

St. Mary Magdalene E-News December 16, 2022

A Note from Father Chris

In the Gospel the angels alert St. Joseph to the coming of Our Savior Jesus Christ. We are also invited to hear the angels sing of the tidings and peace of Christmas.

Please consider giving the parish a Christmas gift this Christmas. We are seeking gifts to pay down the mortgage on our beautiful church. Your generosity is very much appreciated. See the link here: <u>https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=102397&f=52</u>

In joyful anticipation of Christmas,

Fr. Chris

Giving Portal

Upcoming Events

Parish Office will be closed Friday, December 23rd - Monday, January 2nd

December 17 - 10:30am Confessions December 17 - 5pm Mass December 18 - 9am & 11am Mass December 19 - Daily Mass 9am December 19 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel December 20 - Eucharistic Holy Hour 7pm Church December 21 - Daily Mass 9am December 22 - Daily Mass 9am December 22 - Morning Rosary 9:30am Chapel December 23 - Daily Mass 9am December 24 - No Confessions December 24 - Christmas Eve Masses 4pm (Live Streamed), 7pm, and 9pm December 25 - Christmas Day 10am Mass (Live Streamed) December 26 - December 29 - No Daily Mass December 30 - Daily Mass 9am December 31 - No Confessions December 31 - 5pm Mass

- January 1 9am and 11am Mass
- January 2 Daily Mass 9am

January 2 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel

The Chapel is open from 7am - 3:30pm during the week. Please enter through the single metal door to the left.

Take this opportunity to consider donating flowers to St. Mary Magdalene to beautify the altar and church for weekly Mass to honor our Lord. These flowers will be donated in honor of or in memory of your loved one. Click <u>here</u> and take the easy steps to choose partial or full donation and send payment before your donation date. Your donation will be acknowledged in the bulletin. For questions, please contact <u>floralministry@stmm.net</u>

Mass This Weekend

Click HERE to Stream our 9am Sunday Mass

Music for this weekend's Mass

Gathering: Emmanuel 58 Psalm: 24 O God, this is the people that longs to see your face. Preparation: Hail Mary, Gentle Woman 706 Communion 1: Holy is His Name 708 Communion 2: O Come, O Come Emmanuel 39 Communion 3: A Place at Your Table 352 Sending Forth: People Look East 43 * Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-602944 . All rights reserved.

Outdoor Communion after 9am Sunday Mass only

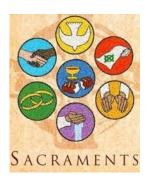
There will be two stations available outside in the drive thru at the portico for communion following the 9:00 am Mass for those at-risk and those receiving gluten free hosts.

Sacraments

BAPTISMS - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email the Church Office, <u>info@stmm.net</u>. First time parents must attend a baptism class. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

CONFESSIONS - Confessions are usually, but not every week, at 10:30am on Saturdays in the Church. See "Upcoming Events" section for schedule.

WEDDINGS - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email weddings@stmm.net



Pictures of the Week



Wedding of Cristina and David Spadea on December 9th



Baptism of David Spadea on December 10th



Baptism of Logan Kois on December 11th



Baptism of Pavelid Castaneda on December 10th



EDGE Retreat December 10th-11th



Father Chris and students ready for Christmas Break



The Columbiettes would like to thank Father Chris and our StMM community for their enthusiastic support of our first Advent Bake Sale - it was a huge success in raising funds for our charitable causes and fun was had by all! If you'd like information on joining the Columbiettes, contact Cathy Stevens cathy.h.stevens@gmail.com.

Advent Penance Services

- Dec 20th 7pm Holy Name of Jesus
- Dec 21st 10:30am St. Catherine of Siena
- Dec 21st 7pm St. Raphael

Christmas and New Year's Mass Times

Christmas Eve - 4pm - live streamed, 7pm and 9pm

Christmas Day - 10am - live streamed, Outdoor Communion after 10am Mass

New Year's Eve - 5pm

New Year's Day - 9am and 11am

Christmas Eve Parking Information

We again have contracted with an outside firm to assist our parishioners attending Christmas Eve Masses with parking on campus. We plan to utilize the ground level parking first and then overflow parking on the upper sports field as needed. The parking contractor will be present from 3pm to 830pm to direct attendees, so please plan to follow their directions. Handicap parking is located in the front of the church (6 spaces) and rear of church (12 spaces), along with drop off under the Portico. There is no lighting on the sports field so please plan accordingly. Current plans are to allow entrance and exiting from both Apex BBQ Road and Townside Drive. We look forward to welcoming everyone for the Masses at 4pm, 7pm and 9pm on Christmas Eve and 10am on Christmas Day.

Parish Council Nominations

Interested in serving on the Parish Council? If so, please make your interest known to Deb Prewitt via email (<u>prewitt@stmm.net</u>) during these weeks of Advent preparation. The terms on parish council are three years and meetings are held monthly on campus. The Parish council provides guidance and input to the Pastor on behalf of the entire parishioner body, and works with ministries to direct their actions, along with special projects/activities. Selections for new members for the 2023 term will be made in early January.

