

St. Mary Magdalene E-News December 24, 2021

A Note from Father Chris

For behold a child is born! Christmas is here!

The Eucharistic ministers, ushers, lectors, technology techs, and the choir are ready. Thank you for all the preparations. Much love to all our volunteers that beautifully decorated the church.

Remember with Christmas being on Saturday this year, we get to wear some of our presents and come right back to church on Sunday.

From the ministers and staff of St. Mary Magdalene we proclaim to you that:

God sent his only Son to bring eternal hope, Abiding peace, And everlasting love!

Merry Christmas!!

Fr. Chris



Giving Portal

The Parish has purchased books by Matthew Kelly as a gift for parishioners. Please accept and enjoy your book when you attend Christmas or Christmas Eve masses this weekend.

December 24 - January 3 - Parish Office closed for holidays

December 24 - No Daily Mass

December 24 - Christmas Eve 4pm live streamed, 7pm, 9pm Mass

December 25 - Christmas Day 10am Masslive streamed

December 25 - No Confessions

December 25 - No 5pm Mass

December 26 - 9am & 11am Mass

December 27 - 30 - No Daily Mass

December 31 - Daily Mass 9am

January 1 - Solemnity of Mary - 10am Mass

January 1 - No Confessions

January 1 - 5pm Mass

January 2 - 9am & 11am Mass

January 3 - Daily Mass 9am

January 4 - Eucharistic Holy Hour 7pm Church

• The Parish Office will be closed due to construction from December 15 - January 10. Please contact staff by email or phone.

Take this opportunity to consider donating flowers to St. Mary Magdalene to beautify the altar and church for weekly Mass to honor our Lord. These flowers will be donated in honor of or in memory of your loved one. Click here and take the easy steps to choose partial or full donation and send payment before your donation date. Your donation will be acknowledged in the bulletin. For questions, please contact floralministry@stmm.net

The Parish Office
will be under construction
from 12/15/21 - 1/10/22
The Staff will be working
remotely and can be reached
via email or
phone (919) 657-4800

Parish Council Nominations

Parishioners considering serving on the parish council are invited to email their contact information to the parish office at info@stmm.net through January 3rd. The parish council meets monthly and members serve for a term of 3 years.

Christmas Masses

Click HERE to Live Stream our 4pm Christmas Eve or 10am Christmas Day Mass

Music for Christmas Mass

Gathering: O Come, All Ye Faithful 92

Christmas Eve - Psalm: 89 Forever I will sing, the goodness of the lord.

Christmas Day - Psalm: 98 The Lord has revealed to the nations, saving power, saving power, saving power.

Preparation: Away in a Manger 90

Communion 1: O Little Town of Bethlehem 87

Communion 2: Angels We Have Heard on High 82

Communion 3: Silent Night 81 Communion 4: The First Nowell 108 Sending Forth: Joy to the World 80

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Outdoor Communion after 10am Christmas Mass

There will be two stations available outside in the drive thru at the portico for communion following the 9:00 am Mass for those at-risk and those receiving gluten free hosts.

Mass This Weekend

Click **HERE** to Live Stream our 9am Sunday Mass

Music for this weekend's Mass

Gathering: Angels We Have Heard on High 82

Psalm: 84 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord God of hosts

Preparation: Away in a Manger 90

Communion 1: Child of the Poor/What Child is This? 93/94

Communion 2: Hark the Herald Angels Sing 91 Communion 3: O Little Town Of Bethlehem 87 Sending Forth: Go Tell it on the Mountain

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Outdoor Communion after 9am Sunday Mass only

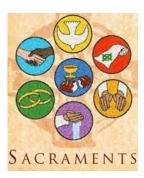
There will be two stations available outside in the drive thru at the portico for communion following the 9:00 am Mass for those at-risk and those receiving gluten free hosts.

Sacraments

BAPTISMS - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email the Church Office, <u>info@stmm.net</u>. First time parents must attend a baptism class. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

CONFESSIONS - Confessions are usually, but not every week, at 10:30am on Saturdays in the Church. See "Upcoming Events" section for schedule.

