
St. Mary Magdalene December 22, 2023

A Note from Father Chris

A star shines over the Messiah. A child in a manger is our Messiah. This beautiful entry into the world of Jesus Christ is our entry into the celebration of Christmas. The profound connection to our God begins just as we all begin, with the gift of life itself.

May the spirit of God's gift of Jesus Christ be alive in your heart this Christmas. May your family and friends add to the light that leads us to love.

Peace on earth and goodwill to all,

Fr. Chris

[Giving Portal](#)

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Upcoming Events

December 22 - Jan 1 Parish Office Closed
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
January 2 - No Holy Hour
January 3 - Daily Mass 9am
January 4 - Daily Mass 9am
January 4 - Morning Rosary 9:30am
January 5 - Daily Mass 9am
January 5 - First Friday Adoration 9:30am - 7pm Church
January 6 - Confessions 10:30am
January 6 - 5pm Mass
January 7 - 9am & 11am Mass
January 7 - Apostello, the Way, and the EDGE
January 7 - Youth Mass 6pm

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 4th Sunday of Advent Masses

Gathering: Advent Entrance Antiphon pg 41

Responsorial Psalm 89: Forever I Will Sing

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

Music for Christmas Masses

Preludes:

O Little Town of Bethlehem 85

Go Tell it on the Mountain 82

Angels We Have Heard 87

Child of the Poor 96

What Child is This 97

Gathering: O Come All Ye Faithful 99

Responsorial Psalm: 96 Today is Born Our Savior

Preparation: Hark The Herald 102

Eucharistic Acclamations: BB 879-884

Communion 1: Bread of Life 73

Communion 2: Away in a Manger 76

Communion 3: Silent Night 81

Sending Forth: Joy to the World 86

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Pictures of the Week



The Baptism of Theo Richards on November 26th at St. Andrew's in Westwood, NJ



The Baptism of Abigail Beavers on December 16th



The Mulholland Columbiettes Advent Social. For more information on the auxiliary, or if you're interested in joining, contact cathy.h.stevens@gmail.com



Irene and Stephen Rotich's Convalidation December 16th



December 15th
Julia and Matthew Gwinn's convalidation and their son Austin's baptism
Kaeli and Zachary Allen's convalidation and their son Henry's baptism

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

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

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?

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

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 additional information for Christmas Masses](#)

Pastoral Council Nominations

The Pastoral Council (Parish Council) is seeking four new members for the 2024 through 2026 term. The Pastoral Council is responsible for

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 or 908-910-0309

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

Frassati Young Adult Group



The Frassati Young Adult group has the following activities planned:

Friday, Jan 5 at 7pm: Game Night in Youth Room at St. MM

Wednesday, Jan 17 at 7pm in Room 3: Assemble soup kits that will be distributed to people in need of food in our area.

Saturday, Jan 20 afternoon: Bonfire

For more information about Frassati or to join our email list, email frassati@stmm.net.

Eucharistic Adoration Times



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

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.

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

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

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, January 16th, 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 or 919-280-8931 if interested.

RCIA Prayer Corner

Please continue to pray for Daniel and Perry.

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.

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 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



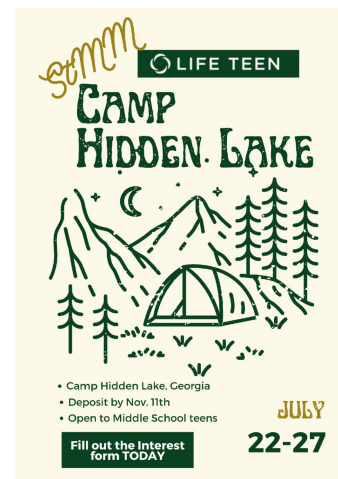


Questions:

For **GATHER**, contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net 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



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. 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 or 919-657-4800 x7307

For **Apostello and the Way**, contact Niki Bordelon at bordelon@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7309

For **Confirmation**, contact 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.

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) to schedule a tour!

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