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St. Mary Magdalene E-News

May 22, 2020

A Note From Father Donald Staib

Our Bishop has sent an updated letter regarding public Masses. The letter is printed on our web page.

At StMM we will again this weekend [May 24] have Mass as we did last week. We invite you to view the 10:45 Mass on live-stream and then come for Communion after Mass. We will do the same on May 31 and then evaluate what we can do after that.

I am grateful to all who have organized the procedures for Communion.

Many congratulations to the 83 8th grade graduates of our school. This our 20th graduating class. May the Lord bless them and their families as they continue to grow in knowledge and goodness.

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.

On this Memorial Day weekend we remember in prayer all who have served our country and died in service. We also pray that leaders of the world may find ways to peace among all nations.

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

Donate
to Offertory

Our 10:45am Mass is Live Streamed!

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

Music for this week's Mass 5/24/20

This is My Song	#733
Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid? Of whom should I be afraid?	
Preparation: Amazing Grace	#432
Communion: Come to the Lord	
Sending Forth: America the Beautiful	#731

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 Sunday, May 24th is to continue live streaming the 10:45am Mass and on our YouTube channel. This week we also invite to you come to the church after the 10:45 Mass to receive Communion. This will begin about 11:45.

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, probably until 12:15 or so

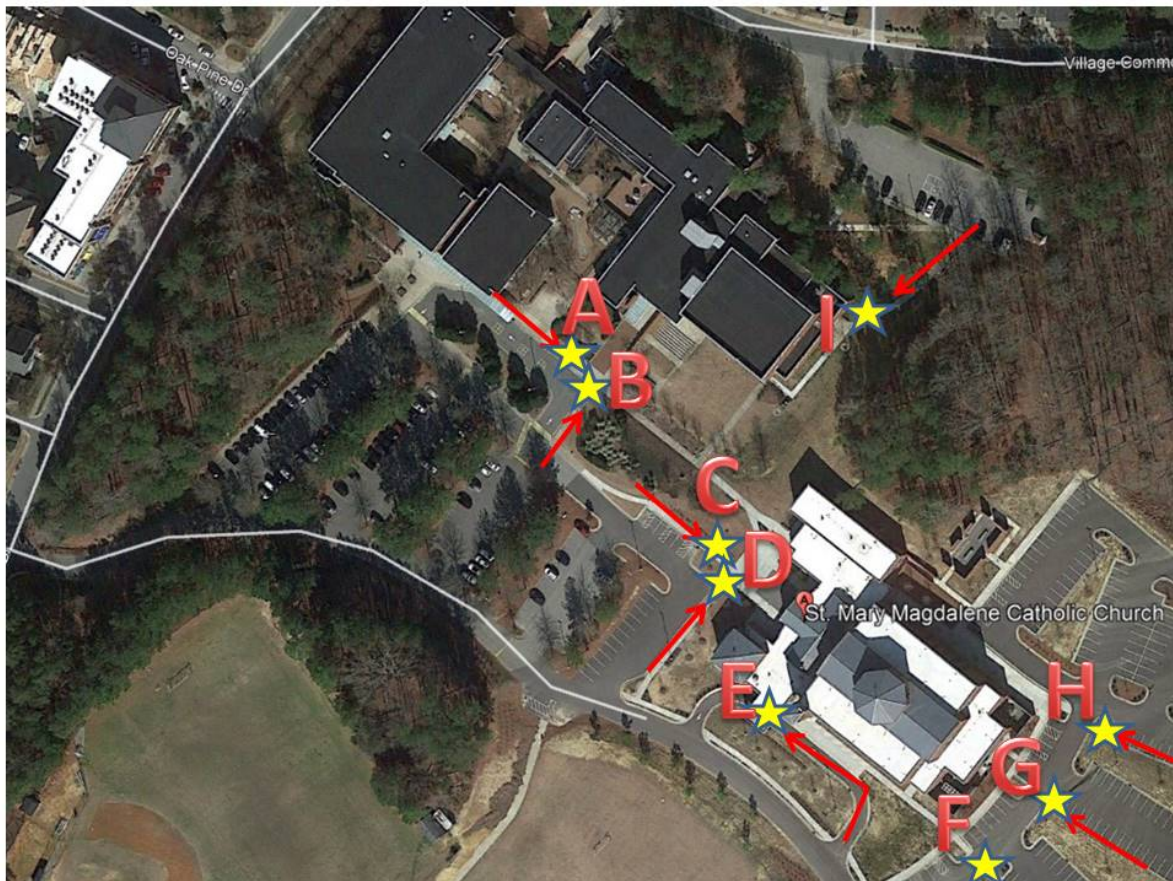
Extraordinary Ministers will be located in different locations to distribute Communion. There will be 10 stations located around the church & school property (please see the map which has the marked spots and the flow for foot traffic)

