i>Joyce Sigler</i>
5:00 PM		Tạ ơn Chúa, Đức Mẹ và cầu bình an <i>AC Hòa & Điệp</i>
SUN: 08/31		TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
8:30 AM		Lh. Têrêsa <i>AC Kiều Trinh & Thành Nguyễn</i>
12:00 PM		Tạ ơn Chúa, Đức Mẹ và cầu bình an <i>AC Hòa & Mai</i>

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eyes-wide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate.

In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was "full, conscious, and active," a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been obscured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered. - Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Please keep the following People in your prayers

David Dessauer, Mr. Ben White, Mr. Steve Dessauer, Mary Wheeler, Angela Hanh, Nguyễn Lành, Harold Alexander, Tom Snider, Bill Dineen Meg Guck, Laura Barnett, Pearline Smith and Doug Pickens, Sharon Cook, Dorothy Cook, Mary Ann Coughlan, Ronny Murphy Eddie Hallford, Jay McAtee, Melissa Grigg, James Meyn, Dan Dwyer, Calvin Isbell, Jerry Powell, Kim Kellams, Danny Carter, Lori Gasque, Tim McGlone Sr., Timothy McGlone Jr. Robert McGlone, Joe Franz Mathes, Christen Cook, Lindsey McDonald, Rebecca Gonzalez, Nancy Barbour, Connie Tirico, Tammie Tweedy, Nancy Sterling, Geneva Alexander, Alie Smith, Lisa Carothers, Randall Adams, Melissa Dillon, David Boston, Mildred & Hallie Edenfield, Kimberly Simmons, Charlotte Hazel McEvilly, Ray Brueland, Joseph Schork, Brenda Wolfrey, Teresa Jones, and for all others not mentioned. If you want to submit an individual for Prayer Intentions, **please call the office at: (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 Holy Communion and the Weekly Bulletin.



Sunday, August 24, 2025

“I came to cast fire upon the earth”.

Luke 12:49-53

Meditation: Jesus didn’t mince words. As he passed through the towns, he warned his listeners. There’s a gate, and passing through it won’t be easy. But you’ve got to get through it. This image of a “narrow gate” illustrates Jesus’ mission perfectly: he traveled from village to village, “teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem” (Luke 13:24, 22).

Jesus’ whole life pointed toward Jerusalem, where he would fulfill his mission. There he would unveil his Father’s plan of salvation as he freely offered his life for us. He never stopped moving toward the cross. And as he went, he visited town after town, teaching all who would listen. This was Jesus’ “narrow gate,” and he did not avoid it (Luke 13:24).

Even more, he invited everyone to follow him through that gate of obedient, self-giving love. That’s because he knows that the narrow gate is the way to eternal life. His warnings might frighten us, but Jesus doesn’t want to scare us; he wants to save us. And so every day, he offers us the chance to enter the narrow gate—by our acts of love and our obedience to his commands.

Just as he visited the towns near Jerusalem, Jesus visits your town, your house, and your heart. He comes to teach you how to follow him all the way to heaven. He invites you to “strive to enter” the gate that leads to eternal life (Luke 13:24). And the best news? He is the gate (John 10:7), and his arms are open wide to help you. He is always offering you the grace you need to follow him.

So open your heart to Jesus. If the gate feels too narrow, the path too difficult, or your resistance too great, confess your need to the Lord. Ask for his help! He loves you immeasurably. He embraced the cross so that the narrow gate could open wide for you.

***“Lord, help me to follow you
through the narrow gate.”***

Chuyển ngữ: Sr. Maria Trần Thị Ngọc Hương Theo the Word Among us

Chúa Nhật, ngày 24. 08. 2025

“Ta đến để ném lửa xuống thế gian”.

Lc 12, 49-53

Suy niệm: Chúa Giêsu không nói bóng gió vòng vo. Khi Người đi ngang qua các thành, Người cảnh cáo những kẻ nghe Người. Có một cái cửa, và đi qua nó sẽ không dễ dàng. Nhưng bạn phải đi qua nó. Hình ảnh về “cửa hẹp” này minh họa cách hoàn hảo sứ mệnh của Chúa Giêsu: Người đã đi từ làng này tới làng nọ “mà giảng dạy khi Người trên đường lên Giêrusalem” (Lc 12,22).

Toàn bộ cuộc đời của Chúa Giêsu đều hướng về Giêrusalem, nơi Người sẽ hoàn thành sứ mạng của mình. Ở đó Người sẽ vén mở kế hoạch cứu độ của Chúa Cha khi Người tự do dâng hiến sự sống của Người cho chúng ta. Người không bao giờ ngưng tiến về thập giá. Và khi Người đi, Người đã viếng thăm các thành, các làng mạc, giảng dạy cho tất cả những ai muốn lắng nghe Người. Đây là “cửa hẹp” của Chúa Giêsu và Người đã không trốn tránh nó (x. Lc 13,24).

