

St. Mary Magdalene

CATHOLIC CHURCH



**28th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
October 13, 2019**



REFLECTION

The Synod for the Amazon has four dimensions: the pastoral dimension, the cultural dimension, the social dimension and the ecological dimension. The first, the pastoral dimension is the essential one, which encompasses everything. We approach with a Christian heart and see the reality of the Amazon with the eyes of a disciple to understand and interpret it with the eyes of a disciple.

We also approach the Amazonian peoples on tiptoe, respecting their history, their cultures, their style of good living.

All peoples have their own wisdom, self-awareness, peoples have a feeling, a way of seeing reality, a history. - Pope Francis

Mass Today—125 **Offertory Helpers— Children Volunteers**
Weekend Masses—Saturday—5pm & Sunday—9am & 10:45am
Weekday Masses—Daily Mass Monday—Friday at 8:15am in Chapel
Sunday Youth Mass 6pm—Youth Mass October 13th, 20th, and 27th

PARISH CONTACTS

Pastor—Father Donald Staib,—919-387-3648, donfs22@aol.com
School Principal—John Mihalyo, 919-657-4800 ext. 7294, principal@stmm.net
Parish Office—Deb Prewitt, 919-657-4800 ext. 7281, prewitt@stmm.net
Parish Bookkeeper—Julie Hoffman, 919-657-4800 ext. 7282, hoffman@stmm.net

625 MAGDALA PL.
APEX, NC 27502

(919) 657-4800
WWW.STMM.NET

Gathering:
Sing a New Church 413

Psalm: 98
The Lord has revealed to the nations, saving power, saving power, saving power.

Preparation:
Now We Remain 507

Communion:
Our God is Here 305
Taste and See 343
Change Our Hearts 659

Sending Forth:
Lead Me, Lord 630

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

My Dear Friends,

Today we welcome to our parish Father Jomanas Eustache from St Brigettes Parish in Jeremie, Haiti. During the past year our parish has begun the process of becoming a sister parish to Father Joe's parish. We welcome his visit to us to help us become more acquainted with his parish.



And we are grateful to members of St. Mary Magdalene who have taken on a leadership role in promoting this significant parish mission.

During October – November each year for the weekend Masses I often use different Eucharistic Prayers at Mass. I am not sure they are in the Missals people use. There are 4 of them and I rotate them from week to week.

I did find them online under the words 'Eucharistic Prayers for Various Needs.'

CONFESSIONS: There will be Confessions this Saturday, October 12 at 10:30 and on Saturday October 19 at 10:30.

There is more information about our sister parish and about Father Joe at <https://www.haitimissioninc.com/Pere-Jomanas-Eustache>

Father Donald Staib

IMPORTANT

PARISH DATES

October

- 13—Knights Breakfast—after 9am Mass in Dining Hall
- 13—Youth Mass—6pm
- 14—RCIA—7:30pm—Church Room 4
- 14—Parish Council Meeting—7pm—Church Room 1
- 17—Family Rosary—7pm—Chapel
- 20—2nd Collection—World Mission Sunday
- 20—Return Baby Bottles
- 20—Youth Mass—6pm
- 21—RCIA—7:30pm—Church Room 4
- 24—Family Rosary—7pm—Chapel
- 26—"Living in the Power of the Spirit" - 8:30am
- 27—Youth Mass—6pm
- 28—Safe Environment Training—6:30pm
- 28—RCIA—7:30pm—Church Room 4

November

- 1—All Saints Day—Mass—8:15am & 7pm—Church
- 3—Youth Mass—6pm
- 4—RCIA—7:30pm—Church Room 4
- 7—Family Rosary—7pm—Chapel
- 10—Youth Mass—6pm

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

Mass Intentions

- Oct 12—5pm—Frances Abdale—Mr. & Mrs. Sal Mastropolo
- Oct 13—9am—Betty Bedotto—Jim Bedotto
- Oct 13—10:45am—Parishioners of StMM
- Oct 14—8:15am—Art Hernandez—Molly Hernandez
- Oct 15—8:15am—Parishioners of StMM
- Oct 16—8:15am—Daniel Field—Canning Family
- Oct 18—8:15am—Patricia Devine—Clara

For Mass Intentions/Mass Cards—Call the Parish Office

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS – See the Guidelines on the Website – then email the Pastor. First time parents must attend a baptism class [a good time is during the 9 months prior to birth.] Baptisms are usually, not always, at 10am on Saturdays or at weekend Masses.

