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## St. Mary Magdalene January 10, 2025

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### A Note from Father Mike

In this weekend's reading from Isaiah, we hear the theme of "Comfort." God seeks to comfort his people who have been dealing with their exile from Jerusalem to the Babylonian empire. They had done many things over the years that displeased God and the exile was like God's disciplinary "timeout." We hear in the previous chapter of Isaiah about King Hezekiah of Judah, making prideful and bragging statements to the visitors from Babylon about all the great things they have in Judah. "Hezekiah was pleased at their coming, and then showed the messengers from Babylon his treasury, the silver and gold, the spices and perfumed oil, his whole armory, and everything in his storerooms; there was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them." By his boasting, he showed his adversaries all their hidden secrets.

The prophet Isaiah and King Hezekiah did not always see eye to eye. Isaiah confronts his bragging with some hard and devastating words. Basically, the Jewish people had turned away from God, so everything will be carried away to Babylon. Their rebellion toward God has caused them devastation. Their lack of faith has led to their ruin. Yet, despite all the hardships and challenges the Jewish people had endured in their exile, God still loves them and seeks to comfort them. Through the prophet Isaiah, the people hear that God's purpose is not their destruction but their redemption.

We too may also experience many struggles and challenges. Despite all of this, we should never forget what St. Paul tells us. He says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort." Always remember that God desires to save, not to destroy. God desires our redemption, so let us prepare by humbling our hearts for the Lord. Seek his help in removing any obstacles that may hinder us from truly trusting in him. Let us believe and trust in God's never failing love for us, despite any setbacks we may encounter each day.

In his Love,

Fr. Mike Coveyou

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## Upcoming Events

Jan 11 - 10:30am Confessions  
 Jan 11 - 5pm Mass  
 Jan 12 - 9am & 11am Mass  
 Jan 12 - Apostello, EDGE, & the Way  
 Jan 12 - Youth Mass 6pm  
 Jan 13 - 9am Mass  
 Jan 13 - 6:30pm Family Rosary  
 Jan 13 - 7pm Parish Council meeting  
 Jan 14 - 9am Mass  
 Jan 14 - Gather/Rock  
 Jan 15 - 9am Mass  
 Jan 15 - 6:30pm Adult Faith Refresher  
 Jan 15 - 7pm Frassati Young Adult Meeting  
 Jan 16 - 9am Mass  
 Jan 16 - 7pm Youth Music Ministry  
 Jan 17 - 9am Mass  
 Jan 18 - 10:30am Confessions  
 Jan 18 - 5pm Mass  
 Jan 19 - 9am & 11am Mass

## Mass This Weekend

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

### **Music for Weekend Masses**

**Gathering:** Entrance Antiphon

**Responsorial Psalm:** 104: O Bless The Lord  
My Soul

**Preparation:** Reckless Love

**Communion 1:** Open My Eyes 409

**Communion 2:** O Come To The Altar

**Communion 3:** Rest On Us

**Sending Forth:** Joy To The World 90

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## Pictures of the Week



The Frassati Young Adult Group made desserts for the Durham Ronald McDonald House. For more information on Frassati, email us at [frassati@stmm.net](mailto:frassati@stmm.net).



The parish staff bid farewell to Fr. Francis and wished him safe travels as he returns to Uganda to visit his family for a few weeks. Please keep Fr. Francis in your prayers while he is away.





## New St. Mary Magdalene Parish Staff Members

# Welcome

We're excited to introduce our newest team members and welcome them to the St. Mary Magdalene community.

Their dedication and passion will be a great addition to our parish!

Jennifer Walker



Religious Education  
Administrative  
Assistant

Jennifer is our new Religious Education Administrative Assistant. She is originally from Connecticut and moved to North Carolina with her family in 2016. In 2019, she settled in Apex with her family, and have been parishioners at St. Mary Magdalene ever since. Jennifer is married with two children, both of whom attend StMM Catholic School. She enjoys running, traveling, working in the yard, and cheering on the New York Yankees and UConn Huskies basketball teams. Welcome to the team, Jennifer!

