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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

February 14, 2020

A Note From Father Donald Staib

Thank you so much to all who responded to our Bishop' Annual Appeal. We have received \$144,501 which is 75% of our parish goal. We have received these gifts/pledges from 445 families, 22% of our parish families. When we hear from the remaining 1,674 families - we will reach a goal of record proportions.

I am grateful to our Staff who will offer Communion Services on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Confessions: There will be Confessions on Saturday February 15, after Baptisms; There will also be Confessions on Saturday February 22, after Baptisms.

Due to a power surge in Apex, the telephone system at StMM is not working properly. We hope a new system is installed in a week or so.

I had a phone conversation with Deacon Joe LaPierre this past week. He sends his very best wishes and says he misses all at StMM.

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

Reflection-Pope Francis, Last Wednesday

The beloved Amazon region stands before the world in all its splendor, its drama and its mystery. God granted us the grace of focusing on that region during the Synod held in Rome from 6-27 last October, which concluded by issuing its Final Document, *The Amazon: New Paths for the Church and for an Integral Ecology*.

During the Synod, I listened to the presentations and read with interest the reports of the discussion groups. In this Exhortation, I wish to offer my own response to this process of dialogue and discernment. I will not go into all of the issues treated at length in the final document. Nor do I claim to replace that text or to duplicate it. I wish merely to propose a brief framework for reflection that can apply concretely to the life of the Amazon region a synthesis of some of the larger concerns that I have expressed in earlier documents, and that can help guide us to a harmonious, creative and fruitful reception of the entire synodal process.

I dream of an Amazon region that fights for the rights of the poor, the original peoples and the least of our brothers and sisters, where their voices can be heard and their dignity advanced. I dream of an Amazon region that can preserve its distinctive cultural riches, where the beauty of our humanity shines forth in so many varied ways. I dream of an Amazon region that can jealously preserve its overwhelming natural beauty and the superabundant life teeming in its rivers and forests. I dream of Christian communities capable of generous commitment, incarnate in the Amazon region, and giving the Church new faces with Amazonian features.

Financial Matters

OUR NEW CHURCH - We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 13 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)

Pictures of the Week



Winter High School Retreat



Pastor and Pope Benedict XVI in 2006

Tax Statements

Tax statements are available online. Please follow the directions for printing your statement on our website. http://www.stmm.church/Tax_statement_instructions_2019.pdf

For questions, email prewitt@stmm.net, or 919-657-4800 x7281.

Elementary Religious Ed



CPO Toilet Tissue Donations for Grade 3 - Thank you for your toilet paper contributions for Catholic Parish Outreach.

First Communion Parent Meetings Are Approaching. Parents of second graders and Intermediate Sacrament Students are to attend only one meeting. They will be held in Church Room 3. Please enter through Jonah Door.

Monday, March 9th 10:30 am or 7:00 pm

Tuesday, March 10th 10:30 or 7:00 pm

At this meeting you will:

Sign up for the Mass you want for First Communion. Choose from

Saturday 5/9/20 5:00 pm

Sunday 5/10/20 9:00 am or 10:45 am

Saturday 5/16/20 at 5:00 pm

Sunday 5/17/20 9:00 am or 10:45 am

Pick up the student banner kit and materials to complete at home and returned the day of the First Communion Retreat.

Volunteer for First Communion Retreat held Saturday, May 2, 2020.

If you attended the Parent Meeting in 2018 or 2019 with an older child, you are not required to attend but please be sure to contact Suzanne with your liturgy choice and to pick up your materials at the Parish Office.

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 screen 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.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is co-op ministry geared for children ages 3 years to first grade, guiding them through a portion of the Mass in a prayerful, kid-centered way. We would be delighted to have your family join us! Please be sure to register your child(ren) to participate by emailing our ministry at stmmclow@gmail.com. All parents will need to use the online sign-up to serve as parent assistant or C-Level leader throughout the year for this program to continue. Thank you for helping to make this ministry flourish!



Please join us at noon in the Gym.

