

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church is a welcoming parish of disciples inviting all to grow in holiness through the reverent celebration of the Eucharist and Sacraments while reaching out to those in need and sharing our Catholic faith with all.

St. Margaret Mary Councils

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Judy Clyne, Chair
Phyllis Benbow
Maria Borges
Cesar Cueva
David Langdon
Dan Little
Marisol Mireles
Brandon Schneeberger
LeAnn Wilson

FINANCE COUNCIL

Doug Thigpen, Chair
John Czarnecki
Ernie Reynolds
Dulce Schneeberger
Tom Schodorf

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CABINET

Tom Schodorf, Chair
Phyllis Benbow
Antonio Garcia
Kristy Kimball
Anne Pacosa

To contact any Council Member, please send an email to: office@saintmmc.com.



This Week on Formed

Week of February 22, 2026



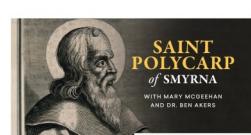
Foretold

From the beginning, God had a plan to save man from sin. With Jesus, that plan was fulfilled. But he also has a specific plan for you. Watch Foretold to rediscover God's providential love for you.



Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.



St. Polycarp | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Mary McGeehan as they dive into the life of St. Polycarp, a second century bishop and martyr. St. Polycarp was a student of St. John the Apostle, defended the faith against early heresies, and offered his life like Christ as a martyr.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



How do parishioners register to use our FORMED subscription?

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:
Go to formed.org/signup:

1. Select our Parish by name;
2. Register with your name and email address;
3. Check your email account for a link to begin using FORMED;
4. Scan the QR Code to download the FORMED app.

It's free! Download books, watch great movies, podcasts, and more!

Women of St. Margaret Mary



OUR MISSION

Our women's group is a service organization created to support the mission of our parish and our pastor's initiatives, and to promote individual spiritual growth through prayers, reflection, and action.

BECOME A MEMBER!

Catholic women 18 years and older are invited to join. Our group gives women the opportunity to fully live their Catholic faith by sharing their gifts and talents with our parish, the community, and each other.

Questions? Email: stmargaretmary1936@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus is a global Catholic fraternal order founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney in 1882 to assist families upon the death of the main income earner. The organization has grown to become the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Knights support vocations, charitable outreach, professional insurance programs and more. Knights are dedicated to the principles of unity, charity, fraternity, and patriotism. Membership is open to practical Catholic men, aged 18 years or older. Learn more about the Knights of Columbus, by contacting Jesse Boeckermann at 605-376-4234 or email jessebach7@gmail.com.

St. Vincent de Paul Society



Thank you for your generous gifts and prayers to support our ministry. Most folks just need some help through a rough patch in their lives. If you can help us financially, SVdP poor boxes are in the church vestibule and in the overflow seating entrance. Donations may also be mailed to PO Box 4, Swannanoa, NC 28778 or given on the parish website saintmmc.com by choosing the fund St. Vincent de Paul Society. If you would like to make an honor or memorial gift, contact Terry at 919-522-9892 or email terry.f.foley@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know is experiencing financial difficulties, please remember that SVdP is here to help. Call 828-582-7932 on Mondays 6am – noon, all calls are held in strictest confidence.

"Lord, help me to make time today to serve you in those who are most in need of encouragement or assistance." ~ St. Vincent de Paul

Catholic Charities Asheville

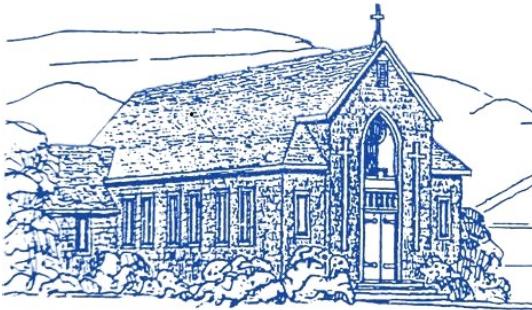


Catholic Charities serves the poor and vulnerable regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. We offer financial help, burial assistance, bilingual licensed clinical mental health counseling, elder ministry, immigration services, and a food pantry at our Asheville office.

We couldn't do what we do without our caring, dedicated volunteers and your generous donations.