WEDDINGS - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email weddings@stmm.net



Picture of the Week



Christmas Week Schedule



Christmas Eve - No daily Mass

Christmas Eve Masses 4pm (Children's Mass) <u>live streamed</u>, 7pm, and 9pm Christmas Day Mass 10am <u>live streamed</u>, no 5pm Mass

December 26 - 9am and 11am Mass

No daily Mass 12/27 - 12/30

December 31 - Daily Mass 9am

January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, 10am Mass

January 1 - 5pm Mass

January 2 - 9am and 11am Mass

Christmas Message from Seminarian John

Merry Christmas to everyone, joy be to God on high for he has given us all a Savior! As you may have noticed I am currently not around St. Mary Magdalene. I am currently at my home in Wilmington, NC where I am with my family. I can say that while I am overjoyed to be with my parents and siblings, there is a part of my heart that aches to be with my new family in Apex. Please know that I am praying for you all, and I look forward to seeing you all again in the new year. Again I will say rejoice, as we prepare to welcome Christ in a real way into all of our households. Merry Christmas and God bless!

The StMM Prayer Team

StMM Prayer Team

Merry Christmas to one and all! Our team of Prayer Warriors are always here whenever prayers are needed.



Join the Prayer Team

Our goal is to help cultivate StMM as a parish of prayer, and whether you are new to prayer or have been devout for decades -- you are most welcome here!

Request Prayers

We would be delighted to lift your prayers in great faith, however big or small!

Prayer intentions can be sent to our team at any time via the Request Prayers link, by email, or hand-written prayers are gathered each week from the Prayer Collection Bowl located at the Welcome & Connect kiosk in the StMM Church Narthex.

StMMPrayerTeam@stmm.net

Faith Formation









Questions: Please contact Suzanne Will atwill@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7820

StMM High School Youth Ministry



Registration is now open for our girls high school retreat! This retreat is open to girls in 9th-12th grade and will be held Friday, January 14th, 2022 to Sunday, January 16th, 2022 in New Hill, NC at Trinity Tree Farm (Janine McGann's home). Cost is \$75.00 per girl. It is an amazing opportunity for girls to create community, build up sisterhood, spend the weekend in their pajamas/soft clothes and get away from the everyday stresses of high school life. Girls from any church/denomination may attend this retreat!! Spots are limited to 20 girls. The retreat includes watching & discussing the documentary film created by Project Light Ministries titled "Speaking to Sparrows." You can watch the trailer at this link:

https://vimeo.com/ondemand/285613/375004355?autoplay=1

Please make sure you review the COVID protocols on the retreat registration form.

You can download a retreat form at this link: http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm. Hard copies are also available in the church lobby on Sundays. Please contact Liz Sams at liz.sams@gmail.com with any questions about this retreat.

Registration is now open for our Winter High School Retreat!: This retreat is open to guys and girls in 9th-12th grade and will be held Saturday, February 12th, 2022 to Sunday, February 13th, 2022. We'll be going to Camp Caraway in Asheboro, NC with our guest retreat host Joe Farris & worship leader Rita West! High School teens from any church/denomination may attend this retreat. Our retreats include time for fun, prayer, games, discussions in large and small groups, awesome worship time led by Rita West, & time for teens to forge new friendships. We are so excited to bring back our weekend retreats & strongly encourage as many teens to come as possible! Spots on the bus are limited to 54 teens and are filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Please make sure you review the COVID protocols on the retreat registration form.

You can download a retreat form at this link: http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/highschool.cfm Hard copies are also available in the church lobby on Sundays. Please contact Caitlin Clendenin at clendenin@stmm.net with any questions about this retreat.



Link to register: https://secure.accessacs.com/access/eventlogin.aspx?

id=HMcq3BzSb96rqf+MLQNDnA==&site=102397&ReturnUrl=events%2fwz_people.aspx&ChurchID=1554&EventID=214380&sn=102397

For more information about Confirmation, click here: http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/way.cfm

Questions:

For **EDGE**, contact Liz Sams at liz.sams@gmail.com

For Apostello, the Way, and Confirmation, contact Caitlin Clendenin at clendenin@stmm.net

Eucharistic Holy Hour First and Third Tuesdays



The 1st Tuesday of each month, please join Deacon Dev from 7-8pm as we spend an hour with our Lord devoted to meditation in a spirit of Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication (ACTS). We will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and close with Benediction. Handouts will be available so everyone can participate fully.

The 3rd Tuesday of each month, please join Deacon Rick and your fellow parishioners for an Eucharistic Holy Hour from 7-8 pm. We will gather in the Church and begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by praying the Vespers together as a group. For those of you unfamiliar, the Vespers are part of the Divine Office (Liturgy of the Hours) and represent the official prayers of the Church. After evening prayer, we will continue with Adoration and Benediction. Handouts will be available so everyone can participate fully.

