

Pastor's Paragraph

My Dear Friends,

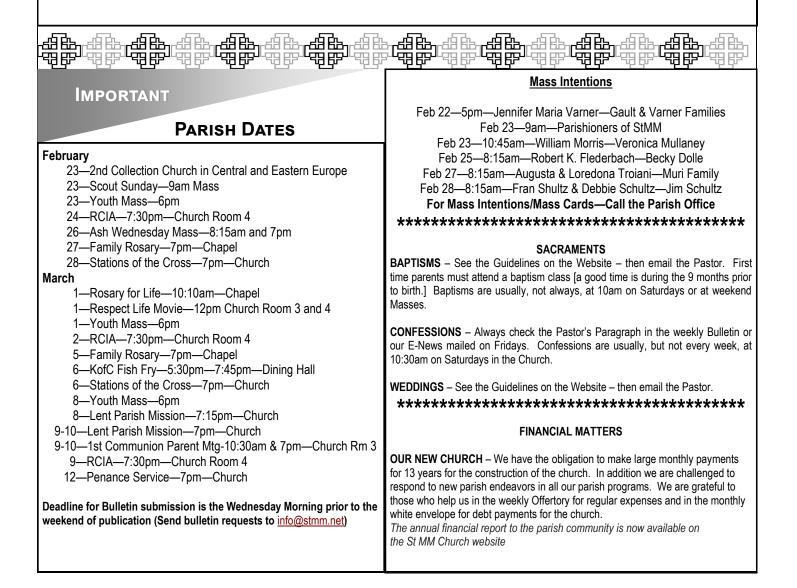
Thank you so much to all who responded to our Bishop's Annual Appeal. We have received \$157,883 which is 82% of our parish goal. We have received these gifts/pledges from 493 families, 24% of our 2,119 parish families. When we hear from the remaining 1,626 families – we will reach a goal of record proportions.

This week is Ash Wednesday. Our Masses will be at 8:15 with the StMM School children and at 7 pm in the evening. Lent is the time we are called to Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Consider for Almsgiving a gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Such a gift helps our Diocese and its ministries. And all funds over goal come back to our parish.

Confessions: There will be Confessions on Saturday February 22, after Baptisms; there will also be Confessions on Saturday February 29, at 10:30.

Due to a power surge in Apex, the telephone system at StMM is not working properly. We have received some components for a new system, but not all. We hope a new system is installed soon.

Father Donald Staib





Elementary Religious Ed



Ash Wednesday – February 26, 2020 – Wednesday Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) Students should arrive at their regularly schedule time of 6:30 pm and will attend the 7:00 pm Mass as a class with their Catechists. Parents are welcome to join us at church and sit with your child's class. Pick up will occur from the church following Mass.

First Communion Parent Meetings Are Approaching. Parents of second graders and Intermediate Sacrament Students are to attend only one meeting. They will be held in Church Room 3. Please enter through Jonah Door.

- Monday, March 9th 10:30 am or 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 10th 10:30 or 7:00 pm

At this meeting you will:

- Sign up for the Mass you want for First Communion. Choose from Saturday 5/9/20 5:00 pm Sunday 5/10/20 9:00 am or 10:45 am Saturday 5/16/20 at 5:00 pm Sunday 5/17/20 9:00 am or 10:45 am
- 2. Pick up the student banner kit and materials to complete at home and returned the day of the First Communion Retreat.
- **3.** Volunteer for First Communion Retreat held Saturday, May 2, 2020.
- 4. If you attended the Parent Meeting in 2018 or 2019 with an older child, you are not required to attend but please be sure to contact Suzanne with your liturgy choice and to pick up your materials at the Parish Office.

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.



Please join us at noon in the Gym.

Helpful Information to Stay Informed: www.stmm.church

Suzanne Will can be reached at will@stmm.net



Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is co-op ministry geared for children ages 3 years to first grade, guiding them through a portion of the Mass in a prayerful, kid-centered way. We would be delighted to have your family join us! Please be sure to register your child

(ren) to participate by emailing our ministry at <u>stmmclow@gmail.com</u>. All parents will need to use the online sign-up to serve as parent assistant or C-Level leader throughout the year for this program to continue. Thank you for helping to make this ministry flourish!



