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St. Mary Magdalene E-News November 29, 2019

A Note From Father Donald Staib

Welcome to our parish to all who may be in Apex for Thanksgiving time. We are happy to have you with us and we wish you safe travels back to your homes.

Several weeks back my friend Msgr. Gerald Lewis asked me when he could come back to StMM for a weekend. And here he is today!

I have not gone far away, but I am grateful for the weekend away. We have some busy times coming in the month of December

In another part of the bulletin is the list of Advent Penance Services. I will be at some of them.

Thank you to all who spent so much time helping to gather the Thanksgiving baskets to distribute to the needy in our community. There will be more opportunities to help others in the coming Christmas times.

CONFESSIONS: There will not be Confessions on Saturday November 30, as I will be away. There will be Confessions on Saturday December 7 at 10:30 am.

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

PS from Fr Donald Staib - you may want to watch this video of Father Phil Tighe, a priest of our Diocese. It may be a helpful after Thanksgiving meditation for us.



Letting people see 'the human side'

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.

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

Blessing of Advent Wreath

Lord our God,
we praise you for your son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,

he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.
Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Financial Matters

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)

Money Matters

The Pharisee in the Gospel of October 27 gave to the Temple 10% of his income. The Tax collector in the November 3 Gospel gave $\frac{1}{2}$ of his possessions to the poor. How are we doing at St Mary Magdalene?

Our annual Financial Report [July 2018 thru June 2019] is published on our website. You can find it at under 'Welcome' and 'Parish Council'

http://www.stmm.church/Text_of_annual_report_2019_to_parish.pdf

Since July 1 2019 our Offertory is about \$10,000 per month short of our budget for 2019-2020. We know some folks choose to give once a year, toward the end of the year. We also hope the 212 new households we have since last January will help us reach our parish needs.

Here is a snapshot of giving patterns since January 2019:

20 families have given between \$6,000 and \$20,000
95 families have given between \$3,000 and \$5,999
459 families have given between \$1,000 and \$2,999
349 families have given between \$500 and \$999
474 families have given between \$100 and \$499
207 families have given less than \$100
433 families have no record of giving

[We have written to most of these 433 families to ask if they are still here and wish to continue to be members of StMM.]

We also have come to realize that some members who made a pledge to the new church will not be completing their pledge. This amounts to \$73,000.

We are so grateful to all who use the White Envelopes; we use these funds to pay our debt for the construction. Blessings to all who help our parish like the Pharisee and the Tax Collector in the Gospels.

If you would like to increase your electronic debit, complete the form at <http://www.stmm.church/giving/electronicofertory.cfm> Choose the last option to change the amount.

Picture of the Week



Wedding of Molly and Kyle French on November 21st.
Msgr. Tom Maloney, Molly's Great Uncle, from the
diocese of Buffalo



Thank you to all the volunteers that helped switch hymnal covers this week. They were finished in record time.

Elementary Religious Ed

First Reconciliation Dates for Religious Education Students are Tuesday, February 4th at 6:30pm & Wednesday, February 5th at 6:30pm. Parents do not attend. Sunday PREP Students will need to sign up for a Tuesday or Wednesday time if you have not done so at the Parent First Reconciliation Meeting. First Reconciliation Date for StMM School Students is Thursday, February 6th from 10:00 am-11:00 am during the regular school day. Parents do not attend.

Advent Begins Today. Our Annual Advent Prayer Service will begin in December on days we have class sessions. Upon arrival, please walk your child/ren to the Media Center where 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 Media Center.

Christmas Holiday Schedule - All elementary programs are closed from Sunday, December 15th through Friday, January 3rd. All programs resume the week of January 6, 2020.

First Reconciliation Retreat is Saturday, February 1, 2020 for all students in Grade 2 & the Wednesday Evening Intermediate Sacrament Program from 8:30 am-12 noon in the Activities Building.

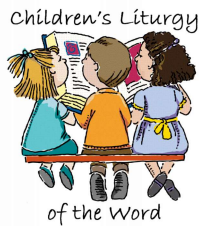
First Eucharist Retreat is Saturday, May 2, 2020 for all students in Grade 2 & Wednesday Evening Intermediate Sacrament Program from 8:30 - 12:00 noon in the Activities Building.

2020 First Eucharist Dates May 9th/10th and May 16th/17th. First Eucharist is received at the 5pm/9am/10:45am on either weekend. Families pick their own date. They are not assigned. Parents will give us date at the March First Eucharist Parent meetings.



Rock Calendar:

Thanksgiving Holiday - No Class on Sunday, December 1



Children's Liturgy of the Word has begun and is held during the Sunday morning liturgies at 9:00 & 10:45 am. It mirrors the worship experience of the parish community in an engaging and interactive environment. Eligible participants are children 3 - 6 years old. This program is a co-op; dependent upon parishioner involvement. Volunteers must be Safe Environment Certified. If you'd like to assist with this ministry, please contact the Program Coordinator, Jennifer Jury at stmmclow@gmail.com.



Refresh - An Adult Program held during PREP. Apex is a great place to live, but the number one city for you is where you can build your village. Get to know those around you at Mass. Meet other StMM families. Have a cup of coffee. We're meant to live in community, to connect with others. If it takes a village, let's build one! Join us on Sundays at Noon in the Science Room on the second floor of the StMM School Building while your child is in PREP. Questions? Contact Nicole, nicolesebik@yahoo.com or Joe, jsebik@icloud.com.

