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## **St. Mary Magdalene E-News May 4, 2018**

### **A Note From Father Donald Staib**

Last week after all the First Communion photos were taken I was joined by our parish Director of Religious Education, Celeste Usischon for a photo. Under her direction the 10:45 Mass First Communion group was the 85th in her 14 years as our Director. She has faithfully prepared all our children in Faith Formation, being here every week on Sunday afternoons, and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. She also comes on Monday evenings for our RCIA group.



Celeste began her ministry from our first day at StMM in 1999 as a 5th grade teacher in the school.

However - she has decided it is time to retire to a more relaxed life. Graciously she has agreed to continue until December so we will have the opportunity to plan for the future. I do not need to

say the obvious: we will miss her greatly and are most appreciative of her many years of service to the parish. She was here at the creation!

Thank you for the generous gifts in last week's 2nd collection for the Home Missions. We received \$3,905.

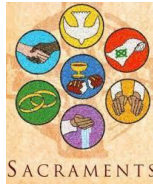
**CONFESSIONS:** There will be Confessions on Saturday May 5 and 12 at 10:30 am, after Baptisms.

Father Donald Staib  
[donfs22@aol.com](mailto: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 in the Church.

**WEDDINGS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email the Pastor.

## Reflection

**Jesus said:** This is my commandment: love one another as I love you

**Saint Augustine wrote:** What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of people. That is what love looks like.

## Financial Matters

**OUR NEW CHURCH** - We have the obligation to make large monthly payments for 15 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)



As you consider your offertory giving, we remind you that we offer **Electronic Giving** as a way to automate your contributions. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for the parish. Collection basket contributions can fluctuate significantly from week to week, especially in the summer, but when contributions are automated, the church receives funds on a steady basis. Electronic giving helps us forecast, with confidence, the level of financial support our parish receives in the year ahead. You can fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket when you come for Mass. Any questions, contact [info@stmm.net](mailto:info@stmm.net).

### **Electronic Giving Authorization Form**

## **Pictures of the Week**

Here is a picture of Jonas Reese and the pastor at Jonas' First Communion. Until the 1970's our Catholic Bibles spelled this Old Testament prophet Jonas - which is derived from the Greek. In the middle of the last century our Bible was translated again using names derived from the Hebrew - and Jonas was changed to Jonah.



StMM school children had their annual May Crowning!



## Mission Trip to Haiti

During the week of April 8th the STMM Youth Ministers, Janine McGann and Liz Sams participated in a mission trip to Jeremie, Haiti through Haiti Missions Inc (<http://www.haitimissioninc.com>)

Hurricane Matthew hit the region of Jeremie during October 2016 causing extensive damage to homes, churches and school as well as killing over 1000 people. The extent of the poverty in this area is beyond anything we had ever experienced before. Haiti Missions Inc. is committed to providing housing, education and hope to the people of Jeremie & one way they have done that is by opening 2 Catholic schools in the area. They are in danger of closing because the families cannot afford to pay the tuition which costs each student \$25 per year. Yes, that is correct! \$25 covers an entire year of education in Haiti! The \$25 per year covers all their costs and provides each student with one meal a day, many times it is the only meal that child will eat that day. We felt called to come back to our STMM school & church community and raise a rally cry to help get the 300 students of these 2 schools sponsored. Please watch this video and prayerfully consider sponsoring these children. All the research shows that education is the #1 weapon to battle poverty.

Let's not let these schools close on our watch!





## Gardening Committee



Do you enjoy gardening? StMM is starting a gardening committee to maintain our Campus. Duties include spreading pine straw/mulch, planting flowers, and litter pickup. This is a great opportunity for families to volunteer together. If interested, please email [info@stmm.net](mailto:info@stmm.net).

## Habitat for Humanity



The StMM Habitat for Humanity Program is in search of volunteers to help Korisha Bonn and her 16 month old daughter Kynlea reach their dream of home ownership. Korisha works at Peak Cardiology and will live in Fuquay-Varina. We are in search of volunteers for three dates in May including the 12th and 26th. Please join others from StMM and the Southwest Wake Faith Coalition in making an impact. Volunteers must be 16 or older. If you are interested in helping Korisha and your community please contact Terry Loding at [stmmhabitat@gmail.com](mailto:stmmhabitat@gmail.com) or 919-376-6714.

## Eucharistic Adoration



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament/Eucharistic Adoration**-StMM has Adoration available every Friday in the Chapel after daily Mass. On the First Friday of each month Adoration begins after daily Mass and ends at 7pm. This requires that we have many people committed to praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day. We always need more people for this ministry! Please consider committing 1 hour each month. On all of the other Fridays throughout the year we have 1 hour of Adoration after the 8:15am daily Mass. Take advantage of these opportunities to spend time with the Lord. If you would like to participate contact Anita Becker at 919-642-0441 or [AlAnitaBecker@aol.com](mailto:AlAnitaBecker@aol.com).

