

# Pastor's Paragraph

### My Dear Friends,

This time of year there are various bugs and viruses going around - so for the time being we will not use chalices at Mass. At the Sign of Peace, if you would prefer not to shake hands, you can make a simple bow to those around you. We pray for all who are ill, and we applaud all who work with people in areas of the world where there are contagious illnesses.

Today we begin our Bishop's Annual Appeal - this is an every year endeavor to provide funds for the ongoing needs of our Diocese. The largest beneficiaries of the BAA are for Seminary Education and Catholic Charities. Our parish goal is \$191,506; that is a large amount of money. To reach the goal please consider at gift/pledge of \$200.

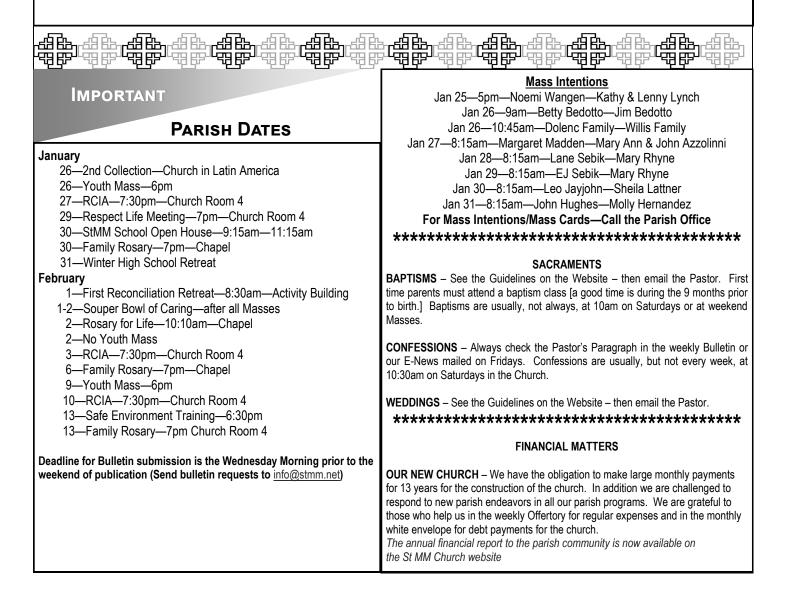
Ushers will pass around baskets with pledge cards and pens. Please complete the card and put it into the collection basket at offertory time. In the name of our Bishop Luis Zarama I thank you for your generosity.

This week we have one of our national and annual 2nd collections - this one for the people of Latin America.

For all who celebrate Chinese New Year and Tet - Happy New Year on January 25!

There will be Confessions on Saturday January 25 at 10:30 am and also on Saturday February 1 at 10:30 am, after Baptisms.

### Father Donald Staib





## Elementary Religious Ed



**First Reconciliation Retreat** is Saturday, February 1, 2020 for all students in Grade 2 & the Wednesday Evening Intermediate Sacrament Program from 8:30 am - 12 noon in the Activities Building. Please continue to work on the Family Time Poster received at the parent meetings. The completed poster is due the day of the retreat, Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**CPO Toilet Tissue Donations for Grade 3** are scheduled for Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Please donate whatever your means will allow.

#### First Reconciliation Dates for Parish Religious Education Students & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Students are

- Tuesday, February 4th at 6:30 pm
- Wednesday, February 5th at 6:30 pm

**First Reconciliation Date for StMM School Students** is Thursday, February 6th from 10:00 am -11:00 am during the regular school day.

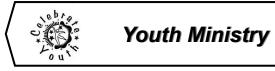
**Inclement Weather Policy** – PREP & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd does NOT follow the decisions made by the Wake County school system or StMM Catholic School. Decisions are made by the program coordinator. Once the decision is made to close the elementary programs, (PREP, ROCK & CGS) we notify WRAL with a posting. If you don't see StMM on the band running across the bottom of the screen then it is safe to conclude that we are in session. When available we will also post it on the parish website as well as send an email to all registered program families.