Catholic Senior Organization Meeting

The CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for women and men (60+) meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our next meeting will take place Monday, December 19, 2022, 10:30 AM until Noon, at the Apex Senior Center, 63 Hunter Street, Apex. For more information, please contact Joanne Martin, 919-244-5616, jmartin@kw.com or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com

Eucharistic Holy Hour First and Third Tuesdays

The 3rd Tuesday of each month, please join Deacon Rick for Eucharistic Holy Hour and Evening Prayer. This sacred time is an opportunity for a deep, personal encounter with Christ: Pope Francis recommends Eucharistic Adoration as a foundational spiritual practice. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be followed by evening prayer (Vespers) in the Liturgy of The Hours which represents the official prayers of the Church. We give thanks for the day and praise God. Adoration continues followed by Benediction.



Next Holy Hour: Tuesday, December 20th, from 7-8pm

Forward in Hope - Grief Support Group to Begin

If you're in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith sharing group is for you. We

recommend participants join us approximately six months after the loss of a loved one. Classes are forming and are being offered on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm, beginning January 23rd in the Church or Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am, beginning January 10th in the Church Room 1. Sessions will consist of prayer, scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship. For more information, please feel free to email stmmForwardinhope@stmm.net call 919-657-4800 ext. 7280

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration



First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday, January 6th from 9:30am - 7pm. All are encouraged to pay a visit to the church throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord? We are in need of some volunteers for 5-6pm hour.

Please contact Anita Becker at ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM or 919-280-8931 if interested.

Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip

It is finally that time! The interest form for ASP is officially open to be a part of the 2023 team!

- What is ASP? ASP is an immersion mission trip in the Appalachia mountains that focuses on building relationships, fostering community, and a little side of construction.
- The planning and meetings for this trip begin in February 2023 all leading up to our week long trip in July.
- You do not need any experience or expertise!
- Who can go? We are looking for people who are 14 years old and older. Youth are 14-18 years old & Adults are 19+ years old.
- Interested in getting some more information about the trip and filling out an application? Please see the following link: <u>https://forms.gle/nQkaugGNvc31C1xR9</u>
- Have a few questions? Please reach out to Taylor Wray at <u>stmmasp@gmail.com</u>



Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry

The Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry is a wonderful and easy way for families to get involved in parish ministry. Families take turns hosting our St. John statue in their home for one month each year. During your month, the statue in your home helps serve as a reminder to pray for our priests and for an increase in vocations. Please contact Lynn Coulmas for more information or to join! <u>coulmas1@att.net</u>

Respect Life News

Baby Bottle fundraiser ended up collecting \$9171.65! A huge thank you to all of you who generously participated to make this a very successful event. The money sure will make a big impact on the moms that are seen at Birthchoice!



Gabriel Project



Recently, several members of this ministry were given a tour of Birthchoice, which has been a resource for pregnant women in the Triangle area for over 50 years. Birthchoice offers counseling, pregnancy education, and free ultrasounds and pregnancy testing. With a skeletal staff of one full time employee and three part time employees, they welcome assistance from approximately 25 volunteers. The local Knights of Columbus chapters have donated THREE ultrasounds, allowing the women to see images of the baby! Research shows that 75% of abortion minded women choose to complete the pregnancy after seeing images of the baby. Birthchoice performs approximately 20 ultrasounds each week.

You may know of someone who could benefit from The Gabriel Project or Birthchoice. If so, have them contact The Gabriel Project at 919-657-4580 ext. 7281 or **gabrieproject@stmm.net** or Birthchoice at 919-781-5433. Our STMM Gabriel Project volunteers are ready to support a woman's choice for life by walking alongside a pregnant mother in need of support and assistance.

Project Rachel Healing Retreat

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love and mercy of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat January 6-8, 2023. The weekend retreat is strictly *confidential* for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion.

The cost for the weekend is \$150 (\$100 for early registration) for lodging, meals and all retreat materials. If you have a financial burden, assistance is available.

For more information or to register for the retreat, go to website **Project Rachel (rachelnc.org)** and/or email, **project.rachel@raldioc.org** or call (919) 852-1021.

Confirm, Refresh & Renew Your Catholic Faith!

Has your faith life felt somewhat dry and routine lately? Do you hunger for a spiritual renewal? Do you wish you had a better understanding of Catholic social teachings? Would you like to connect more deeply to the Mass and scripture? Do you have questions about salvation history and how it applies to your life today? If any of this applies to you, Deacon Rick invites you to join fellow parishioners in a dynamic series that can transform the way you practice and live out your faith. Past participants have called it 'life changing'.

For adults who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, this series also serves as Confirmation prep. Another series begins on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. We run six consecutive Wednesdays from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

For more details or to sign up, contact Deacon Rick at 908-910-0309 or by e-mail at <u>Stevens@stmm.net</u>. Come and put your faith into action!!

RCIA Prayer Corner

Please continue to pray for Alan, Paul, Ryan, Stone, and Nik who are scheduled to receive the Sacraments of Initiation on January 15, 2023 at the 9 am mass.

