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St. Mary Magdalene E-News February 15, 2019

A Note From Father Donald Staib

This week I have an up-to-date report on our Bishop's Annual Appeal. We have received 498 pledges amounting to \$147,687. Our parish goal is \$191,507. So we have received 77% of our goal from 28% of our parish

Thank you to all who have responded in the last two weeks, and we look forward to hearing from the other members of our parish. To make our parish goal we ask each household to give/pledge \$187.

Today we will continue our public request for funds. At the beginning of the sermon ushers will help to distribute forms that you can use to make a gift or a pledge. Place the form in the collection at Offertory time. Our process is the same as previous years. You have always been generous to the BAA which is so helpful to Catholic Charities and to the education of seminarians.

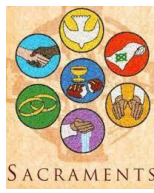
CONFESSIONS: There will be Confessions on Saturday February 16 at 10:30, after Baptisms, and on Saturday February 23 at 10:30, after Baptisms.

Father Donald Staib
donfs22@aol.com
St. Mary Magdalene E-News

Our 10:45am Mass is Live Streamed!

Click [HERE](#) to Live Stream our 10:45am Mass

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. Baptisms are not encouraged during Lent which begins on March 6 this year. Baptisms are welcome at the Easter Sunday 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.

Reflection

Today, we might take Jeremiah's words as advice to help us deal with scandal in the church. Jeremiah warns us that allowing anyone - pope, bishop, religious or lay - to represent the trustworthiness of Christianity and its Gospel is a first step toward blasphemy; it gives God's authority to someone who is not God.

Blind trust or unquestioning obedience gives to humans what belongs to God. Ironically, to say "I won't believe in the church because it has bad leadership," is another way to "trust in human beings." When we abandon the church on account of the sin of its leaders, we are defining church by its membership rather than by the God who continually calls it into being.

Instead of measuring the church by the behavior of its members, believers must call the entire church to stand before the judgment of the Gospel. When we allow the Gospel to be the light guiding our lives, we accept the fact that no one is above criticism. When we accept the fact that neither we nor any other person or group can adequately speak for God, we can begin to trust in the Spirit to lead us forward as the fallible people we are.

Sister Mary McGlone

Financial Matters

Tax statements are available online Please follow the directions for printing your statement on our website. www.stmm.church/Tax_statement_instructions_2018.pdf. If you have any questions, contact prewitt@stmm.net, 919-657-4800 x7281.

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.

DONATE NOW TO OUR NEW CHURCH

(Click on the above link to Donate)

Elementary Faith Formation

First Communion Parent Meetings are set for Monday, March 11, 2019 at 10:30 am **OR** 7:00 pm in the Church Room #3. The same meeting is repeated on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 10:30 am **OR** 7:00 pm in the Church Room #3. Only one parent needs to attend one meeting. If you attended this sacrament meeting in 2017 or 2018 you do not need to attend. However, *all parents please stop by the Parish Office to sign up for their liturgy choice and pick up all their materials the week of March 11th.* You will be required to submit a guest number including your immediate family and first communicant at that time.

First Eucharist Dates are May 11th/12th & May 18th/19th at all weekend liturgies. Parents can sign up for their choice of liturgy at the **First Eucharist Parent Meeting (see above for details).**

All Grade 3 Families - Next Week: February 17th, 19th & 20th we continue with donations of toilet paper to benefit the poor of Wake County in support of Catholic Parish Outreach. All contributions can be left before or after Religious Education classes in the lobby of the Education Building. Please be as generous as your means will allow.

Inclement Weather Policy - As stated on the parish website religious education page as well as on the class session calendar, the elementary program 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 we notify WRAL with a posting. If you don't see StMM on the band running across the bottom of the television than it is safe to conclude that we are in session. When available we will also post it on the parish site as well as send an email to all registered program families.

High School Confirmation

If you have a teen in year 2 of preparation/receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on May 15th, 2019 and have not created the online account for the electronic confirmation paperwork, please email Vicki at stmm.confirmation@kristofffs.com

St. Mary Magdalene's 2018 Confirmation liturgy will be held on Wednesday, May 15th in the church at 6:30pm.

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 this link: <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/way.cfm>

*The dates for the 2019 Parent Confirmation Workshops are as follows:
March 13th, April 11th, & May 2nd. All the workshops will be held at 7:30pm in Room #3 of the church*

Safe Environment Training



Safe Environment Training - Adults who wish to volunteer with youth at StMM are required to fill out a volunteer application and attend Safe Environment Training. Our next session is Thurs, 3/14 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 for meeting room.

