

## A Note from Father Francis

#### My trip to Uganda

It is with greatest excitement that I first convey warmest greetings and heart-felt appreciations from my family and friends to you all. Thank you for supporting me to meet my Family-Christian obligations as St. Paul in his first letter to Timothy 5:8 challenges us, "And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." Brothers and sisters, your gifts of faith, love, and charity shown in kind inspired me and my family. I was able to share in their struggles and show them care. Martin Luther King Jr. says, "We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools." Friends, whoever thinks about a family thinks about life. Brothers and sisters in the Lord, this trip was an overwhelming surprise to me and to many at home but more so, was both faith lifting and hope fulfilling to me and my people. I assure you, we had lots of celebrations and fun; like building a ginger bread house and sharing a variety of American Chocolate brands, sharing stories about driving in America using GPS, about my first foot at the beach (Atlantic Ocean), and the unique parish ministries, to mention a few.

Interestingly, however, though I was home, I could but not stop thinking about you- the angelic melodies at mass, Thursday mass with our saints (the monarchs), my senior professors at Cambridge Village, and the warm shower, the constant safe water flow, my comfortable bed, and missing January snow....... Lord Jesus!!! Let me conclude.

By and large, I remain grateful to God and to you all.

I pray that God will visit each one of your families, blessing you and inspiring you-where need be with a spirit of acceptance of differences within your family, while keeping the bond that connects you. Amen

I love you all.

God is good.

## **Giving Portal**

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## Upcoming Events

Feb 8 - 10:30am Confessions

Feb 8 - 5pm Mass

Feb 9 - 9am & 11am Mass

Feb 10 - 9am Mass

Feb 10 - 6:30pm Family Rosary

Feb 11 - 9am Mass

Feb 11 - Gather/Rock

Feb 12 - 9am Mass

Feb 12 - 6:30pm Adult Faith Refresher

Feb 13 - 9am Mass

Feb 13 - 6:30pm Bible Study: Intro to the Torah

Feb 13 - 7pm Youth Music Ministry

Feb 14 - 9am Mass

Feb 15 - 10:30am Confessions

Feb 15 - 5pm Mass

Feb 16 - 9am & 11am Mass

Feb 16 - 4pm Apostello, EDGE, and the Way

Feb 16 - 6pm Youth Mass

## Mass This Weekend

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

#### **Music for Weekend Masses**

Gathering: In Christ Alone

Responsorial Psalm: 138: In The Sight of

Angels

Preparation: Trust in God

Communion 1: You Alone Are Holy Communion 2: Morning by Morning Communion 3: Dry Bones/Come Alive

Sending Forth: Praise

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## Bishop's Annual Appeal Embracing the Call to Serve

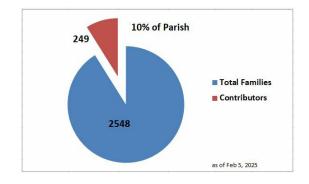


The 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal is now underway, and we invite you to join us in this important effort. With the theme

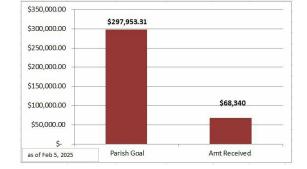
"Open Your Heart, Open a Door," the

appeal calls us to respond to Christ's love by opening our hearts and extending a welcoming door to those in need.

Your generous contributions will support vital ministries across the Diocese of Raleigh, including education, outreach, and support for the sick and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider your gift and help us bring hope, healing, and the love of Christ to those who need it most. Together, we can make a



difference!



## **DONATE TO THE BAA**

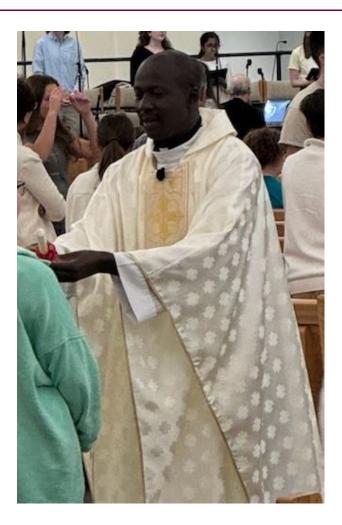
## **Pictures of the Week**



The baptism of Lucy Elaine Leventry on Saturday, February 1, 2025.