Jennifer can be reached at [jwalker@stmm.net](mailto:jwalker@stmm.net).

## Jen McIntosh

Jen has been a dedicated volunteer at St. Mary Magdalene School, where her three daughters attend. She enjoys being part of the warm and welcoming St. Mary Magdalene community and, wanting to take on a larger role, stepped into the position of Safe Environment Coordinator. We are excited to welcome her to the team!

Jen can be reached at [jmcintosh@stmm.net](mailto:jmcintosh@stmm.net).



Safe Environment  
Coordinator

## Laura Tuning



Communications  
Coordinator

Laura recently joined our team as the new Communications Coordinator. After many years in the corporate sector, Laura felt called to combine her expertise and faith, leading her to transition to St. Mary Magdalene. In her free time, she enjoys hiking with her dogs, gardening, and reading. We're excited to have her on the team!

Laura can be reached at [tuning@stmm.net](mailto:tuning@stmm.net).

## Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition



The **Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition** will be held this weekend at **St. Luke the Evangelist** in the parish hall.

## Pastoral Council Nominations

The Pastoral Council (Parish Council) is seeking new members for the 2025 through 2027 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.

Dates:

**Saturday, January 11**, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 12**, from 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

## CSO- Catholic Senior Organization

The CSO (Catholic Senior Organization for women and men (60+) meets every third Monday of the month, September through May. Our next meeting will take place Monday, January 20, 2025, 10:30 AM until Noon, in Church meeting room #3.

For more information, please contact Jim Schultz, 954-649-0194 or Fran Hughes, [gmomfran@gmail.com](mailto:gmomfran@gmail.com)

## Sacraments



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)

## 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

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 2025.

Interested parishioners should complete the yellow nomination form in the narthex or submit their name, address, email, and phone number to our Parish Secretary, Deb Prewitt, by January 13, 2025. at [prewitt@stmm.net](mailto:prewitt@stmm.net).

## Thank You

Father Mike, Father Francis, Deacon Dev, Deacon Rick, Juan Fernando, and Johan would like to thank the parishioners for all the Christmas greetings, gifts, and baked items. The love and support is very much appreciated.

## Altar Flowers



This week's altar flowers are donated by Jim and Mary Ann Smith in memory of Charles Kesser.

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](mailto:floralministry@stmm.net)

## Study of the Torah with Deacon Dev



### Weekday Study of the Torah for Everyone

Join Deacon Dev and many of your fellow parishioners on

**Thursday evenings** for

a unique study of the Torah – the first five books of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), also called the Law (or the Pentateuch, in Christianity). See how it all began! The Torah provides important historical and spiritual insights, that will deepen your understanding of the foundational teachings



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](mailto:stevens@stmm.net) or 908-910-0309

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

## Bingo Night Jan 31st



[Click here to register](#)

## Walking With Purpose



walking with purpose

Are you looking to grow in relationship with our Lord and other Catholic women? There are two upcoming opportunities to learn more about Walking With Purpose: **Webinar** on **Thursday, Jan. 16 at 12:30pm and 8:30pm** and in person Connect Coffee on **Thursday, Jan 30 from 10:00am-11:30am** in Room 3 in the church building. Questions? e-mail us at [walkingwithpurpose@stmm.org](mailto:walkingwithpurpose@stmm.org)

## March for Life Bus Trip

**Friday, January 24 National March for Life** in Washington D.C. We're invited by Mother Teresa Church to join their bus trip to stand in solidarity with thousands of others from across the country in support of life from conception to natural death.

**Departure Location:** St. Michael the Archangel

of our own faith. It is an essential part of the Bible and continues to be relevant to us today.

This promises to be a richly rewarding study and we hope you will join us! Meetings will be in the STMM Church on Thursday evenings, beginning **January 16, 2025 at 6.30pm**. Please register by accessing the attached link (each person to be separately registered). If you have any questions, or need more information, please email Deacon Dev at [lobo@stmm.net](mailto:lobo@stmm.net).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA-BA923A3FCC52-53999241-anintroduction>

## Parish Athletics Spring Sports

### Apex-Cary Spring Soccer 2025

**Grades:** Coed, Pre-K (3-year-olds) thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Dates:** March 22nd - May 17th.

