

Pastor's Paragraph

My Dear Friends,

Many thanks to all who helped in 2 large parish events this past week: the Parish Mission and the Lent Penance Service. I am grateful to all who use their time and talents to help all our parish members.

Congratulations and Thanks to Parish Members

We have reached our parish Bishop's Annual Appeal goal. We have received \$236,636 - 123% of our parish goal. We have received these gifts/ pledges from 701 families, 35% of our 2,119 parish families. It would be wonderful to receive a pledge/gift from the remaining 1,418 families – envelopes are in the pews.

On a practical church note -- to minimize transferring a virus, we have stopped using the cup at Communion. Our Communion Ministers purify their hands when they come to the altar. If you prefer not to shake hands at Mass, you may bow to one another. In order to minimize touching another person's mouth, it would be helpful not to receive Communion on the tongue during this crisis.

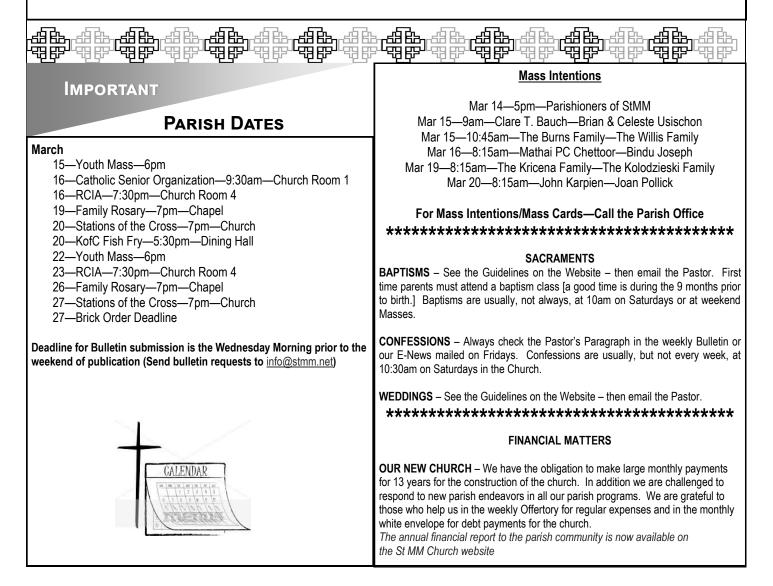
Please see the church website for other precautions we are taking.

There will be no daily Mass and no communion service on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Confessions: There will be Confessions on Saturday March 14 at 10:30. There will also be Confessions on Saturday March 21, at 10:30.

Due to a power surge in Apex, the telephone system at StMM is not working properly. Technicians are currently installing a new system.

Father Donald Staib





Elementary Religious Ed



In a preventative effort to slow the rate of the viruses, we will be suspending on-campus religious education through March. This includes Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), the Rock and the Edge. We will provide online resources for the remaining three weekends 3/15, 3/22 and 3/29 via email and our newsletters for you to review at home with your child/ren. Our intention is to re-assess following Easter to reopen our programs in April.

At this point in time, both daily and weekend Masses will continue to be held at STMM.

If your child is scheduled to receive First Communion in May, resources will be emailed to you to continue their sacramental preparation at home.

Helpful Information to Stay Informed: www.stmm.church

Suzanne Will can be reached at will@stmm.net





Youth Ministry

Every parent with a teen in Apostello or The Way should have received an email explaining the changes to our programs in our efforts to prevent the spreading of any viruses. Please make sure you read that email and discuss with your teen.

Our schedule this Sunday, 3/15/20 is as follows: Youth Mass 6pm The Way meets from 7:15pm-8:30pm

Thanks to everyone who came out for our Lent Parish Mission with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT. It was a full house every night and we hope you were blessed by it in some way this Lenten season. You can find the handout from the 2nd night of the mission on the right side of this web page:

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

FINAL PUSH for Haiti House Building: We will only be collecting a couple more weeks and have challenged each teen to bring in \$5.00 or \$10.00 to help us cross the finish line strong. Donations can be dropped off at the sign in table in the lobby of the church after youth mass on Sundays. 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: <u>https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?</u> 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

ALL THINGS CONFIRMATION!