Donate at www.ccdoc.org/give

Join our volunteer team by contacting Hilary Kalisch at HRKalisch@rcdoc.org.



St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

† Serving the Swannanoa Valley since 1936 †

February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

Father John Allen, Pastor

Deacon Dan Hoffert

Deacon Ralph Eckoff, retired

Claudia G. Graham

Chief Financial & Operating Officer and Pastoral Associate

Jennifer Puzerewski

Director of Ministries and Pastoral Associate

Taylor D'Abbraccio, Youth Formation

Karen Parsons, Organist

102 Andrews Place
Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778
Website: www.saintmmc.com
www.facebook.com/stmargaretmaryswannanoa



He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.'" ~ Matthew 4: 2-4

Celebration of the Sacraments

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 11:00am; 1:00pm (Spanish)

Monday - Thursday: 8:45am

Holy Days: Check website

CONFESION

Confession is available immediately following each daily Mass and on Saturdays immediately following the 4:30pm Mass and Sundays immediately following the 8:30am, and 11am Masses.

BAPTISM

Please contact the office to arrange preparation and to complete the required registrations and forms. Baptisms will be scheduled once these requirements are met.

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

Please email to register: stmmcfaih@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE

An appointment with the Pastor must be scheduled at least *twelve months* before the intended wedding date and to begin preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office during office hours to arrange anointing for parishioners of St. Margaret Mary. Anointing should take place immediately following diagnosis of any serious illness or before major surgery. **Please do not wait until death is imminent to receive this sacrament.** May also be requested during scheduled confession times.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:15AM - 3:00PM
Closed Fridays, Holy Days and Holidays

OFFICE: 828-686-8833, press 0 for Front Desk
Por información en español oprima 9

FAX: 828-686-8832

E-MAIL: office@saintmmc.com

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES FOR THE DYING:

A family member of a St. Margaret Mary parishioner should call 828-686-8833, after business hours press 2

WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC? Join O.C.I.A.

OCIA is Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. We welcome those who desire to learn more about our Catholic faith, those who wish to become Catholic, and those who wish to return to the practice of their faith. For more information, please email Deacon Dan and Linda Hoffert at hofferts@bellsouth.net.

ADULT CHOIR/SCHOLA: Call the office at 828-686-8833.

VISITS FOR SICK & HOMEBOUND: Call parish office.

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION: Contact the Catholic Formation Team at: stmmcfaih@gmail.com.

February 22, 2026

Mass Intentions

Sat 02/21	4:30pm† Ernst Josef & Elsa Blum
Sun 02/22	8:30am† Lauren Besignano
	11:00am Pro Populo
	1:00pm Jose Jimenez Ramirez
Mon 02/23	8:45am† Maria DeJesus Hernandez
Tue 02/24	8:45am† Mary Finegan
Wed 02/25	8:45am Mestayer Family
Thur 02/26	8:45am Celebrant's Intentions
Fri 02/27	 No Mass



Please Pray for...

Those who are sick or have special needs:

Marian Bogdanowicz, Shaun Benbow, Susan Blanchard, Donna Collins, Jack Crowley, Carolyn Dickenson, Bernie Hyland, Alison Hoefling, Dorothy Kelly, Don & Priscilla Kuffel, Jim Lauer, Cecelia Meredith, Margaret Morrow Marilyn Rebholz, Sally Schoen, Marellen Struhar, Vivienne Joy, Vicki Wright, Sandy Yacovelli.

Our Family Members Serving in the Military:

Captain Christian Kimball, son of Kristy Kimball. Airman Jack Vess, son of Eric & Christine Vess.



VESPERS AND SOUP

Vespers and Soup is a cherished tradition at STMM that brings together parishioners for prayer & fellowship. Vespers (Evening Prayer) will be prayed in the church followed by soup and bread in the Parish Hall.

**Join us on Tuesdays
February 24th - March 24th
6pm - 7pm.
ALL ARE WELCOME!**



We are inviting all kids ages 8-16 to participate in the **Bi-lingual Living Stations of the Cross**.

