

St. Mary Magdalene

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Dedication of Our New Church

15th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

July 15/16, 2017

Mass Today—105

Offertory Helpers— Last Name's A to H

Weekday Masses—8:15am—This week Mass only on Friday, July 21st

Reconciliation—After Daily Mass or Email the Pastor

Baptisms—See Guidelines on Website—Email the Pastor

Weddings—See Guidelines on Website—Email the Pastor



Pastor—Father Donald Staib, 1708 Town Home Drive, Apex 27502

Home—919-387-3648, donfs22@aol.com

Deacons—John Hubisz, 919-302-4345, hubisz@mindspring.com

Joseph LaPierre, 919-219-5217, jlapiere@nc.rr.com

School Principal—Bob Cadran, 919-657-4800, ext. 7294 cadran@stmm.net

Religious Ed Director—Celeste Usischon, 657-4800 ext. 7280, usischon@stmm.net

High School Youth Minister—Liz Sams, 349-5030, liz.sams@gmail.com

Middle School Youth Minister—Janine McGann, 357-2611, Janine.mcgann@gmail.com

Parish Office—Kathy Lynch, 919-657-4800 ext. 7281, lynch@stmm.net

PARDON OUR APPEARANCE!

Visiting Clergy, Parishioners, Friends, Guests,

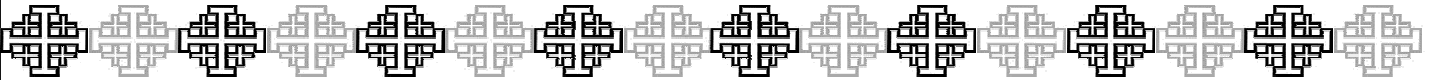
Welcome to our Joyous Event! Today's dedication date was planned nearly 18 months ago. Unfortunately, numerous challenges have impacted the full completion of our Church. Despite many actions, we did not get the project totally completed for the dedication weekend so you will see areas that look 'un-finished'!

The good news is that we gather today to consecrate and celebrate this Church for our Parish and to the glory of God. What a blessing we have to be here in this magnificent structure!

The better news is that many more changes will be occurring after the dedication in the coming weeks:

The Chapel will be completed as quickly as possible ~ Wood panels will be installed in the Narthex & Chapel ~ Some pew kneelers have yet to be installed ~ New furniture & appliances for the Church meeting rooms ~ The Crucifix that was hand carved in Vietnam will be hung over the Altar later ~ The Rose window and Chapel Stained Glass will be following soon ~ Engraving for the Jonah story will be completed ~ Permanent Signage will be hung ~ Columbarium niches and additional landscaping to follow ~ Our street sign on Apex BBQ Road will be enhanced and landscaped ~ Grass & trees will grow and bushes will bloom.

Thank you for joining our celebration and ceremony and I look forward to seeing you back each week for our regular Masses and to witness firsthand these items as they are all completed. - Father Donald Staib



IMPORTANT

PARISH DATES

July

15—New Church Dedication—4pm
16—New Church First Masses—9am & 10:45am
29—Party on the Lawn—6-9pm—Athletic Fields
29/30—CPO Baby Shower Collection—All Masses

August

8—EM Training—7pm—Church
9—EM Training—10am—Church
13—Rosary for Life—10:10am—Chapel
13—2nd Collection—Priest Retirement
13—Back to School Mass—4pm
14—RCIA Inquiry Session—7pm—Adult Room
15—Holy Day—The Assumption of Mary—8:15am & 7pm



**Deadline for Bulletin submission is the Wednesday
Morning prior to the weekend of publication
(Send bulletin requests to lynch@stmm.net)**

Mass Intentions

July 15—4pm—Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
July 16—9am—Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
July 16—10:45am—Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene
July 21—8:15am—Troadio Carpio—Cora Balatbat

For Mass Intentions/Mass Cards—Call the Parish Office

Other Notices

Grocery donations for needy families are welcome at all times. Place gifts at right side of altar on stage steps or in the lobby.

New Church Building Project

**New White Envelope—\$2,213,462
Our Church Our Time Pledges—\$5,559,739
OCOT Payments Received—\$4,408,664**

Gathering: Praise God for Whom all Blessings Flow—538

Psalm 19—Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Preparation: Your Words are Spirit and Life—591

Communion: Spirit and Grace—346
In This Place—308
How can I Keep from Singing—440

Sending Forth: With One Voice—382



Catechetical Corner

Catechists Needed! Across all grades K-5 on all days Sundays 12-1:15pm/Tuesdays 5-6:15pm/ Wednesdays 6:30-7:45pm. 2 volunteers in all rooms/lesson plans provided/meet great people from the parish/ 75 minute class sessions once a week/ Level C Safe Environment required-contact Bertha Smith at bsmith@stmm.net for details. Programs closed for Thanksgiving-Christmas-Holy Week-Easter/27 sessions in a calendar year/ September-late April/early May. Can't run the program with out YOU!

