

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH



A surprise today! This weekend I have traded parishes with Father Thomas Davis, who is pastor of St Egbert Church in Morehead City. He will be here and I will be there. I will return around Monday noon. We welcome Father Davis – and I am sure you will enjoy his presence today. I am grateful to spend some time with friends in Morehead City at Thanksgiving time.

I will be here for morning Mass on Friday, and I am grateful to Janine McGann and Liz Sams for having a Communion Service on Monday morning.

Deacon Joe LaPierre will be absent from our worship for a while, as he is helping a family member during time of illness. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Thank you for your generous gifts last week for the Campaign for Human Development. We received \$2,567. Also – thank you to all who helped in providing Thanksgiving baskets for those in need. That was a big task.

In the month of November we remember all those who have died, especially during the past year. We are grateful for what they have given to us during life and we pray for them eternal rest.

Remember in our prayers: Alexander Vander Hoff and Barry Hobart who died recently. May they rest in peace and may God bless their families.

CONFESSIONS: There will not be Confessions on Saturday November 24. There will also not be Confessions on December 1 because of the 25 ordination anniversary of Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama. The list of the Advent Penance Services is in our bulletin this week.

Father Donald Staib





Catechetical Corner

Many Thanks to all our Grade 1 Program Families for your generous donations last week for Catholic Parish Outreach.

Thanksgiving Holiday - All elementary programs are closed from Sunday, November 18th through Sunday, November 25th. All programs resume on Tuesday, November 27th.

Grade 2 & Wednesday Evening Intermediate Sacrament Program Families - First Reconciliation Parent Meetings are set for Monday, December 3rd & Tuesday December 4th in Church Room 3. Meetings times are 10:30a-12 noon OR 7p-8:30p on either day. Only one parent is to attend one meeting. Pick whatever is convenient for your schedule. There is no need to RSVP. Upon arrival you will sign in on the appropriate labeled rosters displayed in the hallway outside Room 3. Please enter the Church behind the Jonah statue on the piazza & not through the main doors. If you attended a First Reconciliation parent meeting in either December 2016 or 2017 you do not need to attend, this year. You are however responsible for picking up all meeting materials from the parish office the week of December 11th. Please bring the \$75 sacrament instructional materials fee. Checks are made payable to StMM. This amount will cover both sacraments received this year.

First Reconciliation Dates for Religious Education Students are Tuesday, February 5th at 5p or 6:30p / Wednesday, February 6th at 5p or 6:30p Parents do not attend.. Sunday Religious Education Students will need to sign up for a Tuesday of Wednesday time. Sign Up will take place at the December Parent Meetings.

First Reconciliation Date for StMM School Students is Thursday, February 7th from 10a-11a. Parents do not attend.

Looking Ahead - Advent Begins December 2nd...Our Annual Lobby Gathering Prayer will begin this week on days we have class sessions. Upon arrival to the lobby the students are to gather around our displayed Advent wreath & not proceed down to the classrooms. When our prayer is complete, catechists will walk their students to class. Dismissal procedures remain the same. Parents are welcome to stay & should stand around the perimeter of the lobby.

Christmas Holidays - All elementary programs are closed from Sunday, December 16th through Friday, January 4th. All programs resume the week of January 6th.

First Reconciliation Retreat is Saturday, February 2nd for all students in Grade 2 & the Wednesday Evening Intermediate Sacrament Program from 8:30a-12noon.

2019 First Eucharist Dates—May 11th/12th and May 17th/18. First Eucharist is received at the 5p/9a/10:45a on either weekend. Families pick their own date. They are not assigned. Parents will give us date at the March parent meetings.

All our elementary programs serve only registered contributing parishioners using the weekly envelope system or electronic draft.



Youth Ministry

All StMM YM programs are off this Sunday, 11/25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Enjoy time with your family and friends! We wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving!

