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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

December 18, 2020

A Note From Father Chris

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you", the angel tells Mary in this weekend's Gospel reading. This assurance of the presence of the Holy Spirit also comes to each of us through the sacraments. This is the peace that we wish upon for Christmas.

Weather permitting, bundle up and bring chairs for the outdoor Mass on Christmas Eve at 4pm. Parking is limited. In the event of a weather cancellation the 4pm Mass will be livestreamed. The 8pm Christmas Eve Mass and the 10am Christmas Day Mass will be livestreamed and communion will be offered after Mass outside as well. We need to be safe as the coronavirus still plaques the area.

We invite those interested in serving on our parish council next year to please send an email to the office stating your interest in serving.

As the Holy Spirit came to Mary, I pray the peace of Christ comes to you and your family in an abundance of Christmas joy!

With much love,

Fr. Chris

[Giving](#)
[Portal](#)

Upcoming Events



Ava Firrincieli was baptized on December 12th.

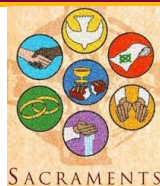


Fr. Chris explains joyfulness with blinking Christmas lights at the youth Mass



During school Mass, Fr. Chris reads "The Night Before Christmas"

Sacraments



BAPTISMS - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email the Church Office, info@stmm.net. First time parents must attend a baptism class [a good time is during the 9 months prior to birth.] 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

RCIA



Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but not confirmed? The next module of the RCIA process at STMM is starting on November 9, 2020. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Let's have a conversation. Please contact Kathy and Scott Strednak at rcia@stmm.me and 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".

Elementary Faith Formation



GATHER is closed for the Christmas holidays. All programs resume on Tuesday, January 12th.

GATHER Virtual Packet Pick up - December packets are available for pick up beneath the portico (drive thru side entrance of the church) anytime 24/7 for your convenience.

Gather Meeting Schedule Change - In January, the first Wednesday of the month classes will also be cancelled for the evening of 1/6/21 in conjunction with all STMM Youth Ministry Programs. Those families can pick up their January packets after the first of the year. In addition, a teaching video will be recorded and released the second week of January. Those parents are welcome to attend another teaching night on either Tuesday, 1/12/21 or Wednesday, 1/20/21 but unfortunately due to class size restrictions; we cannot allow first Wednesday students to join any other class in January.

Youth Ministry News



EDGE News

Wishing all of our families a very Merry Christmas! Edge will resume January 14th 2021.

Please contact Janine McGann with any questions at janine.mcgann@gmail.com

StMM High School Youth Ministry

Apostello and The Way are off until January 10th 2021.

Please contact Liz Sams with any questions at liz.sams@gmail.com

StMM School News



Each year the Diocese of Raleigh honors one teacher with the Lewis Award for excellence in teaching. Due to Covid-19, they paused the individual awards this year, instead awarding all Catholic School educators for their work during the pandemic with our students. This week, Msgr. Gerald Lewis, Vice Chair-Emeritus, and Anne Stahl, Chair-Emeritus, visited our campus and recognized our faculty

for their work during this pandemic. Congratulations and THANK YOU to our amazing faculty at Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School!

PSO Monarch Mondays Shirts Now Available

Would you like a St. Mary Magdalene Monarchs shirt or hoodie? The PSO would love to share our Monarch Mondays apparel with the parish! We have long- and short-sleeved options in performance or cotton materials, in youth and adult sizes. Shirts may be purchased [online](#) and will ship to your home. Thank you to our parish businesses and families who sponsored!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School will be closed for the Christmas holiday December 21st through January 5th. Students will return to school on Wednesday, January 6th. On behalf of the

Altar Flower Donations



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 on the sign up genius link 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. All instructions are in the sign up genius description. For questions, please contact floralministry@stmm.net.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4CABA82D6-stmary>

We are looking for parishioners gifted in the care of plants and flowers to volunteer to assist in keeping our church beautified. Please contact floralministry@stmm.net.

Knights of Columbus Operation Feed Thy Neighbor

The Knights of Columbus Council #7186 (based at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church) is partnering with St. Mary Magdalene, Wake County Human Services and several other local churches in the area to serve desperately needed meals to children, as well as the unemployed & underemployed in the Apex area during the COVID-19 crisis.

We will continue to operate an emergency food distribution site on Saturday and Sunday evenings located here in Apex. In the thirty eight weekends, we have served over 18,000 meals to Apex residents who are in need, and have distributed several hundred bags of non-perishable goods. A sincere **THANK YOU** to all who have supported our efforts through prayer, financial donations, or contributing to our non-perishable goods collection.

We are called by Jesus to be His hands and feet on Earth in feeding the hungry. Your support will enable us to continue to provide healthy meals to our most vulnerable neighbors during this crisis.

Please join (or partner with) us in performing a corporal work of mercy!

[Donate by clicking here](#)

The KofC are putting together bags with a list of food items in them. There will be tubs located under the drive through portico on the chapel side of the church starting Monday until Thursday of each week. One tub will be labeled "Completed bags" and the other will be labeled "Bag items". If you cannot fill an entire bag, please just give what you can and we'll put bags together out of whatever we collect. This allows for a 'no contact' way to help out during this difficult time.

Here are the items for one completed bag:

- 1 Rice or dried beans
- 1 Pasta & 1 Small Canned Sauce
- 1 Boxed Meal (hamburger helper or Mac-N-Cheese)
- 1 Canned Vegetable
- 1 Canned Fruit
- 6 Snack Items (individually wrapped)

- 1 Breakfast Items
- 1 Hygiene Item
- 1 Roll of Toilet Paper

Please bag these items at home and only include "like" items from above. We are not able to date check the donations, so please fill these bags with in-date items we can hand directly to folks in need. Please make sure everything fits into ONE bag which can be double knotted!

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPTIONS: STMM offers a wide variety of adult faith formation options, and some are continuing to meet virtually during the pandemic. Prayerfully consider how you can grow deeper in your faith and download our brochure of options by [clicking here](#).

For more information and for the point of contact for each ministry, please see the website:

[Ministry Contacts](#)



Our witness to the sanctity of life.

January 16, 2021

TBD	11:00 am Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral Raleigh	2:00 pm* Bicentennial Plaza Gathering begins 11:30
North Carolina Right to Life Prayer Breakfast for Life	Diocesan Mass for Life (Rosary Begins at 10:30 am)	Rally and March for Life



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For more information, contact your Respect Life Leader or Joshua Klickman at raldioc.org


*Approximate time. For full schedule of Rally and March please see ncrtl.org



MARCH FOR LIFE

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January 29th 2021



MARCH FOR LIFE
#WhyWeMarch | MarchForLife.org

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