

Connect With Us

Join Our Mailing List

Forward to a Friend



Visit Our Church Website

St. Mary Magdalene E-News December 27, 2019

A Note From Father Donald Staib

In the course of preparing church bulletins I write this before Christmas. I am still getting ready for the Christmas celebrations, but I know how many people are helping to prepare our church and our Masses. I am most grateful to all who took time to make our Christmas Masses beautiful celebrations.

We welcome all who are visiting family this weekend on this feast of the Holy Family.

Mass on January 1 is at 10 am. There will not be daily Mass or Communion Services on Thursday January 2 or Friday, January 3.

CONFESSIONS: There will not be Confessions on Saturday December 28. There will be Confessions on Saturday January 4, after Baptisms.

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

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

In 1033 in Aosta Italy a boy name Anselm was born into a wealthy and well connected family. He was sent to good Benedictine schools and grew into a budding scholar of theology, language, and history.

At fifteen he had a dream in which he spoke to God, and God spoke back. He tried to join a monastery, but his parents restrained him. His father wanted him to be a politician. His mother, a noble Burgundian, thought he might take up something in the courts of Europe.

Anselm rejected both overtures. And so, like many children who chafe at a life that is set for them before they've had a chance to chart their own way, he left home just past his twentieth birthday and started to wander.

--- Timothy Egan, *A Pilgrimage to Eternity*

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/electronicoffertory.cfm> Choose the last option to change the amount.

Picture of the Week



Wedding of Susie Scott and John Sharpe on December 21st
Fr. Joshua West and Deacon Brian Phillip presided.

Elementary Religious Ed



Christmas Holiday Schedule - All PREP & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd resume the week of January 5, 2020.

Inclement Weather Policy - PREP & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd does NOT follow the decisions made by the Wake County school system or StMM Catholic School. Decisions are made by the program coordinator. Once the decision is made to close the elementary programs, (PREP, ROCK & CGS) we notify WRAL with a posting. If you don't see StMM on the band running across the bottom of the television then it is safe to conclude that we are in session. When available we will also post it on the parish website as well as send an email to all registered program families.

CPO Donations Grade 2 - Your date for toilet paper contributions for Catholic Parish Outreach is the week of January 12th & 15th.

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 Reconciliation Dates for Religious Education Students are

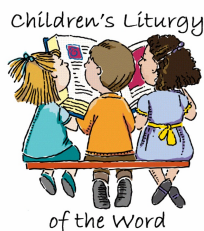
Tuesday, February 4th at 6:30 pm & Wednesday, February 5th at 6:30 pm. First Reconciliation Date for StMM School Students is Thursday, February 6th from 10:00 am -11:00 am during the regular school day.

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.



The program will resume the week of January 5th, 2020.



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 for Christmas break and will return on 1/5/20
Wishing all of our families and volunteers a blessed Christmas & Happy New Year!

Winter High School Retreat Registration is open: Our winter retreat will be held 1/31-2/2 at Camp Caraway in Sophia, NC. This year's retreat will be hosted by the amazing speaker and worship leader Andrew Laubacher! Andrew has spoken a youth conferences all over the world and we are excited to welcome him to a STMM retreat. Retreat is open to all in grades 9th-12th & the registration form can be found at this link: <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm>. These retreats are packed with great music, games, prayer, fun, fellowship, and opportunities to grow in our faith as a community! To secure a spot teens must turn in a completed registration form with a 50% deposit. This retreat does meet the Confirmation guidelines. Forms can be turned in at The Way or to the attn of Liz Sams in the parish office. Spots are filled on a first come first serve basis & our spots are limited to the # of seats on the bus & beds available on site.

