

St. Mary Magdalene CATHOLIC CHURCH



**4th Sunday of Lent
March 11, 2018**



Reflection

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the debut of Mr. Rogers Neighborhood

When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say "It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem." Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes.

The connections we make in the course of a life--maybe that's what heaven is. Discovering the truth about ourselves is a lifetime's work, but it's worth the effort.

Knowing that we can be loved exactly as we are gives us all the best opportunity for growing into the healthiest of people.

Mass Today—42 **Offertory Helpers—** Last Name's I—P
Weekend Masses—Saturday—5pm & Sunday—9am & 10:45am
Sunday Youth Mass—Youth Mass March 11 & 18—NO Youth Mass March 25
Weekday Masses— Monday through Friday—8:15AM
Reconciliation—After Daily Mass or check the Pastor's Letter in bulletin and the E-News to see if Confessions are on the schedule for Saturday at 10:30am.
Baptisms—See Guidelines on Website—Email the Pastor
Weddings—See Guidelines on Website—Email the Pastor

**625 MAGDALA PL.
APEX, NC 27502**

**(919) 657-4800
WWW.STMM.NET**

Gathering:

Out of Darkness—506

Psalm: 137

Let my tongue be silenced if I ever forget You, if I ever forget You.

Preparation:

Amazing Grace—433

Communion:

Christ, Be Our Light—596

Open My Eyes—393

The King of Love My Shepherd Is—468

Sending Forth:

We are the Light of the World—597

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

My Dear Friends,



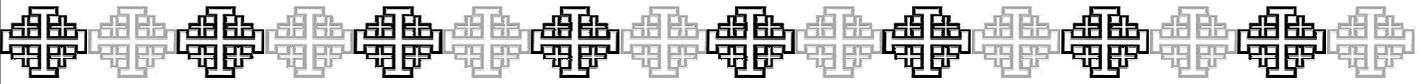
As you know from the e-news this past week, we have the sadness to note the death of our Deacon John Hubisz. Deacon John has been with our parish since our beginning with Mass at Apex Middle School. We are grateful for his service and we will miss him at the weekend Masses. Funeral is on Tuesday at our church with Visitation at 1pm and Mass at 2:30pm. We keep Deacon John and his family in our prayers. May he rest in peace.

This week good news continues for our participation in the Bishop's Annual Appeal. We have received pledges/gifts of \$218,842 which is 114% of our goal. All gifts now come back to our parish. 42% of the parish has responded – so we still have the opportunity to increase our participation. Pledge forms are still in the baskets in various places in the church.

ABOUT BAPTISMS: We do not have baptisms during Lent, so the next opportunities will be after Easter. I do have baptisms at the Easter Sunday Masses. **CONFESSIONS:** There will be Confessions on Saturday March 10 at 10:30 and on Saturday March 17 at 10:30 – in the Reconciliation Room on the north side of the church.

There is a 2nd collection this weekend for Catholic Relief Services. CRS is our church's first responder to crises around the world and in our own country.

On Holy Thursday we have the Foot Washing of 12 people. Volunteers – contact me. This is for adults and children in 3rd grade and up.
Father Donald Staib



IMPORTANT

PARISH DATES

March

- 10/11—CPO Food Drive
- 11—2nd Collection—Catholic Relief Services
- 11—Youth Mass—6pm—Church
- 12—Parent Confirmation Workshop—7:30pm—Media Ctr.
- 14—Penance Service—7pm—St. Michael, Cary
- 16—Stations of the Cross—7pm—Church
- 18—Youth Mass—6pm—Church
- 20—Penance Service—11am—St. Bernadette, Fuquay
- 20—EM Training—10:30am OR 7pm—Church
- 21—Penance Service—11am—St. Michael, Cary
- 23—KofC Fish Fry—5:30—7:45pm—Dining Hall
- 23—Stations of the Cross—7pm—Church
- 25—No Youth Mass
- 29—Holy Thursday Mass—7pm—Church
- 30—Stations of the Cross—12pm—Church
- 30—Good Friday Service—3pm—Church
- 31—Easter Vigil—Gathering at 8pm—Piazza
(Note NO 5pm Mass)

April

- 1—Easter Sunday Masses—9am & 10:45am—Church
- 1—NO Youth Mass
- 6—Adoration—8:30am—7pm—Chapel
- 8—Youth Mass—6pm—Church
- 9—RCIA—7:30p—Church Meeting Room #4

Deadline for Bulletin submission is the Wednesday Morning prior to the weekend of publication (Send bulletin requests to lynch@stmm.net)

Mass Intentions

- March 10—5pm—Joe & Agnes Baker—John Baker
 - March 11—9am—Betty Bedotto—Jim Bedotto
 - March 11—10:45am—Edith & Victor Alimonti—Joseph & Renee Preisser
 - March 11—6pm—Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
 - March 12—8:15am—Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
 - March 14—8:15am—Donald & Louis Zabski—The Callus Family
- For Mass Intentions/Mass Cards—Call the Parish Office**

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

WE DID IT !!!

