



ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday January 11, 2026– The Baptism of the Lord



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"This is my beloved Son, with whom
I am well pleased." - Mt 3:17

EL BAUTISMO DEL SEÑOR

"Este es mi Hijo muy amado, en quien tengo
mis complacencias". - Mt 3, 17

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Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

1821 White St, Anderson, SC 29624

Mission Statement

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, Anderson SC was founded in 1943 by the Franciscans of the Holy Name Province, New York. The intention then and today, was and is to, in the spirit of Jesus Christ and St. Francis, minister in and with the African American Catholic community and to reach out to the African Americans of Anderson County. Furthermore, all who come to St. Mary's from whatever background and ethnicity with a desire for Christian family will be regarded as brothers and sisters to us. We also see ourselves as called to live in Gospel relationship to the alienated and the poor of this community.

The Holy Father's prayer intention for the month of January 2026

For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary church.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 9:00 am (English) 12:30 pm (Español)

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: 4:00 pm (English)

Wednesday-Friday: 8:00 am (English)

Wednesday & Friday: 7:00 pm (Español)

Saturday: 4:00 pm (English)

Confessions: 1/2 hour before each Mass.

Holy Adoration: Thursdays after morning Mass, Fridays 6-7 pm

Food Pantry

Drop off any non-perishable food items in the church or parish hall bin. The following are food supplies we need to restock:

- Boxes of Cereal
- Oatmeal Packets
- Canned Fruit
- Dried Milk

THANK YOU

Parish Chorus Practice

Thursdays at 6:00 pm

HeatherJCHiley@gmail.com

Heather Brown, Music Director

Prayer Warriors:

We are a group of parishioners who pray for you, your family, and / or friends.

To join our faith filled ministry or to request prayer, please contact Judy Hanson at 434-944-2636

Prayer Intentions for this week:

Randy Kolb
Steve Quam
Baby Francesca
Melanie Qualters
Marina Osborn
Katherine Fariss
Tim Rioux

Weekly Collections

January 3-4

Operating: \$ 9,553

B & G: \$ 880

Knights of Columbus

We are a Catholic men's organization serving our parish and community through time and support of charitable organizations

Anyone interested in finding out more can call Mike Massey at 864-314-3622.

Hispanic Ministry / Ministerio Hispano

Serves the growing Hispanic/Latino population by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate pastoral care, fostering their engagement and leadership in the Church, and welcoming them into the broader Catholic community. Meetings are once a month on a Thursday. Meeting dates will be announced.

Women's Council

3rd Monday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall

The Women Council is a ministry of service to the parish and community. All women in the church are welcome.

Men's Club

1st Wednesday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall

The Men's Club was organized as a fellowship for the men in the parish. All men in the church are welcome.

Bible Study Resumes January 22

From Exodus to Easter: Journey from Slavery to Freedom

Join us for a ten-week Bible study that traces God's saving work from the Exodus to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, using the parables of Jesus to illuminate our own journey from bondage to freedom. This study invites us to discover how God liberates His people and forms them in faith. Rooted in Scripture and Tradition, the sessions will help us recognize our modern "Egypt," grow in trust during life's wilderness moments, and prepare our hearts for Easter renewal. This study is well suited for Lent and for anyone seeking deeper conversion and lasting spiritual freedom.

We will meet in the Guadalupe Room of the Parish Hall on Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. from January 22 through April 2.
(We will not meet on February 12.)

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,
I have grasped you by the hand;
I formed you, and set you
as a covenant of the people,
a light for the nations. (Is 42:6)

Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace. (Ps 29)

Second Reading:

"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him
and acts uprightly
is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35)

Gospel:

And a voice came from the heavens, saying,
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am
well pleased." (Mt 3:17)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

John could not believe that Jesus would seek baptism from him, a lowly mortal man. But our God is a humble God. He does not fear our weakness. He extends his hand, saying, "It is fitting." So take his hand. Begin the work he has set out for you.

Observances for the week of January 11, 2026

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
Tuesday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Anthony, Abbot
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

New Year 2026

As we begin this new year, many of us have made new resolutions and fresh commitments. During Christmas and the New Year, I was truly moved to see so many of you present in our church, praying together as one family of faith.

Although I cannot personally thank each of you, I want to express my sincere gratitude through this message. Thank you for your presence, your prayers, your generous help, and the many ways you dedicate your time to keep our church so beautiful. I am also grateful for your valuable suggestions that help our parish continue to grow and function smoothly.

May the Lord bless you and your families abundantly in this New Year 2026. Let us walk together in faith, hope, and love.

With gratitude and prayers,

Fr. John De Britto *m.ss.cc*

Blessing for Baptismal Grace

Dear God,
Through Baptism, You called and claimed us as Your own, chosen and loved.
Pour Your blessing upon us as we remember our Baptism.
Plant Your identity in our hearts.
Help us to live as Your beloved.
Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of January 11, 2026

Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/
Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

Monday:

1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/
Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday:

Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/
1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called "Behind the Mac - Greatness." It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, "There's a certain kind of person who doesn't wait for greatness. They make it." It's a compelling message. There's beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can't anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today's Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn't preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: "**You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.**" It's not a reward for success. It's not earned. Before he does anything "great," Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing over you: "You are my beloved." That is your true identity, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.

— Father John Muir

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: When the voice of God declares, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," he is referring, of course, to Jesus. But I think He would say the same of John the Baptist — and of all those who welcome Jesus into the waters, ready to do as he bids.

When Jesus Wades In

Usually, when God comes to us, we aren't ready.