The baptism of Kylie Kaplan on Sunday, February 2, 2025.



Father Francis giving the Blessing of Throats at last weekend's Masses.





Everyone had a fantastic time at the Columbiettes Bingo Night!





The Knights of Columbus served up a wonderful banquet for the Parent School Organization's Retro Prom last Saturday.

## **Mass Intentions**

Feb 8- Joseph & Agnes Baker +

Feb 9- 9am-Robert Hogan +

Feb 9- 11am- Parishioner of StMM

Feb 10- Roger & Beryl Sayre +

Feb 11- Kylee Muller (birthday)

Feb 12- Steven Peterson +

Feb 13- Hazel Allen +

Feb 14- Deceased Members of the Donna

Livingston Family

Feb 15- Parishioners of StMM

Feb 16- 9am- Eugene Primavera

Feb 16- 11am- Peter Dubay +

Feb 16-6pm-James Furnier +

## Tax Statements for 2024 Are Ready

Tax statements are available online. Please click the link below and follow the directions for printing your statement from our website.

https://www.stmm.church/Tax\_statement\_instructions\_4.pdf

For questions, email prewitt@stmm.net, or

## CS0- Catholic Senior Organization

The CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for women and men (60+) meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our next meeting will take place Monday, February 17, 2025, 10:30 AM until Noon, in Church meeting room #3.

For more information, please contact Jim Schultz, 954-649-0194 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com

## Sacraments



**BAPTISMS -** See the Guidelines on the Website - then email **sansone@stmm.net**. 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.

919-657-4800 x7281.

Are you now donating online and do not want to receive church envelopes? If so, please email the parish office at <a href="mailto:info@stmm.net">info@stmm.net</a> to stop the envelopes.

## Opportunity Scholarships



Did you know that **St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School**accepts NC Opportuni

accepts NC Opportunity Scholarship funding?

Funding is available for the 2025-206 school year. Scholarship applications open **February 6**, **2025** and you don't want to miss out. Apply **HERE**.

Questions? Join us at StMM on Wednesday, February 12th at 6:30pm in the Media Center if you need any help with the application or to learn more!

Contact Lisa Portland (portland@stmm.net) for additional information.

# Souper Bowl of Caring Food Drive



#### Be a Game Changer!

The Souper Bowl of Caring is an annual national event that has local impact. On the weekend of the Big Game we will be gathering items in need for the local charity, Western Wake Crisis/ Holly Springs Food Cupboard.

We invite parishioners to make a difference in our community by donating any of the following items **after Mass on Feb 8 & 9**: Jelly, oil, sugar, canned fruit, ramen, canned pasta, condiments, cereal, sides, or shampoo.

Thank you for your support!

## Adult Faith Refresher & Adult Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick

The current Adult Faith Refresher & Adult Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick is now underway. Please stay tuned to the E-news for upcoming dates and details for the next series.

Questions? Please contact Deacon Rick at <a href="mailto:stevens@stmm.net">stevens@stmm.net</a> or 908-910-0309

Traveling St. John Vianney

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

## **Altar Flowers**



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, please contact <a href="mailto:floaringstry@stmm.net">floaringstry@stmm.net</a>

## Daytime Bible Study

St. Mary Magdalene Daytime Bible Study— Winter/Spring 2025

Join us as we explore the Book of Genesis in this 10-week Bible study. We'll be using the Little Rock Scripture Study, which includes readings and questions to complete at home. Everyone will then meet in person to watch a video, followed by group discussions. Details:

• When: January 28 to April 8, 2025

• Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

• Where: Rooms 3 and 4, Church Building

Please contact Laurie Wendt for more details about purchasing the materials.

<u>lauriewendt@gmail.com</u>
or cell # 919-669-9455

## Study of the Torah with Deacon Dev



Weekday Study of the Torah for Everyone Join Deacon Dev and many of your fellow parishioners for a unique study of the

Torah –the first five books of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament). Meetings are in the main Church on Thursday evenings beginning at 6.30pm.