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 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 receiving 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.
8. Because of Father Staib's age he is advised not to distribute Communion to large crowds

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



Stations for Communion

Resuming Sacraments of Confession and Baptism

CONFESSIONS

This Saturday, May 23 there will be 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. There are no Saturday opportunities available; we have 2 couples striving to arrange a wedding in June.

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



Distribution of Communion

Reflection

Jesus tells the disciples to, "Wait for the promise of the Father." They cannot go off spreading the news of his resurrection on their own. They are a small, fearful community that has no power on its own and, as the Gospels showed, they have a tendency to get Jesus' message all wrong. What's more, they flee when things get tough. On their own they will be misguided, perhaps engage in ways that are not of Jesus.

Haven't we church people made some pretty big mistakes in our history about his message and ways? There are the accounts of our promoting our religion by forced baptisms and by trampling over the dignity and cultures of whole civilizations. We, like the original disciples, have been cowardly when courage was required, even merciless when love and compassion was what Jesus would have wanted. - Father Jude Siciliano, OP

Letter from Bishop Zarama

Dear Brother Priests,

This is both an exciting and anxious time as we can now see more opportunities to be closer to our Lord through the Sacraments. Like all of you, I appreciate the recent legal clarification which noted that the statewide coronavirus restrictions were applied unequally to worship services. While the religious liberty challenge has been overcome, challenges remain in how we will balance our need for the Sacraments with the need to protect public health.

I ask again as we begin to adapt to these "phases" of public interaction that we continue to do so with patience and humility. We cannot assume that because there are no public health restrictions on worship services that there are no public health risks.

For a great many in our diocese a return to Mass in any form will not be prudent for health reasons, nor practical because of social distancing. I encourage the continued livestreaming of Masses for all parishes who are currently doing so.

I will continue to waive the obligation of the faithful to attend Sunday Mass. I also entrust to each of you as pastors the ability to prudently adapt how best to serve your parishioners and return to offering the Sacraments while maintaining charity and respect for the health of others.

As we begin to explore offering Sacraments as well as prayer and adoration in our churches as outlined in the following, we will do so following existing community health guidance. We will also be respectful and reverent to the Sacraments as we adhere to that health guidance.

Please pray for each other, especially for those who are ill or afraid.

Please pray for healthcare professionals and for all those whose daily lives are impacted by this situation.

Please also pray that our actions reflect to others the goodness of God and that together we can give His strength to all those who are suffering and burdened by this situation.

In Christ,

† Luis Rafael Zarama, J.C.L.

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

StMM Last Week of the School Year

StMM School will not be in session on Monday, May 25th to observe the Memorial Day holiday. Enjoy your day off, students! Virtual classes will resume on Tuesday, May 26th. Our school year will end, as originally scheduled, on Friday, May 29th.

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.

Discipleship Quad Information Meeting

DISCIPLESHIP QUAD INFORMATION MEETING: Quarantine is a perfect time to start a Discipleship Quad. Not sure what that is? Join Joe and Laura Werner on **June 2 at 7:30pm** and find out. You will learn how you can journey in a group of four for several months, grow in the knowledge of our Catholic faith, and be fully formed into the disciple for Christ and His Church that the world so desperately needs. Become a witness. Encounter him in scripture, study, and close fellowship. It is a beautiful trip.

Join the Zoom Meeting here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/74063747706>

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!