**First Communion Parent Meetings** are set for Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am or 7:00 pm and Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 10:30 or 7:00 pm in Church Room 3. Parents are to attend only one meeting. At this meeting you will sign up for the Mass you want for First Communion. Masses are not assigned. You choose. The dates are 5/9, 5/10, 5/16 & 5/17 at all six parish liturgies. The student banner kit to complete at home and return the day of the First Communion Retreat on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be distributed. If you attended in 2018 or 2019 with an older child, you are not required to attend. Please be sure to contact Suzanne with your liturgy choice and to pick up your materials.



Inclement Weather—see above Service Opportunities—see insert

Helpful Information to Stay Informed: www.stmm.church



*Our schedule this Sunday, 1/26/20 is as follows:* EDGE 4:30pm-5:45pm Apostello 4:30pm-5:45pm Youth Mass 6pm The Way 7:15pm-8:30pm

#### Winter High School Retreat Registration is open: LAST CALL!!!!

Our winter retreat will be held 1/31/20-2/2/20 at Camp Caraway in Sophia, NC. This year's retreat will be hosted by the amazing speaker and worship leader Andrew Laubacher! Andrew has spoken a youth conferences all over the world and we are excited to welcome him to a STMM retreat. Retreat is open to all in grades 9th-12th & the registration form can be found at this link: <u>http://www.stmm.church/ religious-ed/highschool.cfm.</u> These retreats are packed with great music, games, prayer, fun, fellowship, and opportunities to grow in our faith as a community! To secure a spot teens must turn in a completed registration form with a 50% deposit. This retreat does meet the Confirmation guidelines. Forms can be turned in at The Way or to the attn of Liz Sams in the parish office. Spots are filled on a first come first serve basis & our spots are limited to the # of seats on the bus & beds available on site.

#### GUYS ONLY HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT REGISTRATION IS NOW

**OPENI:** We are so excited to announce the GUYS ONLY HS Retreat 3/6/20-3/8/20. This retreat is open to all guys in grades 9th-12th and will be held at the same location as last year complete with paintball and so much more! Our retreat host will be Matt Regitz who lives in Houston, TX and loves ministering to dudes! The registration form can be found at this link: <u>http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm</u> and can be turned in at The Way at the sign in table or to Liz Sams attn in the parish office. To secure a spot a teen must turn in a completed registration form along with a 50% deposit. This retreat does not meet the Confirmation guidelines & spots are limited to the # of beds.Transportation is not included in the retreat cost. The retreat is held at a location about 1 hour and 45 minutes away from STMM in Eastern NC. Info is on the retreat form.

HAITI MISSION TRIP 2020: We are taking the beginning steps to organize an Adult Only(18 and over) Mission Trip to Haiti. There will be an information session to help answer questions from folks who have already gone to Haiti before with HMI, here are the details: StMM is in the beginning stages of organizing an Adult Mission Trip to Haiti through HMI.(18 years & older only) The trip would be 11/9/20 to 11/16/20 at a cost of \$1700/person (donation to Haiti Mission, Inc.). A \$1000 deposit would be due July 1, 2020, with the balance due October 1. An information session is going to be held on 2/20/20 in Room #3 of the church at 7pm. All inquiries should be directed to David Kurtz at david.kurtz4@gmail.com.

#### If you have a teen who:

- \* Has attended a Catholic HS for 1 year & will attend a Catholic HS next year
- \* currently in 10th/11th/12th grade
- \* does not participate in The Way youth group at STMM
- would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in May 2020 at STMM

They must have attended Catholic HS for their previous school year to enroll & your family must be a STMM registered parishioner There will be 5 sessions held during the 2nd semester of this school year on Sundays:

#### 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, AND 4/55 (Registration will close on 3/1/20 with no exceptions)

Online registration has now closed and you can find the paper form at this link: <u>http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm</u>

Janine McGann can be reached at <u>janine.mcgann@gmail.com</u> Liz Sams can be reached at <u>liz.sams@gmail.com</u>



**RCIA** The next session is Monday, Jan. 27th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: The Church Question please contact Kathy or Scott Strednak at RCIA@stmm.me



## Today's Announcements



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 session is Thurs, 2/13 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 to get meeting location.