SESSION #3 THIS SUNDAY for Catholic HS teens preparing for Confirmation2020:

There will be 5 sessions held during the 2nd semester of this school year on Sundays(can miss only 1 session) Remaining sessions are: 3/15, 3/22, AND 4/5

IMPORTANT: PARENT CONFIRMATION WORKSHOPS ARE REQUIRED FOR A TEEN PREPPING FOR CONFIRMATION <u>AT STMM:</u>

If you have a teen who is currently in 8th/9th/10th/11th grade who will be entering either year 1 or year 2 of Confirmation preparation at STMM in the 2019-2020 school year, please be aware that it is required by our parish that you attend a Parent Confirmation Workshop. We offer 3 of them every year and it is required that 1 parent attend 1 of the 3 sessions offered. To see the complete list of Diocesan Guidelines for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, please go to: <u>http://</u> www.stmm.church/religious-ed/way.cfm

The dates for the 2020 Parent Confirmation Workshops are as follows:

March 18th, April 21st, & May 7th.

All the workshops will be held at 7:30pm in Room #3 of the church

Teens in year 2 of Confirmation prep will receive the sacrament at the Confirmation Liturgy which will be held on May 20th, 2020 at 6:30pm at St. Mary Magdalene in the church.

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



RCIA The next session is Monday, March 16th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: Eucharist: Meal, Presence, and Question please contact Kathy or Scott Strednak Sacrifice. at RCIA@stmm.me



open from 8:30 am-12 pm. Staff will be available by email/phone outside of these hours.

St. Mary Magdalene Rosary Have you resolved 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 pravers 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. Contact Joe Sebik for more information or to leave a prayer request at jsebik@icloud.com.

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 8-9:30am every Saturday until the weekend after Easter. 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 steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com 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 http://www.stmm.church/giving/ Commemorate a First Communion, a Graduation or remember a loved one with an engraved brick.



Live stream StMM's 10:45am Mass at: https:// www.youtube.com/channel/ UC7wpkWA5NgzXgQgmIxtNRZA?view as=subscriber

or Search YouTube for 'STMM CHURCH LIVE.'



Do you receive Father Staib's E-News? If not, let us add or update your email address in the StMM directory for online communication. Email info@stmm.net and we can add or update our Email distribution list.

Stations of the Cross – Join us each Friday in Lent at 7pm in the Church



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 you to live in true freedom and joy. Registration 2020 Pricing 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.



Fish Fry Alert! KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry... -Fri, March 20th, and April 3rd in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:30 pm. (Eat in or Take Out). Pre-order online at www.lentfishfry.com. We use top guality cod and

shrimp, prepared fried or baked. Fried fish is freshly breaded just prior to cooking which delivers to you a perfect golden brown crispy filet. We serve our meals with your choice of seasoned french fries, parsley potatoes, or macaroni and cheese along with cole slaw, corn bread and dessert. Come out and enjoy a great meal with friends and family while supporting many worthy community causes championed by the Knights of Columbus. The status of the March 20th Fish Fry can be found at www.lentfishfry.com.

Save the Date: KofC Crawfish Boil, Saturday, April 25th to support the Lamb Foundation.

"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



The St. MM Habitat Ministry is in search of volunteers to help with the "Leap of Faith Build!" Come and join us to literally build a neighborhood at Johnson Place in Garner!. We will join the Southwest Wake Coalition build a home for Lori Presley! Join us, put your faith in action

and make an impact! Volunteers must be 16 or older (except for the Children's Baffle Project where all ages are welcome.