Còn hơn thế nữa, Chúa Giêsu đã mời mọi người đi theo Người bước qua cửa hẹp của sự vâng phục và tình yêu tự hủy. Đó là lý do tại sao Người biết rằng cửa hẹp là con đường dẫn tới sự sống đời đời. Những lời cảnh báo của Người có thể khiến chúng ta sợ, nhưng Chúa Giêsu không muốn làm chúng ta sợ; Người muốn cứu độ chúng ta. Và vì thế mỗi ngày, Người ban cho chúng ta cơ hội để bước vào cửa hẹp – bằng những hành động yêu thương và sự vâng phục các mệnh lệnh của Người.

Gống như Chúa Giêsu đã viếng thăm các thành gần Giêrusalem, Chúa Giêsu đang viếng thăm làng của bạn, gia đình và tâm hồn bạn. Người đến để dạy bạn cách đi theo Người lên tới thiên đàng. Người mời bạn “chiến đấu để vào” cửa dẫn tới sự sống đời đời (x. Lc 13,24). Và tin tốt nhất là gì? Người chính là cửa (Ga 10,7), và cánh tay Người luôn mở rộng để giúp bạn. Người luôn ban cho bạn ân sủng mà bạn cần để đi theo Người.

Vậy bạn hãy mở lòng mình ra với Chúa Giêsu. Nếu cảm thấy cửa quá hẹp, con đường quá khó khăn hoặc quá sức chịu đựng của bạn, hãy thú nhận nhu cầu của bạn với Chúa. Hãy xin Người trợ giúp! Người yêu thương bạn vô bờ bến. Người đã ôm lấy thập giá để cửa hẹp có thể mở rộng cho bạn.

“Lạy Chúa, xin hãy giúp con đi theo Chúa qua cửa hẹp”.

PSR New Sunday School Year 2025 - 2026

We will have opening school year Mass and blessing for the Catechist on 1st Sunday September 7 at 8:30 am Youth and Family Mass. Please, try to attend together.

According to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' directives for the Pilgrim on the Way of Hope, the Holy See has designated certain Jubilee Days throughout 2025 to recognize and celebrate different groups of people and various ministries in the Church. **Particularly the Catechists.**

The Directory of Catechesis states that "A catechist is a Christian who receives a particular calling from God that, when accepted in faith, empowers him or her for the service of the transmission of faith and for the task of initiating others into the Christian life? (No 122)



PSR IN SEPTEMBER 2025 : 9:30 AM —11:30 AM

Class	Date	Breakfast schedule
PSR	09/07	Tiên Trần's family
PSR	09/14	Tiên Trần's family
PSR	09/21	Ladies Guild
PSR	09/28	Tiên Trần's family

A Prayer for Catechists

Loving Father,

We pray today for our catechists.

We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word.

Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Cầu Nguyện cho Giáo Lý Viên

Lạy Thiên Chúa là nguồn mạch yêu thương,

Hôm nay, chúng con cầu nguyện cho các giáo lý viên của chúng con. Chúng con cảm tạ Chúa vì họ chính Là món quà Chúa ban qua việc phục vụ Ngài trong Giáo hội.

Xin Chúa ban cho họ sự khôn ngoan của Ngài để họ có thể lớn lên trong sự hiểu biết và giảng dạy Lời Ngài. Xin cũng ban cho họ tình yêu của Ngài để họ có thể trở thành những người loan báo Lời Ngài một cách hiệu quả và dẫn dắt người khác yêu mến Ngài.

Xin đổ tràn Thánh Thần của Ngài lên họ để ban cho họ sự khôn ngoan về những điều quan trọng; kiến thức về những chân lý đức tin; hiểu biết về ý nghĩa của chúng; phán đoán đúng về cách áp dụng chúng trong cuộc sống; can đảm để kiên trì ngay cả khi đối mặt với nghịch cảnh; thái độ tôn kính trước tất cả những gì thiêng liêng và cao quý; và sự nhiệt huyết yêu thương mà dẫn dắt người khác được biến đổi và đến gần với Con Ngài.

Chúng con cầu xin nhờ Đức Kitô, Chúa chúng con. Amen.

Offertory/Contribution
Weekend of August 16 & 17, 2025

Weekly Budget	\$ 3,100.00
Offertory	\$ 3,232.75
HML (Debt Reduction Program) (Donor from Atlanta)	\$ 555.00
Assumption Of Mary	\$ 737.00
Unscheduled	\$ 193.50
Total deposit	\$ 4,718.25
The counters for the week of 08/25 are: Jerry Bronikowski , Michele Wright and William King	

HML /DEBT REDUCTION
Weekend of August 16 & 17, 2025

HML /DEBT REDUCTION GOAL	\$ 400,000.00
Donations To Date	\$ 250,508.81
Remaining Debt Amount	\$ 149,491.19

**Additional Sponsor Opportunities
Available on Poster in Narthex.**

Thank you for your generosity! And please continue to support.

