

St. Mary Magdalene December 13, 2024

Christmas Mass Times



ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC CHURCH

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS

Celebrating the Joy of Christ's Birth

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES	CHRISTMAS DAY
4PM & 7PM CHURCH	10AM CHURCH
4:15PM GYM	
12:00AM MIDNIGHT CHURCH	



[Click here for the Christmas Parking Plan and information about Christmas Masses](#)

A Note from Father Francis Xavier

LIFE IN GOD

I am filled with much hope and peace from the Advent and I pray that Joy fills you as the third candle of our Advent wreath burns brightly.

My brothers and sisters, allow me drag you a bit back to the Immaculate Conception. First of all, God plans for every life by conception time and ordains it a purpose right away. God in His omniscience, planned to give new life to the world that was fallen when Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother (Anne). He, therefore, preserved her from the stain of original sin at the very first moments of her existence (the Immaculate Conception). This should remind us of how God wanted to keep His original plan of a human race free from sin just like at the creation of Adam and Eve. He also never wanted to destroy His original work and to equally keep his initial command ".....be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it...." Gen 1:28.

Relatedly, God, continues to restore His creation through Mary whose YES to the Will of God - *fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum*- "Let it be done according to your word"

(ANNUNCIATION 25th/March) when her turn to conceive of the baby Jesus came. This YES of Mary introduces us to something new, that is the need for human free will and acceptance to collaborate with God before, during and after conception. I also seem to read some silent tone that once conception occurs, life and its divine purpose is present, and so Man/woman has no option but to seek Divine wisdom in supporting the remaining processes for proper growth and development of this new life.

Profusely, otherwise, God, initiates life and man/woman is expected to cooperate with Him to bring its proper purpose to actualization.

Every conception counts in the eyes of God, in Jer 1:5, He says "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.....and consecrated you.....".

I invite you to ponder upon the Divine will before involving in processes that may result into conception and so prepare to uphold life immediately after conception.

I pray that no human life from natural conception to natural death be mistreated or be taken less important and may the nativity of Christ comfort all who mourn the loss of their babies.

God is good

I love you.

Father Francis

Giving Portal

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- 25th Anniversary Car Magnets
- Luminaria Kits Dec 22nd

Upcoming Events

Dec 14 - 10:30am Confessions
Dec 14 - 5pm Mass
Dec 15 - 9am & 11am Mass
Dec 15 - Apostello, EDGE, & the Way

Mass This Weekend

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

Music for Weekend Masses

Gathering: Advent Entrance Antiphon pg 39

Dec 15 - Youth Mass 6pm
 Dec 16 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 16 - Catholic Senior Org 10:30am Narthex
 Dec 16 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel
 Dec 17 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 17 - Gather & the Rock 6:15pm Church
 Dec 18 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 19 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 19 - Morning Rosary Group after Mass Chapel
 Dec 20 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 20 - Our Lady Rosary Makers 10am Room 4
 Dec 21 - 10:30am Confessions
 Dec 21 - 5pm Mass
 Dec 22 - 9am & 11am Mass
 Dec 23 - Daily Mass 9am
 Dec 23 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel
 Dec 24 - No Daily Mass
 Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Masses - 4pm Church, 4:15pm Chapel, 7pm Church, Midnight Church
 Dec 25 - Christmas Day 10am Mass
 Dec 26 - No Daily Mass
 Dec 27 - No Daily Mass

Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12: Cry Out With Joy To The Lord
Preparation: Even So Come
Communion 1: O Come O Come Emmanuel 39
Communion 2: Ubi Caritas 354
Communion 3: Great Are You Lord
Sending Forth: Emmanuel 58

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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 floralministry@stmm.net

Mass Intentions

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

Advent Penance Services

- Dec 13 Our Lady of La Vang 7pm
- Dec 17 Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral 7pm
- Dec 18 St. Raphael 7pm