The Nationwide SOUPER BOWL OF CARING "tackle hunger" event will take place at St. Mary Magdalene Church at all Masses on Super Bowl weekend, February 2nd and **3rd.** More than \$90 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. The time around Super Bowl weekend has been transformed into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. Please be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. We are collecting CANS OF SOUP and DOLLAR DONATIONS before and after all masses on Super Bowl weekend. Proceeds will benefit Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) food pantry and Western Wake Crisis Ministry (WWCM) food pantry.



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 *Seniors* place Monday, Feb. 17th, 9:30am—11am, in Church meeting room #1. For more information, please con-

tact Miriam Moore, miriamdel79@yahoo.com, 919-387-8676 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com.

Fr. Dave Pivonka's new film series Metanoia is here! Join us Saturday mornings starting on February 8 to watch Father Dave's newlyreleased video series Metanoia. Filmed in the Holy Land, this tensegment, free study promises to open your heart to Jesus in a more profound way. If you enjoyed The Wild Goose series, you will love this. The title comes from a Greek word that means "change in one's way of life resulting from spiritual conversion." We hope you will come experience Metanoia with us from 8-9:30am every Saturday until the weekend after Easter. Feb 8th in Media Center and Youth Room. No need to RSVP - just come if - and when - you can! Questions, email Laura Werner at steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com or Mike McGann at mcgannmi1970@gmail.com.

"Prayers & Squares" A prayer quilt group We are literally covering people in prayer. A prayer quilt is a lap blanket with ties. A prayer is said with each knot that is tied. All quilts are blessed by Father Staib. To request a prayer quilt to be made for someone or if you are interested in sewing for this group or donating fabric or would like to make contributions to this group, please contact Lorraine Morris at Icmorris0707@gmail.com



Need a recharge in your spiritual life? Wondering about God's purpose for you? Feeling empty, anxious, and needing more peace, joy and love in your

STEUBENVILLE life? Reserve your spot at the Power and Purpose

Conference today! Over 1500 adults come to Franciscan University's beautiful campus in Steubenville, OH each summer to experience the power of the Holy Spirit. They leave with a renewed sense of God's presence in their lives. This conference will draw you deeper into relationship with the Holy Spirit and empower vou to live in true freedom and iov.

Registration 2020 Pricing Early Bird Rate (register by February 28, 2020) \$146 Standard Rate: \$176 Clergy/Religious/Young Adult (Age 18-30) Rate \$97

Please contact Laura Werner at 919-889-9904 or steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com for more information, travel details, and registration.



First Friday Adoration will be on Friday February 7. All are encouraged to pay a visit to the chapel throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. However, it is essential that there are people that are

scheduled to be there each hour between 8:30AM and 7PM. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord? Please contact Anita Becker at ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM or 919-280-8931 if interested.

Children's Adoration is held the first Friday of each month 230-3pm. All children are welcome. No one is too young to come visit Jesus! The dates for the remainder of the school year are: Feb 7, March 6, April 3, and May 1. Contact Megan Brinkley if you have any guestions m.brinkley@hotmail.com



Scout Sunday—February 23rd The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring an event to recognize and celebrate our parish's Scouts (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and their leaders) at the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, February

23rd. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Knights will provide refreshments for the Scouts and their families in the cafeteria. There will be a special handout at the Mass listing the Scouts participating in the event. To be included in the handout, please provide the following information to stmm.scoutsunday@gmail.com by February 18th: name, unit type, unit number, rank or position and any religious award/emblem received in the past year. Scouts are asked to attend the event in uniform. If confirmation of receipt of your information is not received within 48 hours, please contact Ben Ryan at 919-924-4888.