- Church Staff Work Morning: Thursday, March 26 from 8:15 • AM- 11:30 AM. Sign up at http://vhub.at/southwestwake
- Home Building: Saturday, March 28 from 8-4 PM at Johnson • Place in Garner. Sign up at http://vhub.at/southwestwake
- Children's Baffle Project: Sunday, March 29 at 3 PM at Unity . of the Triangle, 5570 Munford Road, Raleigh. This is an exciting opportunity to work with other Leap of Faith Coalitions. Please register your children via https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/508094AACA82FA31-2020

For more information please contact Terry Loding at stmmhabitat@gmail.com or 919-376-6714.

The Sweetheart Tea and Dance at StMM scheduled for March 21st has been cancelled.

Tax statements are available online Please follow the directions for printing your statement on our website. http://www.stmm.church/ Tax statement instructions 2019.pdf For questions, email prewitt@stmm.net, or 919-657-4800 x7281.



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, March 16th, 9:30am—11am, in Church meeting room #1. For more information, please contact

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



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, kidcentered way. We would be delighted to have your family join us! Please be sure to register your child(ren) to par-

ticipate by emailing our ministry at stmmclow@gmail.com. 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!

> 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.

Lent Penance Services 2020

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

St. Michael the Archangel Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral St. Michael the Archangel St. Bernadette, Fuquay Varina St. Bernadette, Fuguay Varina



Respect Life News

PRAY TO END ABORTION

Only with prayer - prayer that storms the heavens for justice and mercy, prayer that cleanses our hearts and souls - will the culture of death that surrounds us today be replaced with a culture of life." -Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Catholic Bishops

Prayer for Life

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life. Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult,

of men and women who are victims of brutal violence,

of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misquided mercv.

Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time.

Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the job of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives, and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

From Evangelium Vitae By Saint Pope John Paul II

Join us in the Chapel for the Rosary for Life every 1st Sunday of the month at 10:10am. What a beautiful way to start your week. Stay after 9:00am Mass or come early for 10:45am Mass. Prayer sheets and Rosaries are provided. Our next Rosary for Life is Sunday, April 5, 2020. All are welcome.





The 17th annual Ignited By Truth Conference will be held on April 18, 2020 at NC State's Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. Adult Advance Tickets are just \$15, Students age 10-college are **FREE**! Speakers Matthew Leonard, Jesse Romero, Helen Alvare, Stephanie Gray, and John Bergsma have been featured on Fox, ABC News, CBS, EWTN, and Rele-

vant Radio. The youth program with Fr. Ian Van Heusen and Dana Catherine includes FREE Pizza, Music, Speaker, and Prayer. Experience the 4:30pm Divine Mercy Vigil Mass and confessions throughout the day. Receive the promise of Divine Mercy. Who will you invite? Tickets: IgnitedByTruth.org or 919-789-1428. St. MM Parish contact: Laurie Wendt, lauriewendt@gmail.com

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: http:// projectrachelnc.org/ Calls and appointments are kept strictly confidential.



SUMMER CAMPS

2020 Mini-Monarchs Preschool Summer Camp Program

The Preschool Program at StMM is offering 7 weeks of summer fun for children ages 3-5 years! Each week will offer a completely different theme full of fun and exciting stories, songs, games, arts, crafts, and science activities. **Cost:** \$110.00 per week. You may sign up for as many individual weeks as you wish. **Location**: PreK Classrooms. **Hours:** 9:00am – 12:00pm.

Calendar: June 15-19: Dinosaur Week, June 22-26: Superhero Week, June 29-July 3: Funtastic Fourth!, July 6-10: Super Science, Volcanoes and Bubbles!, July 13-17: Splish! Splash!, July 20-24: Super Art, Super Fun!, July 27-31: Around the World.

The program is open to all children ages 3-5 years old. All children must be potty-trained.

