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## St. Mary Magdalene December 15, 2023

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### A Note from Father Chris

The proclamations this weekend speak of the Holy Spirit: the spirit of God available to us, the spirit of our true selves, the spirit of the blessed life.

The Christmas spirit is a strong part of the spirit of God inviting us to share our lives in the ways of Jesus Christ. Jesus teaches us the human capabilities for holiness. Goodness, truth and love are our true self, and we can grow in this spirit with learning and trust.

May this week of preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ build in us our true spirit of love.

Many blessings,

Fr. Chris

[Giving Portal](#)

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## Upcoming Events

December 16 - Confessions 10:30am  
 December 16 - 5pm Mass  
 December 17 - 9am & 11am Mass  
 December 18 - Daily Mass 9am  
 December 18 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel  
 December 19 - Eucharistic Holy Hour 7pm Church  
 December 20 - Daily Mass 9am  
 December 21 - Daily Mass 9am  
 December 22 - Jan 1 Parish Office Closed  
 December 22 - Daily Mass 9am  
 December 22 - Morning Rosary 9:30am Chapel  
 December 23 - No Confessions  
 December 23 - 5pm Mass  
 December 24 - 9am & 11am Mass 4th Sunday of Advent  
 December 24 - Christmas Eve Mass 4pm & 7pm  
 December 25 - Christmas Day Mass 10am  
 December 26-28 - No Daily Mass  
 December 29 - Daily Mass 9am  
 December 30 - No Confessions  
 December 30 - 5pm Mass  
 December 31 - 9am & 11am Mass  
 January 1 - Solemnity of Mary Mass 10am

## Mass This Weekend

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

**New Mass Music Link Here: [New Music Link](#)**

Follow this link on Google Drive and download a PDF to your phone.

### Music for the Weekend Masses

**Gathering:** Advent Entrance Antiphon pg 39

**Responsorial Psalm:** Luke 1: My Soul Rejoices In The Lord

**Preparation:** Great is The Lord

**Eucharistic Acclamations:** 879-884

**Communion 1:** O Come O Come Emmanuel 39

**Communion 2:** Ready the Way 63

**Communion 3:** Great Are You Lord

**Sending Forth:** Emmanuel 58

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## Pictures of the Week



## Choir's Christmas Party



The Mulholland Columbiettes express their sincere gratitude to our StMM family and Father Chris for supporting our Advent Bake Sale and Gift Bazaar fundraiser! Proceeds will benefit StMM improvement projects and those in need. For information on our auxiliary, contact [fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com](mailto:fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com).



Seminarian Rob Lane helping with the Rock on Tuesdays



The School Kindergarten Classes celebrated the Feast of St. Lucy



Congratulations to Knights of Columbus Council 7186 for receiving the Star Council Award for Fraternal Year 2022-23 recently presented by State Deputy Chris Losak to past Grand Knight Vic Agusta. The award recognizes the Council's excellence in membership growth, insurance promotion, and charitable outreach and service under the four program categories of Faith, Family, Community, and Life.

## Christmas Flowers

Please consider donating flowers to St. Mary Magdalene to beautify the altar and church during the Advent and Christmas season.

You can donate flowers either "in memory of" or "in honor of" your loved ones. Please note this in the comments on the sign up.

For sign up link, click [here](#).

To donate, click [here](#). Choose "Flowers (Christmas)".

## Sacraments



**BAPTISMS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email [sansone@stmm.net](mailto: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](mailto:weddings@stmm.net)

## Advent Penance Services

Dec 15th - St. Catherine of Siena 7pm  
Dec 19th - St. Luke 11am  
Dec 19th - Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral 7pm  
Dec 20th - St. Raphael 7pm

## Catholic Senior Organization

The CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for women and men (60+) meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our annual Christmas Party will take place on Tuesday, December 19, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM at the Apex Senior Center, 63 Hunter St, Apex. For additional information, please contact Fran Hughes [gmomfran@gmail.com](mailto:gmomfran@gmail.com)

## Gabriel Project

The Gabriel Project Ministry volunteers are walking alongside 17 mothers. Thank you for your generosity in helping to make the Giving Tree a success. We will be receiving 130 donations and are able to give each member of the families we are serving a clothing item as well as a special gift. This is a friendly reminder, if you picked up any tags from the Giving Tree, please bring your donation to St. Mary Magdalene by Sunday, December 17th.