Religious Education Office Summer Hours – Tuesdays/Wednesdays/Thursdays 9am-11am only. E-mail usischon@stmm.net is always the best option until August 14, 2017.

All Program Families - Elementary Program Registration for 2017-2018 can be found on www.stmm.church. Select Religious Education. Select Elementary. Click on the link 2017-2018 Program Registration. The document includes information about educational materials fee/days & times of class sessions/due date for forms/notification of class assignments & starting date for 2017-2018.

The **same elementary site** provides links to the **calendar & sacrament information** for all parish families whose child has **completed grade 1** in the religious education program or a Catholic school program. PK & K are optional choices & do not count towards the required 1 year of faith development before preparing for & receiving First Reconciliation & First Eucharist.

Starting **July 1, 2017** the on-line registration process will open **only for returning families. There is no credit card option with this process.**

New Families to the Parish & Program – You will need to complete paper registration forms for the first year. Copy of baptismal certificate is required at the time of registration. The on-line process is not an option.

Parish Families – Do you have a child starting Grade 1 in July/August, 2017? You will need to register for the Grade 1 religious education program. Students who attend Grade 1 in StMM school are not required to register.

Direct all questions to Celeste at Usischon@stmm.net.



Youth Ministry

ONLINE REGISTRATION HAS NOW OPENED FOR ALL STMM RELIGIOUS ED PROGRAMS GRADES PRE-K – 12. PLEASE USE THIS LINK:

<https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx?sn=102397>

***You must be a registered parishioner with an up to date email in the parish database.**

***Directions on how to use the online registration are available at this link: [http://www.stmm.church/Directions for online registration 2 1.pdf](http://www.stmm.church/Directions%20for%20online%20registration%201.pdf)**

Eucharistic Minister Training!!!! - Our new space will now provide 9 sections of seating for 1,350 people. Each of our weekend Masses will need 16/17 ministers of Communion at each Mass. Please consider training to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Requirements: completely initiated (Baptism/Communion/Confirmation) practicing Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church. Training will take place every Tuesday from 7p-9p & every Wednesday from 10a-12p in the months of August & September in the Church. RSVP to Celeste at usischon@stmm.net.

2017 High School Beach Retreat Registration is SOLD OUT— Please email Liz to be placed on a waiting list! We'll be headed to Ft. Caswell on Oak Island August 18-20 and will be joined by our amazing friend Ben Walther!! The cost is \$190/pp and can be paid in payments as long as the balance is paid in full 2 weeks prior to the retreat. Please mail/turn in completed registration forms to StMM; Attn: Liz Sams, 625 Magdala Place, Apex, NC 27502. This retreat is open to all students who will be in high school for the 2017-2018 school year & does meet the Confirmation retreat requirement. This retreat will be hosted by our fabulous friend Ben Walther!!

Mass & Mission 2017: MASS & MISSION IS FULL! - Please email Liz to be placed on a waiting list! StMM Middle School Youth Ministry is excited to host our 3rd annual Mass & Mission this summer July 31st thru August 4th!! Mass & Mission is open to all teens who will be in 6th-8th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. 1) Each day begins with mass in the chapel (hopefully in the new church!) at 8:15am 2) After Mass teens will be divided into groups/carpools and will serve somewhere locally in the Raleigh/Cary/Apex area.3) After their service project, the teens will return to StMM to eat lunch and then we're going to play some games until pick up time at 2pm at StMM. 4) We prefer if teens serve for the entire week as it makes carpooling to service projects incredibly complicated to plan for if teens don't come every day. If the sign up genius is full, please shoot an email to liz.sams@gmail.com to get teens placed on a waiting list. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a45adab2c7-teen1>

Questions regarding the **EDGE & ASP** should be directed to Janine McGann at janine.mcgann@gmail.com 919-357-2611

Questions regarding **Apostello, The Way, & Confirmation** should be directed to Liz Sams at liz.sams@gmail.com 919-349-5030.



RCIA

RCIA is the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**. It is the process for becoming Catholic. Inquiry sessions for the 2017-2018 catechetical year are set for August 14th/21st/28th from 7p-8p in the Church Meeting Rooms. The same information will be repeated at each session. Contact Celeste at usischon@stmm.net with your questions.