Please register by accessing the attached link (each person to be separately registered). If you have any questions, or need more information, please email Deacon Dev at <a href="mailto:lobo@stmm.net">lobo@stmm.net</a>



Traveling St. John Vianney
Ministry – "What use would be a
house filled with gold, were there
no one to open its door? Our
priests hold the key to the
treasures of Heaven....it is he
who opens the door." -St. John
Vianney, the patron saint of
priests

Sign-up to host our beautiful St. John Vianney statue in your home for a month. During his visit, pray for our priests, seminarians and religious. Included are prayers and resources to learn more about this amazing saint! If you are interested, email Lesley.orourke@gmail.com.

## Sound & Video System HELP URGENTLY NEEDED



At every Mass, wedding, funeral or special event, the Audio/Visual team works behind the scenes to balance sound, produce the LiveStream, and drive the slides that are projected on the screens. This ensures

that parishioners are able to actively participate in the celebration.

With additional programs constantly being added in our growing community at StMM, we need **more volunteers** to join our team! We welcome both adults and teenagers (for whom this would be a great way to log in service hours which always looks good on college applications!).

This is a flexible opportunity and the commitment level is up to you. If you have a knack for audio-video operations or would like to learn more about this skill, join the AV Ministry! Please email <a href="mailto:stmmsoundministry@gmail.com">stmmsoundministry@gmail.com</a> for more information.

## **Mulholland Columbiettes**



Mulholland Columbiettes Auxiliary at StMM: Join us!

Are you a Catholic woman 18 years of age or older, who would like to give back to your community and grow in

faith? Would you like to make friends with other Catholic women, serve together and pray

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FABA 923A3FCC52-53999241-anintroduction#/

## **REBOOT**



St. Michael in Cary is thrilled to welcome internationally acclaimed author, speaker, and television host **Chris Stefanick** for an unforgettable evening of faith, inspiration, and renewal on **Feb 26**, at **7pm**.

Please visit <u>HERE</u> for more information on the REBOOT event and how to register.

## Parish Athletics Spring Sports

**Apex-Cary Spring Soccer 2025** 

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (3-year-olds) thru

8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Dates: March 22nd - May 17th.

Practice Locations: Apex or Cary, you pick.

**Game Locations:** Apex & Cary. **Cost:** Pre-K - \$65; K - 1st grade - \$70;

2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade - \$80

**Note:** Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders have one weekday practice per week and weekend games.

#### **REGISTER FOR SOCCER HERE**

**Apex Spring Baseball 2025** 

Grades: Coed. Pre-K (4-year-olds) thru 2nd

grade.

Dates: March 29th - May 24th.

Practice/Game Location: Apex

Cost: Pre-K - \$65; K thru 2nd grade - \$70

**Note:** PreK thru Kindergarten plays T-Ball; 1st and 2nd grade play machine pitch. Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners – 2nd grade have one weekday practice per week and games on Saturdays.

#### **REGISTER FOR BASEBALL HERE**

## Frassati Young Adult Group Upcoming Events

The Frassati Young Adult group provides a community for those in their 20s and 30s. Email

together? Then the Columbiettes is for you. We are a band of sisters, a network of women in communities throughout the US doing good works in service of God and our neighbors. We also have fun! You might have seen us in action at our Advent Fundraiser, Bingo Night or the Easter Egg Hunt. We have an exciting year ahead!

If you'd like to join us, please register for one of the upcoming Joining Ceremonies (details are provided in the LINKS)

**Saturday, February 15 RSVP HERE** or **Monday, March 17, RSVP HERE**.

For more information, email us at <a href="mailto:fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com">fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com</a> or call Sandy Pitman at 443-370-8136 or visit our Website:

https://frhcmulhollandcolu.wixsite.com/columbiettes7186

### Women's Retreat

Recovering Our Soul Connections: A Retreat for Women Who Have Been Sexually Abused Begins online April 1, 2025, and culminates in an in-person retreat on June 12-15, 2025 at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville, NC Applications accepted until March 1, or until the retreat is full; space is limited to 12. Cost to retreatants is \$200.

To request an application, email soulconnection366@gmail.com or visit
Recovering Our Soul Connections on Facebook.
Questions?

Contact Cindy Neely, Spiritual Director, St. Thomas More, <a href="mailto:neelycynthia@gmail.com">neelycynthia@gmail.com</a>.