## Singles/Singles Again



**Singles/Singles Again** Upcoming Events-June 7th 6:30pm -Vic's Italian Ristorante, 4035 Lake Boone Trail, Raleigh. RSVP to Mike Burger 919-349-2500. June 30th 7:30pm Theatre in the Park (Pullen Park) for the funny musical "*It Shoulda Been You*" For group rate of \$23.60 , contact Andrea at TITP 919-831-

6058 and identify yourself as Single/Singles Again Group. Questions contact Mike at 919-349-2500.

## Message from the Bishop on Immigration



DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

*Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43). The Lord entrusts to the Church's motherly love every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future. This solidarity must be concretely expressed at every stage of the migratory experience – from departure through journey to arrival and return. This is a great responsibility, which the Church intends to share with all believers and men and women of good will.*  
- Pope Francis, Message for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2018

April 27, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

While it is clear that the immigration process is in dire need of reform, the issue of immigration policy and enforcement is both complicated and emotional. While we agree that there is room for disagreement and discussion with respect to immigration policy, we wish to remind our more than 1 million Catholic faithful in North Carolina of the stated positions of the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) formed by Catholic social teaching and encourage personal reflection and formation on these issues.

The issue of immigration is not merely about policy, it is a moral concern impacting the human dignity and human rights of every person. While we must certainly respect our borders and our laws, we are particularly supportive of immigration policy reforms. Every day we see firsthand the consequences of a system that creates fear and anxiety amongst individuals who have become a vital part of our parishes and make substantial contributions to the economic and social fabric of our communities.

As Catholics, we advocate for the recognition that immigrants, as members of God's human family, are deserving of and must be granted the appropriate dignity as our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Jesus himself was a refugee and taught us to welcome the stranger and to realize that in welcoming the stranger, we are welcoming Christ Himself.

Our Catholic Charities offices stand ready to help with food and other household necessities for all families that find themselves in distress at this time. Through those offices we will continue to provide Legal Immigration Services via staff who have been accredited to complete legal documentation by the Board of Immigration Appeals in the Department of Justice. These DOJ Accredited Representatives assist families and individuals in achieving an immigration status that enables them to work, reunite with family members, or take steps toward becoming citizens who could contribute to the well-being of their family and society. We will not counsel anyone to thwart or resist proper law enforcement but will continue to provide education about individuals' legal rights.

On a broader level, we, the Bishops of North Carolina, and the Bishops of the United States<sup>1</sup> will continue working to:

- **Find a Bipartisan Solution to Protect Dreamers.** *The approximately 1.8 million Dreamers living in our country were brought to the United States as young people. They worship with*

*us in our churches and synagogues, serve in our military, contribute to our economy, and add their many talents to American society.*

- ***Provide a Path to Citizenship.*** *Dreamers know America as their only home and should not be denied the opportunity to obtain U.S. citizenship and participate fully in civic life.*
- ***Recognize the Sanctity of Families.*** *Family immigration is the foundation of our country and of our Church. Pope Francis states, "The family is the foundation of co-existence and a remedy against social fragmentation." We steadfastly know that families are what hold America together. We ask you to reject legislation that threatens family-based immigration.*
- ***Recognize the Right of Nations to Control Their Borders.*** *While Catholic social teaching on migration recognizes and respects the sovereignty of each nation to regulate its borders, this right must be balanced with the right of vulnerable migrants, such as asylum seekers and victims of human trafficking, to access protection. Border security should be proportional and justly implemented.*
- ***Maintain Protections for Unaccompanied Children.*** *A solution for Dreamers cannot be at the expense of other immigrant children. Such a tradeoff would be heartless and untenable. We ask that you maintain existing protections for unaccompanied children that help prevent trafficking and abuse and ensure their access to adequate care.*

As members of the human family, each individual deserves and must be granted, the dignity that not only supports and fosters the common good of our society but also reflects the reality that we are all fundamentally brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Mary, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States of America, watch over and pray for us now and always.

*+ Peter J. Jugis*

Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis  
Bishop of Charlotte

*+ Luis R Zarama*

Most Reverend Luis Rafael Zarama  
Bishop of Raleigh

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/migrants-refugees-and-travelers/background-on-daca.cfm>

## 'Knight's Corner'



Come enjoy breakfast with friends and family, expertly prepared by the Knights. Our next breakfast will be Sunday, June 10th 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](http://www.kofc7186.org) or contact Michael Erpenbach at [mike@erpenbach.com](mailto:mike@erpenbach.com).

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

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