

A Note from Father Mike

Have you ever noticed that Christian wisdom sometimes comes from the most unexpected of places? We find it in Scripture, in books, in nature, and in people. There is that old saying, "Out of the mouths of babes" can come surprising wisdom, insight, and truth. Which means that even young, innocent people can sometimes speak profound truths. When we want to grow wise and learn how to live out life as a follower of Jesus, we need to learn to also look for wisdom in those unexpected places. In this Sunday's Gospel, we meet Simeon and Anna, two God-fearing, God-loving, elderly people who had been waiting for the Messiah to come. Despite being in their mid-80s, and both had been waiting their whole lives for this moment, their faith and joy were still strong. A lifetime is a long time to wait for a prayer to be fulfilled. Sometimes, we pray for things, and if God has not responded within a week, we can get pretty upset with Him. Even to the point of beginning to doubt whether God hears our prayers at all.

Simeon and Anna were children of God, just like us. I bet they both had their moments of doubt during their time of waiting. The Scriptures are full of people who doubted God, from Adam in the Garden of Eden to Peter and Thomas. Our lives may have moments when we may doubt God. In these times of temptation to doubt, our response should be to ask ourselves a question. What are we going to do with our doubts when they come, and they will come to all of us? I believe that our faith can grow stronger when it is tested. I think our doubts are more connected to our emotions than they are connected to our beliefs. When we are feeling up about things, we are more likely to believe, but when we are feeling down about things, we are more likely to doubt. The truth is that "doubt" visits even those who have the strongest faith.

Let us never forget that we have the "Light of Christ" dwelling within us. Whether we are young or old, we should share that great gift of His light. Believe it, and be the light of the world. Shine through any doubt, through any darkness, as God has chosen us to do. May Simeon and Anna inspire us all to believe in God's promise. The promise that came to be, that our Savior has come to redeem the world.

In His Love,

Fr. Mike Coveyou

[Giving Portal](#)

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Upcoming Events

Feb 1 - 10:30am Confessions
 Feb 1 - 5pm Mass
 Feb 2 - 9am & 11am Mass
 Feb 2 - Apostello, EDGE, & the Way
 Feb 2 - 6pm Youth Mass
 Feb 3 - 9am Mass
 Feb 3 - 6:30pm Family Rosary
 Feb 4 - 9am Mass
 Feb 4 - Gather/Rock
 Feb 5 - 9am Mass
 Feb 5 - 6:30pm Adult Faith Refresher
 Feb 6 - 9am Mass
 Feb 6 - 6:30pm Bible Study: Intro to the Torah
 Feb 6 - 7pm Youth Music Ministry
 Feb 7 - 9am Mass
 Feb 7 - 9:30am to 7pm Adoration
 Feb 8 - 10:30am Confessions
 Feb 8 - 5pm Mass
 Feb 9 - 9am & 11am Mass

Mass This Weekend

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

Music for Weekend Masses

Gathering: Christ Be Our Light

Responsorial Psalm: 24: Who is the King of Glory

Blessing of Throats 1: Gratitude

Blessing of Throats 2: Light of the World

Preparation: The Lord is My Light

Communion 1: We Are The Light Of The World

Communion 2: Great Are You

Communion 3: All the Poor and Powerless

Sending Forth: Who You Say I Am

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Bishop's Annual Appeal



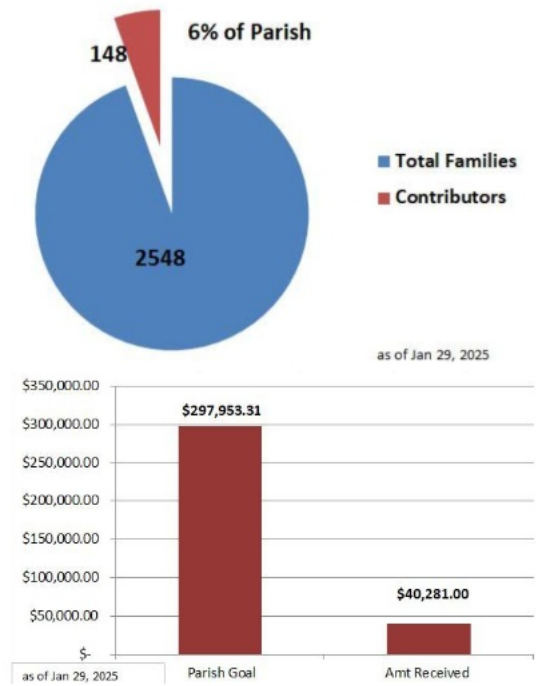
We are grateful for your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal! So far, we have raised **\$40,281** toward our goal of **\$297,953.31**, with **148 families** contributing—that is **6% of our parish**

If you haven't yet donated, we invite you to prayerfully consider **making a gift** to help us reach our goal. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a meaningful impact!

Your generosity supports vital ministries and services. Here's how your support is making a difference:

- **34%** Christian Formation & Education
- **26%** Catholic Charities
- **14%** Parish Support & Ministry Services
- **11%** Catholic Communications
- **8%** Seminarians & Vocations

• **6% Marriage, Family & Respect Life**
Thank you for being a part of this mission and for your continued generosity!