We are seeking parishioners age 17+ to join us for the STMM softball team. Games start in February and are played on Fridays and Sundays each week. The deadline for registration is January 30th. If interested, please contact Bobby Rowe and Colin Frosch (stmmapexsoftball@gmail.com). Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex and are available on-line through the Apex Parks and Recreation website. Cost to play will be based on number of teammates but should be approximately \$60.



**COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS** – Commemorative bricks line the walkway to our Activities Building. St. Mary Magdalene Church will be placing a Spring brick order, the deadline is March

27th. The cost is \$100. Order forms are located in the parish office or http://www.stmm.church/giving/

Commemorate a First Communion, a Graduation or remember a loved one with an engraved brick.



<u>Music and Sound System Ministries looking for</u> <u>new members!</u> At every Mass every week we strive to provide beautiful music for your enjoyment and to enhance our Mass Celebrations. To accomplish this, we need volunteers to support each Mass. We are looking

for new adult members to join us, whether you play an instrument, sing or can help with the sound balancing each week during Mass.

For the adult music ministry that handles our three regular Masses each week, we practice together one hour a week year round on Monday evenings. It is a fun and rewarding group to belong to! Music and training are provided. Members for this group must be 18+ or Confirmed. We are looking for singers, pianists and other instrumentalists. Please contact our Music Director, Kristin Wagner, at <u>stmm.music@gmail.com</u> if you are interested to learn more or would like to tryout a practice session to see what we are all about.

The sound system ministry is an extremely important volunteer team that runs the sound, livestream camera, video displays, lighting and and even the church bells! We have a serious need for new volunteers in this area. All training and backup support is provided and commitment requirements can be from once a month to once a week, depending on your availability. If you have an ear for sound balance or enjoy working with digital sound systems and are willing to learn, please contact our sound system ministry at <u>stmmsoundministry@gmail.com</u> to learn more about this very important role in our church. Training times and schedule commitments are flexible.



Every Life is Worth Living

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Every Life is Worth Living, © 2015, USCCB, Washington, DC.

Check out this website for more valuable and inspiring information: USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities prolife@usccb.org

Next Respect Life meeting will be Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 7:00pm, room#4 at StMM. Please come to learn about our upcoming events, share your ideas and talents and be involved in this important Parish ministry.

Our upcoming Rosary for Life is **Sunday, February 2nd**. Start the day, whether you come before Mass or stay after, in a beautiful way. Prayer sheets are provided and families with children are welcome.



**Diocesan News** 

Dr. Scott Hahn Talk Friday, February 28th, 7:30 PM Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pinehurst <u>https://stpaulcenter.com/pinehurst/</u> Dr. Scott Hahn, founder and President of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, is one of the world's leading biblical scholars, Catholic apologist, and a leader of the New Evangelization called for by Saint Pope John Paul II. DO NOT MISS this opportunity to hear a great motivational speaker and defender of the Catholic faith. Dr. Hahn has written 40+ books, speaks to thousands of persons each year, is frequently on EWTN, and has motivated hundreds to conversion in the Catholic Faith. Dr. Hahn will speak about Christ's Divine Mercy, Reconciliation, the Eucharist, and covenant relationship with God.

**9 Days for Life** -Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, 9 Days for Life, Tuesday, January 21 – Wednesday, January 29. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at www.9daysforlife.com!

**Catholic** A SPIRITUAL NEW YEAR RESOLUTION! Spread the Catholic Faith through the airwaves in Central and Eastern NC by volunteering with 540AM, Divine Mercy Radio! We need your talent in helping with Social Media, Community Outreach, Parish Liasons, Engineering, Fundraising, Database, Interviewing Guests, and the ever popular, stuffing envelopes! Call us to find out more about what interests you. Call Betty Rogosich <u>919-418-0050</u>

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille Simply means 'rediscovery.' The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Many couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is a not spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information or to apply to attend the program beginning with the weekend of Feb 14, call 800-470-2230, or email: <u>retrouvaillenc@msn.com</u>, or visit the website at www.helpourmarriage.org.



