

St. Mary
Magdalene
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Mary Magdalene E-News December 15, 2017

A Note From Father Donald Staib

On the tables in the lobby are forms, gold in color, you can use to offer your service on our Parish Council. Take one and reflect on yourself as a possible candidate. Drop the form in the collection basket.

Confessions: There will be Confessions on Saturday, December 16 at 10:30am. No Confessions on Saturday December 23.

In the pews and on the round tables in the Narthex are envelopes that we have used at Christmas time to help with expenses for flowers and decorations for Christmas and other times of the year.

We will list the donor names in our Christmas bulletin.

Please return the envelopes by December 19th.

The Advent Penance Services are:

December 20, Wednesday - St Bernadette, Fuquay Varina - 11 am

December 20, Wednesday - Holy Name Cathedral - 7 pm

December 21, Thursday - St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene at St Andrew - 7 pm

Thank you to those who are already making significant gifts at Christmas time to help pay for the new church. We are most grateful.

Father Donald Staib

donfs22@aol.com

St. Mary Magdalene E-News

Advent - Christmas Schedule for 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 - 5 pm Mass - Pastor will preside

Sunday, December 24 - 9 am Mass - Msgr. John Wall will preside

Sunday, December 24 - 10:45 Mass - Msgr. Gerald Lewis will preside

CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 24 - Masses at 3 pm - 5 pm - 9 pm

[Church will open at 2 pm.]

[3 pm Mass is usually uncomfortably crowded; best to choose another.

Monday, December 25 - Mass at 10 am

No morning Masses on Dec. 26 and 27

StMM campus is totally closed

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Monday, January 1, 2018 - Mass at 10 am

Now That The New Church Is Completed!

We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 15 years - and we are challenged to respond to new parish endeavors brought about by our new building.

In November the Pastor, Parish Council Chair, and Finance Council Chair were asked to meet with the Diocesan Finance Committee and Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama about our long term loan.

Our 15 year Finance Plan is healthy, but right now we are short a considerable amount of cash - near \$1 million. We asked the Diocese for a short term bridge loan until pledge money comes in and new gifts are made from our monthly 'White Envelope.'

The process of building our church was exciting and memorable. In contrast, the process of paying debts is tiresome and tedious. The on-going generosity of our parish members will make our payments a bearable task.

In your Christmas gift planning please consider a generous gift to the parish for the new church and for our on-going parish programs. Sometime during 2018 we will begin the process of installing a Memory Wall of those who gave at the \$5,000 level we requested when we began to discern whether we could accomplish our construction task.

DONATE NOW To OUR NEW CHURCH

(Click on the above link to Donate)

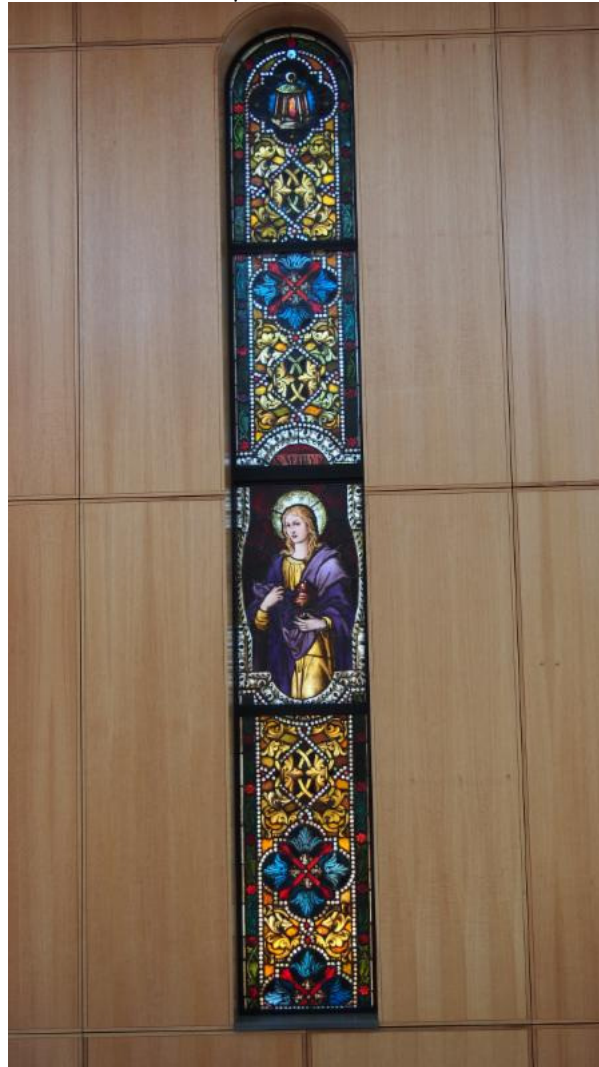
Reflection

"Who will be a witness to Christ?" - all of us baptized should raise our hands. But to give witness means we have first witnessed the events we are giving testimony to. What kind of witness shall we be? It depends on how well we have come to personally know Jesus. Where and how do we see and hear him in our lives? We experience him today in the Word and Sacrament; and in the teachings of our church; in our faith community; among the poor and outcast. As Christmas draws closer and we hear the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt we are reminded that Christ is also found among displaced refugees and exiles. We also meet the Word in the world of nature, the arts and in our quiet times of prayer. In these and many other places, the light pierces the