DONATE TO THE BAA

Pictures of the Week



The Baptism of Jacey Claire Redenbaugh on Saturday, January 25, 2025.



OCIA Full Communion of Michael Grey and Michael Rhodes, and the Confirmation of Megan Church, with their Godparents, Sponsors, Deacon Rick and Father Mike, on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

Mass Intentions

February 1 – 5pm – Janice White +
 February 2 – 9am – Charles Roba +
 February 2 – 11am – Dan Dyer +
 February 2 – 6pm – Parishioners of StMM
 February 3 – Clemencia Latorre (80th Birthday)
 February 4 – Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR (Birthday)
 February 5 – Robert Zmuda +
 February 6 – Dan Dyer +
 February 7 – Naomi Lobo
 February 8 – 5pm – Joseph & Agnes Baker +
 February 9 – 9am – Robert Hogan +
 February 9 – 11am – Parishioners of StMM
 February 10 – Roger & Beryl Sayre +
 February 11 – Kylee Muller (Birthday)
 February 12 – Steven Peterson +
 February 13 – Hazel Allen +

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 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 info@stmm.net to stop the envelopes.

CSO- 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.

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](#).

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 stevens@stmm.net or 908-910-0309

Traveling St. John Vianney



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.

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.

lauriewendt@gmail.com 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 lobo@stmm.net

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FABA923A3FCC52-53999241-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 [HERE](#) for more information on the REBOOT event and how to register.

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 stmmoundministry@gmail.com 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 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 fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com or call Sandy Pitman at 443-370-8136 or visit our Website: <https://frhcmulhollandcolu.wixsite.com/columbiettes7186>

Parish Athletics Spring Sports

Apex-Cary Spring Soccer 2025

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (3-year-olds) thru 8th 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;
2nd - 8th grade - \$80

Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners thru 8th 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 us at frassati@stmm.net for more information and to be added to our email list. Our upcoming events are:

February 5

- 7pm Q&A with Bishop Luis Rafael in the Chapel

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

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!

Safe Environment

Please welcome our new **Safe Environment Coordinator, Jen McIntosh**. If you have any questions about volunteer clearance, Jen can be reached at jmcintosh@stmm.net.

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

Operation Cookie Drop



Thank you!

Girl Scout Troop 1161 extends their heartfelt gratitude for your generous donations to **Operation Cookie Drop**, a program that sends Girl Scout cookies to the brave men and women serving in our military.

Thanks to your support at last weekend's Masses, they raised **\$1,187**—enough to send **197 boxes** of cookies to our troops as a token of appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

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 lcmorris0707@gmail.com

Commemorative Bricks



Commemorate a First Communion, Graduation, or the memory of a loved one with a personalized engraved brick placed

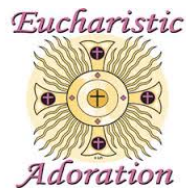
along the walkway to our Activities Building.

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 [here](#).

Please contact hoffman@stmm.net with any questions.

Prayer Team

Eucharistic Adoration Times



First Friday Adoration will be in the church 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 alanitabecker@aol.com 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.

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.



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 StMMPayerTeam@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

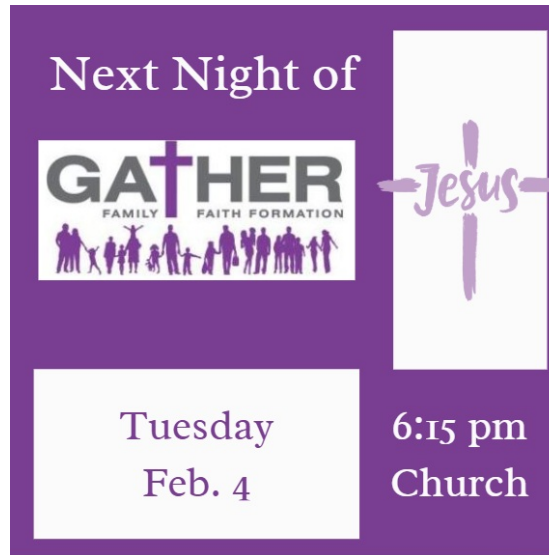


Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic? Are you wanting to participate fully in the sacraments instituted by Christ? Are you a baptized Christian and desiring to receive the Eucharist and

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 stevens@stmm.net 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 at will@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 nfurnier@stmm.net 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!

[Click here to pay the deposit](#)



Please sign up [HERE](#) for the ROCK "Meant for Greatness" retreat being held on **Sunday, March 16th 2025** at StMM from 1:00-5:45pm



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](#)

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](#)

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 [HERE](#) to visit us on campus to learn how we pray, learn, and care in our preschool, elementary, and middle school classrooms! Contact Lisa Portland, portland@stmm.net, with any questions!



TOURS
OPEN

25-26 School Year

Serving
PreK3
through
Eighth
Grade



We pray. We learn. We care.



Try email marketing for free today!