#### Calling all Catholic Men to the Knights of Columbus "A Catholic Fraternal Service Organization" 4 Principles: Charity / Unity/ Fraternity / Patriotism

Our local St. Mary Magdalene council 7186 remains one of the most vibrant and engaged organizations within our community. Did you know your local Knights of Columbus support; weekly rosary on Thursday night in the Chapel for the entire family, Friday morning Men's Bible Study, Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO), Respect Life, Brookridge Assisted Living Resident Visits, Financial support for our Church and School. Consider joining our local council by contacting Dan Cantrel, Grand Knight.

Online membership program at: <u>http://kofc.org/un/joinus/en/</u>index.html

KofC 7186 council calendar of events: https://kofc7186.org/calendar



## StMM School News

#### St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School Open House

Come celebrate Catholic Schools Week with us and find out why StMM is an excellent choice in education for your family! Join us on Thursday, January 30th. Our school mass will be held at 8:15am, with tours following at 9:15am. Tour the school, see classes in session, talk to students and ask questions! Need more information? Contact Lydia Binanay, <u>binanay@stmm.net</u>.

#### Hoops For Hunger Thank You

Special thanks to all of the families who came out to support the Hoops For Hunger basketball game on January 17th. Working together, St. Mary Magdalene and St. Michael Schools raised \$2060 and 826 lbs. of food for Western Wake Crisis Ministry!

#### Hope for Haiti

StMM school students recently participated in a Spirit Week to benefit St. Bridget School, our sister school in Haiti. The fun week, featuring different "theme" days, raised \$2837. We are happy to be partnering with our parish to support this community in Haiti.

#### Become a Monarch! Apply Now!

Applications for the 2020-2021 school year are available on our Admissions website: <u>http://school.stmm.net/admissions/</u> Need more info? Call Lydia Binanay at 919-335-8311 for a tour of our campus.

News From Other Organizations

**Tax Preparation** In 2020, St. Andrew will again be a tax preparation site for the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. The mission of the VITA program is to assist eligible taxpayers in satisfying their tax responsibilities by providing **free** tax return preparation. The Saint Andrew site will be available, by appointment only, on Saturday mornings beginning **February 1, 2020 through April 11, 2020**. The site is staffed completely by volunteers who completed training and certification in Volunteer Standards of Conduct as well as tax law, prior to being allowed to prepare federal and state returns. Professional income tax preparation software is used. See the St. Andrew website (<u>www.saintandrew.org</u>) for more information. To schedule an appointment online, use the link to sign-up on the website or call the parish office (919-362-0414, ext. 147).

**The Legion of Mary** at St Michael the Archangel Church in Cary. All are invited to pray the Rosary with us every Monday night 7pm rm3 Conference Center

**Career Opportunity:** Have you ever considered a career that allows you to do good for others while doing well for yourself? Here's an opportunity to work for a Fortune 1000 company that holds the same religious, moral, and ethical beliefs as you.

The Knights of Columbus has an opening for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. They offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, go to our website kofc.org/careers. Please contact Christopher Mahoney, General Agent, at (919)719-2715 or via email at Christopher.Mahoney@kofc.org. For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community there is a sign language interpreted Mass usually at the 8:30am Sunday Mass at St. Michaels in Cary.