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



Collection Bins are located by the covered driveway at the Church

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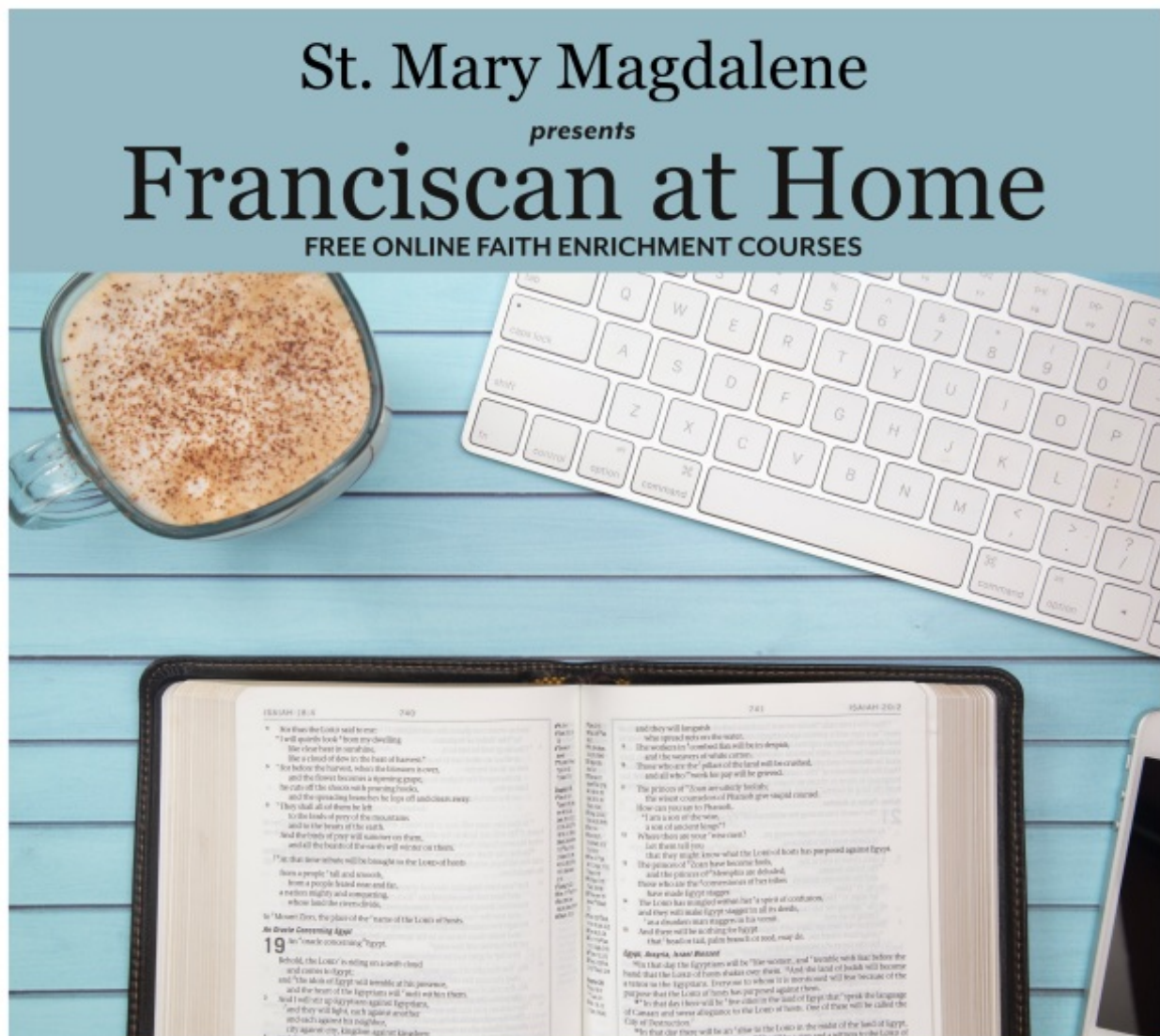
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St. Mary Magdalene Parish Code: ff3f1

Franciscan at Home

OPPORTUNITY FOR FREE ONLINE FAITH ENRICHMENT: Finding yourself with a lot of free time on your hands? Missing Mass and growing in your faith life? Consider this self-paced online faith enrichment classes available at franciscanathome.com. Our parish has generously covered the cost so

that our parishioners can enjoy them for free. So way are you waiting for?? Take one class or more: pursue a certification in one of many options. Start at any time!! Details below. Email Laura Werner at steubenvillemissionNC@gmail.com with questions.



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