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### St. Mary Magdalene E-News

July 24, 2020

### A Note From Father Chris

Working with nets is tricky. Tangles and snares abound anytime we try and move or arrange the nets. Fishing with nets allow us to catch something of everything. The Gospel parables this weekend include this description of fishing with a net and the larger implications of the harvest of our very lives. We will be gathered up one day. Are we ready? Well, not yet! Hopefully, we are enjoying the preparation for our return to the Father: growing in virtue, happiness and holiness.

The church is planning for the fall as best we can. A season of gathering. We will continue to follow guidelines for everyone's physical safety and continue to offer the sacraments for everyone's spiritual safety.

Thank you to the first communicants, confirmation candidates and parents for your patience and joyful participation in the liturgies this week. Also, special thanks to Fr. Staib for joining us for the wonderful celebration of the Mass on our parish feast day this past Wednesday.

Please watch the Sunday Mass livestream at 9am and come to the church for outdoor communion from 9:50 till 10:30am. The parish offices are staffed for your phone calls and needs each morning during the week. We thank you for your continued necessary support of the parish. Jesus Christ continues to form us to be ready for the harvest.

Gratefully yours,

Fr. Chris

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[to Offertory](#)

**Our 9am Mass is Live Streamed!**

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 7/26/20

Gathering: Gather Your People	#314
Psalm 119: Lord I love your commands. More than gold is your word, so precious to me.	
Preparation: 10,000 Reasons	#561
Communion: Be Not Afraid	#431
Sending Forth: Lead Me Lord	#726

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## Distribution of Communion

Hello StMM parishioners,

Until we can gather together as a community again inside the church, we are obligated to abide by the guidelines set forth by both the Governor of NC and the Bishop of Raleigh. Our plan for the summer is to continue **live streaming the 9am Mass** and on our [YouTube channel](#). This week we also invite you to come to the church after the 9am Mass to receive Communion. This will begin about 10.

The assumption is you will have watched the live stream Mass & then come to church where we will be distributing Communion. Please drive to StMM, park your car, and proceed on foot to one of the Communion stations. We will give Communion until all have received, until 10:30.

Extraordinary Ministers will be located in different locations to distribute Communion. There will be 5 stations located around the church & school property (please see the map which has the marked spots and the flow for foot traffic)

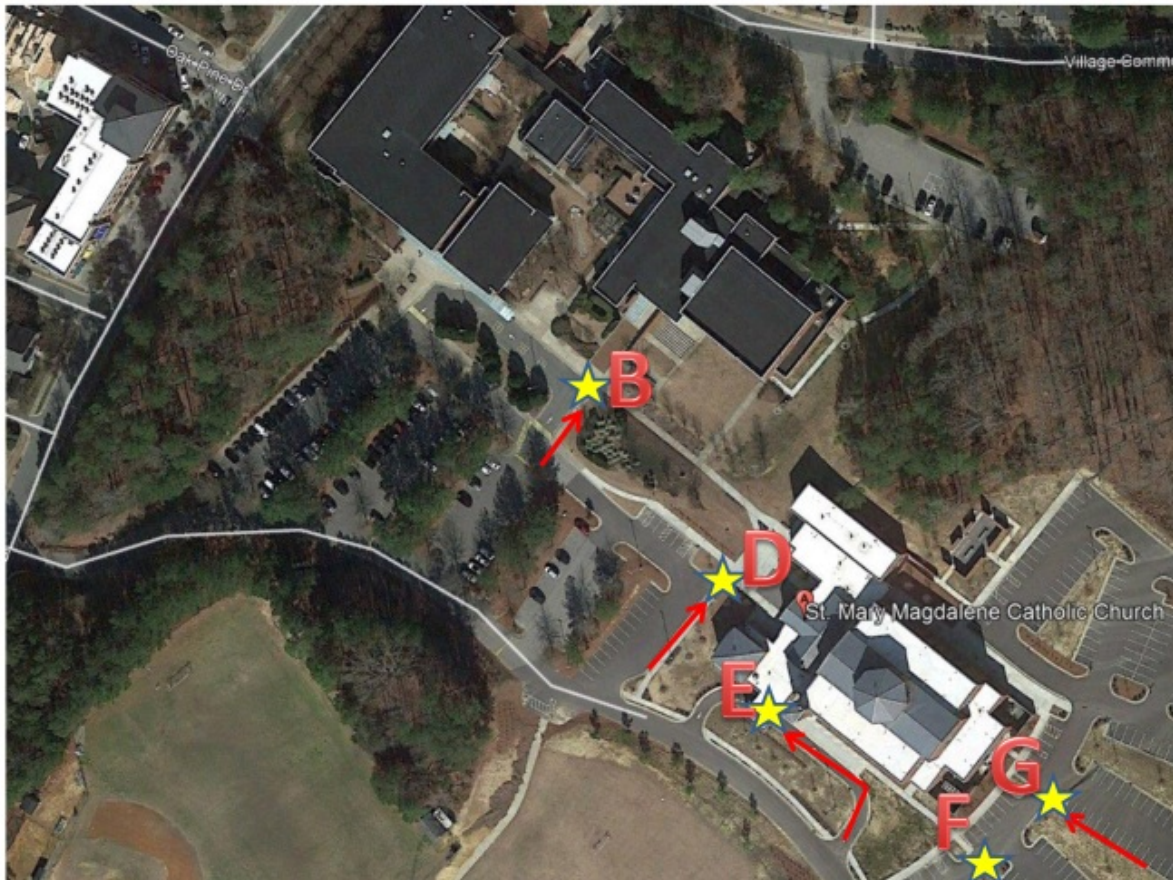
We have never done anything like this before so we please request that you show great patience, respect social distancing guidelines, & remain reverent.