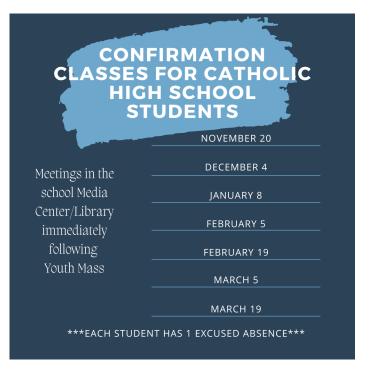
Please also pray for Zach, Julie, Karen, Kaitlyn, and Becky who continue their journey.



Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic? Are you wanting to participate fully in the sacraments instituted by Christ? Are you a baptized Christian and desiring to receive the Eucharist and Confirmation? The next module of the RCIA process at StMM is starting on January 9, 2023. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Please contact Kathy and Scott Strednak at <u>rcia@stmm.me</u> and let's have a conversation. We can help you start the process. Be assured by Christ's very own words: "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you".



Confirmation Classes for Catholic High School Students



The StMM Prayer Team

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For companionship in your trials and joys of life, our team of prayer warriors are here to walk with you. It is a sincere privilege to help lift our parish family through intercessory prayer. As we pray for one another's needs, it helps us all to hear how loved ones are continuing on their journeys.

Please feel encouraged to share updates of your prayer intentions via email to **<u>StMMPrayerTeam@stmm.net</u>**.

Request

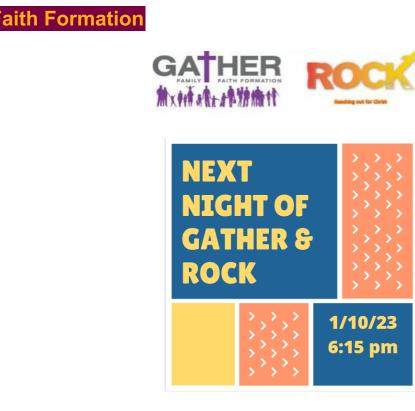
Prayers

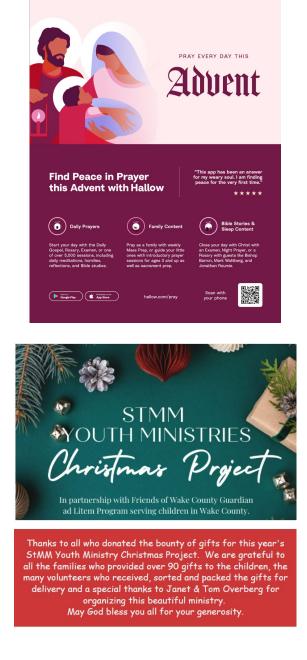
All are welcome to join our team in lifting the prayers of our parish family, in whatever ways you like to pray best. Parish intentions are shared weekly, drop us a note if you would like to learn more about this ministry. * Share Prayer Updates via email. *



Prayers and Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry

Do you know anyone who is in need of prayers? We make personalized lap sized prayer quilts for each recipient. To request a quilt for someone, please contact Lorraine Morris at <u>Icmorris0707@gmail.com</u>





Questions:

For GATHER and Rock, contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7280

StMM Middle and High School Youth Ministry



Have a musical talent and want to join the Youth Music Ministry Team to be involved with Youth Mass? Reach out to Ryan Kemper at <u>stmmyouthmusicministry@gmail.com</u> for more information! All 8th graders and above with any instrumental, vocal, or audio/visual interests are welcome to join the program. Come and join us in creating a joyful noise!



Questions:

For EDGE, contact Liz Sams at liz.sams@gmail.com or 919-657-4800 x7305

For Apostello and the Way, contact Niki Bordelon at bordelon@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7309

For Confirmation, contact StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com

StMM School News



School Employment Opportunities

St. Mary Magdalene is currently accepting resumes for a full-time music teacher. Please send resume and letter of interest to <u>principal@stmm.net</u>. The job description can be found at <u>https://dioceseofraleigh.org/employment/saint-mary-magdalene-catholic-school/music-teacher</u>

Saint Mary Magdalene is looking to add to our amazing Monarch team. We are currently accepting applications for substitute teachers as well as after care workers. Please email Kate Lawson at <u>lawson@stmm.net</u> to

inquire.

Are you interested in working with our students at St. Mary Magdalene? Come work with us at aftercare either full-time or part-time! Applicants need to be over the age of 18 and hours will be from 2:30-6pm Mondays-Fridays. For more information or if you are interested in applying, please email Ms. Jordan at jordan@stmm.net.

For job descriptions::

https://dioceseofraleigh.org/employment/st-mary-magdalene/aftercare-preschool-staff https://dioceseofraleigh.org/employment/st-mary-magdalene/aftercare-staff

Parishioner Assistance Ministry

Parishioner Assistance Ministry continues to grow, welcoming new volunteers and supporting fellow parishioners who are experiencing difficult times. The team is currently providing rides to Mass for a senior member of our parish and meals to two families who are experiencing medical challenges. We invite any parishioners in need and those interested in supporting this growing ministry to contact us!

God Bless!

Dan Moskey 919-986-8613 Dmoskey12@gmail.com

Bulletin Advertisement