## Presentation by Seminarian Robert Lane



Community: The Desire in Your Heart, the Heart of the Mass, and the Call to Love Join us as part of our 25th Anniversary celebrations for a special talk by Seminarian Robert Lane on Monday,

**February 24, at 7:15pm** in the Chapel. Rob will explore our deep longing for community, its connection to the Eucharist, and practical ways to live out this call to love. Afterward, we'll gather in the Narthex for snacks and fellowship.

us at <a href="mailto:frassati@stmm.net">frassati@stmm.net</a> for more information and to be added to our email list. Our upcoming events are:

#### February 19

- 7-7:30pm Adoration in Chapel
- 7:30pm Discussion with Jorge Rosende about how our family of origin impacts us and our faith lives

## 31st Annual Run for Life

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

31st Annual Run for Life on **Saturday April 12** at the WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary. Proceeds from the race will benefit BirthChoice.

Please watch the bulletin for more details about registration. If you would like to learn more about sponsorships, please call Janelle Buchanan 214-497-0756 or Kathy Klein 919-815-1369.

## Leading and Loving Practical Principles for Catholic Parents



Join us on Friday,
February 14 from 6pm8pm and Saturday,
February 15 from 9am3pm at Our Lady of
Lourdes parish in
Raleigh for Leading and
Loving, presented by

Family Honor, Inc. Registration is \$20 per family. Lunch is included and childcare is provided.

Leading and Loving teaches parents to develop the virtue of chastity in their children, helps them be better role models and empowers them to answer children's challenging questions emerging from today's culture – all while cultivating Catholic virtues and values. Register HERE
For more information, contact Mary Beth Phillips at FHraleigh@gmail.com or (919) 274-9362.

## 40 Days for Life



Join Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama at the Raleigh 40 Days for Life Vigil on Thursday, March 6th at

**9:00am**. Choose an hour of fasting and prayer at Drake Circle. We stand at the foot of the cross for our precious pre-born and their families. Visit

www.40daysforlife.com/en/raleigh for more info.

## Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Save the Date: Lenten Fish Fry Events! With Lent right around the corner, the Knights of Columbus invite you to mark your calendars for our upcoming Lenten Fish Fry events!

#### **Event Dates:**

- Friday, March 7th
- Friday, March 21st
- Friday, April 4th

Everyone is welcome—bring your family and friends for a night of great food and fellowship. Don't miss this opportunity to come together and celebrate the season!

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest



The Knights of Columbus Council #7186 is holding their annual Free Throw contest on **Friday, March 7**, in the gymnasium during the Fish Fry. All boys and girls, ages 9 to 14

year of age are welcome to participate. The contest for Girls will start at 5:30 PM. The contest for Boys will start 6:00 PM. Please arrive 15 minutes before the start time to register. The winners can participate in the District contest, which will start at 7 PM on the same evening. Questions? Email communitykoc7186@hotmail.com

## Safe Environment

Jen McIntosh is our Safe Environment Coordinator. If you have any questions about volunteer clearance, Jen can be reached at <a href="mailto:imcintosh@stmm.net">imcintosh@stmm.net</a>.

#### **Returning Volunteers**

All returning volunteers should have completed the annual Safe Environment Training module by September 15. The Diocese has started to "suspend" or "archive" those who are not compliant. If you missed the deadline and would like to volunteer, please contact Jen McIntosh.

#### **New Volunteers**

To become approved to volunteer, please go to the **StMM Safe Environment web page**. See the *New Volunteers - Church and School* paragraph for information and required paperwork. See the **Diocese of Raleigh Safe Environment Training calendar** for upcoming training dates. There are other meetings on the

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Give your spouse the gift of a special Valentine. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience teaches a technique of loving communication that you can use for the rest of your lives. Register for an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on one of the following dates:

Mar 21-23, 2025 in EMERALD ISLE, NC May 2-4, 2025 in HICKORY, NC

Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <a href="https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org">https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org</a> or contact us at applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org or 704-315-2144.

## Office Angels



Are you interested in volunteering in the Parish offices to assist with general office tasks like greeting visitors, answering phones, filing, copying, and more? No amount of time is too small, and training will be

provided to those who are interested. To learn more, please email <a href="mailto:galkowski@stmm.me">galkowski@stmm.me</a>.