Today's Announcements



Parish Office Summer Hours—The Parish offices are working on a summer schedule with limited office hours. The easiest way to contact us is via email which is checked on a daily basis.



Let's celebrate our beautiful new church opening! **Party on the Lawn: July 29th from 6:00-9:00pm** on the StMM Athletic Fields. There will be food trucks, bounce houses, games, music, and FREE Rita's Italian Ice! Bring your chairs, picnic blankets, shade tents, and lawn games to share! Join the StMM parish community for fun and fellowship!



Baby Drive Comes to StMM! Did you know that Catholic Parish Outreach food pantry gave a week's worth of groceries to an average of 9,600 people a month in 2015? We also distribute baby items (including formula, baby food, diapers and clothes Newborn up to 6T). July 22nd & 23rd volunteers will be handing out grocery bags with an attached shopping list. Please help CPO serve the less fortunate in our community by taking a bag and returning it on July 29th & 30th. If you have questions or would like to help with this project, please contact Kelly Rappl at krappl@nc.rr.com or Kathy Barnack at kbarnack@nc.rr.com.

The Office of Vocations invites rising HS Juniors and above (HS, college & professional men) to the **6th Annual Men in Black Games** on Fri, July 21st at 3pm at the KofC Fields, 4301 Columbus Club Drive in Raleigh. Arrive at 3pm – pick up at 6pm. Meet our 29 Seminarians, play soccer, kickball, ultimate Frisbee and enjoy prayer and dinner together. Let's send a good group from St. Mary Magdalene. Please email lynch@stmm.net if you can go or visit NCPRIEST.org, or the Facebook page for the Diocese of Raleigh Office of Vocations.



Prayer Line—miriambeck24@gmail.com, 919-924-1413



EM of HC Needed! Our new space will now provide 9 sections of seating for 1,350 people. Each of our weekend Masses will need 16/17 ministers of Communion at each Mass. Please consider training to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Requirements: completely initiated (Baptism/Communion/Confirmation) practicing Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church. Training will take place every Tuesday from 7p-9p & every Wednesday from 10a-12p in the months of August & September in the Church. RSVP to Celeste at usischon@stmm.net.



Electronic Giving
A convenient, consistent way to help our church grow

As you consider your offertory/pledge giving, we remind you that we have **Electronic Giving**

as a way to automate your contributions. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for the parish, especially during the summer months. Collection basket contributions can fluctuate significantly from week to week but when contributions are automated, the church receives funds on a steady basis. Authorization forms are in the lobby or contact the parish office 919-657-4800, info@stmm.net and we will email a form to you.



StMM Summer Camps—StMM School will again be offering a variety of Summer camps for Pre-school (Ages 3-5, must be potty-trained) to 8th grade. Camps will be offered through July 31st. Please visit www.school.stmm.net for camp descriptions and to register. Questions? Email summer-camp@stmm.net.



Do you receive Father Staib's E-News? If not, let us add you to the StMM directory for online communication. Our new church is almost completed and we want to include all our parishioners in news and updates. You can change or add your email address to the parish directory by emailing your name to info@stmm.net.



Inviting all rising 1st grade through 5th Grade boys to join Cub Scout Pack 224. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month from 7-8pm at StMM. The pack activities include the Apex Christmas Parade, Pinewood Derby, Halloween and Christmas parties, family camping, Sleep with the Sharks in Myrtle Beach and so much more! Please visit our website <http://www.apexpack224.org> or contact Robert Ato at cubmaster@apexpack224.org.

MY JOURNEY WITH JONAH

Sermon Notes for Blessing of Jonah Statue - July 9 and 10, 2017

Jonah was once thrown overboard, so he has a connection with water. Our practice for baptisms is to invite children to come, dip their hands in baptism water, take the wet hands to adults, bless ourselves, so we all remember our own baptism.

Today we will process with Baptism water to our new statue of Jonah and sprinkle him with the water. There are 8 verses of Scripture which will be inscribed on the bluestone at a later time. 7 verses are from Jonah, and one verse is from St Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus says *'There is something greater than Jonah here.'* Jesus knew the story of Jonah. Our Jonah is pointing where *'that something greater'* is – go inside this church.

The person who created Jonah in bronze for us is Shelley Kolman Smith, of Poetry, Texas. If you have any work in bronze you would like to consider, she has a beautiful website. Perhaps you would like a statue of yourself for your front lawn.

