

St. Mary Magdalene December 6, 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	



A Note from Father Mike

If we were to ask a group of young children, "Who is coming during this Christmas season?" I think most of them would probably respond, "Santa Claus." As parents and grandparents, we may smile at this, yet this is what much of our culture thinks of at Christmas. There are reindeer pulling a big sled full of toys, and one of them has a shiny red nose that doubles as a searchlight in the event of a storm. In the sled is a jolly guy in a red suit, who we also see in our local stores. We shop, send Christmas cards, decorate our homes and get ready for family time because family time together is what Christmas is all about.

Christmas is the time in our culture when we must pause and reflect. To remember that Jesus is the main event and not "Santa" or "Rudolph" or "Just Family Time." We must never lose track that Jesus is the reason for the Christmas season. It is important to remember that Christmas is not a holiday, or a politically correct term, but a holy day when we celebrate the birth of the Savior of the world. That although born in an obscure village and to humble circumstances, and although he would write no books, and live publicly for only a brief three years, no person has left such an indelible mark on human history, as Jesus did. This precious child from Bethlehem makes all the difference. He gives us a deeper meaning and purpose in life.

The Magi were inspired to follow a star, a light from heaven that led them to the precious baby Jesus. Who seeks us to take the heavenly light we received at our baptism into the world. To share it during that wonderful family time. To let it shine for all to see, so that hearts that are filled with materialism, may come to know the true meaning of Christmas.

In His love,

Giving Portal

In This Issue:

- Upcoming Events
- Mass Information for This Weekend
- Pictures of the Week
- Eucharistic Adoration Opportunities
- 25 Hours of Adoration Dec 6 - Dec 7
- Christmas Concert Dec 6th
- Advent Penance Services
- RCIA
- Prayer Team
- Prayers & Squares Ministry
- Faith Formation Information for All Programs
- Hallow App
- Dynamic Catholic Corner
- Forward in Hope
- Respect Life Committee
- Columbiette Bake Sale Dec 14-15
- Angel Tree
- "Treasures of the Diocese of Raleigh" Centennial Book Available in Parish Office
- Annual Safe Environment Training
- Catholic Senior Org (CSO)
- Altar Flowers
- School News
- Christmas Flowers
- Angel Tree
- Centennial Raffle
- Career Network Ministry

Upcoming Events

Dec 6 - 25 Hours of Adoration 9:30am Chapel
Dec 6 - Our Lady Rosary Makers 10am Room 4
Dec 6 - Christmas Concert & Dinner 6pm Church
Dec 7 - 10:30am Confessions
Dec 7 - 5pm Mass
Dec 8 - 9am & 11am Mass
Dec 8 - Apostello, EDGE, & the Way
Dec 8 - Youth Mass 6pm
Dec 9 - Holy Day Feast of Immaculate Conception 9am & 7pm Mass
Dec 9 - Advent Penance Service 11am
Dec 9 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel
Dec 10 - Daily Mass 9am
Dec 10 - Gather & the ROCK 6:15pm
Dec 11 - Daily Mass 9am
Dec 12 - Daily Mass 9am
Dec 12 - Morning Rosary Group after Mass Chapel
Dec 13 - Daily Mass 9am
Dec 13 - Our Lady Rosary Makers 10am Room 4
Dec 14-15 - Angel Tree Donations Due
Dec 14 - Confession 10:30am
Dec 14 - 5pm Mass
Dec 15 - 9am & 11am Mass
Dec 15 - Apostello, the Way & EDGE
Dec 15 - Youth Mass 6pm

Mass This Weekend

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

Music for Weekend Masses

Gathering: Advent Entrance Antiphon pg 33

Responsorial Psalm: 126: The Lord Has Done Great Things

Intercessions: Christ Our Light Hear Our Prayer

Preparation: Even So Come

Communion 1: O Come O Come Emmanuel 39

Communion 2: Amen El Cuerpo de Christo 352

Communion 3: Great Are You Lord

Sending Forth: Emmanuel 58

* Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-602944 . All rights reserved.