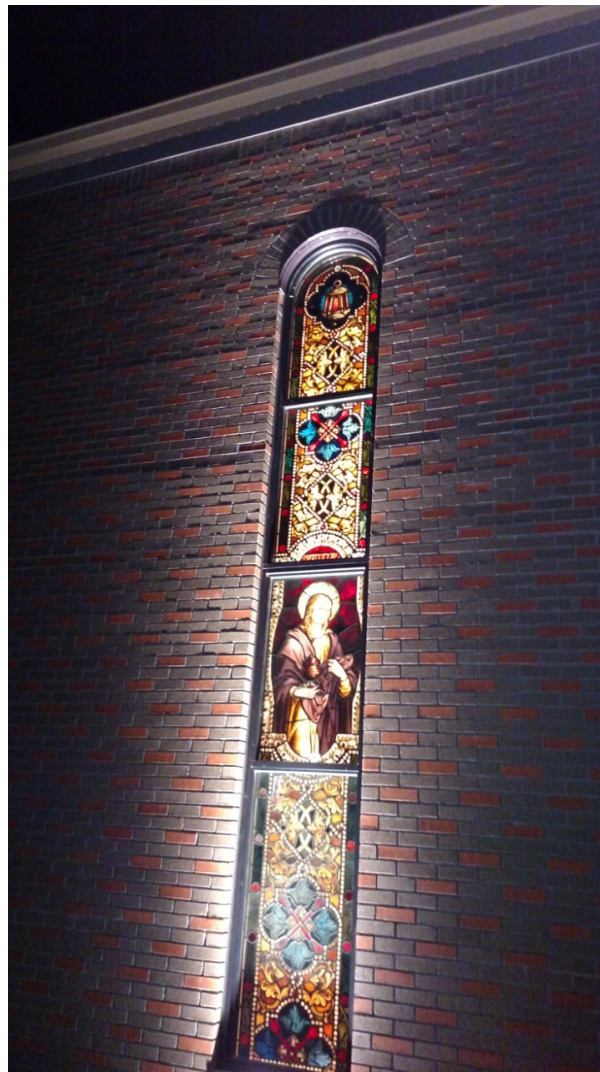
darkness of our world. Like John, we are then to be voices that prepare for the coming of Christ -
Father Jude Siciliano

Pictures of the Week

The St. Mary Magdalene stained glass window was placed in the Chapel this week. Stop by to see it when you come for Mass!



View of window from outside the Chapel.



The Angel Tree



The Angel Tree - If you removed a tag from the Angel Tree in the lobby please attach the ornament to the gift/food/contribution to help us track all donations. Feel free to wrap or bag gifts for the children (star tags only). No other gifts should be wrapped.

All contributions should be placed under the tree no later than 12 noon this Sunday, December 17th.

End Of Year Donations



Stock or Cash End of Year Donations - Tax Deductible in 2017-Please consider paying off your pledge or making double payments in November or December 2017. Charitable donations made by December 31st can be claimed on your 2017 taxes so long as your check is dated and mailed by December 31, 2017. There is still time to donate stock and it's easy. Use this link [STOCK FORM](#) to download the stock donation form.

Your 2017 annual giving statement from St. Mary Magdalene will reflect these payments. Questions, email sally.cortina@raldioc.org.

Daytime Bible Study



StMM Daytime Bible Study-We will be studying St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians from Ascension Press on Tuesdays from 1-3pm in the Church Meeting Room #1. The study will run from Jan. 23rd thru March 20th. Please consider joining our great group! Cost is \$25. Contact Laurie Wendt at 919-669-9455, lauriewendt@gmail.com.

Habitat for Humanity



Habitat for Humanity-StMM has joined a coalition of churches for a Habitat for Humanity building project in Fuquay-Varina. Volunteers from our parish are needed to help with construction starting in January. For more information contact Frank Agius at ftagius@gmail.com or 919-604-2106.

Family Promise



STMM will support **Family Promise** by volunteering time and donating items to homeless families that will be housed at St. Andrews January 14-20. Please stop by tables in the lobby the weekend of December 30-31 to select your volunteer activity or item for donation. We could not do this without you, and need many volunteers for each day and night. Family Promise is a county-wide program that provides support to pre-screened homeless families as they transition into permanent housing <http://www.familypromisewake.org/>. **Reminder-All donations are dropped off at St. Andrew's.**

Thanks to those that donated money to cover unexpected expenses at the Raleigh facilities due to water pump failure and structural damage due to a fallen tree! Family Promise received sufficient donations and was able to make the necessary repairs. Contact Mary Wire at 919-749-8932 or mbwire@gmail.com with questions.

'Knight's Corner'



The Knights will be selling limited-edition **StMM Commemorative Christmas Ornaments** before and after all Masses in the Narthex. Purchase yours while supplies last! All proceeds to benefit our new church.



Come enjoy breakfast with friends and family, expertly prepared by the Knights. Our next two breakfasts will be this Sunday, December 10th & Sunday, January 14th following the 9am & 10:45am Masses in the Activity Building. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Meal includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, choice of bacon, ham or sausage, along with coffee, milk and orange juice. All proceeds to benefit the new church.



Become a Knight! Faith, Family and Fraternity...These words make up the foundation upon which the Knights of Columbus stands. The efforts of our local Council 7186 support the St. Mary Magdalene community as well as communities around the world. Males who are 18 years of age or older and who are practicing Catholics are eligible to

join. For information about this sponsored organization, please visit www.kofc7186.org or contact Michael Erpenbach at mike@erpenbach.com.

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