

St. Mary
Magdalene
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Mary Magdalene E-News
December 16, 2016

A Note From Father Donald Staib

In Advent priests gather at various parishes in Wake County for Penance Services. There are only two left on the schedule: Monday December 19, 7 pm at St Raphael, Raleigh and Wednesday December 21 at St. Bernadette in Fuquay-Varina.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for the wonderful 'Jam' experience and dinner last Saturday. We are most appreciative of all the work done on behalf of our music ministry. Here is a photo of the event --



On the table in our lobby are envelopes that may be used to make a Christmas offering for flowers. We will acknowledge these gifts in the Christmas bulletin. The deadline for the Christmas bulletin is Monday, December 19.

Thank you for the collection last weekend for the retired Sisters in the USA. We received \$5,292.

About Christmas

Our schedule is: Saturday December 24 - Masses at 3pm, 5pm, 9pm
Sunday December 25 - Mass at 10am

Your schedule: For this year try to come on Sunday December 25. Or the 9pm on December 24. The 3 pm and 5 pm are very crowded and everyone should know about our construction parking challenges.

Notes On New Church

A Christmas gift wish for our parish - We are now at over 57% completion of construction and there is one more item we are hopeful to include: wood panel instead of sheet-rock for walls in the church, some in the lobby, and some in the chapel. We are looking for ways to reduce the total cost.

So far our parish has received Christmas gifts of \$7,530 from 27 members. For a Christmas gift to the parish - in the normal Catholic experience of who gives and who does not give - \$180 from each family would make this wise decision possible.

This past week we received a very generous gift to purchase the 120 new chairs for the chapel. Our intent was to use the 60 old chairs and not to purchase new ones, so we could use funds for immediate needs. Now we can use the old chairs in other rooms and some in the lobby. Many thanks to our unexpected donor.



Here is a picture of current construction: We have a red roof, purple bell tower, blue walls - and more bricks being added every day.



DONATE NOW To OUR NEW CHURCH

(Click on the above link to Donate)

Father Donald Staib
StMM E-News
donfs22@aol.com

StMM Advent Celebration



All our STMM Families are invited to join us for a special Advent celebration with guest speaker Mary Bielski and live music by our very own Youth Ministry Band "Rooted" on Sun, December 18th from 6:30pm - 8pm in the Gym. This is open to all family members and friends and the event is FREE!!

ADVENT CELEBRATION FLYER

Helping Hands Angel Tree



The Angel Tree gifts need to be returned no later than 12 noon this Sunday, Dec.

18th. 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.

Helping Hands Angel Tree



STMM Christmas Jam was a huge success and netted \$7,738.84 to support the STMM Music Ministry! Special thanks to Kristin Wagner and Jacquie Isadore for leading the adult and children's choirs. The dinner and concert were enjoyed by all and there is already talk about making the STMM Christmas Jam an annual event. While we are off to a great start in supporting the Music Ministry's goal of getting a concert grand piano for the new church, there is still a good ways to go. You can still support the Music Ministry by making a tax-deductible donation before the end of 2016. Tax-deductible donations to STMM Music Ministry can be made by writing a check to STMM Church and putting "Music Ministry" in the memo line. You can also make a tax-deductible donation securely online at <https://goo.gl/tZoi1I> Please be sure to choose "Music Ministry Piano" in the "to" field. Any donation amount is appreciated.

Christmas Jam Photo Book

Our Columbarium



The Columbarium committee has set up four after Mass Columbarium information sessions. Meeting dates are January 14-15 & January 28-29, 2017.

The sessions will focus on the Catholic Church position on cremation, specifications of the Columbarium area, guidelines, pricing and the reservation process. In the convenience of your home you will be able to complete the reservation process which is part of the new St. Mary Magdalene website. No waiting in line, no need to schedule appointments. You will be able to select your preference of which wall and which particular niche you are interested in reserving.

The committee is prepared to spend as little or as much time with each parishioner based on his or her preference. Reservations are "first come first reserved." These pre-construction reservations are based on your total satisfaction of the completed

Columbarium. The target date for dedication of the Columbarium is in conjunction with the dedication of our new Church in July 2017. columbarium@stmm.net has been established to create an easy communication link between you and the columbarium committee.

StMM School Mass Music Director Needed



StMM School is looking for a School Mass Music Director who would be responsible for planning and playing the piano at Thursday School-wide Masses & School Holy Day Masses starting **ASAP**. If interested please contact Bob Cadran at bcadran@stmm.net

Job Description

StMM School Announcements



StMM School offers an excellent education for children in Pre-K 3 through 8th grade. We follow the curriculum of the Diocese of Raleigh, which is based on national standards. At StMM we use an accelerated instructional program and teach at the 75th percentile. We offer an academically gifted program for children in grades 2-5, two years of high school math, and honors-level language arts and science in middle school. We are one of the feeder schools for Cardinal Gibbons High School, and we send more students to Gibbons than any other Catholic middle school. We invite you to visit the school, meet the administrators and talk to our teachers. Our Open House dates are Jan 5th & Feb 16th (both 8:30-10am). On Sun, Jan 8th we will have a Pre-School Open House before and after all morning Masses. Other dates and a link to RSVP at www.school.stmm.net/admissions. Email Claudia Klavon at Klavon@stmm.net with any questions.

Reflection

Some events are so momentous that they effect immediate and dramatic change. Katrina changed New Orleans forever, and how FEMA responds to disasters. 9/11 changed our sense of national security, and brought about a new cabinet position and the eroding of an absolute right to privacy. Death physically separates us from loved one, and calls us to spiritual love and memory. Marriage ends being single, and unites a man and a woman as one. The birth of a child creates a new family, and brings untold responsibility and joy to parents.

Who in the world would ever trust a dream solely to guide a momentous event? Joseph does!

His life is about to change immediately and dramatically. Rather than taking Mary 'into his home' to lead a quiet life, to look forward to having children, to enter into old age with his beloved, Joseph must make an unselfish and mystery-laden decision.

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

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