We will return on December 2nd with our **Advent Mission night**. All family members & friends welcome to attend this special night from 6:30-8pm, there will be no youth mass this night.

Special collection of baby formula for Babies in Venezuela: We are collecting Baby Formula (0-12 months), PediaSure and baby bottles. Bring your donations to the Saint Mary Magdalene masses on Sunday, December 2nd or to the Advent Mission on 12/2. The donations collected will be sent to a Charlotte based nonprofit organization called VIDA (working towards the same goal as VPT), and they will ship it to Venezuela. The donations will take from 3 to 5 weeks to get to the Children's Hospital San Juan de Dios, located in Caracas. If for some reason you are not able to bring your donation on Dec 2nd you can drop it off at Chipotle Restaurant (1516 Village Market Place, Morrisville) on Dec 9th from 5-9 pm. We are having a fundraiser over there to collect more baby formula.

Don't DROP OFF & DRIVE: StMM Youth Ministry is excited to announce we are offering time for our parents to park the car and come inside on Sundays for their own time to grow in their faith & community. There is no sign ups, just come when you can. Come for some or come for all of the sessions! This is meant to be a low stress opportunity for you to continue on your own journey while your teen is in their StMM YM program. Many of us, as parents, have never been evangelized and we cannot give to our own children what we do not have so we are trying to provide these opportunities where we can come together and build up our adult community as well as our teens. The topic for these sessions is exploring encounters with Jesus as shared in the Gospel of John. In each story the people are transformed by their encounters with Christ. These sessions will be held during the EDGE/Apostello from 4:30-5:45pm & during The Way from 7:15-8:30pm all in Room #3 in the Church building. The sessions will be facilitated by Mary Carey, Paula Hils, and Kathy Lynch. They will be held on the following dates: 12/9, 1/6/19, 1/27/19, 2/17/19, 3/3/19, 3/17/19, 3/31/19

Help build a house in Haitil: StMM Youth Ministry programs are teaming up to build a house in Jeremie, Haiti through the group, Haiti Mission Inc. You can learn more about this organization on their website at <u>http://www.haitimissioninc.com/</u> We are challenging every teen who is registered in either the EDGE, The Way, and Apostello to donate \$7.25 between now and April 1st. This would give us the \$3,750 to partner with HMI and provide a safe new home for a family in Haiti. In April 2018 Janine and Liz went on a mission trip to Haiti and saw firsthand the incredibly life changing work HMI is doing in the Jeremie area and felt a strong call to connect our StMM YM teens & families with HMI. Our youth can have a profound impact on the life of a family living in complete despair. Anybody can donate to this cause and if we raise more than the \$3750 minimum, we'll build two houses! Our vision is for our community to accompany the people of Jeremie and join HMI in their mission of moving people from despair into poverty. Thank you for your support!



RCIA

No RCIA evening session on Nov 26th. The next session is Dec 3rd from 7:30-8:30 pm in Church Room 4. Topic: The Second RCIA Period: Catechumenate Begins. Questions please contact Celeste at rcia@stmm.net.





Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Sacred Liturgy Training date is set for Sunday, December 9th from 2p-4p in Church Room 4.Use the entrance behind the statue of Jonah on the piazza. Contact

Lisa at lisa.westberg@duke-energy.com by Friday, December 7, if attending.



HEY PARENTS! Instead of heading to Target, head to the school's Media Center after you drop your kids at faith formation. Let's learn something new about our faith. Let's talk about news in the Church. Let's make new friends who

are living the struggles of kids and work and faith. Let's have a good cup of coffee! Our group meets during Sunday faith formation classes from 12 to 1:15. When the kids are there, so are we! Join us! Questions? Contact Nicole at nicolesebik@yahoo.com or Joe at jsebik@icloud.com.



Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) has begun. This co-op ministry guides children ages 3 years to first grade through a portion of the Mass in a prayerful, kidcentered way. Register your child(ren) at the CLOW table outside of Mass or email Celeste

Usischon usischon@stmm.net to participate. All parents will need to take a turn to serve as either parent assistant or C-Level leader. Thank you for helping to make this ministry flourish!



Thank you for your generous support last week to the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Develop-If you missed the collection, it's not too late to ment! give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click

on "How to Give" on the left.



"Are you worried about someone in your life?" Join us for an informational seminar featuring Sister Anne Heath. Counseling Specialist from Catholic Charities on Sunday, December 9th at 10am in Room #1, immediately following mass. For

more information contact dana conte@yahoo.com



Mark your calendars! To get everyone in the Christmas mood, the choir will be hosting a carol concert and will perform some traditional Christmas music on Saturday, Dec 8th from 6:15 - 7:15, following the 5:00pm mass. All are invited to attend, sing a few carols and listen to the choir in the

amazing setting of our new Church. Hope you can make it!





The Angel Tree is in the lobby filled with ornaments for needy children and families from several Wake County nonprofit organizations. Please attach the ornament to the gift/ food/contribution to help us track all donations. Feel free to wrap or bag gifts for the children (star tags). No other gifts

should be wrapped. All contributions should be placed under the tree no later than 10:45am on Dec. 16th .

The StMM first grades are sponsoring a pajama drive in conjunction with Scholastic books. For every pair of pajamas that is donated through the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive, Scholastic Book Clubs will donate a brand-new book to Pajama Program to give kids affected by instability a good night – for a good day! Please consider donating a new pair of pajamas from size newborn to adult. There will be collection bins in the school lobby from Dec 3 – 12. Thank you for making a child's Christmas brighter!

The StMM second grade is hosting a shoe drive from Dec 3 – 12. During this season of giving, we are asking you to please donate new or gently used shoes to those in need. Boxes will be located in the school lobby for you to deposit your shoe donations. Please tie laces of shoes/sneakers together before bringing them to school. For shoes/sneakers without laces, kindly place them in a plastic bag. The shoe donations are given to Brown Bag Ministry who distributes them to those in need. These essential items of living will be greatly appreciated, especially with the cold weather.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament/Eucharistic Adoration—StMM has Adoration available every Friday in the Chapel after daily Mass. On the First Friday of each month Adoration begins after daily

Mass and ends at 7pm. Join us on Dec 7th and Jan 4th. This reguires that we have many people committed to praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day. We always need more people for this ministry! Please consider committing 1 hour each month. Take advantage of these opportunities to spend time with the Lord. If you would like to participate contact Anita Becker at 919-642-0441 or AlAnitaBecker@aol.com.



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, Dec 17, 9:30 – 11am, in Church meet-on the Gol ing room #1. For more information, please contact

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

Stock Donations Before Year's End? If you are considering a tax deductible stock donation before the end of 2018 the process is easy. Go to http://dioceseofraleigh.org/give and download the stock donation form. A contact person is listed on the form should you have questions. All stock donations are processed through the Diocese of Raleigh and proceeds are forwarded to the parish.



Online Giving - Give instantly via our website. And don't forget, you can go to our website, www.stmm.church , click on GIVING and then ELECTRONIC ON DONATE TO StMM. Direct your gift to a specific

fund - Offertory, Debt Reduction, ASP Mission, In Memory or other. Your donations are tax deductible.



Pray the **Rosary for Life** at 10:10am on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Chapel. Our next Rosary for Life is today Sunday, December 9. 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.



Fetal Development of Abigail—Abigail weighs about 5 ½ pounds now. She is really putting on baby fat, which will help keep her warm after birth. The lungs are almost complete. You may be able to see Abigail's body parts as the uterine wall gets thinner – feet, head, and

hands. Mom is looking for a pediatrician to examine the baby after birth. She's getting ready in case Abigail is ready. *"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."* (Matthew 24:42)

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: <u>courage.sacred.heart@gmail.com</u>. 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 <u>encourage.sacred.heart@gmail.com</u>. Or call: (984) 221-0730. Strict confidentiality is maintained.