Registration Link: <u>https://payit.nelnet.net/form/S7eimjq2</u> Additional Information: e-mail: <u>prekcamps@stmm.net</u>

2020 K-8 Grade Summer Camps

We are pleased to announce that StMM School will be offering summer camps during the first 3 weeks of June for rising K-8 students. There is something for everyone - athletics, arts, science, cooking and more! Morning sessions will run from 8:30-11:30am. Afternoon sessions will be from 12:30-3:30pm. Additionally, before care and after care will be available and there will be an hour lunch period for those students attending both a morning and afternoon session. Check out all the offerings and register online at:

http://school.stmm.net/about-stmm/summercamp.cfm.

Co-Ed Basketball Camps

Join StMM Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Don McKee to learn the fundamentals of basketball, sportsmanship and the importance of Christ through basketball. Camp will be held Monday, June 29th through Thursday, July 2nd. Rising grades 3rd-5th are from 8:00am - 11am. Rising grades 6th-8th are from 11:30am - 2:30pm. Register online at: <u>https://payit.nelnet.net/</u> form/InMwji8o

Stations of the Cross

Please join us for Stations of the Cross on Fridays, March 20th and 27th at 2:00pm, as well as, Friday, April 3rd at 9:00am. On Holy Thursday, April 9th, the StMM 5th grade students will present the Living Stations at 10:30am in the school gym. All are invited to attend this moving performance.

CPO Food Drive Update

Many thanks to all those who donated to the Catholic Parish Outreach food drive last week. A total donation of 2,165 pounds of groceries and \$2,730 from the church along with 1,014 pounds from StMM School students will go to help families in need.

Ministry Corner

Welcome Dinner

<u>Charter:</u> Provide a soup and salad dinner for recently registered parishioners. At the meal, extend a welcome and provide information about the parish. Help is needed in preparation of the meal, serving the meal and clean up.

<u>Membership:</u> Any member of the parish may volunteer to help.

<u>Meetings:</u> Welcome dinners are scheduled 2 to 3 times per year, nominally on a Saturday after the 5:00pm mass.

<u>*Cost:*</u> Volunteers provide soup, salad and desserts. St Mary Magdalene will provide the paper plates, cups, napkins and drinks.

<u>*Time Commitment:*</u> The time commitment is 2 to 3 hours per dinner. Volunteers who can't attend the dinner can help by dropping off an entrée or dessert.

<u>Other Comments:</u> Participation by other committees is encouraged. This is an opportunity to provide information to new families about the various ministries at St Mary Magdalene.

News From Other Organizations

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 \$395 after March 1. Learn to pray better and listen to God speak in the quiet 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

Voice of the Voiceless: Commemorating Oscar Romero

Duke Divinity School and the Center for Reconciliation with the Fiesta Cristiana congregation in Apex will hold a Concert and Worship Service commemorating the 40th anniversary of Oscar Romero's martyrdom March 22 at 1:30 p.m. at Apex United Methodist Church in Apex. Romero, the late Salvadoran archbishop who was shot by an assassin as he celebrated mass in a hospital chapel in 1980, was canonized as a saint by Pope Francis in 2018.



Please help! Recently, members of several parish ministries came together to think about how to best share the wonderful adult ministries available at our parish as well as discover what our community still needs. We are a growing parish, and we want to be intentional with how we launch new options for spiritual growth and community-building. With that in mind, we designed an **Adult Ministry Survey.**

Which ministries do you know about, and what are you looking for? The survey asks about the types of programming you're interested in, the days and times that work best for you, and if you need childcare.

We can't make good decisions without good information, and we won't have good information without you!

We know how busy you are, so the survey is short and easy to take!! You can access the survey in three different ways: this survey link <u>https://tinyurl.com/STMMSurvey2020</u>, the above QR code, or by paper copy available in the Gathering Space. The survey will close on March 16th.

Please take five minutes today and help St. Mary Magdalene plan for exciting and engaging faith experiences in the days to come! We are excited to see what the Holy Spirit has planned for our parish!!

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). 03/15/2020