## Prayers & Squares Ministry



The Prayer Quilt Ministry is founded on the idea that there is power in prayer to comfort in times of need. The ministry makes quilts for anyone who is in need of this prayer and comfort. The quilt is

blessed and prayed over by the parishioners. If you would like to request a prayer quilt for someone please contact Lorraine Morris at <a href="mailto:lemorris0707@gmail.com">lemorris0707@gmail.com</a>

## **Commemorative Bricks**

Commemorate a First Communion, Graduation, or the

calendar, so look for "Safe Environment Training". To register, select the one you'd like to attend. Please contact **Jen McIntosh** with any questions.

# Eucharistic Adoration Times



First Friday Adoration will be in the **chapel** on Friday, **February 7th 9:30am - 7pm** All are encouraged to pay a visit to the chapel throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord?

Please contact Anita Becker at <a href="mailto:alanitabecker@aol.com">alanitabecker@aol.com</a> or 919-280-8931 if interested.

## **Eucharistic Holy Hour**



Pope Francis encourages us to spend time in Eucharistic Adoration and allow our encounter with Jesus to transform us. If you

are willing to spend an hour communing with our Lord before the Blessed Sacrament, please join Deacon Dev and your fellow parishioners in a spirit of Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication followed by Benediction. Handouts will be available to help you participate in prayer and song.

Next Holy Hour: Tuesday, February 18 , from 6:30pm - 7:25pm

## **OCIA Prayer Corner**

Please pray for Kaitlyn, Ashton, Mark, Jessica, Earl, Christine, Victoria, Jose, Henry, Lincoln, Taylor and Danny who have started their OCIA journey and will receive sacraments at the Easter Time.



memory of a loved one with a personalized engraved brick placed along the walkway to our Activities Building.

StMM is now accepting reservations for our annual spring Commemorative Brick order, with a deadline of **March 31st**. Each engraved brick is \$100, and order forms are available <u>here</u>.

Please contact <a href="mailto:hoffman@stmm.net">hoffman@stmm.net</a> with any questions.

## Prayer Team



For companionship in your trials and joys of life, our team of prayer warriors are here to walk with you. It is a sincere privilege to help lift our parish family through

intercessory prayer. As we pray for one another's needs, it helps us all to hear how loved ones are continuing on their journeys.

Please feel encouraged to share updates of your prayer intentions via email to StMMPrayerTeam@stmm.net.

#### Request Prayers

All are welcome to join our team in lifting the prayers of our parish family, in whatever ways you like to pray best. Parish intentions are shared weekly, drop us a note if you would like to learn more about this ministry. \* Share Prayer Updates via email. \*

Join the Prayer Team

## OCIA

Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic? Are you wanting to participate fully in the sacraments

Please pray for Emily, Kimberly, Michael and Yasmin who will be starting their OCIA journey on February 3rd.

Please pray for all of those who are considering starting the OCIA journey.



instituted by Christ? Are you a baptized Christian and desiring to receive the Eucharist and Confirmation? The next module of the OCIA process at StMM is starting in

February 4, 2025. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Please contact Deacon Rick Stevens at <a href="mailto:stevens@stmm.net">stevens@stmm.net</a> 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".

## **Faith Formation**

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





#### **Questions:**

For GATHER, contact Suzanne Will atwill@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7280

For the ROCK contact Sarah Ritchie at ritchie@stmm.net.or 919-657-4800 x7307

#### StMM Middle and High School Youth Ministry



Mountain Retreat is now full! Please email Niki Furnier at <a href="mailto:nfurnier@stmm.net">nfurnier@stmm.net</a> to be added to the waitlist.



#### 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!



Please sign up <u>HERE</u> for the ROCK "Meant for Greatness" retreat being held on **Sunday**, **March 16th** 2025 at StMM from 1:00-5:45pm



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

Click here to register

#### Click here to pay the deposit



**Life Teen Camp Covecrest:** Want to join us at camp? Contact Niki for more information! Registration and deposits can be completed by clicking the link below.

Click here to register

#### **Questions:**

For EDGE, contact Sarah Ritchie at ritchie@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7307

For Apostello and the Way, contact Niki Furnier at nfurnier@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7309

For Confirmation, contact the coordinator at confirmation@stmm.net

## School News

Interested in joining St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School for the 25-26 school year? Tours are now open! Click <u>HERE</u> to visit us on campus to learn how we pray, learn, and care in our preschool, elementary, and middle school classrooms! Contact Lisa Portland, <u>portland@stmm.net</u>, with any questions!







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