Diocesan News

"Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Join us on one of the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends on Mar 1-3 in Hickory and Feb 1-3 in Columbia. Early sign up is recommended. For more information

visit our website at <u>https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org</u> or contact us at <u>applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org</u> or 704-315-2144.



Holy Family Perpetual Adoration Chapel at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church 2718 Overbrook Drive in Raleigh is YOUR Adoration Chapel, open 24 hours/7 days a week. Visit Our Lord in an intimate time of prayer, any time you want. Go to our website at <u>www.ourladyoflourdescc.org</u> for more details and to sign up for a Holy Hour—which is a weekly appointment with Jesus. It will be the best time

you spend on Earth. Are you called?

Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama and bishops nationwide are joining in seven days of prayer and fasting prior to their general assembly in November, where they will make critical decisions regarding the tragedy of clergy abuse. Please pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all the bishops, especially during the General Assembly, where they will be making critical decisions in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. **25th Anniversary Mass for Bishop Zarama** Please join Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama as he celebrates his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on December 1 at 10am at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. The Mass is open to the public. No tickets or RSVP is needed.

Dedication of the Fisk Opus 147 Pipe Organ Please join us for the dedication of the Fisk Opus 147 Pipe Organ at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral on January 3. Vespers begin at 6:30pm followed by a concert with concert guest soloist Nathan Laube. Event is open to the public.

Annual Homeschool Mass Please join us for the Diocese of Raleigh Homeschool Mass Sponsored by the Association of Roman Catholic Homeschoolers celebrated by the Most Reverend Luis Rafael Zarama, Bishop of Raleigh Friday, December 7th 10am at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. Donut and coffee reception following the Mass.

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men and Women at Avila Retreat Center - The Spiritual Exercises provides an opportunity to quiet your soul from daily distractions and focus on Christ. Mass, Confession and Spiritual Direction will be available with a Legionary of Christ priest. There will be guided meditations with time for private reflection. This is an opportunity to listen and discern God's voice in your soul. The Men's retreat will be held December 7-9 and the Women's retreat will be held January 18-20 at Avila Retreat Center in Durham. Cost of the retreat is \$225 per person in advance or \$250 within two weeks of the retreat. Materials, meals and linens are included. For more information or to register, call (919) 274-9362 or email Raleighregnumchristi@gmail.com.



Calling all Catholic Men to the Knights of Columbus "A Catholic Fraternal Service Organization" Our Knights at StMM Council 7186 have been very busy with Hurricane Florence relief, CPO Food Drive, StMM Parish Projects, etc. **Are You Being Called? Please join us to help those in need.**

Did You Know Your StMM KofC Council 7186:

- Donated (36) winter coats for children to CPO as a result of our work and your support.
- Provided truck and Knights for CPO Food drive that collected nearly 3,000 lbs. of food and \$1,800.
- Distributed over \$30,000 in Hurricane Florence food and supplies and \$20,000 in gift cards donated by Knights of Columbus headquarters. Our local StMM council 'man power' distributed those supplies and money to Lumberton, Fayetteville, Wallace, New Bern, Wilmington and Jacksonville.

For more information to becoming a Knight:

Visit our website: <u>http://kofc7186.org</u> **Contact:** Grand Knight (Tom Blum) at <u>gkkofc7186@gmail.com</u> or our Membership Committee at <u>MembershipKofC7186@gmail.com</u>

<u>Event:</u> Christmas Cards are for sale (before and after all masses). We also have some Christmas Ornaments for sale as well.

