

## Mass/Service Schedule/Intentions

Tue: 12/6 9:30 am

Wed: 12/7 6:45 pm Michael Schott (D)  
~given by Mary Madani

Sat: 12/10 6:30 pm People of the parish

Sun: 12/11 8:30 am

### Advent Penance Service December 20 at 7pm

#### CONTRIBUTIONS for November 27, 2016

Church Budget	\$ 2,100
General Offertory	\$1,885

COUNTERS for this week are: Mary Beverly and Ruth Manna.

#### Parish Committees

Pastoral Council: Deanna Holmer 706-297-7493  
Finance Committee: Bob Defenbaugh 706-886-8950  
Ladies of Saint Mary: Stephanie Cortellino 404-353-0475  
Religious Education: Sharon Cook 706-297-8344  
Jessica Burger 1-904-219-1129  
Knights of Columbus: Mike Staley 770-241-8544  
Maintenance Committee: Larry Barbour 706-244-1410  
Bulletin editor: Christa O'Barr 706-886-2819;  
[stmarystoccoa@gmail.com](mailto:stmarystoccoa@gmail.com) (email)  
Multi-Purpose Building Committee: 706-201-1185  
Extraordinary Ministers/Lectors Coordinator: Mary Madani 770-313-9192

SUNDAY MISSAL - 2016-2017: Copies for those who subscribed are in the narthex along with a payment envelope.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, the sign-up sheet is in the narthex. The price is \$5.00 each, please see Sharon Cook, the names will be listed in our Christmas Bulletin.

#### Pray for ...

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Zachary Carreno, Kevin Chase, Carl Dowell, Joe Franzmathes, Edna Kane, Ed Kernan, Skip Studley, Joe Todd, Jim Zell, Elaine Peterson, Charles Roberts, Glenn Gloeckner, Mary Hennessey, Hubert Jones, Lisa Panatera - Esquivel, Karen Poole, Mac Boswell, Karen Perchinski, Brion Lanier, Max Biester, Laura Barnett, Nan Lunn, Lore Schnell, Walter Gaines, Janice Sibley, Joan Ferrara, Jan Dover, Leon Womack and Mary Beverly.

The Parish is updating our Prayer Intentions for January 2017 and thereafter. Individuals requesting prayer intentions should communicate with parishioner Ruth Manna, preferably via phone; 678 327-4738. Please do not call the church office. Please update Ruth at least every four weeks if you wish to continue with Community Prayers. Additionally, please communicate with her regarding individuals presently listed so that the Parish bulletin is updated beginning January. Only updated names will be listed in the Church bulletin beginning the weekend of January 14th/15th, 2017. Thank-you. Also, for those who do not have computer access and wish to pray for others, a 'telephone call-out' will continue by Rita Nash. Please contact Rita via email ([gordie123@windstream.net](mailto:gordie123@windstream.net)) or by phone (706-356-1247).

#### St. Vincent dePaul

SVdP, St. Mary's Conference will meet this Tuesday, December 13th, at 6:00 PM in the home of Nancy Williamson (322 Rue Saint Joan, Lavonia, GA). This will be our only meeting in December and will be a social event to get to know each other better. All parishioners are invited to join us — please bring a dish that is an hors-d'oeuvre or finger food. Please note that our regular meeting dates are changed to the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, at 7:00 PM, beginning in January, 2017. For questions or information call Nancy Williamson at (706) 356 8046.

ADVENT WREATHS, ADVENT CANDLES, and ADVENT CALENDARS will be on sale starting Nov. 19th and 20th after mass. Proceeds will go to the Ladies Guild for future projects. Any questions, phone Pat Defenbaugh @ 706-244-1316.

#### ATTENTION ALL NEW AND CURRENT LECTORS

An Archdiocesan required training session will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17th. Meet in the parish hall at 11am for training, followed by a light lunch and viewing of Scott Hahn's "The Fourth Cup." Questions? Call Mary @ 770-313-9192. Attendance is mandatory to be in this ministry.

#### ATTENTION ALL NEW AND CURRENT EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

An Archdiocesan required training session will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17th. Meet in the parish hall at noon for a light lunch and viewing of Scott Hahn's "The Fourth Cup," following by training to conclude at 2pm. Questions? call Mary @ 770-313-9192. Attendance is mandatory to be in this ministry.

For the preparation of the Advent/Christmas season, let's rally one more time for Toccoa Life. They are especially in need of size 3 and 4 diapers. Thank you for your generosity.

If you are looking for a way to help your church and can spend 2 hours four times a year spread out over the calendar year cleaning the church. We would appreciate your help! Please call Ray Hopper 706-779-2700 for more information.



“As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist’s call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgment manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgment to the Son, because He is the Son of man. “And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behavior in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity. “Through the Gospel John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The ‘voice’ of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ.” — Benedict XVI