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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

May 15, 2020

A Note From Father Donald Staib

My email last Friday evening was delayed because I had to wait until our Diocese made the announcement that Bishop Luis Zarama has appointed Father Chris Koehn to be the new pastor of St. Mary Magdalene.

I am delighted at this announcement and Father Chris and I will be working together in this transition which will be in the summer.

Below in this e-news are announcements about resuming the Sacraments of Confession and Baptisms. We all pray for the day all our church activities can return to normal. I always keep in prayer those who are endeavoring to find ways to combat the virus. Dedicated and talented people are striving daily to find cures. We are grateful to all who are trying to keep us safe.

Our Finance Council had a meeting this past week to review reports from this year and to prepare budgets for the next fiscal year. We are most grateful to all in our parish who are supporting us during these stressful times.

There is a picture below of a wall hanging of 3 angels - St Michael, St Gabriel, St Raphael. These were made by the StMM Prayer Quilt Ministry. They hang on the wall where the 2 marble angels were. Those 2 angels will soon be in our columbarium. So many thanks to those who spent so much time designing and sewing the new angels.

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

Donate
to Offertory

Our 10:45am Mass is Live Streamed!

As all of us know, the State of NC is moving into Phase 1 restrictions as we come out of the COVID pandemic. With the governor's executive order, Worship services are permitted to resume in

outdoor settings for more than 10 participants. The Diocese of Raleigh released guidance to Pastors on last week to help ensure proper adherence to liturgical requirements while welcoming parishioners back to Mass.

At this time, we will continue our plans for the one Sunday Mass at 10:45am which will be live streamed via YouTube for our parish. We are moving forward with plans to resume Mass in the Church but will only do so in a safe, socially distancing manner. Some environmental modifications need to be made while supplies have to be ordered to ensure safety for all.

Please join me, as so many of you have at 10:45am Sunday for our Mass. The Link for the Live Stream is below.

Click [HERE](#) to Live Stream our 10:45am Mass

Music for this week's Mass 5/17/20

In This Place	#309
Psalm 66: Let all the earth cry out, cry out to God with joy.	
Preparation: Prayer of St. Francis	#525
Communion: We Have Been Told	#507
Sending Forth: Let There Be Peace On Earth	#528

Resuming Sacraments of Confession and Baptism

CONFESSIONS

This Saturday, May 16 I will resume Confessions at 10:30 am.

I will wear a mask and ask that you do the same.

If the weather is comfortable I will be outside in the piazza.

If weather is not favorable to outside -

- I will sit in a pew near the Baptism Font
- Penitent will sit in a chair
- Those waiting in line stay in the lobby until you turn
- Leave church after Confession

BAPTISMS

There are 31 awaiting Baptism and I can have only 1 family at a time. Maximum to attend is 9 people.

I will wear a mask when close to the child and parent who holds child should have a mask. Others who attend are encouraged to wear a mask.

At this time I can schedule a Baptism only through the month of June. Often Baptisms were at 10 am Saturdays, but there are few Saturdays available.

I can have Baptisms at other times. I suggest 4pm or 5pm on weekdays. Families can email me

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.

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.

Picture of the Week



Three New Angels

Reflection

From the Pastor - I could not find a reflection this week. However, Pope Benedict wrote a long encyclical letter on the subject of Hope. Here is an outline of that letter. I am thinking about Hope because in these times we are in need of it and St Peter's Epistle this week has this thought: ' Always be ready to give a reason for your hope.'

Spe Salvi

(Saved in Hope), promulgated on November 30, 2007, is Pope Benedict XVI's second encyclical letter. It takes its name from Romans 8:24, *Spe salvi facti sumus* (in hope we were saved) and reflects on the theological virtue of hope.

The introduction links the Christian concept of hope to redemption through Jesus Christ. Articles 2-31 present a theological treatise with interspersed historical examples to highlight applications to the Christian's daily life. Articles 32-48 describe a series of contrasts to define Christ's role in and for society and its implications for Christians. Engaging in dialogue with philosopher, theologians, and political activists who have shaped history and promised mere immanent hope, Benedict notes that early Christian sarcophagi representations of Jesus as philosopher and shepherd illustrate that Christian hope extends beyond life on earth.

The encyclical closes with the chapter "Mary, Star of Hope".

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.

Click [here](#) for online spiritual resources.

StMM School News

Congratulations, 8th Graders!

Congratulations to our Monarch class of 2020! Today is their last day of virtual instruction. We will celebrate a virtual Baccalaureate Mass in their honor on Wednesday, May 20th at 4:00pm. Our first-ever virtual Promotion Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 21st at 4:00pm. All are invited to view these events via the StMM Church Live YouTube channel: [click here for link to YouTube channel](#). Please keep these students in your prayers as they prepare to say good-bye to their StMM School community and venture off into the new world of high school.

StMM June Summer Camps Cancelled

It is with a heavy heart that we have chosen to cancel all 2020 summer camp programs for the month of June. Participating families will receive a full refund. We continue to ask for your patience during this process.

Commemorative Brick Order



Due to the current Stay-at-Home order, Commemorative Bricks will not be installed this April as expected. The deadline will be extended until May 30th and the bricks will hopefully go in sometime in the summer. We will communicate when they are installed, thank you for your patience.

Upcoming Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a blood drive at STMM on June 4th from 11-4. The Mobile unit will set up near the entrance to the school. The Blood Connection is proud to offer COVID-19 Antibody testing at no cost to the donor. This is a new service that The Blood Connection will be providing to all donors. Help save lives by donating. Signup Link Coming Soon.

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 six weekends, we have served over 3,000 dinners in total to Apex residents who are in need, and have distributed over 300 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!

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, Janine at janine.mcgann@gmail.com or Liz at liz.sams@gmail.com.



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