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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

March 27, 2020

A Note From Father Donald Staib

A recent pilgrim to the Holy Land had to self-quarantine because of possible exposure in Bethlehem. He said it felt strange to 'withdraw from the community for the sake of the community.' Being with others is part of who we are as human beings. It is certainly part of our worship experience at Mass.

Lent is a time of deprivation and sacrifice - this year our sacrifices have come to us without our choice. We continue to pray for all affected - the sick, the medical professions, those suffering loss of income. The virus knows no borders. We are united in our fears and in our hopes for the future.

One of the extra sad parts of the virus is the Catholic Parish Outreach has had to close because of the danger of exposure. Another sad item is that the scammers are still using my name to write to some in the parish. I never ask for you to contact me that way; they are using a made-up email address.

We are grateful to all in our parish who have contributed by mail or through our website to our on going parish needs. Like all households, our expenses continue. Our Diocese has been generous in suspending some recurring expenses until a better time. There is a button below and on our website to contribute to the church during this time. Blessings on those who use direct deposit.

There will be Confessions at 10:30 Saturday; there is a chair near the baptism font so we keep a proper distance. Those waiting, please wait in the lobby for your turn.

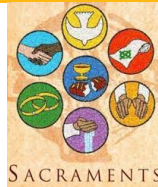
Father Donald Staib
donfs22@aol.com
St. Mary Magdalene E-News

Donate

Our 10:45am Mass is Live Streamed!

Click [HERE](#) to Live Stream our 10:45am Mass
and Stations of the Cross 7pm Fridays

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

The Covid-19 pandemic gives us an opportunity to remember that we are finite creatures. The United States has a "can do" culture that brought us to the moon, but we can be impatient and expect things to happen instantly. The coronavirus brings us face to face with the reality that we have limitations. We have a limited number of hospital beds. Our health care personnel are limited, and our knowledge is limited.

Our ability to face reality will be tested on the frontlines, where heroic health care workers face their own health risks while they deal with supply shortages and long work hours. Americans do not like to talk about limits; it goes against our national mythology.

This pandemic confronts us with the limits of our physical health, our resources and our knowledge. It can also remind us of what is possible through the grace and love of others and especially of God. Throughout all of this, we are reminded once again that Good Friday is not the end of the human story, but a theological prelude to Easter Sunday and Resurrection. - Rev. Kevin William Wildes, S.J., professor at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

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)

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.

Pictures of the Week



Bustos Family watching Mass Sunday



Parish Office

The Parish Staff is working remotely from home. We have access to email and will be responding during normal business hours.

The Church campus and offices remain closed indefinitely.

Click [here](#) for where to watch Mass online.

StMM School News

In accordance with our state of North Carolina leadership, Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School will abide by the mandate not to return to on-site classes until Monday, May 18, 2020. Until that time, our students and teachers will continue to implement and receive instruction in our distance learning.

We launched our distance learning on Thursday, March 19th with great success. Because our teachers are all Google Classroom Certified, we were able to make the transition from school classroom to virtual classroom quite easily and our students lost no instruction time. We were even able to welcome several new, transfer students into the StMM school community via virtual learning.

Once again, a big "THANK YOU" to our teachers and families for their hard-work and cooperation during this transition. For updates, online learning resources and helpful links, please check our website, <http://school.stmm.net/school-life/corona-update.cfm>. We continue to pray for all in our community to stay safe and well.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry Postponed

Fish Fry Alert!



The Knights of Columbus will be postponing the April 3rd Fish Fry. Once it is appropriate to do so, we will look at creating a post-lenten event to serve the community and support our important causes. In the meantime, we encourage you to

support local restaurants with take-out options that have been hurting in the current environment.

Film Series Metanoia

Fr. Dave Pivonka's new film series **Metanoia** is here! The Women's group will continue to meet virtually on Saturday mornings.

If you'd like to join, email Laura Werner at steubvillemissionNC@gmail.com to be added to the Google Hangout.

Adult Ministry Survey Extended



Please help! Recently, members of several parish ministries came together to think about how to best share the wonderful adult ministries available at our parish as well as discover what our community still needs. We are a growing parish, and we want to be intentional with how we launch new options for spiritual growth and community-building. With that in mind, we designed an Adult Ministry Survey.

Which ministries do you know about, and what are you looking for? The survey asks about the types of programming you're interested in, the days and times that work best for you, and if you need childcare.

We can't make good decisions without good information, and we won't have good information without you!

We know how busy you are, so the survey is short and easy to take!! You can access the survey in three different ways: this survey link <https://tinyurl.com/STMMSurvey2020>, the above QR code, or by paper copy available in the Gathering Space. The survey will close on March 16th.

Please take five minutes today and help St. Mary Magdalene plan for exciting and engaging faith experiences in the days to come! We are excited to see what the Holy Spirit has planned for our parish!!

Joanne Martin
PROPERTIES

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