August focus:

Leaving a gift through a will or estate plan August is national Make-A-Will Month. Use this opportunity to plant the seed for parishioners to include your parish endowment fund in their will to perpetuate their love for your parish forever.



**August 24 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Honoring the Lord with Our Gifts:**

During National Make-A-Will Month, make a gift to our parish in your will or estate plans to create your own Catholic legacy. There are many ways to support our parish without affecting cash flow.

For more information, please contact Juliet Greco at jgreco@cfnga.org or 404.497.9440.

**August 31 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August is National Make a Will Month.**

God calls us to be stewards of the material and spiritual blessings He has graced each of us with. Estate planning and writing a will are ways to put stewardship into action, and to care for your loved ones and cherished organizations. To access free will writing tools, go to cfnga.org/planned-giving or contact Juliet Greco at the Catholic Foundation at jgreco@cfnga.org or 404.497.9440.



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🌐 pregnancyaidclinic.com



**PATH's next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat
October 17-19, 2025**

If abortion is part of your story, you may carry anger, guilt, or regret. Healing after abortion isn't about excusing what happened or forgetting. It's about finding peace. Call today to take that first step toward your healing and wholeness. Join us for PATH's next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat October 17-19, 2025.

For more information or to register, call or text our confidential number

♦ **at 404-717-5557**

♦ or email programdirector@pathatl.com.

♦ Start where you are. You're so worth it.

www.healingafterabortion.org

The Knights of Columbus Joseph M. Malik Council 9975



Grand Knight Leon Womack
Phone: 706-491-7110
Email: leonw8251@gmail.com

A Catholic Men's organization whose principles are charity, unity and fraternity: all activities that the council involves itself in are based upon these tenets. We work closely with our Pastor and members are involved in a wide range of church functions in support of the parish family.

- ⇒ **Members are required to be practicing Catholics** and a minimum of eighteen years old.
- ⇒ **Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month @ 6PM, in the Parish Social Hall.**
- ⇒ **Monthly parish breakfast is sponsored on the first or second Sunday after the morning Mass.** For more info please visit: www.kofc.org

St. Mary's Ladies

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: 2nd Wednesday of every month

- 10 AM; at the Social Hall

Co-Presidents: - Connie Tirico: (678) - 464 - 3214
- Michelle Wright: (404) - 375 - 5958

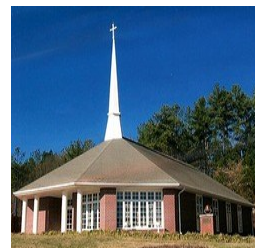


Help us keep the Church Clean!

1/ God's Housekeepers :

We are looking for more parishioners to help clean the church. The ministry is called God's Housekeepers and each week 2 people clean the church, narthex, and restrooms. Your commitment would be four times during the year. We have all of the supplies for you. If you're interested or want more information, **please call, text or email Laverne Tilley.** Phone: 770 - 539 -0460 or email: ltalley@gmail.com.

Thanks and let me know if you need more information.



2/ Lawn Care Service:

If you are interested to help to care the garden or lawn care of the Church. Please contact Mr. Tony Duong Vu's team at:

- ♦ vutony603@gmail.com or 706-599-4278
- ♦ Vu12575@gmail.com or 813-966-0688



Saint Vincent de Paul Society St. Mary Toccoa Conference

Help Telephone : 678 - 892 - 6163

St Vincent de Paul Needs you!

Are you looking for ways to experience Christ? Members of St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul conference invite you to share in their ministry of experiencing Christ by serving our neighbors in need. We see Christ in the poor because Jesus told us "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters you do for me." To learn more: www.svdpgorgia.org/join-svdp. For more information contact **Ethan Owen:** (706) - 599 - 6815.

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY



If you would like to have your birthday and anniversary announced on WNEG radio/ Connie Gaines, please use the signup sheet is in the narthex. **Questions? Contact Gary Cortellino: Phone: 678) 360-2545**
Email: garycortel@aol.com

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live". (Jn. 11:25)

**Please keep our beloved
Nancy Barbour in our prayers**

**In Remembrance of
Nancy Lynn
Gamble Barbour**

**June 17, 1952
August 13, 2025**



BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Bulletin Submission are to be sent to: stmarystoccoa@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN** noon on **Wednesday** for the bulletin. Late submissions may not be able to be placed.