CONFESSIONS – Always check the Pastor's Paragraph in the weekly Bulletin or our E-News mailed on Fridays. Confessions are usually, but not every week, at 10:30am on Saturdays in the Church.

WEDDINGS – See the Guidelines on the Website – then email the Pastor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

OUR NEW CHURCH – We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 14 years for the construction of the church. In addition we are challenged to respond to new parish endeavors in all our parish programs. We are grateful to those who help us in the weekly Offertory for regular expenses and in the monthly white envelope for debt payments for the church.

The annual financial report to the parish community is now available on the St MM Church website

Elementary Religious Ed

All Elementary Program Families: We have opened wide the StMM doors to all our families for another year of faith-filled learning with our volunteer catechists. We will again be partnering with Catholic Parish Outreach in helping the poor right here in Wake County communities with our monthly contributions of packaged toilet paper. As we all certainly are aware that this non-food need is always in demand in daily life. Each grade has been assigned a specific month for contributions. Please mark your calendars for your child/ren's month. Please be as generous as your means will allow and many thanks in advance for your generosity.

Collection Dates/Mark Your Calendars for Toilet Paper

Donations:

Grades PK/K/Intermediate Sacrament Students: October 20th & 23rd

Grade 1 Students: November 10th & 13th

Grade 2 Students: January 12th & 15th

Grade 3 Students: February 9th & 12th

Grade 4 Students: March 15th & 18th

Attention First Sacrament Families of children in Grade 2 PREP, Wednesday Intermediate Sacrament Students, StMM School Grade 2 Families, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Students-2nd year of Level II: **First Reconciliation Parent Meetings** are set for Monday, November 18th in Church Room 3 at 10:30-11:30 am OR 7:00-8:00 pm and Tuesday November 19th 10:30 – 11:30 am OR 7:00 – 8:00 pm. One parent is required to attend one of these meetings. If you attended in 2018 -2019 OR 2017-2018 you do not have to attend the meeting. You are, however, responsible for picking up meeting materials in the Parish Office. Contact Suzanne - will@stmm.net with your questions.

Helpful Information to Stay Informed: www.stmm.church



Substitute Catechists are needed for Sundays 12-1:15 pm and Wednesdays 6:30-7:45 pm. Lesson plans & all materials are provided each week. This ministry welcomes retirees, working parents, stay at home parents & confirmed looking for service hours. Please contact Suzanne will@stmm.net



ROCK Core Team Needed Due to the overwhelming response of our new program, the ROCK (Reaching Out for Christ), we are in need of additional volunteer Core Team Leaders to journey with our 5th & 6th Graders. The commitment is every other weekend and the plans are provided to you in advance. Please contact Suzanne will@stmm.net or Janine Janine.mcgann@gmail.com to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

All our programs serve only registered contributing parishioners who use the electronic draft system or weekly envelopes. If you are interested in our religious education programs in the future, register now in our Parish Office and become active parishioners.

Please direct any questions to Suzanne Will will@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7280



Children's Liturgy of the Word has begun and is held during the Sunday morning liturgies at 9:00 & 10:45 am. It mirrors the worship experience of the parish community in an engaging and interactive environment. Eligible participants are children 3 – 6 years old. This program is a co-op; dependent upon parishioner involvement. Volunteers must be Safe Environment Certified. If you'd like to assist with this ministry, please contact the Program Coordinator, Jennifer Jury at stmmclow@gmail.com.