In record time we have reached our Parish Bishop's Annual Appeal goal. Thank you to all who participated. Let's try to reach the other goal: 100% parish participation. The forms are still in the church.

And any funds over our goal come back to our parish – we always have a good use for funds not in our regular budget. Again many, many thanks

Our Bishop, for his first BAA, noted that he considers the 2 most significant items in the BAA are support for Catholic Charities and for support for our seminarians.

NOW THAT THE NEW CHURCH IS COMPLETED

We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 15 years – and we are challenged to respond to new parish endeavors brought about by our new building. We are grateful for those who are completing their pledges and for new gifts that are given in the monthly 'white' envelope.

Parish Contacts

- Pastor**—Father Donald Staib,—387-3648, donfs22@aol.com
- Deacon**—Joseph LaPierre, 919 -219-5217, deaconjoe1931@gmail.com
- School Principal**—Bob Cadran, 657-4800 ext. 7294, Cadran@stmm.net
- Parish Office**—Kathy Lynch, 657-4800 ext. 7281, lynch@stmm.net
- Parish Bookkeeper**—Ann Cadran, 657-4800 ext. 7282, acadran@stmm.net
- Religious Education Director**—Celeste Usischon, 657-4800 ext. 7280



Catechetical Corner

2018 Sacrament Families – Thank you for attending one of the First Communion meetings last week. If the sudden cancellation of the 10:30am Tues. meeting changed your plans or if you were away, a make-up meeting has been set for Tues, March 13th at 7pm in the Media Center. Please RSVP to Celeste if attending.

Lenten Almsgiving – The Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls distributed to all families before Ash Wednesday are due back the week of March 18th. Please convert all collected coins to paper money. Checks can also be made out to StMM with Rice Bowl on the memo line for your convenience. Be as generous as your means will allow.

All Program Families – The Traditional Elementary Program & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will be closed for Holy Week – March 25th/27th/28th & Easter Week – April 1st/3rd/4th. All programs resume the week of April 8th/ 10th/11th. As a family make an effort to participate in all Holy Week services.

Our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program is a Montessori based catechetical program offered in levels of mixed grade groups. Each session is capped at 10 students/class. Students must be age appropriate by Aug. 31st. Level I for 3's/ PK/K is offered on Sun. from 8:45-10am OR 10:30-11:45am. Level II for grades 1/2/3 is offered on Sun. from 12-1:15pm as well as Tues. from 5-6:15pm. Level III for grades 4/5 is offered on Wed. from 5-6:15pm. Level II is required for Level III. Sessions take place in the Atrium (old chapel) in the Activities Building. Program runs from late Sept. through late April/early May depending on the Feast of Pentecost each liturgical year. Registration opens in June & runs through Aug. 31st each year. For more info about this second religious education program please visit www.stmm.church. Select Religious Education.

Parish First Communion Dates for 2018 are April 21st/22nd & April 28th/29th at all weekend liturgies.

Parish Families with 1st Graders in 2018-2019!! – First Reconciliation & First Eucharist are typically received in 2nd Grade. It is a two-year preparation. Kindergarten is optional & does not meet sacrament requirements. Grade 1 is required for Grade 2. If your child is starting 1st Grade in 2018-2019 then you need to register for class instruction with the parish in our Traditional Religious Education Elementary Program. A Catholic baptism is required. Updated information will be posted in May, 2018 for the new year. You can still access www.stmm.church. Select Religious Education. Select Elementary, Click on informational links to get a feel for the days & times class sessions are offered. You pick only one session & attend the same session each week.

