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St. Mary Magdalene E-News August 2, 2019

A Note From Father Donald Staib

A note for anyone who is considering becoming a Catholic through our RCIA program. Also it may be appropriate to invite a friend or family member to consider entering this process that culminates at the Easter Vigil and reception into our church. There is a note inside the bulleting with additional information.

Today we have a guest priest - it is my nephew Father Michael Letteer who is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in New Oxford, PA. I asked him to preach today as he is visiting at this time. Father Michael talked a few years ago to us about his teaching in Ukraine. This time I asked him to talk about his missions with the sick to the shrine of Lourdes in France.

All of us know people who are sick and the worries that can bring to our family lives. We keep all the sick in our prayers.

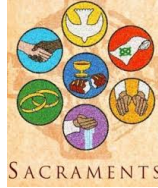
CONFESSIONS: There will be Confessions on Saturday August 3 10:30, after Baptisms. Also there will be Confessions on Saturday August 10, after Baptisms.

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

The Story of Our Lady of Lourdes in France

On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bernadette was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. Bernadette could pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Creed.

During interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm."

Through that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the devotion of Our Lady of Lourdes. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907.

Financial Matters

OUR NEW CHURCH - We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 14 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)

Parish Religious Education Program

Feeling Called to Share Our Faith? We Need YOU! Catechists/Core Team are Needed for the upcoming school Year. There are many opportunities for you to become involved with the children of our STMM Community. Joining this ministry is a great way to enhance your prayer life and enjoy the fruits of fellowship. There will be an adult, on-site retreat offered on site in

September to prepare you for our mission. Please prayerfully consider joining our amazing team. Requirements include:

- being a baptized Catholic in good standing with the Church
- a willingness to serve 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours per week to a specific grade either Sunday afternoon 12:00 - 1:15 pm, Tuesday evenings 5:00 - 6:15 pm or Wednesday nights 6:30 - 7:45 pm
- Level C Safe Environment approved (which we provide the class here on campus).

Positions Available:

- Teacher/Assistant Teacher/Catechist PREP Grades Pre-K - 4
- Small Group Leader (by gender) the ROCK - Grades 5 - 6
- AV Person - the ROCK
- Door Monitors - grant access to lobby using Lobby Guard
- Social Media Person - keeps program participants apprised of program events via Twitter, Instagram & Facebook with info provided by Coordinator



Registration is Open for 2019-20 Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) on www.stmm.church. Registration will run until August 31st. Our programs begin the week of September 22. For a complete description of this program go to www.stmm.church, please select "Religious Education", select "Elementary." You will see the links to specific information on the column to the right as well as registration instructions by clicking "Parish Religious Education Online Registration Instructions."



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - Registration is opens and runs through August 31st on www.stmm.church Program begins the week of September 22, 2019. This is a Montessori based catechetical program offered in levels of mixed grade groups. Each session is capped at ten students per class. Students must be age appropriate by August 31st each year. Sessions will take place in the Atrium (old chapel) in the Activities Building. Programs runs from late September through April/early May depending on the Feast of Pentecost each liturgical year. For more information about this second Religious Education Program option, please visit <http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/catechesis.cfm>



New for 2019-20 "THE ROCK" (Reaching Out for Christ). A new youth group for 5th/6th grade. The ROCK will meet on Sundays from 12:00-1:15 pm right after 10:45 mass in the Narthex of the Church. It will have a similar flavor to our other relational ministry youth groups. Register online at www.stmm.church

FOCUS Missionary

SUPPORT A FOCUS MISSIONARY

FELLOW PARISHONER OF STMM



WHAT IS FOCUS?

FOCUS (**Fellowship Of Catholic University Students**) is a Catholic collegiate outreach whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the Gospel with college and university students. Trained in the Church's teaching, prayer, sacred Scripture, evangelization and discipleship, FOCUS missionaries encounter students in authentic friendship, invite them into personal relationship with Jesus Christ and accompany them as they pursue a life of virtue and excellence. Through Bible Study, outreach events, conferences, mission trips, and one-on-one discipleship, missionaries help students encounter Christ, encourage and build students in the faith, and send them out to spread the Good News and live out the Great Commission: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations (Mt 28:19)."

ELIZABETH RAY

I would love to meet you and explain more about the vision of FOCUS, the impact FOCUS had on my college experience and what I will be doing as a FOCUS missionary. Please reach out to me to learn how you can get involved with the mission!



*The need is **great**. 80% of practicing Catholic go to college and leave the faith before graduating and only 20% return to the faith. The Church needs people on the college campus who can help students live out their faith and take it to the workplace*



MEET MY TEAM

The next year we will be serving the students at CCU - Coastal Carolina University in Conway, SC!

Without support, spiritually and financially, from our brothers and sisters in Christ we cannot embark on this mission. Please prayerfully consider supporting a FOCUS missionary.

Phone: (919)745-7317 E-Mail: elizabeth.ray@focus.org Website: focus.org/missionaries/elizabeth-ray

RCIA

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but not confirmed? We can help! The **RCIA** process at StMM assisted 8 adults in completing their sacraments of initiation at the 2019 Easter Vigil Mass. 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.net with any questions.

Inquiry Sessions will be after Sunday Masses on August 4 in Room #1 and August 26 in Room #4 at 7:30pm. We will be available for any questions you may have about the RCIA process.