Join us February 26th, 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Parish Hall for the first practice. For more information please contact Lorena Valdez at 828-551-7123



Scriptures for the Week

MON Feb 23	Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr
Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18; Ps 19: 8, 9, 10, 15; 2 nd Cor 6: 2b;	
Matthew 25: 31-46	
TUE Feb 24	
Isaiah 55: 10-11; Ps 34: 4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Matthew 4: 4b; Matthew 6: 7-15	
WED Feb 25	
Jonah 3: 1-10; Ps 51: 3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Joel 2: 12-13; Lk 11: 29-32	
THUR Feb 26	
Esther C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Ps 51: 12a, 14a; Matthew 7: 7-12	
FRI Feb 27	Day of Abstinence from meat
Ezekiel 18: 21-28; Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Ezekiel 18: 31; Matthew 5: 20-26	

SAT Feb 28

Deuteronomy 26: 16-19; Ps 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8; 2nd Cor 6: 2b; Matthew 5: 43-48

SUN Feb 29 Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12: 1-4a; Ps 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2nd Tim 1: 8b-10; Matthew 17: 5; Matthew 17: 1-9

Schedule for the Week

Office open Monday & Thursday 9:15am-3:00pm
The church is open for prayer during office hours.

Mon Feb 23	8:45am Mass
Tues Feb 24	8:45am Mass; Office Closed 5:30pm Adoration (CH) 6pm Vespers (CH) and Soup (PH)
Wed Feb 25	8:45am Mass; Office Closed
Thur Feb 26	8:45am Mass; Rosary following Mass 11am St. Vincent de Paul Mtg (PH) 6:30pm Living Stations Practice (PH)
Fri Feb 27	Church and Office Closed 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH) 6:30pm Estaciones de la Cruz (CH)
Sat Feb 28	Hospitality Weekend 11am Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood 4:30pm Mass
Sun Mar 01	8:30am Mass 11:00am Mass 1pm Mass (Español)

IMPORTANT DATES!

Feb 24:	5:30pm Adoration on Tuesday's during Lent
Feb 26:	6:30pm Living Stations of the Cross Practice (PH)
Feb 27:	5:30pm Stations of the Cross-English (CH) 6:30pm Stations of the Cross-Spanish (CH)
Mar 4:	6:30pm Knights of Columbus Mtg (PH)
Mar 6:	8:45am First Friday Mass

(PH = Parish Hall; CH = Church)

Bells of Hope



THANK YOU to all who have pledged to our Bells of Hope campaign. We are over halfway to our cash goal to break ground! So far, 115 families have contributed to Bells of Hope, many former parishioners and visitors who love our church and wish to see our plans come to fruition. We need everyone to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial gift to Bells of Hope. Pledge cards and envelopes are in the church entrance. You may also use the QR code below to set up a pledge or make a one-time gift online.

For questions or more information on giving, contact Bells of Hope at 828-747-7261.



Online Giving for
Bells of Hope



\$1,816,063

\$3,150,000
Required by end
of construction

\$1,350,000
Minimum
to start construction

\$735,572

Pledges

Cash Received

Updated 2/18/26

Continuing to serve the Swannanoa Valley for the next 90 years!

Stewardship



Offertory for the Month and Year to Date

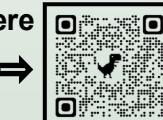
FEB GOAL	MONTH ACTUAL	% OF GOAL
\$24,000	\$16,371	68.2%

Offertory - Fiscal Yr To Date Jul 1 - Feb 18

GOAL	YTD ACTUAL	% OF GOAL
\$312,000	\$196,092	62.8%

Donate online at saintmmc.com or here

May God bless you for
your financial stewardship!



TENDING the VINEYARD



DSA Kickoff 2026 !

"Tending the Vineyard" is the theme of the 2026 Diocesan Support Appeal (DSA). Bishop Martin asks each of us to prayerfully consider a gift to the DSA as a way of serving Christ through the work of thousands of Catholics in Western North Carolina. Our Parish goal this year is \$31,947

See the bulletin insert for the Offices & Ministries that are supported by the DSA.

WAYS TO GIVE:

- Make a Pledge - Pledging allows you to make a large gift with smaller payments over 11 months
- One-Time Gift - Respond to a mailing, in-pew appeal card, or bulletin insert
- Make a one-time gift or set up a monthly pledge via credit or debit card at saintmmc.com
- Donate online at www.charlottediocese.org/dsa
- Scan QR code

Thank you for your generosity!

IF WRITING A CHECK, PLEASE MAKE IT PAYABLE TO