If inclement weather should occur, please check the website at [www.stmm.net](http://www.stmm.net) for updated information.

1. Please see the overhead image of St. Mary Magdalene Church for the marked distribution stations located around the property and notice the direction you should follow while waiting to receive.
2. There will be a station under the drive thru portico on the chapel side of the church for anyone who meets the following criteria: Parishioners over the age of 60, anyone in the medically high risk population, & those who require a gluten free host. In the drive thru please stay in your car to receive the Eucharist.
3. According to the CDC guidelines, each person is asked to wear a mask
4. Ushers will be on hand with hand sanitizer at each line. Please sanitize your hands prior to receiving the Eucharist.
5. We ask you not to receive the Eucharist on the tongue, only in the hand. Please extend your hands in a flattened manner stacked one on top of the other.

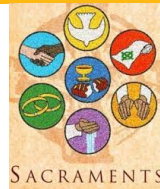
6. After receiving Communion please return to your vehicle and exit the property safely
7. Do not engage in casual conversation before or after receiving, please remain prayerful as you would in church.

We miss gathering together and look forward to when we can be united again under one roof.



Stations for Communion

## Sacraments



**BAPTISMS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email the Church Office, [info@stmm.net](mailto: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 Church Office to schedule.

**CONFESSIONS** - Confessions are usually, but not every week, at 10:30am on Saturdays in the Church. There will be confessions this Saturday, July 25th at 10:30am - Noon

**WEDDINGS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email [weddings@stmm.net](mailto:weddings@stmm.net)

## 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**



Marriage of Jared Reeve and Azlyn Arnett on July 18th



Benjamin Ferrin and Trent Mariluch received First Communion on July 20th.  
Eric Reyes, visiting seminarian



Father Staib and Father Chris concelebrated Mass  
for the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene July 22nd.  
Clarissa Serrano received First Communion.

