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#### St. Mary Magdalene E-News December 8, 2017

#### A Note From Father Donald Staib

A note was in last week's bulletin, but I forgot to make an announcement about its significance - 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.

Confessions: There will be Confessions on Saturday December 9 at 10:30am [after Baptisms] and on Saturday, December 16 at 10:30am. There are no confessions on December 23.

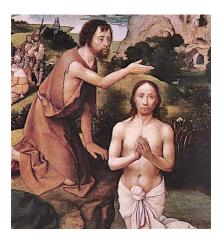
In the pews are envelopes that we have used for Christmas time to help with expenses for flowers and decorations for Christmas and other times of the year. We will list the donor names in our Christmas bulletin. Please return the envelopes by December 19th.

There is a 2nd Collection this weekend for the Retired Religious in the United States.

The Advent Penance Services are: December 13, Wednesday - St Michael, Cary - 7 pm 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 <u>donfs22@aol.com</u> St. Mary Magdalene E-News



"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals." (Gospel)

Joachim Patinir, The Baptism of Christ (between 1510 and 1515)

# Advent - Christmas Schedule for 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Saturday, December 23 - 5 pm Mass Sunday, December 24 - 9 am Mass Sunday, December 24 - 10:45 Mass

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

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 ongoing generosity of our parish members will make it 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.

#### DONATE NOW To OUR NEW CHURCH

(Click on the above link to Donate)

# Reflection

#### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

This feast brings the Gospel message uniquely home to the Americas. In celebrating La Morenita, we celebrate the fact that the Incarnation implies enculturation. Just as the word took flesh in the first century, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a visible image of Christianity's ability to express itself in the signs and symbols, the language and culture of every people on earth.



### **Pictures of the Week**

They provided some light refreshments too!



St. Mary Magdalene School held their annual



# **The Angel Tree**



**The Angel Tree** is in the lobby filled with ornaments for needy children and families from several Wake County non-profit organizations. 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). No other gifts should be wrapped. All contributions should be placed under the tree no later than 12 noon on Dec. 17th.

# 'Tis the Season



Rediscover the joy of the season with Best Advent Ever, a free e-mail program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a way that will allow you to have a memorable Christmas. You'll receive...short inspirational videos / practical tips / real-life stories of hope. SIGN UP AT\_ DYNAMICCATHOLIC.com/ADVENT

### "Second Sunday" Parish Breakfast



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.

#### **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 <u>STOCK FORM</u> to download the stock donation form.

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

#### **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 <u>ftagius@gmail.com</u> 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 prescreened 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 <a href="mailto:mbwire@gmail.com">mbwire@gmail.com</a> 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.



**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 <u>www.kofc7186.org</u> or contact Michael Erpenbach at <u>mike@erpenbach.com</u>.

STMME-News, 625 Magdala Place, Apex, NC 27502

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