

## A Note from Father Mike

Lent offers us the opportunity to face more bravely, the complexity of our human struggles. It is a time to face any darkness within and surrender it to the light of Christ. In the first reading this weekend, we hear from Genesis. At the heart of it is God's promise to Abraham, which is, "*Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so, shall your descendants be.*" God's promise runs through the whole Bible and forms the basis of God's interactions with humanity. God chose Abraham to be the father of faith to the future Jewish nation. Even after Abraham believed God, his faith was filled with questions.

In a way, Abraham is just like us as we journey along in this Lenten season. Believing but questioning, trusting but doubting, looking for certainty in the midst of life's struggles. So, what does God do when our faith questions him in our times of struggle? He calls us to faith by repeating his promise, rather than being angry with Abraham's questions, God reassures him that his promises will come true.

As God challenged Abraham, he learned with certainty that God always keeps his promises and he is present in the dark times of our lives. Many of us know what it is like to begin a walk with God, as Abraham did. In the beginning our walk with God may have been sweetness and light. Then things happen that throw our lives into turmoil. We have gotten sick, or lost a loved one, or faced financial ruin, or seen our children walk away from God, and we began to struggle with our faith. We may question God in the dark times, just like Abraham did.

When we surrender to God in these times of struggle, we are not ignoring a situation or being passive. God is waiting for us to act, to use our God-given gifts, just as we are waiting for God to act. He has given us gifts, and we are empowered to use them. Some of the greatest gifts God gives is faith, prayer, trust, and perseverance. When we do our part, working through our struggles together with God, by using our gifts and his grace, it can help us to understand things a little more clearly.

This Lenten season offers us the opportunity to come closer to God. Let us ask him to grant us grace and strength to persevere through our times of struggle. Let us always remember that God loves us and he always journeys with us. Speaking words of encouragement to his beloved children like, do not be afraid, for I am your shield, and your very great reward.

In His Love,

Fr. Mike Coveyou

[Giving Portal](#)

### Upcoming Events

Mar 14 - 7pm Stations of the Cross

Mar 15 - 10:30am Confessions- [Location](#)

[Change to the Priest's Vesting Room - Enter](#)

### Mass This Weekend

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

**[Music for Weekend Masses](#)**

**Gathering:** Entrance Antiphon

using the door by the Jonah statue

- Mar 15 - 5pm Mass
- Mar 16 - 9am & 11am Mass
- Mar 16 - 4:30pm Apostello
- Mar 16 - 6pm Mass
- Mar 16 - 7:15pm EDGE and the Way
- Mar 17 - 9am Mass
- Mar 17 - 6:30pm Family Rosary
- Mar 18 - 9am Mass
- Mar 18 - 6:15pm Gather/Rock
- Mar 19 - 9am Mass
- Mar 19 - 7pm Frassati Young Adult Group
- Mar 20 - 9am Mass
- Mar 20 - 6pm Youth Music Ministry
- Mar 21 - 9am Mass
- Mar 21 - Stations of the Cross to follow Mass
- Mar 21 - 5:30pm KoC Fish Fry
- Mar 21 - 7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 22 - 10:30am Confessions
- Mar 22 - 5pm Mass
- Mar 23 - 9 & 11am Mass
- Mar 23 - 4:30pm Apostello
- Mar 23 - 6pm Youth Mass
- Mar 23 - 7:15pm EDGE & the Way

## Lenten Penance Schedule

- Mar 19- 7pm St. Francis
- Mar 20- 7pm St. Bernadette
- Mar 24- 7pm St. Eugene
- Mar 26- 11am St. Catherine of Sienna
- Mar 26- 7pm St. Michael
- Mar 27- 11am St. Mary Magdalene
- Mar 27- 6:30pm Our Lady of La Vang
- Apr 1 - 11am Our Lady of Lourdes
- Apr 1 - 7pm St. Catherine of Sienna
- Apr 2 - 7pm St. Raphael
- Apr 4 - 10am St. Michael
- Apr 8 - 7pm Holy Name of Jesus