Safe Environment Training



location.

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 sessions are Sun, 8/25 at noon; Thurs, 8/29 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

Out of the Darkness Walk

Out of the Darkness Walk (American Foundation of Suicide Prevention) - When you walk with us, you join with hundreds of people from our community to raise awareness and funds that allow the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss. Most of the funds raised are used here in North Carolina. The walk is September 29th at 1 pm in Fuquay-Varina. For questions or more information on how you can walk with my team, contact Mike Rota at mikerota2018@gmail.com. To donate to my team (Susie's Vintage Monarchs - NC Team) or form your own team, you can visit the walk website: <https://afsp.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=5961>.

Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit

"Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit" - Are you interested in experiencing more fully, the power of the Holy Spirit? A group of parishioners has come together to offer a one day workshop on living in the power of the Holy Spirit. As we are in the planning stages, we are asking you to consider joining us on a yet-to-be scheduled Saturday. The date and location will be determined based on interest. This day is about renewing our Christian faith through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is about seeking a new intimacy with Jesus and the fullness of the Holy Spirit, so that we can be and bring God's presence to the people and circumstances of our lives. If you have never said yes to Jesus' offer to have a relationship with you, this is an opportunity to do so, as well as seek to experience the fullness of his Holy Spirit. If you have said yes to Jesus' offer to have a relationship with him, but that relationship has grown distant, this is an opportunity to renew that relationship and also seek to experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Please contact Art Klaum artklaum61@gmail.com or Ronda Watts rondatroywatts@gmail.com to express your interest.

Extraordinary Minister Training



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the Sacred Liturgy Training date is set for Sunday, August 25th from 2p-4p in Church Room 4. Use the entrance behind the statue of Jonah on the piazza. Contact Lisa at lisa.westberg@duke-energy.com by Friday, August 23rd, if attending.

Boy Scout Troop 224



Interested in Joining Boy Scouts? Boys grades 6 - 12 are encouraged to join Boy Scouts of America, Troop 224. We meet every Tuesday at 7 - 8:30 pm at STMM Room #201. We go camping, white water rafting, hiking, etc monthly. If interested please contact Chris Vardis, cvardis11@gmail.com

"Prayers & Squares"



"Prayers & Squares" A prayer quilt group - We are literally covering people in prayer. A prayer quilt is a lap blanket with ties. A prayer is said with each knot that is tied. All quilts are blessed by Father Staib. To request a prayer quilt to be made for someone or if you are interested in sewing for this group or donating fabric or would like to make contributions to this group, please contact Lorraine Morris at lcmorris0707@gmail.com

Gardening Work Group



Seeking parishioners to participate in a gardening work group. Group will focus on enhancing the parish landscape through seasonal workdays and landscape enhancement projects. No prior gardening experience necessary, just an interest in enjoying time with fellow parishioners while enhancing the natural beauty of the Saint Mary Magdalene Campus. If you are interested, please contact Karen Clemmer at kclemmer4@gmail.com.

Commemorative Brick Order



COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS-Commemorative bricks line the walkway to our Activity Building. St. Mary Magdalene Church will be placing a brick order in the fall. Engraved bricks are \$100. Our deadline is October 4th. Order forms are in the church office or <http://www.stmmchurch/giving/>. Commemorate a First Communion, a Graduation, or remember a loved one with an engraved brick.

Family Rosary Group



St. Mary Magdalene Rosary - "The family that prays together stays together." The Knight of Columbus would like to invite all StMM parishioners to join us for the Rosary on Thursdays at 7pm. Every one of all ages is invited. Rosaries and prayer guides are provided by the Knights of Columbus. Saint John Paul II said: "The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and theologically rich in Biblical Content. I beg you to pray it." Contact Joe Sebik for more information at 704-906-3569.

Parish Athletics Fall Sports

Fall Soccer (Apex-Cary)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (3 year-olds) to 8th.

Dates: August - October.

Practice Locations: Apex or Cary, you pick.

Game Locations: Apex & Cary.

Cost: Pre-K - \$60; K - 5th Grade - \$65; includes medal, shirt, and picnic.

Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays.

K- 8th graders have one weekday practice and weekend games.

Fall Baseball (Apex)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4 year-olds) to 4th.

Dates: September - October.

Game Locations: Apex.

Cost: \$65; includes medal, shirt, and picnic.

Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays.

K - 4th graders have one weekday practice and weekend games.

Fall Flag Football (Apex-Cary)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4 year-olds) to 5th.

Dates: September - November.

Game Locations: Apex or Cary.

Cost: Pre-K, \$55; K - 5th Grade, \$60 includes medal, shirt, picnic

Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners - 5th graders have one weekday practice per week and games on Friday nights.

Fall Softcrosse (Apex)

Ages: K - 2nd Grade & 3rd - 5th Grade.

Dates: Sundays Sept 8 - Oct 13 (six weeks)

K-2: 2 - 3pm

3-5: 3 - 4pm

Age groups will practice together and scrimmage for an hour each.

Cost: \$65

Details: Softcrosse is designed for beginners to intermediate players who want to learn the fundamentals of Lacrosse with a focus on stick skills.

Equipment: stick and mouthguard

Register at www.parishathleticsnc.org