Youth Ministry

Our schedule this Sunday, 2/23/20 is as follows: EDGE 4:30pm-5:45pm Apostello 4:30pm-5:45pm Youth Mass 6pm The Way 7:15pm-8:30pm

Enormous thanks to everyone who generously donated to our collection for the troops returning from deployment in Afghanistan! We collected over 1,000 items (not even counting all the laundry pods!) The generosity of our parish is truly overwhelming!

GUYS ONLY HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPENI: LIMITED SPOTS LEFT! 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://</u> www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm 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 <u>david.kurtz4@gmail.com</u>.

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. (can only miss 1 session)

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



RCIA The next session is Monday, Feb 24th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: Lent. Question please contact Kathy or Scott Strednak at <u>RCIA@stmm.me</u>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! LENT PARISH MISSION 3/8-<u>3/10:</u> STMM is incredibly excited to host Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT for our 2020 Lent Parish Mission: Encountering the Heart of Christ: Hope and Healing in the Lenten Season. Sun: 7:15pm-8:30pm, Mon & Tues: 7pm-8:30pm. Sr. Miriam James Heidland is a former Division I athlete who had a radical conversion and joined the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) in 1998. Her story has been featured on EWTN's The Journey Home, SEEK Conferences, Steubenville Conferences, USCCB Convocation and other outlets. She holds a Master's degree in Theology from the Augustine Institute and speaks extensively on the topics of conversion, authentic love, forgiveness, healing (and sports!). Sr. Miriam's podcast, Abiding Together, can be found on iTunes and her book, Loved As I Am, can be found on Amazon. She tweets at @onegroovynun

<u>St. Mary Magdalene</u> Rosary Have you re-solved to pray more in 2020? Would you like to pray the Rosary but are not sure how to start? Do you want to increase your prayers during Lent?

"The greatest method of praying is to pray the Rosary." – Saint Francis de Sales. The Knight of Columbus would like to invite all you to join us for the Rosary on Thursdays at 7:00. Every one of all ages is invited. Rosaries and prayer guides are provided by the Knights of Columbus. No experience is necessary. <u>Saint John Paul II said</u>: "The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and theologically rich in Biblical Content. I beg you to pray it." Contact Joe Sebik for more information or to leave a prayer request at <u>jsebik@icloud.com</u>.

Fr. Dave Pivonka's new film series Metanoia is here! Join us Saturday mornings to watch Father Dave's newly-released video series *Metanoia*. Filmed in the Holy Land, this ten-segment, 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 <u>8-9:30am every Saturday until the weekend after Easter.</u> The Men's group will meet in Room 3 and the Women's group will meet in Room 4 at Church. No need to RSVP - just come if - and when - you can! Questions, email Laura Werner at <u>steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com</u> or Mike McGann at mcgannmi1970@gmail.com.



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 <u>http://www.stmm.church/giving/</u> Commemorate a First Communion, a Graduation or remember a loved one with an engraved brick.



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

CONFERENCES 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 you to live in true freedom and joy. 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 <u>steubenvillemis-</u> <u>sionNC@gmail.com</u> for more information, travel details, and registration.

Calling all PreK3—8th grade girls at StMM church and school! A special **Sweetheart Tea and Dance** is being planned just for you! Grab your best-loved dress and make a date with dad, grandpa, or your favorite uncle to attend this special afternoon on Saturday, March 21st from 2:00-4:00pm in the school gym. There will be games, activities, refreshments and a DJ! Tickets are \$10 per family and can be purchased at <u>https://payit.nelnet.net/form/GIMjJgzk</u> through March 13th. Please email Erin Snow at <u>erinsnow@gmail.com</u> or Erin Bonasso at <u>erinbonasso@gmail.com</u> with any questions.

Save the Date: KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry...- Fri, March 6th, March 20th, and April 3rd in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:45pm. Come out and enjoy a great meal with friends and family while supporting many worthy community causes championed by the Knights of Co-lumbus.

