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St. Mary Magdalene E-News January 15, 2021

A Note from Fr. Chris

This weekend Jesus asks. "What are you looking for?"



An important issue to know, especially at the beginning of the year, to specifically know what we are looking for. Our distractions are many and we all get in the fog occasionally. Jesus reminds us that we are looking for goodness, truth and LOVE!

We are looking always for love. So, let us help each other, lift each other, and serve each other. This new year can be one of finding and re-finding, what we are looking for. Goodness, truth and love.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Chris



Upcoming Events

* The 2021 Calendars are now available under the covered drive at church.

January 16 - No Confessions

January 16 - 5pm Mass

January 17 - 9am & 11am Mass

January 17 - No Youth Mass

January 18 - Daily Mass 9am

January 18 - Parish Office Closed

January 18 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel

January 19 - Holy Hour 7pm Church

January 20 - Daily Mass 9am

January 20 - GATHER 6:30pm

January 21 - Daily Mass 9am

January 21 - EDGE 6:30pm

January 22 - Daily Mass 9am

Mass This Weekend

Altar flowers were donated by Karen Kovacs in loving memory of George J Lukesh. In addition, altar flowers were provided by St. Mary Magdalene.

Thank you to florist Lavender Lane of Apex, NC.

Click HERE to Live Stream our 9am Mass

Please remember to subscribe to our channel STMM Church Live to receive reminders when events are added and go live.

Music for this week's Mass

Gathering: Gather Us In #303

Psalm 40: Here I am , O Lord, I 've come to do your will. I've come to do your will.

Preparation: You Are Mine #456
Communion: Bread of Life #368
Communion: Here I Am, Lord #373
Communion: Song of the Body #331
Sending Forth: Sing of the Lord's Goodness #562

Outdoor Communion Procedures after 9am Sunday Mass only

- 1. There will be three stations available outside for communion following the 9:00 am Mass; two on the piazza in front of the church and the second station is the drive thru at the portico for those at-risk and those receiving gluten free hosts.
- 2. Ushers will be available with hand sanitizer and face masks are required.

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 [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.

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Eucharistic Holy Hour this Tuesday

Please join Deacon Rick and your fellow parishioners for Eucharistic Holy Hour Tuesday January 19th from 7-8 p.m. and continuing the 3rd Tuesday of each month. We will gather in the Church and begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by praying the Vespers together as a group.

For those of you unfamiliar, the Vespers are part of the Divine Office (Liturgy of the Hours) and represent the official prayers of the Church. After evening prayer, we will continue with Adoration and Benediction. Handouts will be available so everyone can participate fully.

Look forward to seeing everyone on the 19th!!

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 February 1, 2021. 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".

Men's Morning of Reflection

Knights of Columbus Council 7186 invites the men of Saint Mary Magdalene Parish to a Morning of Reflection Saturday, January 23 from 9:00 to noon in the Church.

Fr. Chris and other men of the parish will lead us as we contemplate discipleship and its role in our lives and the life of the Church. We'll end the morning with Adoration, Confession and Benediction.

We will follow social distancing guidelines and safety protocols. Sanitizer and masks will be available. Everyone should wear a facemask at all times. Contact Joe Sebik, joeysebik@gmail.com, for more information.

https://m.sianupgenius.com/#!/showSianUp/20f0c4baaaf23a64-mens/17451385

Elementary Faith Formation



GATHER Gather Virtual Families - January packets are available for pick up beneath the portico (drive thru side entrance of the church) anytime 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for your convenience. Teaching videos on this month's topic of

Vocations were recorded and were emailed home in this week's newsletter.

First Reconciliation Retreat - The First Reconciliation Retreat for second graders and sacramental preparation students will not be held in person on February 6, 2021. Materials for

an "at home" retreat experience for GATHER students will be available for pick up the first week of February beneath the portico anytime and will be sent home with STMM students.

First Reconciliation - Details for First Reconciliation for GATHER and STMM students were emailed this week. If you did not receive an email and have a child eligible to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation, please contact Suzanne.

First Eucharist Parent Meetings - One parent attends one of these meetings (without children). We will meet in the chapel, wearing face masks, sitting socially distanced, and review everything required for preparation of the sacrament of First Eucharist.

- Wednesday, February 24, 2021 10:30 am or 7:00 pm in the Chapel
- Thursday, February 25 10:30 am or 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Questions: Please contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7820

Youth Ministry News



EDGE News

Edge will resume next Thursday January 14th at 6:30. Virtual Edge groups will resume January 17th/18th.

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

StMM High School Youth Ministry

Apostello, The Way, & Youth Mass are off this Sunday due to the MLK holiday weekend. We'll return on 1/24/21

Catholic HS Confirmation

Online registration is now open for teens who attend a Catholic H5 & are seeking to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in April 2021. These teens are in year 2 of their preparation and would be in grades 10th-12th. This is "Option B" as explained on our Confirmation website at www.stmm.net. The link to register is located on the right side at this link: http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/way.cfm. Parents should have already attended a Parent Confirmation Workshop. Please contact Liz Sams at liz.sams@gmail.com with questions.

StMM School News

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School will re-open for in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19th. Welcome back, Monarchs!

Friday Morning Men's Faith Group

Starting on January 15th, the Friday morning's men's faith group will begin a 10-week video study program, Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life. Anchored in the life of Christ as presented in the Gospels, this study explores the entirety of Jesus' life- who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, what he did for our salvation, and what all of this means for us as Catholics today. Presented by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Dr. Edward Sri, this study was filmed in the Holy Land so Catholics can experience the extraordinary world in which Jesus lived and taught-the historical context, the politics, the clashing cultures, the history, and the ancient land-and see where the most significant events of his life took place, from his infancy to his ascension. We will meet

virtually from 6:45-8AM every Friday morning. If any men in the parish are interested in participating, please reach out to Paul Mastropolo (pmastropolo@amail.com).

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 <u>floralministry@stmm.net</u>.

Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday - February 7th. The annual Scout Sunday event to recognize and celebrate our parish's Scouts (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and their leaders) will be held at the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, February 7th. There will be a special handout at the Mass listing the Scouts participating in the event. To be included in the handout, please provide the following information to stmm.scoutsunday@gmail.com by February 1st: name, unit type, unit number, rank or position and any religious award/emblem received in the past year. Scouts are asked to attend the event in uniform. Information submissions should receive a confirmation of receipt email within 48 hours. If not, please contact Ben Ryan at 919-924-4888. NOTE: Due to pandemic restrictions, the Knights of Columbus will not provide refreshments this year and scouts should sit with their families.

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!

K of C Blooddrive

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a blood drive with the Blood Connection on Saturday, January 30th from 10am - 2pm. Please see either link to signup for a slot.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BAAAF23A64-kofc13

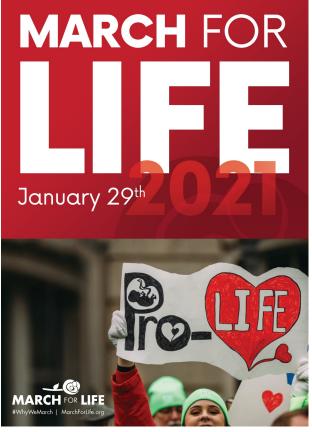
https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/162531

Respect Life Ministry

Pray to protect human life! January 21-29, 2020

9 Days for Life is a novena for the respect and protection of human life. Each day, a different intention is accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information. Sign up to receive the novena by email, text message, or an app at www.9daysforlife.com. Also, additional resources to observe the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children are available.





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 <u>clicking here.</u>

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

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