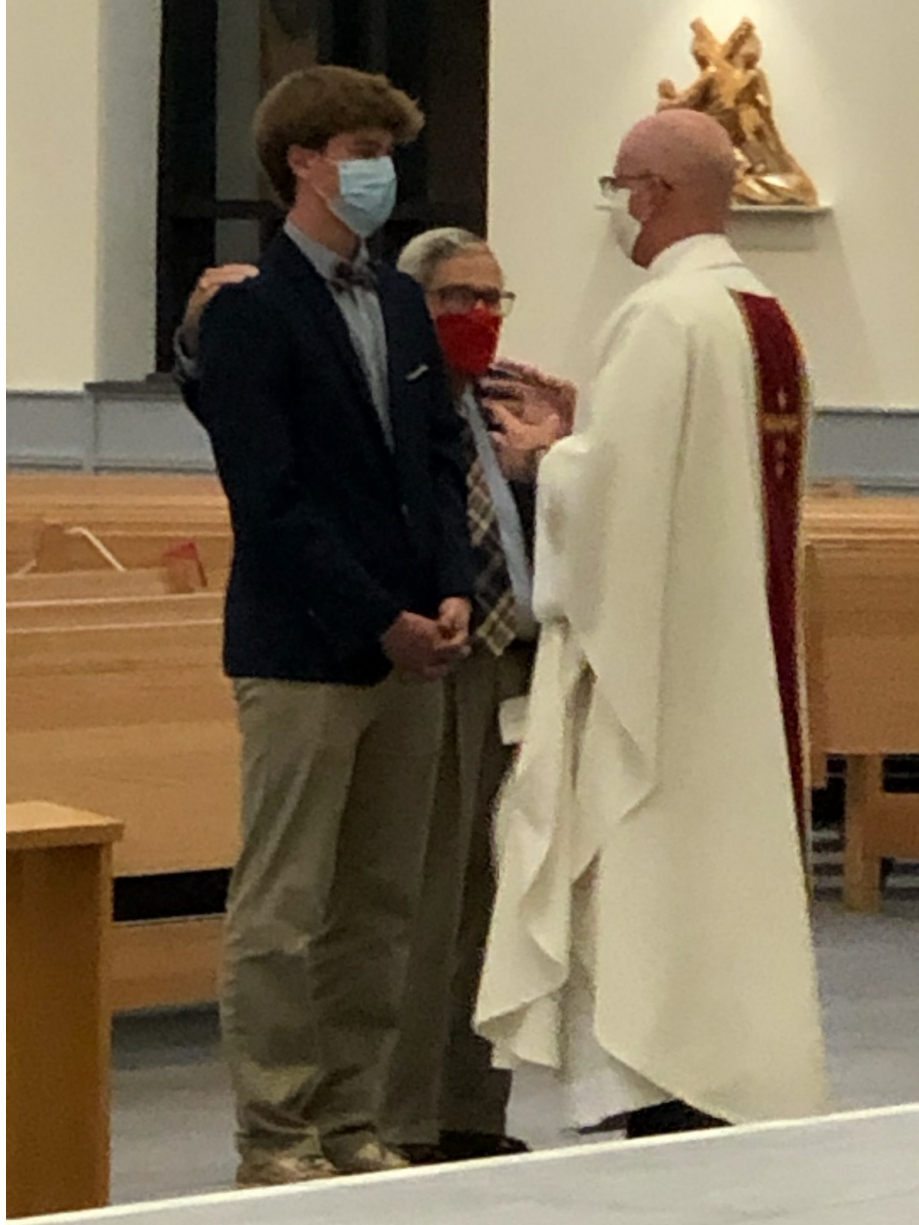


Camden and Kailyn Becker received First Communion on July 23rd.





Nicholas Kuntz, Roslyn Bush, Jack Douglass, and Drew Duffy received First Communion on July 24th.



Confirmation Mass on July 23rd

## First Communion Families

### First Communion Families

Fr. Chris continues to offer the Eucharist to all our First Communicants. Given the limitations we have due to Covid, we are offering First Holy Communion to those second graders and Intermediate Sacrament students who were scheduled to receive their sacrament in May at each weekday Daily Mass through August 31, 2020.

Please know that we have been preparing for this for quite some time. Every effort is being made to provide a comfortable and safe environment for you and your family to attend daily Mass inside the church while upholding the Bishops request that we remain respectful of our most vulnerable within our community.

We began offering Daily Mass in June and the Parish Staff has worked tirelessly to implement and tweak the guidelines to ensure everyone's protection. These guidelines are listed below and include wearing of facemasks, hand sanitizing upon arrival and prior to receiving communion, social distance



seating in every other pew and limiting the number of parishioners in each pew, special distribution of communion practices to protect both the recipient and the Eucharistic Minister.

Many of you may not be ready to return to church and that's completely understandable and perfectly acceptable. We will respect your decision and assist in making Arrangements for your child at a future date. For those of you who would like to bring your child forward to receive their First Holy Communion, please select a date by clicking on the below Sign-up Genius Link. Daily Mass is offered Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9:15 am and lasts approximately 20 minutes. There will only be four children per day receiving this sacrament in the church along with the daily communicants (approximately 50 people) throughout the months of July and August. Each child will sit on the end of the pew and their families can use the entire reserved pew for their guests. One pew sits approximately ten people comfortably.

Working together and by God's grace, we can bring the children into full communion in the church by the end of summer.

Please direct all questions to Suzanne Will, Coordinator, Elementary Religious Education, [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net)

**Here are those guidelines:**

Church doors will open at 9:00 am.