Refresh - An Adult Program held during PREP. Apex is a great place to live, but the number one city for you is where you can build your village. Get to know those around you at Mass. Meet other STMM families. Have a cup of coffee. We're meant to live in community, to connect with others. If it takes a village, let's build one! Join us on Sundays at Noon in the science room on the second floor of the StMM school building while your child is in PREP. Questions? Contact Nicole, nicolesebik@yahoo.com or Joe, jsebik@icloud.com.



Youth Ministry

We are back this Sunday and super excited to welcome our friend Fr. Joe Eustache from our sister parish in Jeremie, Haiti!!

STMM YM schedule for Sunday 10/13 is as follows:

EDGE 4:30pm-5:45pm in the gym

Apostello 4:30pm-5:45pm in the media center

Youth Mass at 6pm in the church (open to all ages!!!)

The Way 7:15pm-8:30pm starting in the church

All teens in The Way must sign in every Sunday at the table in the lobby of the church

Thank you to everyone who prayed for our group on EDGE Retreat last weekend! Those prayers were definitely felt by all!

The STMM YM Calendar for the 2019-2020 school year can be found at this link on the right side of the page:

<http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm>

HS Girls Retreat "Speaking to Sparrows" registration is now open.

Form is available on the church website at this link:

<http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm>

This retreat is open to girls in 9th-12th grade and will be held Friday, November 8th to Sunday November 10th in New Hill, NC. Cost is \$75.00 per girl. It is an amazing opportunity for girls to create community, build up sisterhood, spend the weekend in her pajamas/soft clothes and get away from the everyday stresses of high school life. Girls from any church/denomination can attend this retreat!! Spots are limited to 20 girls and at this time are not open to girls who have already attended in past years. If we don't fill the 20 spots, we'll open it up to returners!

Registration has now closed for all STMM YM programs. Please contact Janine or Liz directly if you missed our registration period.

Janine McGann can be reached at janine.mcgann@gmail.com

Liz Sams can be reached at liz.sams@gmail.com



RCIA

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but not confirmed? We can help! The RCIA process at StMM assisted 8 adults in completing their sacraments of initiation at the 2019 Easter Vigil. Our next session will be Monday, October 14, 2019 at 7:30 PM in Room #4 of the church building. It's not too late to join the discussions. Please contact Scott and Kathy Strednak at rcia@stmm.net if you missed the inquiry sessions.



Today's Announcements



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, October 21, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, in Church meeting room #1. For more information, please contact Miriam Moore, miriamdel79@yahoo.com, 919-387-8676 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com.

Catholics today face many obstacles to experiencing a vibrant, personal relationship with Christ. Life pulls us in so many directions, often times away from Him. It is not uncommon for us to feel alone on our faith journey. Maybe we have gaps in our understanding of the Church's teachings but we don't know how to fill them. Or, we may not have the tools or confidence to share the saving grace of the Good News with others the way Jesus instructs us to in Matthew 28: 16-20. If any of these sound like you, then prayerfully consider joining a **Discipleship Quad**. After a year of extensive research, Franciscan University created this free resource to help people have the relationship with Christ they desire. It is based on a model that has over thirty years of success. Your journey with the Discipleship Quad will equip you with the tools you need to help rebuild our Church at a time when we desperately need disciples. Sign ups are ongoing. And 100% FREE. **For more information, as well as all the free resources needed to get started, visit** <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/discipleship-quads/> **Or email Laura Werner at** stebenvillemissionNC@gmail.com **for more information.**



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 Mon, 10/28 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.

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Live stream StMM's 10:45am Mass at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7wpkWA5NgzXgQgmIxtNRZA?view_as=subscriber or Search YouTube for 'STMM CHURCH LIVE.'

"Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit" – Are you interested in experiencing more fully, the power of the Holy Spirit? A group of parishioners has come together to offer a one day workshop on living in the power of the Holy Spirit – **Saturday October 26th from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. A continental breakfast will be available. Bring your own lunch.** This day is about renewing our Christian faith through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is about seeking a new intimacy with Jesus and the fullness of the Holy Spirit, so that we can be and bring God's presence to the people and circumstances of our lives. If you have never said yes to Jesus' offer to have a relationship with you, this is an opportunity to do so, as well as seek to experience the fullness of his Holy Spirit. If you have said yes to Jesus' offer to have a relationship with him, but that relationship has grown distant, this is an opportunity to renew that relationship and also seek to experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit. **Please register by October 19** by contacting Art Klaum (at artklaum61@gmail.com) or Ronda Watts (at rondatroy-watts@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 lcmorris0707@gmail.com

As part of **Respect Life Month**, StMM will be participating in the Baby Bottle Campaign Fundraiser for Birthchoice Pregnancy Center. Birthchoice provides free Pregnancy Tests and Ultrasounds to over 1000 women who are vulnerable to abortion each year. By giving these women complete and accurate information and connecting them with available resources nearly 80% choose life for their baby. Volunteers will be handing out empty baby bottles the weekend of October 12th & 13th. Please take one home and fill it with your spare change, dollar bills or checks made Payable to "Birthchoice" and return it the weekend of October 19th & 20th.



Family Promise – STMM Supporting Homeless Families - STMM will support Family Promise by volunteering time and donating items to homeless families that will be housed at St. Andrew Nov 10-16. Please stop by tables in the lobby the weekend of

October 26-27 to select your volunteer activity or item for donation. We could not do this without you, and need many volunteers for each day and night. Family Promise of Wake County provides support to pre-screened homeless families as they transition into permanent housing (<http://www.familypromisewake.org/>). Reminder: All donations are dropped off at St. Andrew Please contact Mary Wire at mbwire@gmail.com or 919-749-8932 with questions.



The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy **Rosary** because the feast of Our Lady of the **Rosary** is celebrated on October 7. Pray the Rosary On Thursday nights at 7 in the Chapel. Rosaries and prayer guides are available. Everyone and all ages are welcome to come. No experience necessary. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Contact Joe Sebik (jsebik@icloud.com) for more information, if you want to help lead the Rosary, have prayer intentions, or with questions.

Talk Saves Lives Presentation (November 14th at 7 and 8:15 pm in the STMM Media Center). Provided by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, this one- hour awareness program presents the basics of what everyone needs to know about suicide: who is at risk, the warning signs & what you can do in a crisis. Two identical sessions will be held to accommodate your schedules. This presentation is for ages 15 and higher only. For questions, contact Mike Rota at mikerota2018@gmail.com



Knights Corner

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

Events: Sunday October 13th - Parish Breakfast served after 9am mass, supports our parish

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 or join via our new online membership program at: <http://kofc.org/un/joinus/en/index.html>



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, October 13th. 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.

The latest **40 days for life campaign** is at Drake Circle in Raleigh from September 25 through November 3. KofC 7186 in communion with STMM Respect life committee have signed up with the national 40 days organization to cover the following Vigil hours: 9 AM – 10AM on October 26th, and November 2nd. Use your voice in prayer to defend those who haven't yet a voice of their own, those who are truly the least among us. Defend those who cannot defend themselves, Please join us using the signup genius here or go to the 40 days site to signup for your own vigil hours.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BADA62BA13-40days1>

How to Build a Culture of Life—Watching the news and reading the headlines, we may feel helpless seeing the heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. *How do we respond?* Changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. When we encounter Christ, experience His love, and deepen our relationship with Him, we become more aware of our own immeasurable worth and that of others. His unchanging love is the source of our God-given dignity, which, therefore, cannot be taken away. When someone is facing great trials, we need to walk with them on their journey, intercede for them, and be open to sharing Christ's love however He directs. We simply need to follow where He leads. Read the full version at respectlifeprogram.org/culture-of-life.



Diocesan News

The Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated Saturday, October 19, at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh. We will honor those celebrating their wedding anniversary, with special recognition to couples with 25, 50, and 60 years of marriage. Please register at: <https://raldioc.configio.com/go/wam2019>. For questions, call Rebekah Tolson at 919-821-9753.



"My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me." Learn how God is calling you to more in your marriage on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Nov. 8-10, in Atlantic Beach. 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.