**Responsorial Psalm:** 27 The Lord is My Light- Witchger

**Preparation:** The Lord is My Light- Walker

**Communion 1:** Pange Lingua

**Communion 2:** Be Thou My Vision

**Communion 3:** Come Alive (Dry Bones)

**Sending Forth:** Return To The Lord

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## 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, contact [floralministry@stmm.net](mailto:floralministry@stmm.net)

## Mass Intentions

- Mar 15 - 5pm George Franklin +
- Mar 16 - 9am Frederick Schantz +
- Mar 16 - 11am Pamela Cole +
- Mar 16 - 6pm Parishioners of StMM
- Mar 17 - John Patrick White Jr. +
- Mar 18 - Dorothy Bozza +
- Mar 19 - Healing for Elaine Lux
- Mar 20 - Dan Dyer +
- Mar 21 - Zygmunt Wroblewski +
- Mar 22 - Parishioners of StMM
- Mar 23 - 9am- Richard McCarraher +
- Mar 23 -11am- Abby Bachman
- Mar 23 - 6pm- Mike Muller

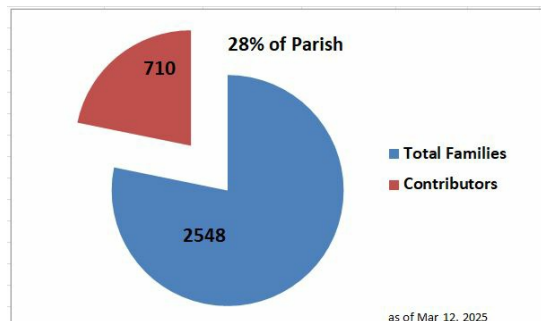
## Bishop's Annual Appeal

*Open Your Heart, Open a Door*

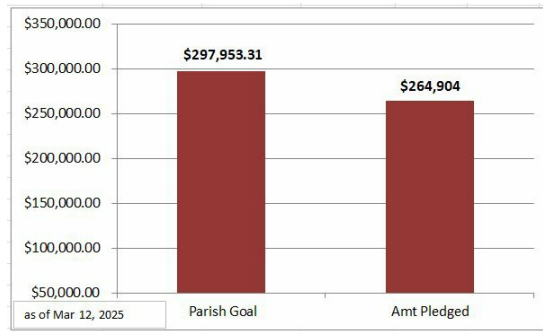


### A Door to Hope for All

We are truly grateful for your support of the 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal! To date, **we have raised \$264,904 toward our**



**goal of \$297,953.31, with 28% of our parish families contributing.** Your generous donations have brought us **nearly 90%** of the way to our goal! With your help, the Diocese of Raleigh can continue providing vital programs, including assistance to the poor, support for seminarians, and faith formation for all ages. If you haven't yet donated, we invite you to prayerfully consider **making a gift** today to help us reach our goal. Every contribution, no matter the size, has a meaningful impact. **Thank you for your continued generosity!**



**DONATE TO THE BAA**

## Join us

for the StMM Lenten Parish Mission  
March 24-26 at 7pm

*Everyone is invited* to come for an incredible experience of Reflection, Adoration, Preaching, and Confession



Watch this video as Father Innocent, from The Franciscan Friars of Renewal, talks about his life as a Franciscan Friar and the upcoming Parish Mission.

More videos to come next week!!



### 25 Hours of Adoration

Celebrating St Mary Magdalene's 25 years

Please **sign up** to spend an hour with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, March 28th from 9:30am to Saturday, March 29th, at 11am.



### Please Welcome Laura Allen

Laura is our new Fiscal Clerk and has been a parishioner for over 20 years. 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 gardening and spending time with her two adult children, husband of 34 years, and labradoodle, Maggie. We're excited to have her on the team!

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

**~We have a NEW format for the E-News~**  
Church News, Lent information, Ministries, Groups, and Events can now be viewed by clicking on their link.