Direct all questions to Celeste Usischon at Usischon@stmm.net



Youth Ministry

StMM YM Schedule for Sun, March 11th:
EDGE & Apostello—4:30pm-5:45pm
Youth Mass 6pm
The Way—7:15pm-8:30pm

STMM YM Calendar for 2017-2018 can be found at this link:[http://www.stmm.church/2017-2018>Youth_Ministry_Calendar\(1\)_2.pdf](http://www.stmm.church/2017-2018>Youth_Ministry_Calendar(1)_2.pdf)

Confirmation Information—If you have a teen who is currently in 8th/9th/10th/11th grade who will be entering either year 1 or year 2 of Confirmation preparation at STMM in the 2018-2019 school year, please be aware that it is required by our parish that you attend a Parent Confirmation Workshop. We offer 3 of them every year and it is required that 1 parent attend 1 of the 3 sessions offered. To see the complete list of Diocesan Guidelines for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, please go to this link: <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/way.cfm> The dates for the 2018 Parent Confirmation Workshops are: **March 12th, April 24th, & May 9th at 7:30pm in the Media Center. St. Mary Magdalene's 2018 Confirmation liturgy will be held on Wed, April 25th in the church at 6:30pm.**

2nd Semester Youth Masses will held: March 11 & 18, April 15 & 22 (Senior Recognition Mass) **No Youth Masses**—March 25th & April 1st due to Palm Sunday & Easter and April 8th.

Next session FOR THE PARENTS is 3/18/18: It's not too late, come check it out! - For many years we have felt called to find ways for us to partner with the parents of the teens in our programs. Most of us have been raised that we go to church to receive our sacraments, get married, have kids and while our kids attend faith formation, we fit in as many errands as we can until pick up time. Jesus speaks in scripture of a very different kind of church where people join together to walk this journey as a community, where people prayed and learned about the faith together. We realize these are busy times, but we feel like these times it is more important than ever to stay connected to the 'vine'. We are so excited to offer our parents an opportunity to come together while their teens are at our youth programs for some time to gather, pray, and grow in their own faith. Don't drop and run, drop and stay! *We will be offering these sessions on 3/18.* The same session will be offered twice: During Apostello & Edge from 4:30pm-5:45pm & During The Way from 7:15pm-8:30pm. Where: Room #3 in the church & all are welcome!

Miracle League Buddies Needed!! - We're looking for teens ages 12 and up to volunteer to be a 'buddy' for a young person with special needs to enjoy a game of baseball! Miracle League of the Triangle provides a special opportunity for people with special needs to play baseball. You can visit their site <http://miracleleagueofthetriangle.com/> for more info about their organization. We are providing 15 buddies on Sat., April 21st for a game from 10:45am—12:45pm at Adams Drive Elem. in Cary. If your teen is interested in volunteering to be a buddy please have them print the buddy form from here:<http://miracleleagueofthetriangle.com/pdf/Single-Day-Buddy-Registration-Form.pdf> & turn it in at STMM on Sunday to either Janine or Liz's inbox on their tables in the lobby before EDGE/Apostello or The Way.



RCIA

Our next session is March 12th and our topic is 'Receiving Sight.' If you are interested in RCIA, please contact Celeste at usischon@stmm.net with your questions.



Today's Announcements



EDGE Catholic Middle School Ministry Come Join Our Middle School Youth Group! - **EDGE Parent Info Session & Open House for rising 6th graders and anyone new!!**: Do you have a rising 6th grader for the 2018-2019 school year? Or do you have a middle school teen who was not in the EDGE this year but would like to be next year? We'd love to have you bring your future EDGER to an open house on March 11th, 2018 from 4:30—5:45pm. Your teen will attend the EDGE youth group in the Gym at StMM, while parents will attend a parent info session at the same time to learn more about the EDGE. After the Edge ends, please join us for Youth Mass at 6pm in the church. Contact Janine McGann at Janine.mcgann@gmail.com with questions.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Sacred Liturgy Training Session is set for Tues, March 20th in Church Room #4 from 10:30am—12pm or 7—9pm. Please RSVP to Celeste by Sun, March 18th at Usischon@stmm.net if interested in attending. If you are already a trained EM 7 would like a brush up, please arrive at 11am or 8pm on the training days.



Safe Environment Training - Adults who wish to volunteer with youth at StMM are required to fill out a volunteer application and attend Safe Environment Training. Our next sessions are Mon April 9th at 6:30pm. The session will last approx. 2 hours and is for adults only as the presentation is not appropriate for children. **Must register to attend.** Email Bertha Smith bsmith@stmm.net to register and for the meeting room.



