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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

February 7, 2020

A Note From Father Donald Staib

We had a wonderful response to the Bishop's Annual Appeal last weekend. So far we have received \$100,716 pledged from 294 parish members - 52% of our parish goal from 14% of our 2,119 parish families

Many thanks to all who have been generous. We are on the way to a record response; we await the pledges from all 2119 households in our parish.

We are grateful to Tyler DiVito, our parish seminarian, who told us last weekend about how the BAA funds are used for seminary education.

Congratulations to those who made their First Confessions this past week. And thank you to their teachers who helped to prepare them for this Sacrament.

Confessions: there will not be Confessions on Saturday February 8 because of a funeral. There will be Confessions on Saturday February 15, after Baptisms;

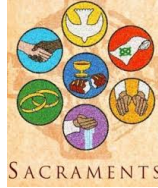
Due to a power surge in Apex, the telephone system at StMM is not working properly. We are able to receive telephone calls at the school front desk, but calls do not transfer and there is no voicemail. After school hours there is no way to make a connection. My home phone is 919 387 3648. Unfortunately, our entire system will need to be replaced; we hope this happens in the next few weeks.

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

"Let your light shine before all," Christ said; and he used the words "before all" advisedly. He meant, "Let your light be so bright that it illuminates not only yourself, but shines also before those needing its help." As the light our senses perceive puts darkness to flight, and enables those travelling along a road perceptible to the senses to follow a straight course, so also the spiritual light which shines from blameless conduct illuminates those who cannot see clearly how to live a virtuous life, because their spiritual eyesight has been blurred by the darkness of error. It purifies their inward vision, leads them to live upright lives, and makes them walk henceforward in the path of virtue. -

St. John Chrysostom (c.347-407). After a period of great austerity as a hermit, he returned to Antioch; it was his duty to preach in the principal church of the city; his best homilies which earned him the title "Chrysostomos" or "the golden-mouthed," were preached at this time. In 397 Chrysostom became patriarch of Constantinople, where his efforts to reform the court, clergy, and people led to his exile in 404 and finally to his death from the hardships imposed on him. Chrysostom was above all a pastor of souls, and was one of the most attractive personalities of the early Church.

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)

Picture of the Week



The start of School Mass on Thursday

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



Congratulations to all our children who made their First Reconciliation last week and a special thanks to all the Catechists and Parents who have worked diligently to prepare them for this sacrament. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for First Eucharist this spring.

CPO Toilet Tissue Donations for Grade 3 are scheduled for today, Sunday, February 9th & Wednesday, February 12th. Please donate whatever your means will allow.

First Communion Parent Meetings are set for Monday, March 9th 10:30 am or 7:00 pm and Tuesday, March 10th 10:30 or 7:00 pm in Church Room 3. Parents are to attend only one meeting. At this meeting you will sign up for the Mass you want for First Communion. Masses are not assigned. You choose your date. The dates are 5/9, 5/10, 5/16 & 5/17 at all six parish liturgies. The student banner kit will be distributed to complete at home and return the day of the First Communion Retreat on Saturday, May 2nd. If you attended 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.



The Rock is back this weekend. 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

Our schedule this Sunday, 2/9/20 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! 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>

RCIA



RCIA - The next session is Monday, Feb 10th at 7:30 pm in Church Room 4. The discussion topic is: Temptation: Entering the Spiritual Desert. 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 who desire a Catholic education for their son or daughter? The Opportunity Scholarship Program 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 attend one of two informational sessions being held on Tuesday, February 11. Join us 8:15-9:15a.m. in StMM Church Meeting Room #1 or from 6:30-7:30pm in the StMM School Media Center.

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!

Save the Date! Mass with Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama

The Bishop will be celebrating Mass at StMM with our school children on Thursday, April 23rd at 8:15am. After Mass he will be visiting with students and teachers in our school. Join us as we give Bishop Zarama a warm Saint Mary Magdalene welcome.

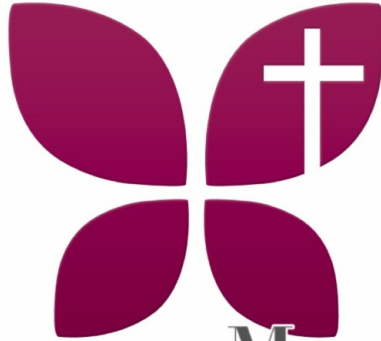
Catholic Schools Week Recap: A big thank you to everyone for your prayers and support of our school last week as we celebrated Catholic Schools Week 2020. The week was filled with a great kickoff event, service, a Living Rosary by our 4th and 5th graders, Mass, and a lot of fun throughout the whole week. A big thank you to everyone who planned and made this week possible for our Monarchs! We can't wait until Catholic Schools Week 2021!

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School

Applications for the 2020-2021 school year are
available now for new students!

Need more info?

Call Lydia Binanay at 919-335-8311 for a tour of
our campus.



Become a Monarch!
Apply now!

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 stmmsoundministry@gmail.com to learn more about this very important role in our church. Training times and schedule commitments are flexible.

Safe Environment Training

Safe Environment Training - Adults who wish to volunteer with youth at StMM are required to fill out a volunteer application and attend Safe Environment Training. Our next session is Thurs, 2/13 at 6:30PM. The session will last approx 2 hours and is for



adults only as the presentation is not appropriate for children. **Must register to attend.** Email Bertha Smith (bsmith@stmm.net) to register and to get meeting location.

Souper Bowl of Caring



St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church's 2020 Souper Bowl Collection raised: \$2,135 and 174 lbs. of food. Proceeds from this event were donated to Catholic Parish Outreach food pantry and Western Wake Crisis Ministry food pantry. Thank you for helping to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving!

First Friday Adoration

Eucharistic



Adoration

New Date First Friday Adoration will be on Friday, February 7th. 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: Feb 7, March 6, April 3, and May 1. Contact Megan Brinkley if you have any questions m.brinkley@hotmail.com

Commemorative Bricks



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

Mark your calendars!

"UNPLANNED" the movie, will be shown here at St. Mary Magdalene's 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. More info to come.

40 Days for Life Spring Campaign in **Chapel Hill**. This campaign of prayer, fasting, and peaceful witness for an end to abortion, begins on Ash Wednesday, **February 26, and ends on April 5** (7am-7pm daily). Location: public right-of-way outside of Planned Parenthood, 1765 Dobbins Drive, Chapel Hill, NC.

For more information or to volunteer: 40daysforlife.com/chapel-hill or email 40dayschapelhill@gmail.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.

The next parish breakfast will be this Sunday February 9th after 9am mass.

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

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