## StMM Christmas Magnets

For those Parishioners who were not able to collect their StMM Christmas Magnet from the Parish Council or would like one for a second vehicle, the magnets will be in a box at the Welcome desk in Narthex. Please help yourself.

## Adult Faith Refresher

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### 4th Weekend Masses:

Sat Dec 23 5pm  
Sun Dec 24 9am & 11am

### Christmas Masses:

Sun Dec 24 4pm (Children's Mass) 7pm  
Sun Dec 25 10am

[Click here for Parking Information for Christmas Masses](#)

## Helping Hands Angel Tree

Thank you to all who picked up an ornament/gift tag. All gifts/donations should be brought to the Narthex no later than 12pm on Sunday, December 17th.

## Respect Life

In the spirit of the season, the Respect Life ministry is once again creating Christmas cards for seniors who reside in assisted living centers across Apex. All parish youth are invited to participate. Please drop off hand-made Christmas cards in the marked gift bags in the church gathering space after weekend Masses **no later than 12 noon on Sunday, December 17**. The ministry will be delivering the cards that afternoon. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

## Christmas Choir

### **Sing in the Choir for Christmas!**

Come and sing in the Choir for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day! Have you wanted to be in choir but never had the time? Everyone knows Christmas carols, so join the choir for this joyful day! Come to Wednesday rehearsal: December 20th at 7pm in the Church.

## Children's Choir

Children's Choir will meet on Thursday from 5pm -6pm

Children's Choir will sing at the Christmas Eve Mass at 4pm in the Church.

## Pastoral Council Nominations

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 me 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 runs begins on January 3 and runs five more consecutive Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Please contact me if you wish to join!  
[stevens@stmm.me](mailto:stevens@stmm.me) or 908-910-0309

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

The Pastoral Council (Parish Council) is seeking four new members for the 2024 through 2026 term. The Pastoral Council is responsible for reviewing and evaluating key details pertaining to Pastoral activities at St. Mary Magdalene. In addition, the Council shall provide support for the efforts of the Pastor, the parish staff, the parish ministries and the parish community.

To be eligible for the Pastoral Council, one must be:

- in full communion with the Catholic Church,
- at least 18 years old,
- a registered parishioner in good standing of St. Mary Magdalene Parish for a minimum of one year.

Individuals serving in leadership roles in other parish committees, boards, commissions, or ministries are not eligible to serve on the Pastoral Council.

Persons related to individuals currently serving on the Council or serving as ministry heads are not eligible

The Council meets monthly on the second Monday of the month at 7pm, in Church meeting room #1. It is important that any selected member be willing and able to attend these meetings in person. Each member selected shall serve a 3 year term, starting in February 2024.

Interested parishioners should submit their name, address, email, and phone number to our Parish Secretary, Deb Prewitt, by January 1, 2024. Deb's email is [prewitt@stmm.net](mailto:prewitt@stmm.net).

For more information, please contact Carol Marino ([carolmarino@usa.net](mailto:carolmarino@usa.net)), or Deb Prewitt ([prewitt@stmm.net](mailto:prewitt@stmm.net))

## Frassati Young Adult Group



Young adults in their 20s and 30s are welcome to join the Frassati Young Adult Group.

**December 30 8:30am-11:30am** Volunteer at Oak City Cares; limited space, email [frassati@stmm.net](mailto:frassati@stmm.net) by Dec 18 to reserve your spot

To learn more about Frassati or to join our email list, email [frassati@stmm.net](mailto:frassati@stmm.net)

## Eucharistic Adoration Times



The 3rd Tuesday of each month, please join Deacon Rick for Eucharistic Holy Hour and Evening Prayer.

## 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 [lc Morris0707@gmail.com](mailto:lc Morris0707@gmail.com)

## 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

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, December 19th, from 7- 8pm**

First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday, **January 5th from 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](mailto:ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM) or 919-280-8931 if interested.

## RCIA Prayer Corner

Please pray for Daniel and Perry who received the Rite of Welcoming/Rite of Acceptance.