We think we are. Like John the Baptist, we stand in our waters of baptism, certain of our mission. We know how it's going to go. We know what's going to be asked of us. We're sure of it.

Christ wades into the waters. And he screws up all our plans.

To be clear, I don't think John the Baptist lacks faith when he balks at the idea of baptizing Jesus. I think it is, in fact, a testament to his humility. But whatever motivated John's actions, he is — if even for a brief moment — hesitating to do the will of God. Just a few chapters after this in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus will acknowledge that John is the greatest person "born of women" — with the caveat that even he is not perfect enough for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Not yet.

Jesus didn't give John an explanation as the two stood in the River Jordan. He merely said, "Allow it for now." John could have resisted further, demanding to understand why. He could have grown suspicious at the simplicity of Jesus' answer, at the strangeness of this request. He could have clung desperately to his version of How Things Are Supposed To Be, and in doing so, fostered doubt in his heart. He could have even stormed off, confused and angry.

He did none of these things, because John is, as Jesus says, the greatest born of women.

When the Holy Spirit descends and the voice of God declares, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," he is referring, of course, to Jesus. But I think He would say the same of John the Baptist — and of all those who welcome Jesus into the waters, ready to do as he bids.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

At times, temptation seems so powerful that it is almost impossible to resist. How can I be stronger in my resolve to avoid sin and temptation?

Answer:

The saints have written that every human person desires the good. In a sense, we don't desire sin itself. Temptation is powerful because there is at least some bit of good in it. Even in the blackest of sin, there is something good that becomes twisted. We can look for good in sin when we feel it is lacking in our own life. When we lack true relational intimacy, it can be easy to turn to lust. When we lack confidence in God in our own lives, it can be easy to judge others or to grasp for control over situations. When we lack peace in the present moment, it can be easy to compete with others or to treat others poorly in our quest for success.

Overcoming temptation isn't just about repressing our sinful desires. If that's all we do, they'll just burst out someplace else! If there is a recurring temptation in your life, prayerfully consider why this is so appealing to you. Submit this to God and bring it to a wise person. And in the meantime, continue to resist temptation to sin. If we fail to choose God in small choices, we're several steps down the road towards falling in larger ones. Pray for the grace to persevere!

Via Fidelis, the faithful way, is the way of the Lord Jesus. As he said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (Jn 14:6). Each of us who have been baptized in the mystery of Jesus Christ have been chosen and are invited to walk the faithful way with the Lord. He tells us: “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you” (Jn 15:16).

2

2026

Catechesis

Grow deeper in the knowledge of our Church's teachings
to discover how we can be more like Christ.



2026: Understand the Faith. In our second year, we will focus on refreshing our knowledge of the faith as a diocesan family, which will also clarify our shared mission. Once we make an effort to understand our beliefs, we will be more equipped to explain it to others who want to learn more about the profound mysteries of faith.

Prayer

Lord, I love you and want to do what you ask of me.

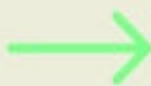
Mission for the Week

I will pray for all people who are not baptized.

Sharing the Gospel

After you were baptized, the Holy Spirit came to help you do great things for God. Forgive someone who really hurts you. Invite someone who is usually left out to your party. Take care of the sick. Feed those without food. Do these things. They show that you love God above all and your neighbor as yourself. Then God will say to you, "I love this child of mine and am very pleased with you."

Now color
the picture!



Circle the picture that is the **same** as the **first** one.
Then color in all the pictures.



Saint Mary of the Angels

First Aid & CPR Training

Because Safety Starts with You.

**Saturday, January 31st
10:00 am -2:00pm**

Parish Hall

Training will be conducted by the Anderson Fire Department.

If you are interested in receiving this training please sign up in the Parish Northrex by JANUARY 24th.

There is a \$10 fee for the training/ certification. Please submit payment to parish office by January 24th

**If you have any questions please contact Pat Binninger, Safe Environment coordinator:
pbinninger@charlestdiocese.org**



BIBLE STUDY

From Exodus to Easter: Journey from Slavery to Freedom

Join us for a ten-week Bible study that traces God's saving work from the Exodus to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Guadalupe Room of the Parish Hall

Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m.

January 22 through April 2. (We will not meet on February 12.)



FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING:

OUR NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026 AT 9:00 AM IN THE PARISH HALL, EVERYONE IS WELCOMED.

JUNTA DEL CONSEJO FINANCIERO PARROQUIAL

LA PROXIMA JUNTA ESTA AGENDADA PARA EL JUEVES, 29 DE ENERO 2026 A LAS 9:00 AM EN EL SALON PARROQUIAL.

TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS.

SANTA MARIA DE LOS ANGELES

Charla Pre-Baptismal

**MIERCOLES 28 DE ENERO
POR FAVOR ASISTIR A LA
MISA DE 7 PM**

**LA CHARLA SERA EN ESPAÑOL.
ASEGURESE DE LLENAR LA HOJA DE INCRIPCION AL FINAL DE LA CHARLA**

CHARLA DIRIJIDA POR PADRE JOHN DE BRITO



St. Mary of the Angels

**INVITATION TO LEAD
THE ROSARY BEFORE
MASS.
3:30-4:00 PM
SATURDAYS**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
BE ADDED TO THE
ROSARY LEAD LIST FOR
SATURDAY MASS
PLEASE CONTACT THE
PARISH OFFICE
864-226-8621**





SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE SPIRIT OF GOD
DESCENDING LIKE
A DOVE.

MATTHEW 3:16