**Practice Locations:** Apex or Cary, you pick.

**Game Locations:** Apex & Cary.

**Cost:** Pre-K - \$65; K - 1st grade - \$70;  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade - \$80

**Note:** Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders have one weekday practice per week and weekend games.

### [REGISTER FOR SOCCER HERE](#)

### Apex Spring Baseball 2025

**Grades:** Coed. Pre-K (4-year-olds) thru 2nd grade.

**Dates:** March 29th - May 24th.

**Practice/Game Location:** Apex

**Cost:** Pre-K - \$65; K thru 2nd grade - \$70

**Note:** PreK thru Kindergarten plays T-Ball; 1st and 2nd grade play machine pitch. Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners – 2nd grade have one weekday practice per week and games on Saturdays.

### [REGISTER FOR BASEBALL HERE](#)

## Mass for Life

**Diocese of Raleigh Mass for Life at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral**

**When:** Saturday, January 18th  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Rosary begins at 10:30AM.

Events are bilingual.

Click [HERE](#) for the livestream

Church, **804 High House Rd., Cary, NC**  
**Departure Time:** Early morning, January 24  
**Return Time:** Late evening, January 24  
**Cost:** \$50 per person (non-refundable, includes bus seat and light snacks)  
**Seating:** Limited—reserve your spot soon!  
Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

## Safe Environment

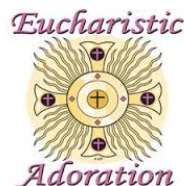
### Returning Volunteers

*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](mailto:bsmith@stmm.net)).

### New Volunteers

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

## Eucharistic Adoration Times



First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday, **February 7th 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.



Please join Deacon Rick for Eucharistic Holy Hour and Evening Prayer. This sacred time is an opportunity for a

## 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 [lcmorris0707@gmail.com](mailto:lcmorris0707@gmail.com)

## Forward In Hope - Grief Support Group to Begin in January



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. Classes will be held on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm or Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am beginning mid-January. For more information or to register, please email [stmmForwardinhope@stmm.net](mailto: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](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](#). \*



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.

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](mailto: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  
Jan. 14

6:15 pm  
Church

### Questions:

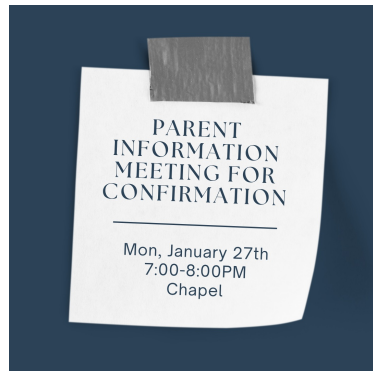
For **GATHER**, contact Suzanne Will at [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7280

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**



Mountain Retreat is now full! Please email Niki Furnier at [nfurnier@stmm.net](mailto:nfurnier@stmm.net) to be added to the waitlist.



**Parent Information Meeting for Confirmation:  
Monday, January 27th at 7pm in the Chapel**

If you have a teen receiving Confirmation this Spring, this is your **LAST OPPORTUNITY** to attend a Parent Information Meeting for Confirmation. For parents of 8th graders and freshmen, there will be more opportunities next year.



**Camp Hidden Lake deposit:**

Open to all current 6th- 8th graders for summer 2025! All those interested in summer camp please secure your spot. The link below is \$100 deposit for camp in Georgia. DUE: February 3rd!

[Click here to pay the deposit](#)



**Life Teen Camp Covecrest:** Want to join us at camp? Contact Niki for more information! Registration and deposits can be completed by clicking the link below.

[Click here to register](#)

**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 Furnier at [nfurnier@stmm.net](mailto:nfurnier@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7309

For **Confirmation**, contact the coordinator at [StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com](mailto: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](mailto:portland@stmm.net), with any questions!

Serving  
PreK3  
through  
Eighth  
Grade



We pray. We learn. We care.

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

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