Why is Jonah here at our church? Here is your answer for all time? Children pay attention; people will ask you for the next 100 years. Your answer: *'O, we once had this funny old pastor who thought the story of Jonah was the story of his life – and he kept trying to convince us it is the story of our lives too.'*

Here is what happened to me in seminary when we studied Jonah. I kept trying to figure out how all the incredible events of that book took place, especially the fish part. I remember reading a recent publication in those days that Jonah is not an historical story – it is a Parable. Then, Jonah made sense. I was headed in the right direction now.

It is like you asked me in what direction is the Atlantic Ocean – and I point to the West. You get to Lake Jordan and say that is not a very big ocean. Someone who lives there tells you – you are going in the wrong direction – go East.

When we read Jonah as a Parable, here is what we learn from our statue verses:

1

The word of the Lord came to Jonah. The word of the Lord comes to each one of us. We will not be called like Jonah to convert the people of Nineveh. We are called to our own unique tasks, in our own times.

2

Jonah found a ship going to Tarshish. What did Jonah do when he was called? He did not go. He ran - in the opposite direction. He wanted no part of dealing with those people in Nineveh, no part of what God called him to do.

3

This great storm has come upon you because of me. When the storm came to the ship, the sailors were frightened. Jonah told them the storm was his fault because he did not respond to God's call. He made trouble for the sailors. Have we ever made trouble for others? Have we ever been uncooperative to bring good to others? Have we ever admitted we made a big time mistake?

4

Out of my distress I called to the Lord. Jonah is safe. He is grateful. This is the beautiful Chapter 2 of Jonah, his prayer. Where is Jonah safe? In the belly of the fish, where he can do nothing, he is trapped. He is in the Lord's hands. His words: *'You brought up my life from the pit, O Lord.'*

5

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time. Jonah gets a 2nd chance. We all get a 2nd chance to do the right thing, to follow the Lord's way.

This past week a man aged 65 came to visit me. I taught him religion for 3 years in high school. We talked about old times. We exchanged news of what happened since those days.

He knew stories I had not heard of what happened to some school mates. There were many stories of 2nd chances, including his own heartfelt recovery. There were some other sad stories of no recovery. For me – his visit was a reminder we cannot bring back the past, especially bring back people who once made my life so joyful and people for whom I had great expectations.

My visitor was African American. He was a good basketball player. I was the Athletic director for the school. Does that surprise you, me an AD? I had to schedule games.

One school I asked – the AD said *'what is the complexion of your school?'* I knew what he meant – how many Black kids? We had 5 of 12 boys. He proposed: playing segregated at his school [public schools were not integrated then], playing integrated at ours. I consulted with the team and they thought that would be progress.

At another school they did not realize we were so integrated when we arrived at their gym. There were ugly words spoken. We won the game by a big score and when leaving the gym there were taunts. I asked a policeman to help us get to the bus. He just turned and walked away. This leads to #6 from Jonah

6

The people of Nineveh proclaimed a fast. We have our individual sins for which we need 2nd chances. We also have our community sins: we as a people make laws, enforce customs, we discriminate against some groups of people, we exclude from care those who suffer, we keep for ourselves privileges not given to others. Like the whole people of Nineveh, there are still communities which need conversion.

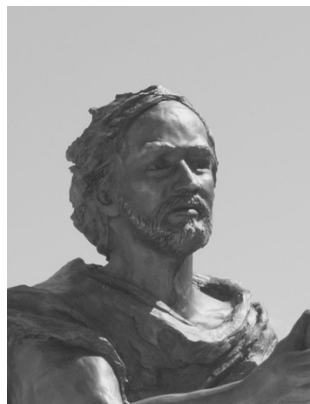
7

The gourd plant cost you no effort. After not getting credit for the conversion of Nineveh [remember: Mosul today is where Nineveh was] Jonah left town in a huff and pouted under the shade of the gourd plant, which then wilted and died. Jonah needed a 3rd chance. The Lord reminded Jonah: *'this plant cost you no labor, and you did not raise it.'* Our lesson: this gourd plant and all the plants of the earth are God's gift. We must care for these plants, as we must care for the people of far-away Mosul.

8

There is something greater than Jonah here. In the Gospels of Matthew and Luke there are 6 references to Jonah. Jesus taught about Jonah. Both Jonah and Jesus were once ensnared in the violence of a storm at sea.

In our bronze rendition of Jonah he is moving toward the *'something greater'* inside our church, Jesus. Next week we shall follow to where Jonah is looking. As we bless the statue of Jonah today, join me as we remember our own journeys of the past and the people who were with us. And we seek blessings for all our journeys yet to come. – Father Donald Staib





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