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### **Church News**

- [StMM Tax Statements for 2024](#)
- [Baptism Information](#)
- [Safe Environment Training for Volunteers](#)
- [Commemorative Bricks](#)
- [OCIA- Order of Christian Initiation for Adults](#)
- [OCIA Prayer Corner](#)
- [StMM Lost and Found](#)
- [Study of the Torah with Deacon Dev](#)
- [First Friday Eucharistic Adoration](#)
- [Eucharistic Holy Hour on March 18th](#)
- [Adult Faith Refresher & Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick](#)
- [Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training 4/5 & 4/7](#)
- [Divorced Catholics Seeking an Annulment](#)
- [Young Men's Retreat for High School Students 6/21 to 6/24](#)
- [Priesthood Discernment Pilgrimage](#)
- [StMM 25th Anniversary Events](#)

### **School News**

- [Job Opportunities at StMM School](#)
- [StMM School Tours for Prospective Students](#)
- [Creative Calm: A Mindful Workshop for Teens 11-14yrs, on 3/18 to 4/22](#)
- [Therapeutic Summer Camp for 3rd-5th Grades in June- Register by 5/30](#)
- [Monarch Masters Golf Tournament on 3/24- Registration is Open](#)

### **Lent & Easter**

- [Lenten Mission with the Franciscan](#)

### **Ministries, Groups, & Events**

- [Knights of Columbus Fish Fry on 3/21, and 4/4- PreOrder Now](#)
- [Knights of Columbus Free Throw Winners](#)
- [Mulholland Columbiettes Membership Info & Ceremony 3/17](#)
- [Mulholland Columbiettes Easter Egg Hunt on 4/13- donations appreciated](#)
- [Parish Athletics Spring Soccer and Baseball](#)
- [CSO Catholic Senior Organization for women and men 60+](#)
- [Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry](#)
- [Prayer Team -Sign up to request prayers or to join prayer team](#)
- [40 Days for Life- Sign up for Vigil Hours during Lent](#)
- [Women's Retreat for those who have been sexually abused](#)
- [Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry- sign up to pray for our priests](#)
- [Power & Purpose Conference in Steubenville, OH on 6/20-6/22](#)
- [Worldwide Marriage Encounter on 3/21-3/23 or 5/2-5/4](#)
- [Frassati Young Adult Group Upcoming Events](#)
- [31st Annual Run for Life benefiting Birthchoice on 4/12](#)
- [Project Rachel Support Group - for hope and healing after abortion](#)
- [Family Honor's Real Love & Real Life: Living the Faith 3/28-3/29](#)
- [Creative Calm: A Mindful Workshop for Teens 11-14yrs, on 3/18 to 4/22](#)
- [Therapeutic Summer Camp for 3rd-5th Grades in June- Register by 5/30](#)
- [Monarch Masters Golf Tournament on 3/24- Registration is Open](#)

**Friars of the Renewal on 3/24-3/26**

- **Stations of the Cross will be held twice a day on the Fridays in Lent**
- **Dynamic Catholic Best Lent Ever**
- **Ignited by Truth Catholic Conference in Raleigh on 4/4-4/5**
- **Hallow Pray 40**
- **Knights of Columbus Fish Fry on 3/21 and 4/4- PreOrder Now**
- **Mulholland Columbiettes Easter Egg Hunt on 4/13 -donations appreciated**
- **Pysanky Workshop to Decorate Eggs on 3/30**

## Pictures of the Week



The Rite of Election at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral on Sunday, March 9th for catechumens Kaitlyn Winters-Smith, Lincoln Petee, and Danny Risko, with Fr Francis and Julie Sheehy (sponsor).



The OCIA Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion on Sunday, March 9th, for Henry Smith, Earl Lang, Jessica Zack, Taylor Hopkins, and Christina Lashley.

**FOLLOW StMM  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**




## Faith Formation

**Click Here for the 2024-25 Faith Formation  
Calendar**

**Questions:**

Next Night of



Tuesday  
March 18

6:15 pm  
Church

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



Please sign up [HERE](#) for the ROCK "Meant for Greatness" retreat being held on **Sunday, March 16th 2025** at StMM from 1:00-5:45pm



**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](#)



**Appalachia Service Project (ASP)**  
St Mary Magdalene Catholic Church serves each summer

with Appalachia Service Project (ASP). Appalachia Service Project is a nonprofit ministry focused on relationship building and home repair, making homes warmer, safer, and drier. **StMM will serve in Appalachia from June 22-28, 2025.**

[Click here to register](#)



**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 [confirmation@stmm.net](mailto:confirmation@stmm.net)

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