

## A Note from Father Francis

### HOLY SATURDAY AND SILENCE

I deliberately use SILENCE, not necessarily as absence of sound, but as **STILLNESS**. **"BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD!"** Psalm 46:10. Thus, silence is a deliberate spiritual effort to create space for an encounter with God, and in my mind, I consider Holy Saturday as a spectacular model of this silence/**stillness**. By this, allow me to draw your focus and attention.

Holy Saturday is a day of profound silence, the day between the death and resurrection of Jesus; a time of complete quietness, symbolizing also the complete silence of the tomb where Jesus' body lay. Reinforced by the liturgical discipline of contemplation and prayer, the absence of Holy Mass and the bare altar, I pray that it translates for each one of us into the silence that will permeate through our true inner selves, and connect us with the sorrows and bewilderment of the disciples who grappled with Jesus' death. I pray more that each one of us looks at oneself and accepts his/her feebleness, and thus deliberately creates this **stillness**, permitting God to look into our life squarely and fix the missing links.

Friends, we need the Holy Saturday experience in order not to fail God in completing His work in our lifetime. The world, otherwise, is going bizarre because of the lack of such experience. Let us yearn for such experience to appreciate our own single need for God in our daily life and help us also to await the joy of our Easter/resurrection at the end of our earthly journey.

I pray to you, our God and Father, that we be ensued by your Spirit to experience that stillness, and humble our sinful pride that pervades over our earthly accomplishments. Help us to use every opportunity to serve you among our fellow men and to the glory of your name. Amen.

God is good.

God bless you. I love you.

Father Francis

[Giving Portal](#)



Please watch as Father Mike and Father Francis discuss the Holy Week and Easter Mass schedule.



*Christ is Risen*

## Upcoming Events & Mass Intentions

### Good Friday Apr 18

Parish Office Closed  
No 9am daily Mass  
12pm- Stations of the Cross  
3pm- The Passion of the Lord

### Saturday Apr 19

No Confessions  
10am- Blessing of Easter food for Parishioners  
8:30pm- Easter Vigil Mass (Parishioners of StMM)

### Easter Sunday Apr 20 **Happy Easter**

7am- Mass (Gabriel Project Families)  
9am- Mass (Hugh McCloskey +)  
11am- Mass (Earl Frederick, Sr. +)

### Monday Apr 21

Parish Office Closed  
No Daily Mass  
6:30pm- Family Rosary

### Tuesday Apr 22

Parish Office Closed  
No Daily Mass

### Wednesday Apr 23

Parish Office Closed  
No Daily Mass

### Thursday Apr 24

9am- Mass (Cherian KV +)  
9:50am- Morning Rosary with CSO  
6:30pm- Bible Study

### Friday Apr 25

9am- Mass (Healing for Elaine Lux)

### Saturday Apr 26

No Confessions  
5pm- Mass (Denise and Aaron DeBlois)

### Divine Mercy Sunday Apr 27

9am- Mass (Healing for Collette Thomas)  
11am- Mass (The Wheeler Family)  
3pm- Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration  
3pm- Confessions  
4:30- Apostello  
6pm- Youth Mass (Parishioners of StMM)  
7:15pm- EDGE & the Way

## Mass This Weekend

Click [HERE](#) to Stream our 9am Mass

### Music for Easter Sunday Masses

**Prelude:** Morning By Morning  
Your Love Defends Me  
Let All The Earth Cry Out To God Ps 67  
Praise  
Trust is God  
Who You Say I Am

**Gathering:** Alleluia Alleluia

**Responsorial Psalm:** 118: This Is The Day

**Sequence:** Christians to The Paschal Victim

**Sprinkling Rite:** Wade In The Water

**Preparation:** This Is Amazing Grace

**Communion 1:** Taste and See (Moore)

**Communion 2:** O Come To The Altar (with bridge)

**Communion 3:** Great Are You Lord

**Communion 4:** O God My Soul Is Thirsting For You (Psalm 63)

**Sending Forth:** Alleluia! Love Is Alive

**For Easter Triduum Music, click [HERE](#)**

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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](#). For questions, contact [floralministry@stmm.net](mailto:floralministry@stmm.net)

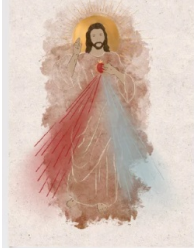
## Divine Mercy Sunday

**The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!**

Join us in celebrating this special Feast of Mercy on **Sunday, April 27th at 3 PM**. Everyone is welcome—bring your family, friends, and

## Divine Mercy Novena

**The Divine Mercy Novena** begins on Good Friday, April 18th and concludes Saturday, April 26th. In private revelations to St. Faustina, Jesus



children!  
The afternoon will include uplifting music, prayers, Adoration, and Benediction. This year, we're excited to offer **Reconciliation** as well. Doors open at 2:40 PM, and we will begin promptly at **3PM**. For any questions, please contact

[hoffman@stmm.net](mailto:hoffman@stmm.net)

We look forward to seeing you there!

asked that the Feast of Divine Mercy be preceded by a novena praying for nine intentions with the Divine Mercy Chaplet. **The novena can be accessed online at [DM Novena](#).**



## Church News, School News, Lent & Easter information, Ministries, Groups, and Events

Please click on the link for more information.

