

St. Mary Magdalene January 3, 2025

A Note from Father Francis

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025 HAPPY NEW FAMILY

I thank God for bringing us thus far, as I join St. Paul to pray for you this year; "I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that according to the riches of His glory, He may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through His Spirit and that Christ will dwell in your hearts through faith as you are being rooted and grounded in His love" (Eph 3:14-17). I encourage you to accord special attention to one another in the family as brothers and sisters whether young or old even those who seem to push you against the wall. Every member and character in your family is there for a purpose, hopefully not a warning but rather a blessing.

As a family thank God for all He did for you last year. You can make a list of all the ways that God has worked in your lives; through each one of you, He has blessed you and in ways He has challenged you. Thank God for all of it –the joys and the struggles for each one.

Secondly, be patient with one another, sometimes there is a temptation to spend all our precious time being kind and gracious to everyone else and when we get home we lose it. The fact that we discover that each one in the family is different and unique ranging from the way we look at things to life style, decisions and responses to situations, there is need to devote ourselves to one another; could be through prayer, sharing our blessings and aspirations, frustrations, fears or anxieties in order to strengthen one another.

More so and very important is setting goals together for your family. Anything from saving more to arguing less to being charitable to serving more and to having a regular family devotion.

I pray that the Almighty will uphold each member of your family as an apple of His eye and may all God's choicest blessings reign in your family this year to the glory of His name. Amen.

God is good

I love you.

Father Francis

[Giving Portal](#)

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Upcoming Events

Jan 3 - First Friday Adoration 9:30am - 7pm Church
 Jan 4 - 10:30am Confessions
 Jan 4 - 5pm Mass
 Jan 5 - 9am & 11am Mass
 Jan 5 - Apostello, EDGE, & the Way
 Jan 5 - Youth Mass 6pm
 Jan 6 - Daily Mass 9am
 Jan 6 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel
 Jan 7 - Daily Mass 9am
 Jan 7 - Gather & the Rock 6:15pm Church
 Jan 8 - Daily Mass 9am
 Jan 9 - Daily Mass 9am
 Jan 9 - Morning Rosary after Mass Chapel
 Jan 10 - Daily Mass 9am
 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

Mass This Weekend

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

Music for Weekend Masses

Gathering: We Three Kings/King of Kings
 Hillsong 6pm 111

Responsorial Psalm: 72 Lord Every Nation On Earth

Preparation: The Blessing 115

Communion 1: Child of the Poor/What Child Is This 100/101

Communion 2: Away In A Manger 80

Communion 3: Silent Night 84

Communion 4: The First Nowell 88

Sending Forth: Angels We Have Heard On High 109

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Pictures of the Week



The baptism of Maia Artemis Scheidig on December 29th



The Baptism of Felix Chi Kit Stein on Saturday, December 28th



The Frassati Young Adult group assembled 309 soup kits on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Soup kits will be distributed to local food pantries. We thank everyone who has helped provide support to our group to make these projects possible. For more information about Frassati, email us at frassati@stmm.net

Altar Flowers



This week's altar flowers are donated by Christina Haertel in memory of Carol Haertel.

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

Pastoral Council Nominations

Mass Intentions

January 3 – Anthony Vaccaro +
January 4 – 5pm – Paul R. Franzosi +
January 5 – 9am – Makenzie Muller
January 5 – 11am – Dennis Conroy +
January 5 – 6pm – Parishioners of StMM
January 6 – Al Mittellaier (healing)
January 7 –
January 8 –
January 9 – Rebecca Gomez +
January 10 –
January 11 – 5pm – Charles Kesser +
January 12 – 9am – Parishioners of StMM
January 12 – 11am – Arcangela Gaggiano +
January 12 – 6pm – Patricia Timony +
January 13 –
January 14 –
January 15 –
January 16 – Dan Dyer +

25th Anniversary Car Magnets



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.

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

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.

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 February 1, 2025. at 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.

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 of our own faith. It is an essential part of the

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.

Bingo Night Jan 31st



[Click here to register](#)

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

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.

<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 8th 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;
2nd - 8th grade - \$80

Note: Pre-k players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners thru 8th 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](#)

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

Safe Environment

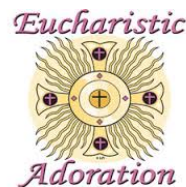
Returning Volunteers

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 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) 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.



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

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, 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 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 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.

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
Jan. 7



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





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 deposit](#)

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

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!

TOURS
OPEN

25-26 School Year

Serving
PreK3
through
Eighth
Grade

We pray. We learn. We care.



Try email marketing for free today!