Youth Ministry

STMM YM programs are off on 12/1 for Thanksgiving
and return on 12/8 with our normal schedule

We are excited to invite all STMM parishioners, families, and friends to a special night celebrating the beautiful season of Advent.

When & Where: Sunday, December 15th. 7:15pm-8:30pm in the church

Special guest speaker MARY BIELSKI

Music by our own praise and worship group, "Rooted"

Haiti House Building: We have begun our fund raising for another house to be built in Haiti! 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)

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this cause last year. We will begin collecting again this Sunday at our different programs to build more houses this year. If you'd like to help us with this effort, please go to this link to donate online via the STMM payment online system:

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?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

If you have a teen who:

- attends Catholic HS
- 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

Please go to this link to register your teen for Confirmation 2020 preparation 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, dates TBA The instructions and link to use the online registration are on the right side of this page: <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm>

Registration has now closed for all STMM YM programs
Please contact Janine or Liz directly if you missed our registration period.
Janine McGann can be reached at janine.mcgann@gmail.com
Liz Sams can be reached at liz.sams@gmail.com

Dynamic Catholic



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Be Bold. Be Catholic.®

Dynamic Catholic's mission is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. Are you ready to get ready? If so, sign up for **BEST ADVENT EVER** from Dynamic Catholic. It's a totally free and totally awesome daily video program (sent straight to your email) that will help you prepare for Christmas like never before! See the flyers in the Narthex or click the [link](#) for information how to sign up. If you already are a Dynamic Catholic Ambassador or are interested to learn more send an email to stmm.dynamic.catholic@gmail.com. **Be Bold. Be Catholic.**

Angel Tree



The Angel Tree will be in the lobby filled with ornaments for needy children and families from several Wake County non-profit organizations beginning this Saturday, November 30th. 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. 15th.**

Advent Parish Mission

hope
was born this night.....

STMM Parish Advent Mission

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

What: Advent parish mission with special guest, nationally known Catholic speaker, Mary Bielski

Who: EVERYONE!!

When: Sunday, December 15th
from 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm

Where: STMM church



Pictures with Santa

**GET YOUR PICTURE
WITH SANTA**
and Help Raise Money for Haiti!

- Sunday, Dec. 8th
- St. Mary Magdelene Church Lobby
- 10:00 AM - 1 PM



STMM the way

Help our Youth Ministry raise money to build homes in Haiti.

Minimum \$5 Donation. You will receive a digital print of your child with Santa. Candy canes and sugar cookies provided!



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

THE BLOOD CONNECTION

BLOOD DRIVE

Knights of Columbus- Apex

725 Magdala Place, Apex NC 27502

Thursday, December 5th

1:00pm – 6:00pm

As a Thank You, each donor will receive a \$10 Visa
Gift Card!!! **Sign Up Today!!!**



BE PART OF THE
CONNECTION

thebloodconnection.org



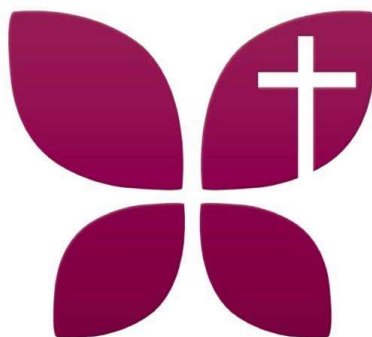
Link for appointments

https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/137096

Stmm School Applications

Become a Monarch!

Apply now!



Applications for the 2020-2021 school year are available on our Admissions website: <http://school.stmm.net/admissions/>

Need more info?

Call Lydia Binanay at 919-657-4800 ext 7296 for a tour of our campus.

Discipleship Quads

Introducing a new convenient, small-group, opportunity for STMM adult parishioners - Discipleship Quads!! Quads are based on a model that has over thirty years of success. It is gender-specific and free. Start any time. Your journey with the Discipleship Quad will deepen your faith and equip you with the tools you need to help rebuild our Church at a time when we desperately need disciples.

Contact Laura Werner at steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com or go to <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/discipleship-quads/>.

Power and Purpose Conference

POWER AND PURPOSE/HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE JUNE 5-7, 2020. Will you join us next June? Travel to beautiful Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH with fellow StMM parishioners to learn more about the Holy Spirit and what He can do in your life. Discover a purpose for your life and experience the true freedom and healing He wants to offer you. **Contact Joe or Laura Werner** wernerjoe@aol.com steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com. Bus travel optional. Please use this link to register: <http://bit.ly/LauraWernerPPC20>

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, December 16, 11am - 1pm, in Church meeting room #1. For more information, please contact Miriam Moore, miriamdel79@yahoo.com, 919-387-8676 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com.

First Friday Adoration



First Friday Adoration will be on Friday December 6. All are encouraged to pay a visit to the chapel throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. However, it is essential that there are people that are scheduled to be there each hour between 8:30AM and 7:00PM. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord? Please contact Anita Becker at ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM or 919-280-8931 if interested.

Parish Athletics

PARISH ATHLETICS

www.ParishAthleticsNC.org

Winter Basketball (Apex)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4 year-olds) to 6th.

Dates: November - February.

Location: StMM Gym in Apex.

Cost: Pre-K & K, \$60; 1st & 2nd Grade, \$65; 3rd - 6th Grades, \$70; (includes medal, shirt, and picnic).

Format: Pre-K & K 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. K - 8th graders have one weekday practice per week and weekend games.

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).

Note: Pre-K players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. K-4th grade will have one weekday practice and a game on Saturday.

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.

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

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