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#### Regina Caeli Academy - Information Conference Call Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 7 pm RSVP to Philip Corr at philipcorr@yahoo.com or (919)

428-6402 for the call number and code Join our exciting mission to form the next generation of Catholics! Regina Caeli Academy is an independent, classical, university-style hybrid™ homeschooling academy in the Catholic tradition. Two days a week, prek3-12th-grade students attend Socratic, hands-on classes at the resource center. The remaining three days the children are taught in the home with plans that are already prepared for the home lessons. The families of Regina Caeli Academy are unified by the same classical curriculum, fidelity to the Catholic Church, and the mission of "Training the Mind to Form the Soul." Join the call to learn about Regina Caeli Academy in Raleigh/Durham area in 2020 and ask questions! Regina Caeli Academy has locations in 16 cities in 11 states. www.rcahybrid.org

All men are invited to a pre-Lenten Men's Recollection at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Raleigh on Saturday, February 22 from 9am to 12:30pm. The Recollection will be led by Canons Matthew Talarico and Matthew Weaver from the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest. The event is free and will take place in the church, concluding with Holy Mass at 11am. Holy Mass is open to all. For more information please contact Jeremy Kryn at <u>jkryn@nc.rr.com</u>.

Lenten Retreat with F. Jacek Leszcaynski OFMConv. "You must be strong through power of your faith." March 15 – 16 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Raleigh. Sunday 4pm Confession, 5pm Mass, 6pm Lenten Conference Monday 6:30pm Stations of the Cross 7pm Lenten Conference



Spring Soccer (Apex-Cary) Grades: Coed, Pre-K (3 year-olds) to 8th. Dates: March - May. Practice Locations: Apex or Cary, you pick. Game Locations: Apex & Cary. Cost: Pre-K - \$60; K - 8th grade - \$65; (includes medal, shirt, and picnic).

#### Spring T-Ball and Machine Pitch Baseball (Apex)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4 year-olds) to 4<sup>th</sup>. Dates: April – June. Practice Locations: Apex only. Cost: \$65 (includes medal, shirt, and end of year picnic).

#### Spring Softcrosse (Apex)

Grades: Coed, K thru 5<sup>th</sup>. Dates: April – June (6 weeks). Days/Times: Sunday afternoons. Location: Apex. Cost: \$65 (includes medal and end of year picnic). Equipment needed: Stick and mouth guard.

www.parishathleticsnc.org

## **Service Opportunities**

## **Collection for returning military:**

In July of 2019, over 600 soldiers assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division (3rd Brigade, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion) deployed to Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Approximately 385 of the 600 soldiers were living in barracks at Fort Bragg. In December 2019 the barracks were deemed unlivable and all belongings were moved to storage. These soldiers are returning from Afghanistan in March 2020, to new barracks, but will not have access to their stored belongings for many days. They will be tired, in need of basic toiletries and the ability to wash the limited pieces of clothing that they have on them. Area Scouts are collecting and putting together 385 hygiene kits to be delivered to Fort Bragg and placed on the bed of each returning soldier. We'll be collecting these items at STMM on 2/16/20 before and after all the Masses, PREP, CGS, The EDGE, Apostello, & The Way. If you'd like to help, please donate any of the following items:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Small Bottle of Water
- 2 Laundry Pods

## Sister Parish in Haiti & Haiti House Building Project:

<u>Haiti House Building</u>: We have begun our fund raising for another house to be built in Haiti! If you'd like to see a picture of the house that St. Mary Magdalene built through the generous donations of our parish community, please go to this link to see the house and learn about the family who now calls it their home:

https://www.haitimissioninc.com/hmi-houses-147-current (our home is #151) If you'd like to help us with this effort, please go to this link to donate online via the STMM payment online system:

https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=102397&f

Use the drop down button "Select a fund" and select "House in Haiti" so we can make sure it goes to the right account.

For every \$3,750.00 we fund raise, Haiti Mission Inc will match it and a house gets built for a family in Jeremie, Haiti!!!

If you do not want to donate online, please mail in a check to the parish office with "House in Haiti" in the Memo Line to StMM, 625 Magdala Place, Apex, NC 27502

Check these ads at www.StMM.church/welcome/bulletins.cfm



For bulletin advertising, call Kate Bartos, Advertising Works, (919) 906-1688 or info@My-Ad-Works.com (StMM Parishioner). 11/24/2019