Christmas Flowers

December 10 – Thomas Edward Loughlin +
 December 11 – Charles Roba +
 December 12 – Sherry Lane +
 December 13 – Cooper Smith + & family
 December 14 – 5pm – Joseph & Agnes Baker +
 December 15 – 9am – Nicholas Franzel, Sr +
 December 15 – 11am – Jerry Bevenour +
 December 15 – 6pm – Parishioners of StMM
 December 16 – Richard H. Gearn +
 December 17 – Ellen Yantorn +
 December 18 – Barb Leinbach +
 December 19 – Elizabeth Soileau Mistic +
 December 20 – Nancy Christman
 December 21 – 5pm – Charles Kesser +
 December 22 – 9am – Parishioners of StMM
 December 22 – 11am – Dick Foster +

Dynamic Catholic Corner

Best Christmas Ever or Worst Christmas Ever? THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

It's harder than you might think to have a great Christmas...and it's much easier to ruin Christmas for you and everyone around you. This year, join Matthew Kelly for a fun, engaging and insightful **BEST ADVENT EVER** program that will help you avoid the things that can ruin your Christmas and focus on the things that lead to an amazing Christmas. Sign up today for free at BestAdventEver.com

BE BOLD. BE CATHOLIC.

Columbiette Advent Bake Sale and Gift Bazaar

COLUMBIETTES 3rd ADVENT BAKE SALE & GIFT BAZAAR - DEC 14/15 at all Masses!

Eliminate holiday hassles and check off your list right here at StMM. Give yourself the gift of more time to enjoy the beauty of our Advent season!

- unique, handcrafted rosaries and bracelets for men, women, children
- hand-painted artisan ornaments
- home-baked cakes, cookies, breads, pies, pastries, candies, gluten-free selections
- all items are nut-free
- Christmas Gift Basket for raffle
- Accepting cash, check and credit cards

All proceeds go to charitable local causes and our parish and school. For more information, contact

fr.hcmullhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com

Prayers & Squares Ministry

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Donations are being accepted to the Floral Ministry to decorate the Church with flowers this Advent season.

Donate in memory of or in honor of a loved one
 November 15th- December 16th



IF YOU WISH TO HONOR A LOVED ONE,
 PLEASE WRITE THEIR NAME IN THE "OPTIONAL" MEMO SECTION.
 THESE NAMES WILL RUN IN THE NARTHEX 12/20-12/21.

[Click here to donate for the Christmas Flowers](#)

25th Anniversary Car Magnets



Last weekend, magnets were handed out by the Parish Council as part of our 25th Anniversary celebrations. If you did not get a magnet, additional magnets can be picked up at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex of the Church after Masses.

Angel Tree



Catholic Senior Org (CSO)



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 lcmmorris0707@gmail.com

Adult Faith Refresher & Adult Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick

Do you wish you had a better understanding of your faith so you can lead a more joyful life? Do you feel like you aren't able to connect the dots with all you've learned?

Then come join Deacon Rick and your fellow parishioners for a dynamic six-week series that will enhance your daily spiritual life.

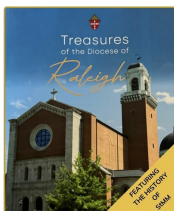
We typically get a small group of participants together for what is more discussion and less lecture.

The next series begins on January 15 and runs five more consecutive Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Please contact me if you wish to join! stevens@stmm.net or 908-910-0309

NOTE: THIS SERIES ALSO SERVES AS CONFIRMATION PREP FOR ADULTS WISHING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT.

Treasures of the Diocese of Raleigh



A beautifully illustrated book celebrating the 100th anniversary of our diocese and includes each parish and school. Makes a great gift for family and friends. Books are \$35.

Books are available for pick up in the Parish Office.

[Click here to purchase your copy now.](#) or

Don't want to pay online. Bring a check made out to "StMM" or cash.

The CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for women and men (60+) meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our next meeting, which will be our annual Christmas Party, will take place Monday, December 16, 2024, 10:30 AM until 12:30 PM, in the Church. For more information, please contact Jim Schultz, 954-649-0194 or Fran Hughes, gmomfran@gmail.com

Luminaria Kits Available Dec 22nd



St. Mary Magdalene's BSA Troop 316 participated in the upcoming neighborhood holiday luminaria, a Triangle-area tradition since 1973. The celebration traditionally takes place on December 24, or coordinated with neighbors for other holiday events. Candles are set out by the curbs or in the driveways in white bags to beautifully illuminate the streets of the neighborhood. The donations benefit scouting and service activities for the Troop.

We have extra kits! Between 10A-11A on Sunday December 22nd we will distribute free kits from the lower cafeteria parking lot off Village Commons Lane.

Thank you and Merry Christmas from Troop 316!

Hallow App



Deepen your Advent experience with the Hallow app

You're invited! Join our parish community this Advent season for Hallow's

Pray25: *For God So Loved The World*. We'll journey through the powerful memoir *A Severe Mercy* by Sheldon Vanauken and be joined by some incredible guides, including Jonathan Roumie!

To sign up: First, join St. Mary Magdalene's page on the app. To do so, visit the Community tab, search for our parish (zip code 27502), and join! Then, on Sunday, Dec. 1, be sure to join the Pray25 challenge on our parish page to take part.

Never used Hallow before?

Visit hallow.com/parish and watch the brief tutorial.

We look forward to praying with you!

March for Life Bus Trip

Time to sign up for the bus trip to the **National March for Life** - The National March for Life will be on January 24, 2025 in Washington, DC. You can join thousands at the National Mall for the concert, rally, great speakers, and march for the preborn children, and for all who still need your support for the Culture of Life in our State and Nation. The cost is \$100 per seat, and school-age children ride free with a parent or guardian. The bus will leave from St. Raphaels Catholic Church and return the same day. Can't make it? Then please sponsor a trip for some of these kids.. Sign up or donate at www.KofC9880.org/marchforlife

Safe Environment

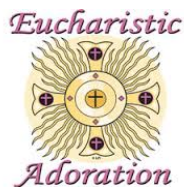
Returning Volunteers

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 Bertha Smith (bsmith@stmm.net).

New Volunteers

To become approved to volunteer, please go to the [StMM Safe Environment web page](#). See the *New Church and School Volunteers* 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 Bertha Smith (bsmith@stmm.net) with any questions.

Eucharistic Adoration Times



First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday, **January 3rd 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.

Respect Life Committee



Forward In Hope - Grief Support Group to Begin



If you're in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith

sharing group is for you. We recommend participants join us approximately six months after the loss of a loved one.

Sessions will consist of prayer, scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship. For more information about our fall sessions, please feel free to email stmmForwardinhope@stmm.net, call 919-657-4800 ext. 7280.

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 StMMPayerTeam@stmm.net.

Request Prayers

All are welcome to join our team in lifting the



Please join Deacon Rick for Eucharistic Holy Hour and Evening Prayer. This sacred time is an opportunity for a deep, personal encounter with Christ: Pope Francis recommends Eucharistic Adoration as a foundational spiritual practice. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be followed by evening prayer (Vespers) in the Liturgy of The Hours which represents the official prayers of the Church. We give thanks for the day and praise God. Adoration continues followed by Benediction.

Next Holy Hour: Tuesday, January 28 , from 6:30pm - 7:25pm

RCIA Prayer Corner

Please pray for Kaitlyn, Ashton, Michael, Mark, Michael, Yazmin, Jessica, and Earl who have started their RCIA journey.

Please pray for the Montana, Christina, and Victoria who are starting their RCIA journey in two week.

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

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](#)

RCIA




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 RCIA process at StMM is starting in November 11, 2024. 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](#)

Next Night of



Tuesday
Dec. 17

6:15 pm
Church



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.

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 StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com



[Click here for the interest form for Youth Mass volunteers](#)

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!

St. Mary
Magdalene
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TOURS
OPEN

25-26 School Year

Serving
PreK3
through
Eighth
Grade



We pray. We learn. We care.

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