Please do not enter the church early so the staff can prepare for Mass.

Masks are required to enter the church building. Masks will be available in the lobby if needed.

Please be seated in designated sections only in pews labeled with "Reserved" markers.

Please do not remove ropes as roped sections are considered "closed" for seating.

Please don't switch seats once you're in a designated pew.

Parishioners should sit socially distanced; at least six feet apart unless part of same household.

Main galley restrooms will be closed. Please use the 2 restrooms located by the Chapel.

**Communion Procedures:**

1. Please remain seated until the usher approaches your pew.
2. Communion will begin from the rear of the church.
3. As you leave your pew, hand sanitizer will be offered. If you cannot use hand sanitizer, please inform your usher who will arrange for you to be served at the end of communion distribution.
4. As you approach the Eucharistic Minister, notice the colored dots on the floor of the main aisle leading to the altar. Please advance from one colored dot to the next to remain socially distanced from others. Please do not stand between the dots.
5. Please extend your arms fully in front of you towards the Eucharistic Minister with flattened hands to receive.
6. Once you receive the Eucharist, please step to the red dot on the floor in front of the altar, remove your mask and consume the Eucharist, replace your mask and return to the same pew you sat in prior to communion.

## StMM School News

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School will open the school year in Plan B on August 20, 2020. To read our re-opening plan, please click [here](#) or visit our Campus Re-Opening webpage on our school website, <http://school.stmm.net/campus-reopening-updates.cfm>. Questions about our school re-opening plan can be directed to Principal John Mihalyo by calling the school, 919-657-4800 or by email, [principal@stmm.me](mailto:principal@stmm.me).

**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 first twelve weekends, we have served over 6,500 dinners in total 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](#)

## Want to help, but don't know how? Here's an easy way

Dear StMM families,

StMM youth programs (Prep, The Rock, Edge, The Way & Apostello) have been looking for a way to help during this difficult time. Our own StMM Knights of Columbus have partnered with Wake County Human Services & 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. They have set up an emergency food distribution site on Saturday and Sunday evenings located right here in Apex. In the first two weekends, they have served over 900 dinners in total to Apex residents who are in need. Their supplies and funds are running low and we'd like to humbly ask you to help out in whatever way you can during this time. We realize that not everyone is in a position to give goods or financial donations, and if that's where you find yourself right now please just join our efforts through prayer.

If however, you are in a position to help here are 2 ways we need you:

1) The KOC 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!

2) If you would like to help by just a financial donation, you can go to this link and donate online: [Donate by clicking here](#)

We will keep this going over the upcoming weeks so if you can't participate this week, know you will have a chance in the weeks to come. This is a great family service project too and is an example of one of the corporal works of mercy to feed the hungry.

If you know of anyone within our parish that is sick, in need of food or any other kind of assistance with getting groceries, picking up prescriptions, etc. Please contact either Suzanne Will at [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net), Janine at [janine.mcgann@gmail.com](mailto:janine.mcgann@gmail.com) or Liz at [liz.sams@gmail.com](mailto:liz.sams@gmail.com).



Collection Bins are located by the covered driveway at the Church

## RCIA

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but not confirmed? We can help! The **RCIA** process at StMM assisted 10 adults in completing their sacraments of initiation this spring. Soon, we will begin another faith-filled journey. Will you join us? Let's have a conversation. Please contact Scott and Kathy Strednak at [rcia@stmm.me](mailto:rcia@stmm.me) with any questions.

## RISE

**RISE with the KofC on Aug 3rd.** The RISE 30-Day Challenge has transformed thousands of lives with a practical plan to help you live out your faith where it matters most...in everyday life. On August 3rd, the StMM Knights of Columbus will step-up to the RISE Challenge and will be offering a limited number of "scholarships" to cover the \$35 cost for the program for new participants. We are also looking for Mentors who have previously participated in RISE to lead a new group through the program. If interested in joining the program as a mentor or a participant, please contact Ryan Evenson at [eever45@yahoo.com](mailto:eever45@yahoo.com) for details. <https://www.cardinalstudios.org/rise>



## Free Plants

Great time to Plant!! Maybe not, but the Knights of Columbus were given free plants from a builder. These are small bushes free of charge. If interested come by the back of the school at the Village Commons Street, and help yourself. (donate on line if you feel compelled using this link <https://checkout.square.site/pay/d6b288d94bdc44218fdb258cb6aa277c>

## 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](#)

## Formed

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