Tuesday Nov 27th: Serve meals at Men's Homeless Shelter (5:15pm-6:30pm) Saturday Dec 1st: Nativity setup (8am) and lighting (after 5pm Mass)

StMM Principal

Recently our founding School Principal, Bob Cadran, announced his plan to retire at the end of this school year. We will soon establish a Search Committee, but meanwhile we are advertising in appropriate places. For additional information go to <u>www.StMM.church</u>. There is a link to the Job Description and additional details for applicants under Highlights.

News From Other Organizations



Give gifts that reflect the true meaning of Christmas! Catholic Parish Outreach Christmas Honor Cards- Did you know that last year CPO gave food and children's

clothes to 8,700 people a month? Honor the special people on your holiday gift list by making a donation to CPO. We will send a beautiful Christmas honor card designed by 12 year-old CPO Volunteer Alexis Martin to everyone on your gift list. Information on how to order the cards can be found at <u>www.cporaleigh.org</u> or call Catholic Parish Outreach at 919-873-0245 x230. Forms are available at in the Church Lobby.



Traveling St. John Vianney Project—We are looking for a few more families to join our ministry. Each family takes turns hosting our traveling statue of St John Vianney for a month. He is the patron saint of priests. While you are hosting, display the statue in your home as a visual re-

minder to pray for our priests and an increase in vocations. This is a great way for families to participate in a ministry together. If you are interested please email Megan Brinkley <u>m.brinkley@hotmail.com</u>

Hurricane Florence Rescue and Recovery-If you would like to help Catholic Charities assist families impacted by Hurricane Florence across central and eastern North Carolina, there are several ways you can do so at this time: Financial Donations: Disasters are rapidly changing events and financial donations allow us to adapt with the situation and best meet the needs of the survivors. Donate online or text RECOVER1 to 51555. Volunteer: If you are interested in volunteering, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/ volunteerflorence to learn about volunteer opportunities across the Diocese of Raleigh. In-Kind Donations: If you would like to donate in-kind goods, an online page has been set up where you can purchase items, and they will be shipped in bulk to our offices. This helps streamline coordination of the supplies we anticipate receiving. If you are interested in coordinating a donation drive, please contact Gabby Amos at Catholic Charities at Gabby. Amos@raldioc.org. **Pray:** Survivors are going through what may be the most traumatic experience in their lives. Staff and volunteers are working around the clock to provide some relief during this challenging situation. Your prayers for all involved are greatly needed at this time.



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. January-June 2019 Mass schedule: Janu-

ary 13, February 10, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23 Contact Celia at ckeator@nc.rr.com or visit <u>www.singlesingleagain.com</u> or on face book <u>www.facebook.com/singleagainraleigh</u>

Parish Athletics Winter/Spring Sports

Winter Basketball (Apex) - Grades: Pre-k to 6th (coed) Dates: November 26th - February 9th. Location: StMM Gym in Apex. Cost: Pre-k & Kindergarten \$60; 1st & 2nd Grade \$65; 3rd - 6th Grades \$70; includes medal, shirt, and picnic. Note: Pre-k & Kindergartners have practices/games on Saturdays; 1st - 6th Grades have week night practices and weekend games.

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. Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners - 8th graders have one weekday practice per week and weekend games. ***Prices will increase by \$5 on January 1st, 2019.

Spring T-Ball and Machine Pitch Baseball (Apex) - **Grades:** Coed; PreK (4 year olds) to 4th. **Dates:** April – June. **Practice Locations**: Apex only. **Cost**: \$65 (includes medal, shirt, and end of year picnic). **Note:** PreK players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. K-4th grade will have one weekday practice and a game on Saturday.

Spring Softcross (Apex) - Grades: Coed; K thru 5th. 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.

For more information, www.parishathleticsnc.org



"I know Jesus is always in the tabernacle, Pastor AI, but most of all I love knowing he's always in here."







SARAH KROGER DOM QUAGLIA WITH SPECIAL GUEST TOM YOUNG

Sunday, Dec. 2nd St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, Apex, NC 6:30pm-8:00pm. Open to all families, all ages, and all friends! 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).