Collection for returning military:

In July of 2019, over 600 soldiers assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division (3rd Brigade, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion) deployed to Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

Approximately 385 of the 600 soldiers were living in barracks at Fort Bragg. In December 2019 the barracks were deemed unlivable and all belongings were moved to storage. These soldiers are returning from Afghanistan in March 2020, to new barracks, but will not have access to their stored belongings for many days. They will be tired, in need of basic toiletries and the ability to wash the limited pieces of clothing that they have on them. Area Scouts are collecting and putting together 385 hygiene kits to be delivered to Fort Bragg and placed on the bed of each returning soldier. We'll be collecting these items at STMM on 2/16/20 before PREP, CGS, The EDGE, Apostello, Youth Mass & The Way. If you'd like to help, please donate any of the following items:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Body Wash
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Small Bottle of Water
- 2 Laundry Pods



STMM Sister Parish in Haiti & House Building Project

This year, we are inviting every child who is registered in our programs to donate to this worthy cause. Each time we meet, the Haiti House box will be in the lobby for your child to donate coins or dollar bills between now and April 1st. The goal is to take this opportunity to teach the corporal works of mercy and "shelter the homeless." The cost to provide a safe new home for a family in Haiti is \$3,750. Partnering with HMI, every dollar donated will be matched. Please give according to your means.

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

Youth Ministry

Our schedule this Sunday, 2/16/20 is as follows:

EDGE 4:30pm-5:45pm

Apostello 4:30pm-5:45pm

Youth Mass 6pm

The Way 7:15pm-8:30pm

GUYS ONLY HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! LIMITED SPOTS LEFT! 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.

Collection for returning military: In July of 2019, over 600 soldiers assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division (3rd Brigade, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion) deployed to Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Approximately 385 of the 600 soldiers were living in barracks at Fort Bragg. In December 2019 the barracks were deemed unlivable and all belongings were moved to storage. These soldiers are returning from Afghanistan in March 2020, to new barracks, but will not have access to their stored belongings for many days. They will be tired, in need of basic toiletries and the ability to wash the limited pieces of clothing that they have on them. Area Scouts are collecting and putting together 385 hygiene kits to be delivered to Fort Bragg and placed on the bed of each returning soldier. We'll be collecting these items at STMM on 2/16/20 before & after all the masses.

If you'd like to help, please donate any of the following items: Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Body Wash, Shampoo, Deodorant, Small Bottle of Water, 2 Laundry Pods

HAITI MISSION TRIP 2020: We are taking the beginning steps to organize an Adult Only (18 and over) Mission Trip to Haiti. There will be an information session to help answer questions from folks who have already gone to Haiti before with HMI, here are the details:

StMM is in the beginning stages of organizing an Adult Mission Trip to Haiti through HMI. (18 years & older only) The trip would be 11/9/20 to 11/16/20 at a cost of \$1700/person (donation to Haiti Mission, Inc.). A \$1000 deposit would be due July 1, 2020, with the balance due October 1. An information session is going to be held on 2/20/20 in Room #3 of the church at 7pm. All inquiries should be directed to David Kurtz at david.kurtz4@gmail.com.

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)

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:

- Has attended a Catholic HS for 1 year & will attend a Catholic HS next year
- 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

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 (can only miss 1 session)

3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, AND 4/5
(Registration will close on 3/1/20 with no exceptions)

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

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

Extraordinary Ministers Training



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Sacred Liturgy Training date is set for Sunday, February 16th from 1p-3p in Church Room 4. Use the entrance behind the statue of Jonah on the piazza. Contact Lisa at lbwestberg13@gmail.com by Friday, February 14th, if attending.

RCIA



RCIA - The next session is Monday, Feb 24th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: Lent. Question please contact Kathy or Scott Strednak at RCIA@stmm.me.

StMM School News

Opportunity Scholarship Informational Sessions

Did you know tuition assistance is available to families interested in a Catholic education for their children? Learn more about the Opportunity Scholarship Program, which provides tuition assistance of up to \$4,200 per year for awarded students who enroll in a participating non-public school. The program is income-based. Parents interested in learning more about the Opportunity Scholarship and how this program can assist you with tuition at Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School are invited to join Principal John Mihalyo for an information session on **Wednesday, February 19th from 6:30-7:30pm** at St. Andrew Church, Room 8. Can't make the meeting? Call Lydia Binanay at 919-335-8311 for more information.