Single / Single Again 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 follows Mass. Upcoming Mass schedule: October 20, November 17 and December 15. For more information, contact Celia at ckea-tor@nc.rr.com, or visit www.singlesingleagain.com or on Facebook, www.facebook.com/singleagainraleigh.



On October 18th the Knights of Columbus-4th Degree is hosting a pilgrimage to our new Cathedral, The Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. The tour begins at 10:30 AM. We will car pool, gathering at the Saint Micheal's conference center at 9:45 AM. This is a guided tour of this beautiful cathedral. The gift shop should be open for your shopping. After the tour, a luncheon is planned at K & W Cafeteria in Raleigh. Please respond to Gary Lazetera at glazetera@outlook.com or Deacon Brian Phillips at pPhillips2@bellsouth.net. This is an outstanding chance to view the beauty and splendor in detail with a guide and also time to explore on your own.

LOCATION CHANGE: A Memorial Mass will be offered on Saturday, October 19 at 10:00 am at **St. Ann's in Clayton** (Not St. Mary's in Garner) for anyone who has lost a child recently, or in the past from a miscarriage, stillbirth, infant loss, abortion, or any type of loss. A potluck luncheon will follow in the Parish Center. Please see St. Ann's website or Facebook page to sign up for the potluck. October is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness and Respect Life Month.

"Age Warfare: Developing a Career That's Like Fine Wine." featuring Martin Brossman, Founder, Martin Brossman & Associates is the next information session, Saturday, Oct. 26, 9 - 11 am; St. Michael the Archangel, Convention Center, Room III. RSVP to CNM@stmcary.org. The Career Network Ministry is a group of working professionals and job seekers committed to proactive career management through continuous learning and relationship building for the purpose of enhancing opportunities for immediate or future employment.

Change in Date for Ignited By Truth! The 17th annual Catholic conference will be held on April 18, 2020, at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh "bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in all hearts a love for the Faith." Join our mailing list to receive the latest updates! IgnitedByTruth.org



Job Opening StMM School

Position Title: Art Teacher
Full-Time; 30 hours per week

Key responsibilities / day-to-day job functions

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School is a K-8 Catholic school located in Apex. We are currently accepting resumes for an Art teacher. Candidates should present passionate dispositions towards teaching and Catholic formation. The person should:

- Accepting the mission of the school as articulated at the Diocesan and school level;
- Implementation of the educational mission, philosophy, goals, and objectives of the school;
- Plan, prepare, teach, and interact with students in a professional way that challenges students to reach their individual potential while celebrating the ability levels of all students;
- Collaborate with team and cluster to form successful partnerships with parents, the administration, and students;
- Performance of professional responsibilities including but not limited to planning lessons, preparing instructional materials, serving on faculty committees, communication with parents and administration, and maintaining positive relationships with peers, students, parents, and the administration.

Minimum Requirements

- Applicants should hold a minimum of a North Carolina teaching certificate in Art or a related field.
- Practicing Catholics who have prior teaching experience in a Catholic school setting preferred
- Employment is contingent on the applicant passing a full background check

The position is for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.
Send resume and letter of interest to: principal@stmm.net

News From Other Organizations

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.



Catholic Charities Volunteer Opportunity - New Dates Scheduled! Join NC Catholics Volunteer on November 23rd. Help as

we repair homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence. Volunteers from all areas and of all experience levels are encouraged to participate! If you have any questions, please contact Jo-El Sidbury Smith by email at Jo-El.SidburySmith@raldioc.org or at (910) 251-8130. Spots are limited so sign up now! www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/NCCV

The Annual BAZAAR at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 1005 Wilbon Rd. in Fuquay Varina will be held Nov. 15 – 17th. You are invited to attend.