Next Holy Hour Tuesday, January 4th 7-8pm

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday January 7th from 9:30am - 7pm. All are encouraged to pay a visit to the church throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord? We have a particular need from 4-5pm.

Please contact Anita Becker at <u>ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM</u> or 919-280-8931 if interested.



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Saturday January 8th 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. in the school parking lot. Sign up link

https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive schedule/182199

Sign up and reserve a time.

Adult Confirmation Prep and Catholic Faith Refresher

Adult Confirmation and Catholic Faith Refresher Sessions Forming!!

Have you been baptized and received first Holy Communion but have yet to be confirmed? Is it something you've always wanted to get around to but haven't found the time or didn't know how to go about it?

Are you an inquiring Catholic who feels like you've missed out on some key doctrines of the Church? Or maybe feel the need to be refreshed and reinvigorated? Then these sessions would be perfect for you as well.

Group sessions beginning Wednesday, January 5th and running for six consecutive Wednesdays 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

If interested, please contact Deacon Rick by phone at 908-910-0309 or by e-mail at Stevens@stmm.net.

RCIA

Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic? Are you wanting to participate fully in the sacraments instituted by Christ? Are you a baptized Christian and desiring to receive the Eucharist and Confirmation? The next module of the RCIA process at StMM is starting on January 31, 2022. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Please contact Kathy and Scott Strednak at rcia@stmm.me and let's have a conversation. We can help you start the process. Be assured by Christ's very own words: "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you".



StMM Night with the Carolina Hurricanes!

Come hang out with your StMM parish family for a night filled with fellowship and fun as we cheer on our Carolina Hurricanes. For GREAT prices on tickets and more details click here: http://canesgroups.com/magdelene

If you have any questions email Janine McGann atmcgann@stmm.net

Can't wait to see you there!



Join everyone from St. Mary's Magdalene at

PNC Arena on Friday, February 25th at 7PM as the Canes take on the Columbus Blue Jackets!

All school and church members, as well as their family and friends are invited to join and take advantage of this exclusive ticket discount for the game!

For any questions or group seating of 10 or more, please contact:

Mack Stewart

Group Event & Suite Sales – Carolina Hurricanes MackS@CarolinaHurricanes.com | (919) 861-5458

StMM School News

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School will be closed for Christmas break Monday, December 20th - Monday, January 3rd. We will welcome students back on campus on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and happiness in the New Year!

Wrapping Paper Tubes Needed

Finished with your Christmas wrapping? Please be sure to save the cardboard gift wrap tubes for the Cultural Arts Committee at StMM School. They are coordinating a didgeridoo presentation later this spring and need 80 tubes for a student workshop. Tube donations can be dropped off in the container in the school lobby. Thank you for your help!

Parishioner Assistance Ministry

The spirit of giving is being brought to life this holiday season through our generous angels of the Parishioner Assistance Ministry! Over the past few months, a number of new volunteers have joined the team to support fellow parishioners who are experiencing challenging times.

Our angels have provided rides to Mass for senior members of our parish, rides to/from dance class for young girls as their mother recovered from surgery, and meals to lift the burden from multiple families in times of need. We are especially grateful for how quickly volunteers answered a call for help in providing a large family meal to a senior couple and their children/grandchildren in order for the family to spend quality time together as the grandfather faces illness. We are also thankful for parishioners who assisted in planting trees for a parish family who experienced a fire that destroyed their home and business.

We invite any parishioners in need and those interested in supporting this growing ministry to contact us!

God Bless!

Dan Moskey 919-986-8613

Dmoskey12@gmail.com

Parish Athletics

Parish Athletics (<u>ParishAthleticsNC.org</u>) has opened registration for the Spring 2022 Soccer and Baseball Season. <u>Register Here</u>

Spring Soccer (Apex-Cary)

- Grades: Coed; Pre-K (3-year-olds) to 8th.
- Dates: March to May.
- Practice Locations: Apex or Cary, you pick.
- Game Locations: Apex & Cary.
- Cost: Pre-K \$60; K 8th Grade \$65; (includes medal, shirt, and picnic).
- **Note:** Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners to 8th graders have one weekday practice per week.

Spring T-ball & Machine-pitch (Apex)

- Grades: Coed. Pre-K (4-year-olds) to 4th grade.
- Dates: April to May.
- Cost: \$65 (includes medal, shirt, hat, and picnic).
- Practice & Game Location: Apex
- **Note:** Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners to 4th grade have one weekday practice per week.
- Format: Pre-k & Kindergarteners play T-ball and 1st to 4th graders play Machine-pitch.

Bulletin Advertisement



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