Please pray for Heather, Cay Sea, Jonathon and Bill who will receive the Rites of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist) on January 20 at the 5 PM Mass.

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

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](mailto: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

## RCIA



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

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 on January 8, 2024. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Please contact Kathy and Scott Strednak at [rcia@stmm.me](mailto:rcia@stmm.me) 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





**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**

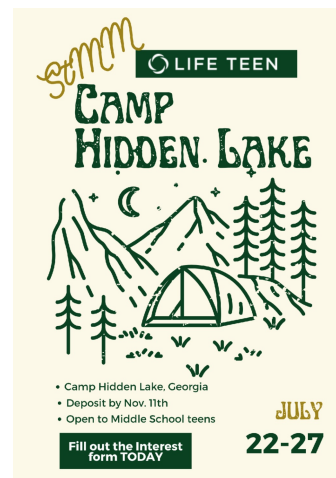


Together, our Faith Formation programs sponsored 36 children, generously donating over 350 gifts!



*THANK YOU*

To Janet and Tom Overburg  
for leading this Christmas  
Project ministry for 9 years!  
We could not have done it  
without you!



Open to all current 6th graders, 7th and 8th graders. We will spend a week at Camp Hidden lake with Life teen ministries doing fun activities throughout the day such as a climbing wall, swimming with water trampolines, and ropes course! At night we have an awesome speaker, praise and worship with a live band and prayer



time.

Only 7 spots left!

Click [here](#) to complete interest form



February Retreat is FULL!



### Appalachia Service Project (ASP)

Applications for St Mary Magdalene's annual summer service trip with Appalachia Service Project (ASP) are OPEN NOW! Appalachia Service Project is a non-profit focused on making homes warmer, safer, and drier through home repair, and community building through relational ministry. The service trip is open to any current high schoolers involved in youth ministry at StMM, as well as any StMM adults willing to serve and work with high schoolers. Applications are due by January 5th at 11:59pm. Apply [here](#)! For questions or more information, please reach out to Meredith McElroy, StMM ASP Trip Coordinator, at [asp@stmm.me](mailto:asp@stmm.me). To stay the most up to date, follow our Instagram [@stmmas](#)

ASP Applications are NOW OPEN: [StMM ASP 2024 Application \(google.com\)](#)

### 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 Bordelon at [bordelon@stmm.net](mailto:bordelon@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7309

For **Confirmation**, contact [StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com](mailto:StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com)

## School News

### School Employment Opportunities

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School invites you to join our school community as a substitute teacher. We offer competitive compensation, a great work environment, and a flexible work schedule to fit your life. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Kate Lawson at the school at [lawson@stmm.net](mailto:lawson@stmm.net).



St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School is accepting applications for the 24-25 school year in grades PreK3-8th. If you are interested in a Catholic education for your child(ren), apply [HERE](#) or contact Lisa Portland ([portland@stmm.net](mailto:portland@stmm.net)) to schedule a tour!

## Advertisement

Check these ads at [www.stmm.church/welcome/bulletins.cfm](http://www.stmm.church/welcome/bulletins.cfm)

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<p><b>KL</b> 919-210-2709</p> <p>Kathy Lynch Homes</p> <p>Kathy@KathyLynchHomes.com kathylynchhomes.com</p> <p><b>Kathy Lynch</b> STMM Parishioner</p> <p><b>KW CARY</b> KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY <small>Each office is independently owned and operated.</small></p> <p><i>Mention this ad &amp; I will donate **10%** of my earned fee to your favorite STMM ministry in your name!</i></p>	<p><b>PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE</b> (919) 460-7676</p> <p>Children - Teens - Adults WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS</p> <p><b>Dr. Mary MacKenzie</b> STMM Parishioner</p> <p>270 Cornerstone Dr. #105 Cary, NC 27519 (off Davis by High House Rd.) <a href="http://www.PrimaryMedCare.com">www.PrimaryMedCare.com</a></p>	<p><b>919-361-0993</b></p> <p>HEATING · COOLING <b>Maynor</b> Service Company PLUMBING · ELECTRIC</p> <p>info@maynorservices.com <a href="http://www.MaynorServices.com">www.MaynorServices.com</a></p>
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11/26/2023

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