St. Thomas More Academy (STMA), an independent, Diocesan approved, Catholic college preparatory school in Raleigh, invites all 8th grade students to an OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, November 10th from 2-5pm. STMA is located at 3109 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, NC. Applications for the 2020-2021 school year are now being accepted. Parents and students are encouraged to attend this event. In addition to the Open House, "shadowing" is encouraged for all students wishing to experience STMA first hand. Please call 919-576-7064 or email admissions@stmacademy.org with questions or to schedule a visit. For more information visit our Admissions page at www.stmacademy.org

The Legion of Mary at St Michael the Archangel Church in Cary. All are invited to pray the Rosary with us every Monday night 6:30pm rm3 Conference Center



Parish Athletics

Winter Basketball (Apex)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4 year-olds) to 6th.

Dates: November - February.

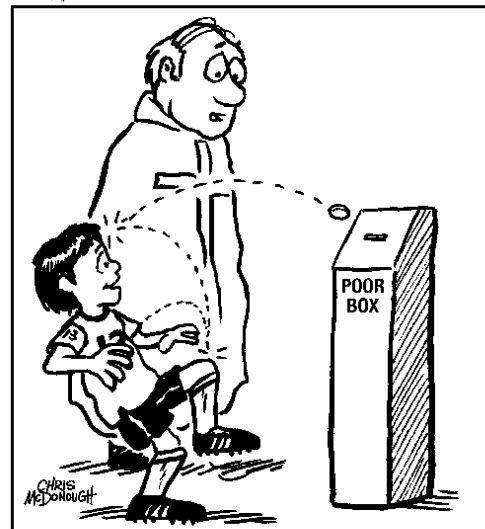
Location: StMM Gym in Apex.

Cost: Pre-K & K, \$60; 1st & 2nd Grade, \$65; 3rd - 6th Grades, \$70; (includes medal, shirt, and picnic).

Format: Pre-K & K have practices/games on Saturdays; 1st - 6th Grades have week night practices and weekend games.

Register at www.parishathleticsnc.org

Pastor Al™



"Nice shot, Miguel. But when you join the altar servers I ask that you stick to just using your hands."

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October 13, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are called, as a Catholic community, to care for our brothers and sisters in need. Here, in North Carolina, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh has become a leader for serving central and eastern North Carolina and providing volunteer opportunities for our community to put our faith into practice. This past year, Catholic Charities has engaged in multiple challenging efforts and accomplished great things throughout the Diocese.

Following Hurricane Florence, Catholic Charities staff and volunteers, in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus, quickly mobilized and began distributing food and water, cleaning supplies, and diapers, and remain engaged in long term recovery efforts.

In Raleigh, Catholic Charities created Oak City Cares to provide a comprehensive, coordinated approach to making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring in Wake County.

In May, the Durham Community Food Pantry and Reverend Joseph G. Vetter Family Enrichment Center opened working to distribute 1.5 million-pounds of food each year and provide additional wraparound services. These are only a few of the many examples of their hard work in our Diocese.

In addition, two Catholic Charities offices were named as Partner Agency of the Year. The Cape Fear Office was presented with this award by The Harrelson Center, which is the non-profit space where the office is located. The Fayetteville Office received this recognition from the United Way of Cumberland County. I am proud of the accomplishments of these offices and glad to see them recognized by the community.

As part of Catholic Charities Sunday this year, Catholic Charities offices will be holding open houses this week. I encourage you to take this opportunity to learn more about how they serve approximately 63,000 individuals each year through Disaster Services, Emergency Assistance, Legal Immigration Assistance, Services in Support of the Family, and Parish and Community Engagement. The open houses will occur this Wednesday, October 16 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please visit CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/open-house for more information about your local office.

I am appreciative of the dedicated individuals who graciously give of their time to care for our vulnerable brothers and sisters. I also wish to thank our many generous donors who provide the financial resources to allow Catholic Charities to accomplish this incredible work. I am grateful for your support and continued prayers for the work of Catholic Charities. May our Lord watch over those struggling in their lives each day.

In Christ,

† Luis Rafael Zarama, J.C.L.
Bishop of Raleigh

 **Joanne Martin**
PROPERTIES

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919-418-6620 M
Elaine.Jolley@edwardjones.com



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