KofC 2020 Free Throw Championship! Friday, March 6 at 6:00 p.m. Open to boys and girls ages 9-14. Winners in each age group earn prizes and qualify to compete for district-level honors. Details at www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate at ttp://www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate http://www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate http://www.kofc7186.org/ or <

Dynamic Catholic Be Bold. Be Catholic Be Bold. Be Catholic

class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism.

DON'T GIVE UP CHOCOLATE FOR LENT!!! Please join your fellow parishioners for Dynamic Catholic's BEST LENT EVER, which is all about how the saints are ready to help you create holy moments and become the-best-version-of-yourself. All you have to do is go to DynamicCatholic.com and enter your name and email address. It's not what you give up. It's who you become.

<u>STARTING POINT</u> is now available for Parents and Parents To-Be. You have never seen baptismal preparation like this. Engaging, funny, entertaining, insightful and informational... this revolutionary program truly meets parents and YOU where you are!

Stop by the Dynamic Catholic table at Mass this weekend to see what free materials are available and to learn more about how the Dynamic Catholic programs can help you become the-best-version-of -yourself. If you are currently an Ambassador or would like to learn more, send an email to <u>stmm.dynamic.catholic@gmail.com</u>. **Be Bold. Be Catholic.**

Tax statements are available online Please follow the directions for printing your statement on our website. <u>http://www.stmm.church/</u> <u>Tax_statement_instructions_2019.pdf</u> For questions, email <u>prewitt@stmm.net</u>, or 919-657-4800 x7281.

Live stream StMM's 10:45am Mass at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7wpkWA5NgzXgQgmlxtNRZA?view_as=subscriber or Search YouTube for 'STMM CHURCH LIVE.'

Norms for Fasting and Abstinence

Ash Wednesday, **February 26, 2020**, and Good Friday, **April 10, 2020**, are days of fasting and abstinence. Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, Church law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and Catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for Initiation into the Church or the renewal of Baptismal Promises at Easter.



"UNPLANNED" the movie, will be shown here at StMM on March 1, 2020. Please join us from 12:00-3:00pm as this movie speaks volumes for the most vulnerable of humans, the preborn. Visit www.movieguide.org for Christian site review of the movie. Light refreshments will be provided and childcare for those who would like to attend but need someone to watch young children (email Jane breslinjane@verizon.net or Paula phils@bellsouth.net for childcare info). Please register at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4FABAF2FA1FC1-unplanned1

Reminder: 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign in **Raleigh**. Ash Wednesday, **Feb. 26, through April 5**. Visit their website, <u>www.40daysforlife.com</u> to sign up for an hour of prayer or join me on Thursday mornings after StMM morning Mass to say the Rosary at the public right-of-way outside Women's Choice Abortion Clinic, 3305 Drake Circle, Raleigh, NC 27607. Call or email Jane (301)452-2465; breslinjane@verizon.net

Pray the **Rosary for Life at 10:10** on the 1st Sunday of the month in the Chapel. Our next Rosary for Life is **Sunday**, **March 1, 2020**. 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.



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 will speak about Christ's Divine Mercy, Reconciliation, the Eucharist, and covenant relationship with God.



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

Project Rachel Support Group-The Project Rachel ministry assists women and men who have been wounded by abortion to find healing and peace. There is a support group beginning in the Triangle area in late March, followed by a retreat in June. If you have experienced an abortion and would like (strictly confidential) information about the support group, contact Project Rachel at (919) 852-1021 or email: project.rachel@raldioc.org, or visit the website: <u>http://projectrachelnc.org/</u> Calls and appointments are kept strictly confidential.

The **Career Network Ministry** presents "Design & Execute Your Dream Job Search," featuring Tony Kershaw, Community Manager, General Assembly, Thursday, March 12, 2020, 8:30 - 10:30 am at St. Andrew The Apostle, Main Building, Room 8, 3008 Old Raleigh Rd., Apex, NC 27502. Come and gain some insight into how you can enhance your job search!

Talk on Gangs, Service, and Kinship - St. Thomas More will host Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, and two homeboys on Friday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary to talk about "The Calling to Delight: Gangs, Service, and Kinship." Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, is the founder of Homeboy Industries and author of "Tattoos on the Heart." He will explore the connection between service and delight, and compassion and awe. This event is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Image and Likeness Committee.