### Church News

- [StMM Tax Statements for 2024](#)
- [Baptism Information](#)
- [Safe Environment Training for Volunteers](#)
- [OCIA- Order of Christian Initiation for Adults](#)
- [OCIA Prayer Corner](#)
- [Study of the Torah with Deacon Dev](#)
- [First Friday Eucharistic Adoration](#)
- [Adult Faith Refresher & Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick](#)
- [Divorced Catholics Seeking an Annulment](#)
- [Young Men's Retreat for High School Students 6/21 to 6/24](#)
- [Priesthood Discernment Pilgrimage 6/27 to 6/29](#)
- [StMM 25th Anniversary Events](#)
- [Altar Flowers- click here to donate flowers to beautify the altar at StMM](#)

### School News

- [StMM School Tours for Prospective Students](#)
- [Creative Calm: A Mindful Workshop for Teens 11-14yrs, on 3/18 to 4/22](#)
- [Therapeutic Summer Camp for 3rd-5th Grades in June- Register by 5/30](#)
- [StMM School Summer Camps -6/9](#)

### Ministries, Groups, & Events

- [Parish Athletics Spring Soccer and Baseball](#)
- [CSO Catholic Senior Organization for women and men 60+](#)
- [Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry](#)
- [Prayer Team -Sign up to request prayers or to join prayer team](#)
- [Women's Retreat for those who have been sexually abused](#)
- [Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry- sign up to pray for our priests](#)
- [Power & Purpose Conference in Steubenville, OH on 6/20-6/22](#)
- [Want to learn more about the Power and Purpose Conference? Come to the Open House on 5/4 after Mass](#)
- [Worldwide Marriage Encounter on 5/2-5/4](#)
- [Frassati Young Adult Group Upcoming Events](#)
- [Project Rachel Support Group - for hope and healing after abortion](#)
- [Project Rachel Retreat 6/6 to 6/8](#)
- [Creative Calm: A Mindful Workshop for Teens 11-14yrs, on 3/18 to 4/22](#)
- [Therapeutic Summer Camp for 3rd-5th Grades in June- Register by 5/30](#)
- [Courage - A support group for those facing same-sex attraction](#)
- [EnCourage- A support group for relatives of people who experience same-sex attraction](#)



through 6/27- Open to Parishioners-  
\*Registration deadline extended to  
5/9

## Lent & Easter

- Holy Week & Easter Mass schedule

- Catholic Parish Outreach Food Pantry is having their 13th Annual Pig Picking on 4/26
- Forward in Hope- Grief Support Group to begin in May
- Divine Mercy Novena will be prayed outside A Woman's Choice abortion clinic 4/18-4/26
- Earth Day is April 22nd- Learn more and see words from Pope Francis
- JobWorks Career Ministry presents: Inside State Jobs: Landing a Career with North Carolina

## Pictures of the Week



Father Mike and Father Francis renewed their priestly vows at the Chrism Mass with the bishop on Tuesday, April 15th. Seminarians Rob Lane and Juan Fernando Rodriguez were also in attendance. At the Mass, Bishop Luis Zarama blessed the holy oils and sacred chrism, which will be used throughout the year across the diocese for sacraments such as baptism, confirmation and anointing of the sick.



Andrew Witchger led the children in learning the music for their upcoming First Communion liturgy during their retreat on April 12th.



On behalf of the Mulholland Columbiettes, THANK YOU to our wonderful StMM community for making our 2nd annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 13 a huge success! More than 200 children had a hopping good time and got plenty of goodies in their eggs. Happy Easter!



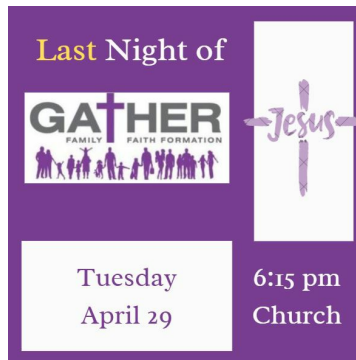
Kelly Woods, Miriam Moore, and Fran Hughes visited Seminarian Rob Lane at the beautiful St. Ann's Catholic Church in Edenton, NC, on Saturday, April 12th. St. Ann's was completed in 1858 and is the oldest structure in the diocese in continual use as a Catholic Church.

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ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



## Faith Formation

**Click Here for the 2024-25 Faith Formation  
Calendar**



### Questions:

For **GATHER**, contact Suzanne Will  
at [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7280

For the **ROCK** contact Sarah Ritchie  
at [ritchie@stmm.net](mailto:ritchie@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7307

## StMM Middle and High School Youth Ministry



The ROCK Retreat, "Meant for Greatness" is **rescheduled** for **Sunday, April 27th**, at StMM from 1:00pm to 5:45pm.



**Camp Hidden Lake deposit:**  
Open to all current 6th- 8th graders for summer 2025! All those interested

in summer camp please secure your spot. The link below is \$100 deposit for camp in Georgia. DUE: February 3rd!

**[Click here to pay the deposit](#)**



**Appalachia Service Project (ASP)**  
St Mary Magdalene Catholic Church serves each summer

with Appalachia Service Project (ASP). Appalachia Service Project is a nonprofit ministry focused on relationship building and home repair, making homes warmer, safer, and

**Life Teen Camp Covecrest:** Want to join us at camp? Contact Niki for more

drier. **StMM will serve in Appalachia from June 22-28, 2025.**

[Click here to register](#)



information! Registration and deposits can be completed by clicking the link below.

[Click here to register](#)

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### Questions:

For **EDGE**, contact Sarah Ritchie at [ritchie@stmm.net](mailto:ritchie@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7307

For **Apostello and the Way**, contact Niki Furnier at [nfurnier@stmm.net](mailto:nfurnier@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7309

For **Confirmation**, contact the coordinator at [confirmation@stmm.net](mailto:confirmation@stmm.net)

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