The **CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for men and women 60+)** meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our next meeting will take place Monday, March 19, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, in Church meeting room #1. Our speakers will be members of the StMM Youth Ministry. Additionally, the CSO knitting and crocheting group will be meeting on Monday, March 26, from 1:00-3:00 PM, in meeting room #1. For more information, please contact Miriam Moore, miriamdel79@yahoo.com, 919-387-8676 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com.



Feed-A-Family Food Drive come to StMM—Did you know that Catholic Parish Outreach food pantry gave a week's worth of groceries to an average of 8,700 people a month in 2017? Please help CPO serve the less fortunate in our community by returning your bag of groceries or a donation of \$30 this weekend. We are also in great need of books for preschoolers for our clothing ministry. If you have any questions or would like to help with this project, contact Kelly Rappl at krappl@nc.rr.com or Kathy Barnack at kbarnack@nc.rr.com.



Attention Parents! Isn't it convenient to have 75 minutes every Sunday to run errands while your kids are tucked away in Religious Education? You bet it is! We did too, but then we had a better idea. Instead of hitting Costco, running to Target or Harris Teeter, let's get to know folks in our parish, learn something new and interesting about our faith and relax with a cup of coffee. Last Fall, a small group of parents gathered to do just those things. Our group meets during Sunday Religious Education classes from 12—1:15pm in the school's Media Center. When the kids are there, so are we! Join us! During lent we will watch and discuss Bishop Barron's renowned *CATHOLICISM* series. Journey with us around the world and deep into the Catholic faith. (<http://catholicism.wordonfire.org>) Questions contact Nicole at nicolesebik@yahoo.com or Joe at jsebik@icloud.com.



KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry- We are back!!!...- We apologize for the cancelation of the first Fish Fry due to technical issues, but we are good to go for Fri, March 23rd in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:45pm. (Eat in or Take Out). Pre-order online at www.lentfishfry.com. We use top quality cod and shrimp, prepared fried or baked. Fried fish is freshly breaded just prior to cooking which delivers to you a perfect golden brown crispy filet. We serve our meals with your choice of seasoned French Fries, Parsley Potatoes, or Macaroni & Cheese along with Coleslaw, cornbread and dessert. Come out and enjoy a great meal with friends and family while supporting the worthy community causes championed by the KofC.

Prayer Line—miriambeck24@gmail.com, 919-924-1413



Parish Athletics

Parish Athletics—Spring T-Ball & Machine Pitch Baseball
- **Grades:** Coed, PreK (4 year olds) thru 4th **Dates:** April to June; **Practice Locations:** Apex & Cary; **Game Locations:** Apex only; **Cost:** \$65;; **Note:** PreK has a combined practice/game on Sat; K—8th grade have one weekday practice and a game on Sat. Register at <http://www.parishathleticsnc.org>.



Lent Penance Services

March 14—11am—St. Raphael, Raleigh
 March 14—7pm—St. Michael, Cary
 March 20—11am—St. Bernadette, Fuquay-Varina
 March 21—11am—St. Michael, Cary



TAX TIME

2017 Tax Statements were emailed to registered parishioners who have a valid email address with the parish. If you receive the E—News you should have received your tax statement. If you did not receive a statement, contact lynch@stmm.net, 919-657-4800 ext. 7281 and one will be sent to you. Be sure to check your junk mail if you receive the E—News



Respect Life News



Pray the **Rosary for Life** at 10:10am on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Chapel. Our next Rosary for Life is Sunday, March 11th. It is a beautiful way to start

the day whether you come before Mass or stay after. Prayer sheets are provided and families with children are welcome.

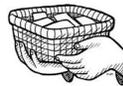
It's Official, the 40 Days of Life Spring Campaign begins Ash Wednesday in Chapel Hill. Feb. 14—March 25 (7am—7pm daily.) You are invited to join other Christians for 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion; to stand and peacefully pray in the public right-of-way outside of Planned Parenthood, 1765 Dobbins Drive; and to help spread the word about this important community outreach. For more information and to volunteer to help, go to 40daysforlife.com/chapelhill or email 40dayschapelhill@gmail.com. Be a witness for life!

COURAGE is a prayer and fellowship group that assists individuals with same-sex attractions (or SSA) to live chaste lives in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Meetings are for men and women and strict confidentiality is maintained. For more information email: courage.sacred.heart@gmail.com. Or call: (919) 289-9489.