Shamrock Basketball Tournament

Congratulations to the Monarch varsity basketball teams on a well-played season! Both the boys and girls teams traveled to Charlotte this weekend for the annual Shamrock Basketball Tournament. Our cheerleading squad also made the trip to cheer them on. God bless and safe travels to all of our athletes, coaches and fans!

Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus and StMM School are partnering together for a blood drive on Thursday, February 27 from 2pm - 6pm. Please sign up to donate by visiting <http://school.stmm.net/> and clicking on the "Announcements" link on the right. Not only will you be helping a great cause, but StMM school will also receive a \$10 donation for every person who donates!

Calling all PreK3-8th grade girls at StMM church and school! A special **Sweetheart Tea and Dance** is being planned just for you! Grab your best-loved dress and make a date with dad, grandpa, or your favorite uncle to attend this special afternoon on Saturday, March 21st from 2:00-4:00pm in the school gym. There will be games, activities, refreshments and a DJ! Tickets are \$10 per family and can be purchased at <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/GIMjJgzk> through March 13th. Please email Erin Snow at erinsnow@gmail.com or Erin Bonasso at erinbonasso@gmail.com with any questions.

Become a Monarch! Apply Now! Our Admissions Department would be happy to give you a tour of our school and answer all of your questions. Contact Lydia Binanay at 919-335-8311,

New Film Series Metanoia

Fr. Dave Pivonka's new film series *Metanoia* is here! Join us Saturday mornings starting on February 8 to watch Father Dave's newly-released video series *Metanoia*. Filmed in the Holy Land, this ten-segment, free study promises to open your heart to Jesus in a more profound way. If you enjoyed *The Wild Goose* series, you will love this. The title comes from a Greek word that means "change in one's way of life resulting from spiritual conversion." We hope you will come experience *Metanoia* with us from 8-9:30am every Saturday until the weekend after Easter. The Men's group will meet in Room 3 and the Women's group will meet in Room 4 at Church. No need to RSVP - just come if - and when - you can! Questions, email Laura Werner at steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com or Mike McGann at mcgannmi1970@gmail.com.

Power and Purpose Conference



BUS TRIP TO STEUBENVILLE CONFERENCE

JUNE 5-7, 2020

Need a recharge in your spiritual life? Wondering about God's purpose for you? Feeling empty, anxious, and needing more peace, joy and love in your life? Reserve your spot at the **Power and Purpose Conference** today! Over 1500 adults come to Franciscan University's beautiful campus in Steubenville, OH each summer to experience the power of the Holy Spirit. They leave with a renewed sense of God's presence in their lives. This conference will draw you deeper into relationship with the Holy Spirit and empower you to live in true freedom and joy.

Registration 2020 Pricing

Early Bird Rate (register by February 28, 2020) \$146

Standard Rate: \$176

Clergy/Religious/Young Adult (Age 18-30) Rate \$97



Please contact Laura Werner at 919-889-9904 or steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com for more information, travel details, and registration.

Music and Sound Ministries



Music and Sound System Ministries looking for new members! At every Mass every week we strive to provide beautiful music for your enjoyment and to enhance our Mass Celebrations. To accomplish this, we need volunteers to support each Mass. We are looking for new adult members to join us, whether you play an instrument, sing or can help with the sound balancing each week during Mass.

For the adult music ministry that handles our three regular Masses each week, we practice together one hour a week year round on Monday evenings. It is a fun and rewarding group to belong to! Music and training are provided. Members for this group must be 18+ or Confirmed. We are looking for singers,

pianists and other instrumentalists. Please contact our Music Director, Kristin Wagner, at stmm.music@gmail.com if you are interested to learn more or would like to tryout a practice session to see what we are all about.