Pictures of the Week



The Baptism of Theodore Louis Will on November 30th



The Convalidation of Christina and David Lincoln on November 29th



On Friday, November 29, St. Mary Magdalene, along with Mother Teresa Catholic Church, St. Michaels Catholic Church and St. Andrews Catholic Church provided brunch for 300 folks at Oak City Cares (OCC)! We served French Toast Casserole (prepared by 38 folks from St. Mary Magdalene's), Scrambled Eggs, Turkey Sausage, Hash Browns, Muffins, Fruit and Juices. Our guests also received Christmas cards with a gift card to A Place At The Table where they could exchange that gift card for either a complete Breakfast or Lunch. This was all thanks to the tremendous generosity of you, the parishioners! Thank you so very much for making this a success and for providing a meal to those that need it most! Have a blessed Christmas!



Thanks to the CSO for helping with the Christmas Letter this week. We were finished in record time!

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

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

25 hours of Adoration



Our next 25th Anniversary event will be holding **25 hours of Adoration** in the Chapel Fri, Dec 6 9:30am to Sat, Dec 7 at 10:30am

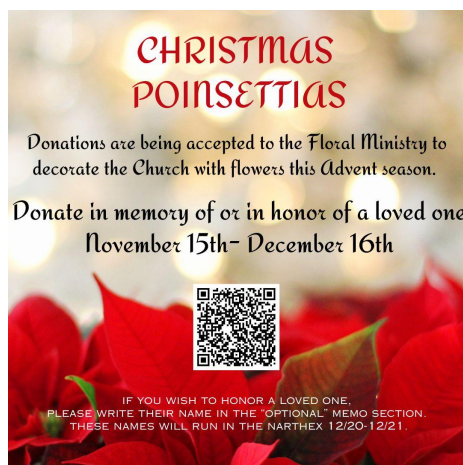
The Chapel doors will be locked from 10am to 6pm. for safety. Please knock on the wooden doors to be let in.

Christmas Concert and Dinner Dec 6th



All are welcome to join us for dinner provided by the Knights of Columbus following the StMM Christmas Concert on December 6th by RSVPing [HERE](#)

Christmas Flowers



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

Room at the Inn Campaign

NC Knights of Columbus - Walking with Moms in Need through Room at the Inn
Join us in making a difference with The Promise Center, an expansion of Room At The Inn, a Catholic prolife charity dedicated to supporting expectant mothers and their families. We are hosting a fundraiser to provide essential resources and compassionate care for those in need. Your generosity can help us continue to offer shelter, education, and emotional support, empowering women to choose life for their unborn children. Together, we can build a community of love, hope, and dignity. Donate today and be part of a life-saving mission!

[Click here to donate to Room at the Inn](#)

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

Advent Penance Services

- Dec 6 St. Luke 7pm
- Dec 9 St. Mary Magdalene 11am
- Dec 10 Our Lady of Lourdes 11am
- Dec 10 St. Andrew 7pm
- Dec 11 St. Bernadette 11am
- Dec 13 Our Lady of La Vang 7pm
- Dec 17 St. Michael 11am
- Dec 17 Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral 7pm

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.

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 lcmmorris0707@gmail.com

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

Bus Trip to National March for Life

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

- Dec 18 St. Raphael 7pm

Help at Christmas Eve Mass



We are seeking two couples from our parish community who are willing to represent the Holy Family at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass.

The goal is to have you dressed in costume and process in with the Priest at the beginning of Mass carrying the statue of the newborn Jesus to place into the manger/creche scene. If you are interested, please contact Jim Galkowski for more details at galkowski@stmm.net.

Angel Tree



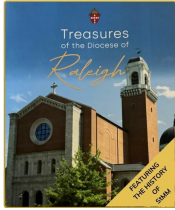
Please stop by the table this weekend to pick up ornaments. Choose from many options and organizations:

- Children of St. Julia's Parish
- Western Wake Crisis Ministry
- Holly Springs Food Cupboard
- Gabriel Project
- Catholic Parish Outreach
- Women That Care

Respect Life Committee

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

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.