Lent Penance Services 2020

Monday, March 2 (7pm) Tuesday, March 3 (11am) Thursday, March 12 (7pm) Wednesday, March 18 (11am) Tuesday, March 24 (7pm) Wednesday, March 25 (7pm) Thursday, March 26 (11am) Thursday, April 2 (7pm)

St. Raphael, Raleigh Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh St. Mary Magdalene St. Michael the Archangel Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral St. Michael the Archangel St. Bernadette, Fuquay Varina St. Bernadette, Fuquay Varina



StMM School News

StMM Employment Opportunities

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School has several employment opportunities available for the 2020-21 school year. We are currently accepting resumes for a 1st Grade Teacher, 7th & 8th Grade Science Teacher, 7th & 8th Grade Math Teacher, and a 6th Grade Teacher. Full job postings are available on our website, http://school.stmm.net/about-stmm/employment.cfm.

StMM School Availability for the 2020-21 School Year

Full-day 3 and 4 year old preschool classes at StMM are full for the 2020-21 school year! We do have a waitlist and some space remains in the half-day programs. Additionally, next year's 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th grades are filling up quickly. If you are interested in StMM School for your child, please don't wait! Apply now at http://school.stmm.net/admissions/. Questions! Contact Lydia Binanay at 919-335-8311, binanay@stmm.net.

Best Version of Self Retreat This school year our middle school students have been participating in a series of retreats called Best Version of Self. These sessions encourage our students to be the best version of themselves, to help others be the best version of themselves and, as a school, make StMM the best version of itself! As we prepare for Lent, our 6th, 7th and 8th graders will take part in the next round of Best Version retreats this week. God bless them with open hearts and minds during this journey.

Blood Drive A few spots are still available for the Knights of Columbus and StMM School blood drive on **Thursday, February 27 from 2pm - 6pm**. Please sign up to donate by visiting <u>http://</u>school.stmm.net/ and clicking on the "Announcements" link on the right. Not only will you be helping a great cause, but StMM school will also receive a \$10 donation for every person who donates!

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 **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

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.

The men of F3 Carpex (Cary + Apex) invite all men from the St. Mary Magdalene parish to join us for weekly Fitness, Fellowship and Faith. It's much more than a workout, but it does start with early morning bootcamps across the Cary and Apex area, including right here at STMM every Wednesday morning. We meet in the parking lot on the far right side of the church at 0530 sharp (45 minute workout). All F3 workouts are open to ALL men and are FREE. Please consider joining the men of F3 for a great workout, real fellowship, and dedication to our faith and a belief in something bigger than ourselves. For more info email <u>brianjodice@gmail.com</u> or send Brian (aka F3 Hello Kitty) a text at (919)283-1204.

Find Your Peace in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola Join us for a silent retreat for women, Friday, May 22 through Sunday, May 24, 2020, led by Father Stephen Ellis, LC, at the Catholic Conference Center, 1551 Trinity Lane, Hickory, NC 28602. Cost is \$350 before March 1, \$395 after March 1. Learn to pray better and listen to God speak in the guiet of your heart.

Please contact <u>mbphil@bellsouth.net</u> or 919-274-9362 for information and registration.



Join <u>Catholic Charities</u> for our 3rd Annual "Drive Out Hunger" Golf Outing at Prestonwood Country Club in Cary on Monday, April 27. Proceeds will support the 5 Catholic Charities food pantries across the diocese

which distribute nearly 3 million pounds of food each year. For more information and to register, please visit <u>www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/golf-2020</u>. For questions please contact Katey Fithian, Development Director, at <u>Katey.Fithian@raldioc.org</u> or by phone at (919) 821 – 8142





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 4th. Dates: April – June. Practice Locations: Apex only. Cost: \$65 (includes medal, shirt, and end of year picnic).

Spring Softcrosse (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.

www.parishathleticsnc.org

ENCOUNTERING THE HEART OF CHRIST: HOPE AND HEALING IN THE LENTEN SEASON

With Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT



SANCTUARY OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH 625 MAGDALA PLACE, APEX, 27502

Sunday March 8: 7:15-8:30 Monday March 9: 7:00-8:30 Tuesday March 10: 7:00-8:30 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). 02/02/2020