Daytime Bible Study



StMM Daytime Bible Study For March/April 2019 - Please consider joining us for a short study on the book of Ruth. Tuesdays 1-3 PM; March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2019 Cost \$15. Let me know if you would like to join us. Contact: Laurie Wendt lauriewendt@gmail.com or 919-303-5433

Catholic Senior Organization



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, Feb 18, 9:30 - 11:00am, in Church meeting room #1. For more information, please contact Miriam Moore, miriamdel79@yahoo.com, 919-387-8676 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com.

Habitat for Humanity



The StMM Habitat Ministry is in search of volunteers to help "Rock the Block"! This we will help several families by repairing homes in Fuquay-Varina for homeowners who struggle to maintain their homes. We will join the Southwest Wake Coalition work on 10 home preservation projects over 2 weeks (Thursday - Saturday) Feb. 21-23 and Feb. 28 - March 2. Join us, put your faith in action and make an impact in your community. We need volunteers for both weekends. Volunteers must be 16 or older. If you are interested please contact Terry

Loding at stmmhabitat@gmail.com or 919-376-6714

KofC Fish Fry

Fish Fry Alert!



KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry... - Fri, March 8th, March 22nd, and April 5th in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:45pm. (Eat in or Take Out). Pre-order online at www.lentfishfry.com. We use top quality 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.

KofC Free Throw Championship

KofC Free Throw Championship! All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to take their best shot and earn prizes in the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship on Saturday, February 23 beginning at 9:15 am in the gymnasium. Details



at www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate at tatedavid2001@gmail.com or 980-428-1750.

A Reflection from Father Ron Rohlheiser

Our private, little moral concerns can look pretty petty when weighed against the problems of the world as a whole. Do we really believe that God cares much whether or not we say our morning prayers, gossip about a colleague, nurse a grudge or two, or are less than fully honest in our sexual lives? Does God really care about these things?

Yes. God cares because we care. Large, global issues notwithstanding, issues of personal integrity are generally what make or break our happiness, not to mention our character and our intimate relationships. In the end, they aren't petty concerns at all. They shape the big things. Social morality is simply a reflection of private morality. What we see in the global picture is simply a magnification of the human heart.

When ego, greed, lust, and selfishness are not dealt with inside the private recesses of the heart, it's naive to think that they will be dealt with at a global level. How are we to build a just, loving world, if we cannot, first of all, tame selfishness inside us?

'Knight's Corner'



Calling all Catholic Men to the Knights of Columbus
"A Catholic Fraternal Service Organization"

Your Knights at StMM Council 7186 have been active in: Hurricane Florence relief, CPO Food Drive, Coats for Kids, Building the Domestic Church, StMM Parish Projects, Visiting Seniors, Serving meals at Men's Homeless Shelter. *Are You Being Called? Please join us to help those in need.*

Event: Brookridge Assisted Living Resident Visits in Apex -KofC council have decided to visit the residents of the Brookridge Assisted Living Facility in Apex on the **fourth Saturday of every month in 2019**. There will be two time slots available 10:30 am and 3:30 pm. Attached is the sign-up. Hope to see you there! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4cacaf292-brookridge>

Event: Save the Date for "KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry" - Friday, March 8th, March 22nd, and April 5th in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:45pm. (Eat in or Take Out).

For more information to becoming a Knight:

Visit our website: <http://kofc7186.org>

Please Contact: Grand Knight (Tom Blum) at gkkofc7186@gmail.com or our Membership Committee at MembershipKofC7186@gmail.com

Calendar

- Saturday Feb 23rd: Painting Project at Catholic Parish Outreach (1:30pm - 5:30pm)
- Saturday Feb 23rd: KofC Free Throw Championship at StMM Gym (8am - 1:30pm)
- Saturday Feb 23rd: Brookridge Assisted Living Resident Visits in Apex (10:30am & 3:00pm), Sign-up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4cacaf292-brookridge>

- **Tuesday Feb 26th: Men's Homeless Shelter Meals, Signup at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ea4ab2a1-mens>**
- **Friday Mar 8th, Mar 22nd & Apr 5th: Annual Lent Fish Fry in Dining Hall (5:30pm-7:45pm)**

STMME-News, 625 Magdala Place, Apex, NC 27502

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