GUYS ONLY HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!: We are so excited to announce the GUYS ONLY HS Retreat 3/6/20-3/8/20. This retreat is open to all guys in grades 9th-12th and will be held at the same location as last year complete with paintball and so much

more! Our retreat host will be Matt Regitz who lives in Houston, TX and loves ministering to dudes! The registration form can be found at this link: <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm> and can be turned in at The Way at the sign in table or to Liz Sams attn in the parish office. To secure a spot a teen must turn in a completed registration form along with a 50% deposit. This retreat does not meet the Confirmation guidelines & spots are limited to the # of beds. Transportation is not included in the retreat cost. The retreat is held at a location about 1 hour and 45 minutes away from STMM in Eastern NC. Info is on the retreat form.

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:

3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, AND 4/5

Online registration has now closed and you can find the paper form at this link:

<http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm>

Dynamic Catholic Corner



Dynamic Catholic
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.

FREE BOOKS!!! Parish Council purchased copies of The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic as a Christmas Present for all who attended Mass this past weekend. If you were out of town, missed getting a copy or know someone who could use a good book to strengthen their relationship with Christ, please stop by the Dynamic Catholic Table this weekend and pick one 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.**

RCIA

RCIA - There are no RCIA sessions on December 23rd and December 30th. The next

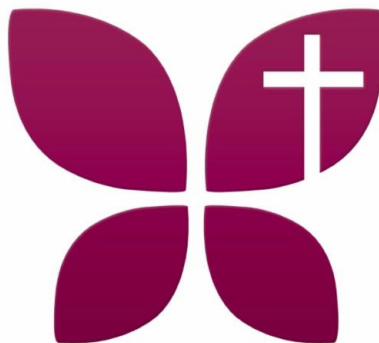


session is Monday, Jan. 6th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: The Holy Spirit. Question please contact Kathy or Scott Strednak at RCIA@stmm.me.

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.

StMM School Business Manager

Recently our School Business Manager Sheila Lattner, announced her plan to retire at the end of February. We will soon establish a Search Committee, but meanwhile we are advertising in appropriate places.

For additional information go to <http://school.stmm.net/about-stmm/employment.cfm> . There are additional details for applicants.

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

Family Promise



Family Promise - STMM Supporting Homeless Families STMM will support Family Promise by volunteering time and donating items to homeless families that will be housed at St. Andrew Jan 19-25. Let's start the new year by showing our support for others! Please stop by tables in the lobby the weekend of January 4-5 to select your volunteer activity or item for donation. We could not do this without you, and need many volunteers each day and night. Family Promise of Wake County provides support to pre-screened homeless families as they transition into permanent housing (<http://www.familypromisewake.org/>). Reminder: All donations are dropped off at St. Andrew

***In addition, we are looking for individuals to serve on the St. Andrew/STMM Family Promise Core Team. Core team members serve twice a year and open positions include Food Coordinator, Activities Coordinator, and Overnight Host Coordinator.

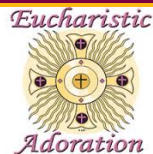
Please contact Mary Wire at mbwire@gmail.com or 919-749-8932 with questions or to discuss position details.

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, January 20, 9:30am - 11am, 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



New Date First Friday Adoration will be on Friday, January 10th. 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.

Children's Adoration is held the first Friday of each month 230-3pm. All children are welcome. No one is too young to come visit Jesus! The dates for the remainder of the school year are: Jan 10, Feb 7, March 6, April 3, and May 1. Contact Megan Brinkley if you have any questions m.brinkley@hotmail.com

Respect Life News

Pray the **Rosary for Life at 10:10** on the 1st Sunday of the month in the Chapel. Our next Rosary for Life is **Sunday, January 5th**. It is a beautiful way to start the day whether you come before Mass or stay after. Prayer sheets are provided and families with children are welcome.

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming March for Life events: NC Rally and March for Life - Saturday, **January 18, 2020**, Raleigh, NC and 47th March for Life - Friday, **January 24, 2020**, National Mall, Washington, DC.

If you have any questions regarding StMM Respect Life please feel free to contact Paula Hils pshils@bellsouth.net or Jane Breslin breslinjane@verizon.net