EnCourage is the affiliate support group for parents, friends and family members of loved ones with SSA. EnCourage helps members to focus on their own spiritual development and offers a supportive environment to share information and guidance for maintaining healthy relationships with our loved ones. For more information, email encourage.sacred.heart@gmail.com. Or call: (984) 221-0730. Strict confidentiality is maintained.



Diocesan News



This week, we are taking up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection** to respond to *Jesus in disguise*. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support to struggling communities and to work toward peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Ignatian Retreat for Men- Discerning God's Plan for Me
 The St. Luke's and St. Raphael's KofC and St. Raphael's' Office of Life Long Formation jointly sponsor this silent men's weekend for Catholic men of the Diocese at Avila Retreat Center, 711 Mason Rd., Durham. It starts Fri, May 18th about 5pm and closes Sun. May 20th around noon. For information contact Jim Haag at 919-841-5817(H) 919-995-1057(C) or e-mail: jimthaag@bellsouth.net. Or make your reservation by sending a \$95 deposit to KofC Council #12455: note Men's Retreat to: Ignatian Men's Retreat, C/O Jim Haag, 500 Emerywood Dr., Raleigh, NC 27515.

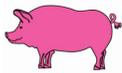
You are invited to a **Lenten Women's Day of Reflection** hosted by the Diocese on Sat, March 24th from 9:30am—2:30pm at Basilica Shrine of Saint Mary Catholic Church. Come discover who you are called to be as a beautiful beloved daughter of Christ. God's call to relationship with us is not just once and for all; rather, it evolves as we grow and open ourselves to the Divine presence. How do we know what God's call is for us today? Inquiries: Suzanne Carter 919-821-8149 suzanne.carter@raldioc.org Register at raldioc.configio.com/go/womens-day-of-reflection. \$15 includes lunch and resources for further study. Registration Deadline March 23, 2018

Join Catholic Charities for their Inaugural "Drive Out Hunger" Golf Outing at North Ridge Country Club in Raleigh on Mon, June 11th. Proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities food pantries across the diocese and provide groceries to the 16.5% of North Carolina families who lack reliable access to healthy meals. For more information and to register, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/golf-2018, 919-821-8142.

The 15th annual Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference will be held on April 28th at Reynolds Coliseum on the NC State Campus, Raleigh. The Saturday program includes 5 renowned speakers: Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Robert Spitzer, Fr. Donald Calloway, Mark Hart, and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers. Unique tracks are offered for middle and high school students. Vigil Mass with Bishop Zarama. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Free Young Adult (18+) evening social, followed by a concert with Dana Catherine and Mathias Michael for all. New this year is an evening in Spanish with Fr. Rafael Capó and concert with Darwin Lechler. Purchase your tickets while they last; visit IgnitedByTruth.org or call 919-789-1428.

World Youth Day in Panama: January 28-21, 2019 Interested in going? Visit <https://raldioc.configio.com/go/wyd2019> For more information contact Ricardo Veloz at (919) 600-8750 or Ricardo.Veloz@raldioc.org right away.

News From Other Organizations



CPO Food Pantry's 5th Annual Pig Pickin & Open House—Let's pig out to help feed more families! Sat, April 21st from 4–7:30pm (or until the pig runs out) 2013 Raleigh Blvd, Raleigh. Home-cooked Pork BBQ

cooked on-site with beef hot dogs and a variety of side dishes & cold drinks, \$10/plate. Our chefs are the Cathedral KofC. There will be live Bluegrass music, Indoor seating, Bake Sale and so much family fun! Cash, credit & checks accepted. Sponsorship opportunities are available \$250—\$2,500. For more information visit CPOraleigh.org or contact Terry Foley at 919-873-0245 ext. 230, foleyt@raldioc.org.



Save the Date for KofC 13th Annual Children's Charity Golf Classic on Sat, May 12th at Lochmere Golf Club in Cary. For more information on the golf classic or sponsorship opportunities, contact Tournament Director, Rick Nelson at 919-614-2532. Any gift or gift certificate is never too small. Hole Sponsor—\$100, Golf Car Sponsor—\$250, Corporate Sponsor—\$500, Tournament Sponsor—\$1,000



St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Mission is hosting our **Annual Pierogi and Kielbasa Sale for Easter** on Sun, March 11th from 10:30am—1:30pm at 2510 Piney Plains Road in Cary. Fresh locally made kielbasa hand made

by our St. Nicholas parishioners. \$8.50 for 1lb or \$16 for 2lbs. Pierogi from Perla Ukrainian Baker in Parma, OH—Potato & cheddar for \$9 per dozen, Sauerkraut for \$10 per dozen. Products are sold frozen. Easy to thaw & prepare. First come, first served with no pre-orders. We accept all forms of payment. All proceeds benefit St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Mission Building Fund.