The sound system ministry is an extremely important volunteer team that runs the sound, livestream camera, video displays, lighting and and even the church bells! We have a serious need for new volunteers in this area. All training and backup support is provided and commitment requirements can be from once a month to once a week, depending on your availability. If you have an ear for sound balance or enjoy working with digital sound systems and are willing to learn, please contact our sound system ministry at stmm.soundministry@gmail.com to learn more about this very important role in our church. Training times and schedule commitments are flexible.

Dynamic Catholic



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. DON'T GIVE UP

CHOCOLATE FOR LENT!!! Please join your fellow parishioners for Dynamic Catholic's BEST LENT EVER, which is all about how the saints are ready to help you create holy moments and become the-best-version-of-yourself. All you have to do is go to DynamicCatholic.com and enter your name and email address. It's not what you give up. It's who you become. If you are interested to get a free BEST LENT EVER journal, send an email to stmm.dynamic.catholic@gmail.com while supplies last. **Be Bold. Be Catholic.**

First Friday Adoration

Eucharistic



Adoration

New Date First Friday Adoration will be on Friday, March 6th. 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: March 6, April 3, and May 1. Contact Megan Brinkley if you have any questions m.brinkley@hotmail.com

Commemorative Bricks

BUY A BRICK
FOR SOMEONE
SPECIAL

COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS - Commemorative bricks line the walkway to our Activities Building. St. Mary Magdalene Church will be placing a Spring brick order, the deadline is **March 27th**. The cost is \$100. Order forms are located in the parish

office or <http://www.stmm.church/giving/>

Commemorate a First Communion, a Graduation or remember a loved one with an engraved brick.

Respect Life News

"UNPLANNED" the movie, will be shown here at StMM on **March 1, 2020**. Please join us from 12:00-3:00pm as this movie speaks volumes for the most vulnerable of humans, the preborn. Visit www.movieguide.org for Christian site review of the movie. Light refreshments will be provided and childcare for those who would like to attend but need someone to watch young children (email Jane breslinjane@verizon.net or Paula phils@bellsouth.net for childcare info). Please register

at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4FABAF2FA1FC1-unplanned1>

Correction: 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign in **Raleigh**. Join this campaign of prayer, & peaceful witness for an end to abortion, beginning Ash Wednesday, **Feb. 26, through April 5** (7am-7pm daily). Location: public right-of-way outside Women's Choice Abortion Clinic, 3305 Drake Circle, Raleigh, NC 27607. There is another location at Planned Parenthood in Chapel Hill. For more information visit: www.40daysforlife.com

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, March 1, 2020**. 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.

Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday-February 23rd The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring an event to recognize and celebrate our parish's Scouts (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and their leaders) at the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, February 23rd. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Knights will provide refreshments for the Scouts and their families in the cafeteria. 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 18th: 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. If confirmation of receipt of your information is not received within 48 hours, please contact Ben Ryan at 919-924-4888.

Knights Corner



*Calling all Catholic Men to the Knights of Columbus
"A Catholic Fraternal Service Organization"
4 Principles: Charity / Unity / Fraternity / Patriotism*

Our local St. Mary Magdalene council 7186 remains one of the most vibrant and engaged organizations within our community. Did you know your local Knights of Columbus support: weekly rosary on Thursday night in the Chapel for the entire family, Friday morning Men's Bible Study, Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO), Respect Life, Brookridge Assisted Living Resident Visits, Financial support for our Church and School. Consider joining our local council by contacting Dan Cantrel, Grand Knight.

Save the Date: KofC Annual Lent Fish Fry... - Fri, March 6th, March 20th, and April 3rd in the Dining Hall from 5:30-7:45pm. Come out and enjoy a great meal with friends and family while supporting many worthy community causes championed by the Knights of Columbus.

KofC 2020 Free Throw Championship! Friday, March 6 at 6:00 p.m. Open to boys and girls ages 9-14. Winners in each age group earn prizes and qualify to compete for district-level honors. Details at www.kofc7186.org/youth or contact David Tate at tatedavid2001@gmail.com.

Online membership program at: <http://kofc.org/un/joinus/en/index.html>

KofC 7186 council calendar of events: <https://kofc7186.org/calendar>