Catholic Senior Org (CSO)

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



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!

Centennial Raffle

Safe Environment

Returning Volunteers

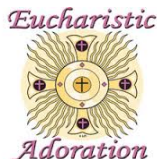
All returning volunteers should have completed the annual Safe Environment Training module by September 15. The Diocese has started to "suspend" or "archive" those who are not compliant. If you missed the deadline and would like to volunteer, please contact Bertha Smith (bsmith@stmm.net).

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 chapel on Friday, **from 9:30am to December 6th to December 7th 10:30am.** 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.



Celebrate 100 Years and Win the Ultimate Deanery Experience!

JOIN THE CENTENNIAL RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN EXCLUSIVE TRIPS FROM ACROSS OUR DIOCESE AND EXPERIENCE THE BEST EACH DEANERY HAS TO OFFER. EACH PRIZE PACKAGE INCLUDES **TOP-NOTCH ACCOMMODATIONS, DINING, AND UNFORGETTABLE ACTIVITIES.**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESRALEIGH.ORG/CENTENNIAL-SUNDAY-RAFFLE
FOR ALL 8 PRIZE DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!

TICKET SALES WILL GO LIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2024.
\$10/TICKET OR 3 FOR \$20.
PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR ANY UPDATES!
WINNERS WILL BE DRAWN ON DECEMBER 12, 2024



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



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 28th, 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.

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



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. 10

6:15 pm
Church

ST. MARY MAGDALENE YOUTH
MINISTRY PROGRAMS

THE CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Please select a gift from our Sign Up
Genius to benefit the Western Wake
Guardian ad Litem foster children,

GATHER & ROCK

**DROP OFF GIFTS
ON 12/10/24 IN THE
YOUTH ROOM LOCATED IN
THE ACTIVITIES BLDG**



[Click Here to View Sign-Up Genius](#)

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



Guidelines

1. Sign up for an item in the sign up genius
2. Please wrap any small items in larger boxes to keep from getting lost
3. Wrap all gifts and label with the gift label code
4. Include gift receipts
5. Check-in all presents in the Youth Room



Drop Off

- **The Way & EDGE:**
Sunday Dec. 8th at
5:30pm and 7pm
- **Gather & The Rock:**
Tuesday Dec. 10th
from 5:45-6:15PM

[Click Here for Sign Up Genius](#)



High School Mountain Retreat

FEBRUARY 7-9
CAMP CARAWAY
ASHEBORO, NC
REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 1
9-12TH GRADERS



BE A YOUTH MASS VOLUNTEER!

Before Mass

- Altar Prep

During Mass:

- Altar Servers
- Ushers
- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers

Mountain Retreat is now full! Please email Niki Furnier at nfurnier@stmm.net to be added to the waitlist.

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

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

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!

Serving
PreK3
through
Eighth
Grade



We pray. We learn. We care.

Career Network Ministry



CNM Career Success Summit: Navigating Today's Market w/ Faith & Purpose

Event by Career Network Ministry

Details: Join us for our largest, most impactful career event of the year, designed to guide you on your career journey with faith, purpose, and actionable insights. Organized by the Career Network Ministry and deeply inspired by the practical and spiritual guidance found in "Careering: A Spiritual and Practical Guide on How to Find and Maintain Work in Today's Economy" by Dana Gower and Paul Dean, the Career Success Summit features inspiring and informative keynotes, presentations, panel discussions, and more.

Sponsored by talent acquisition and advisory firm, Kelaca, and career management and outplacement services firm, CareerPro, and held in the new Parish Center at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh, you'll gain invaluable tools, insights, and a strong, supportive network to confidently navigate today's job market

Thu, Dec 12, 2024, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
2403 Crusader Dr, Raleigh, NC (Parish Center)

Seating is Limited to 50.

Register on LinkedIn: <https://tinyurl.com/z6tk4fp4>

StMM E-News | 625 Magdala Place | Apex, NC 27502 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!