Single/Single Again Ministry – If you are a single, separated, divorced or widowed person, you are invited to join us at our monthly Mass held at Cardinal Gibbon HS chapel at 5:30 pm. A pot-luck social follow Mass. 2018 Masses are: March 18, April 22, May 20, and June 17.

For more information contact Celia at ckeator@nc.rr.com or visit www.singlesingleagain.com or on facebook www.facebook.com/singleagainraleigh



“And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.” Let the Holy Spirit acknowledge and increase our love for our spouses while we participate in a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) Weekend**.

The next weekends are: Aug 3-5 in Chapel Hill and Nov 9-11 in Atlantic Beach, NC. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org> or contact us at applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org or 704-315-2144.

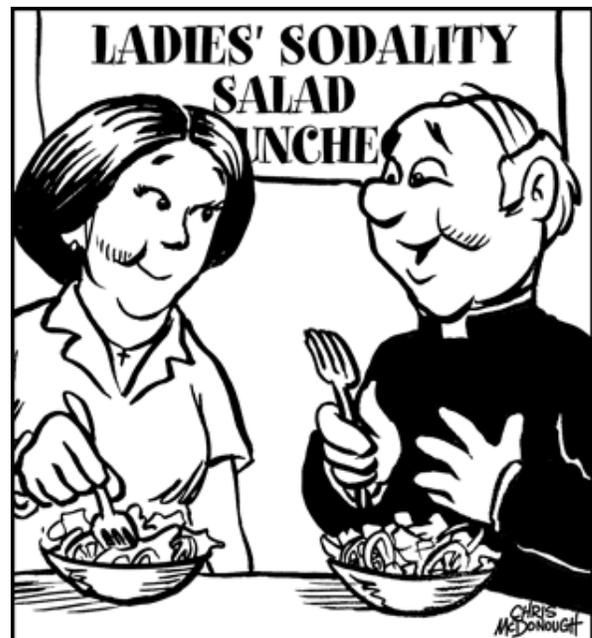


Cardinal Gibbons Drama Department will present **'Pippin'** on March 16, 17, 22, 23 & 24 at 7:30pm in the Mainstage Theater. Visit CGHSNC.org/Gibbonsdrama for ticket information. Admission is \$5

A NEW approach to education in the Catholic Tradition is coming to our area very soon! Have you ever considered homeschooling? Do you desire a learning environment that is good, beautiful and true for your children? Hybrid education will give you the culture, structure and support needed to make homeschooling possible and successful for any family! With our unique classical methodology that "Trains the Mind to Form the Soul", RCA seeks to form students with the desire to seek knowledge and grow in wisdom. Regina Caeli Academy, is a hybrid academy, serving students in grades Preschool -12th grade in the Catholic tradition. RCA provides fully accredited academic and extracurricular classes for homeschoolers. Students attend classes using the Socratic (collegiate discussion) method two days per week with teachers and are homeschooled the remaining days with a directed curriculum. For more information on our hybrid educational approach join us for an information session **Sun, March 18th from 4—5:30pm at Hampton Inn & Suites Raleigh/Crabtree Valley (3920 Arrow Dr, Raleigh, NC 27612)** or visit www.rcahybrid.org

The **2018 North Carolina Bread for the World Convention**, scheduled for Sat, April 7th, is rapidly approaching. This year's theme is *"Spiritual Politics: Resisting the Impending Hunger Crisis."* Again this year, the convention will be held at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in downtown Durham. Registration is now open at <https://spiritualpolitics.eventbrite.com>. Individual pre-registration is just \$25/pp. A discounted rate of \$15 is available for students. Scholarships also are available upon request. Simultaneous translation into Spanish will be available throughout the day. This year's keynote speaker will be Michael Becketts, former director of the Durham County Department of Social Services and now Assistant Secretary for Human Services at the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services.

For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community, a sign language interpreted Mass is celebrated every 8:30am Mass at St. Michael's in Cary.



"No, I'm OK... if Jesus could fast for 40 days in the desert, I'm sure I can undergo a salad for lunch."