

A Note from Fr. Mike

We live in a world which, despite great advances in knowledge and technology, has forgotten its origin and destiny in the love of God. This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. We may wonder why we do this. There are a couple of reasons. The first is to understand the history of the discovery and recovery of the true cross. Secondly, to appreciate better the importance of the symbol and reality of Christ's sacrificial love, namely, the cross in the daily life of every Christian.

The original cross on which Jesus was crucified was excavated in 326 AD by a group led by St. Helena, the mother of the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine. This celebration memorializes the installation of the remnants of the true cross of Jesus in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on Mount Calvary, September 14, 335 AD.

We should honor the cross and carry it on our person to remind ourselves of the love God has for us and the price Jesus paid for our salvation. The cross will give us strength in our sufferings and remind us of our hope of eternal glory with our risen Savior. We should bless ourselves with the sign of the cross to remind ourselves that we belong to Jesus, to honor the Most Holy Trinity, and to ask God to bless us, save us and protect us from all danger and evil. Lastly, the crucifix should remind us that we are forgiven sinners and we are expected to forgive those who offend us and to ask for forgiveness whenever we offend others.

The cross of Christ is a reminder that we have our own crosses to carry. Our crosses have different sizes in the same way that we have different magnitudes of challenges in life. Nevertheless, we are called to accept our crosses and endure them in faith. We know that, like Jesus, our cross will not be the source of our end but the beginning of new life. Our cross reminds us that life is not a bed of roses. Nevertheless, it will lead us to eternal life.

As we celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, let us thank God for the gift of his very life which is ours in the Church. Let us rededicate ourselves to dwell always in the Heart of God through his precious Son, our Savior. Let us embrace once again the Cross of our Savior in which alone we find our salvation.

In His Love,

Fr. Mike Coveyou

Giving Portal

Upcoming Events & Mass Intentions

Saturday Sept 13

10:30am- Confessions

5pm- Mass (Joseph & Agnes Baker†)

Sunday Sept 14

9am- Mass (Parishioners of StMM)

10:15am- Breaking Open The Word

Mass This Weekend

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

We [livestream](#) our Daily Mass on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

*Please note that the schedule may occasionally change due to unforeseen circumstances, and we appreciate your

11am- Mass (Tony Awrey)
12:30pm- Gabriel Project
6pm- Youth Mass (Collette Thomas†)
7:15pm- EDGE & the Way

Monday Sept 15

9am- Mass (The Sansone Family)
10:30am Catholic Senior Org Meeting
6:30pm- Family Rosary
8pm- Adult Pick-up Basketball

Tuesday Sept 16

9am- Communion Service in the Chapel
1pm- Daytime Bible Study

Wednesday Sept 17

9am- Communion Service
8pm- Adult Pick-up Basketball

Thursday Sept 18

8am- Walking with Purpose
9am- Communion Service
9:50am- Morning Rosary with CSO
6:30pm- Revelation Bible Study

Friday Sept 19

9am- Communion Service

Saturday Sept 20

10:30am- Confessions
5pm- Mass (Mary Baker †)

Sunday Sept 21

9am- Mass (Kathleen Strain †)
10:15am- Breaking Open The Word
11am- Mass (Jeanne Szura †)
2pm- Chrysalis Meeting
4:30pm- Apostello
6pm- Youth Mass (Parishioners of StMM)
7:15pm- EDGE & the Way

***Please note:** *There will be Communion Services (no Mass) on Tuesday, Sept 16 through Friday, Sept 19, due to the Diocesan Priest Retreat.*

understanding.

Music for Sunday Masses

Gathering: Adoramus te Christe (Lent)
Responsorial Psalm: 78 Do Not Forget The Works of the Lord
Preparation: Great Are You Lord
Communion 1: Center of My Life
Communion 2: Goodness of God
Communion 3: I Know a Name
Sending Forth: This is Amazing Grace

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This week's altar flowers are donated by:

Shelby Kanoy in loving memory of Collette Thomas from the Kanoy Family.

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

ST MARY MAGDALENE 25TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC

**Saturday, October 11
11:00am to 2:00pm**



HUGE DUAL LANE SLIDE

Inflatables for the kids

Food

Lawn Games for the adults



PLEASE RSVP



30 FT OBSTACLE COURSE

Our 25th Anniversary Parish Picnic is on October 11. Kindly [RSVP](#) to help us plan for the FREE food and refreshments generously being provided by the Knights of Columbus.

Ministry, Group, and Event Highlights



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Columbiettes and the Knights of Columbus are having a Membership Drive at all Masses on Sept 20 & 21



The Knights of Columbus are hosting a BBQ dinner on Saturday, Sept 27.



The Season of Creation is a time of prayer and action for the environment, celebrated annually from September 1st to October 4th. It begins with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1st and concludes with the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th. This period is observed by Christians worldwide as a time to renew their relationship with God, each other, and all of creation. [Check back each week for practical tips on how we can care for God's creation together.](#)

Join the Knights of Columbus at StMM! The Knights are a brotherhood of men committed to faith, service, and fellowship. Come meet our members after Mass Sept 20 & 21, ask questions, and see how your time and talents, whether big or small, can strengthen our parish family. For more information, click [HERE](#) or contact [Steve Fitzhenry](#)

Meet the Mulholland Columbiettes! Are you a Catholic woman 18 or older looking for faith, friendship, and service? Join the Columbiettes—there's a place for you at every stage of life. Stop by after Mass Sept 20 & 21 or click [HERE](#) to learn more! You man also email us [HERE](#).

Barbeque Dinner September 27!

Knights of Columbus Council 7186 is proud to host a Barbeque Dinner fundraiser at St. Mary Magdalene on **Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.**

All proceeds go to supporting individuals in our community with intellectual disabilities.

Great Food, Great Beer, Live Music, and a Great Cause.

Go to KofCBBQ.com and place your order today! Supplies are limited at the door.

Church News, School News, Ministries, Groups, and Events

Please click on the link for more information.

Church News

- **Baptism Information**
- **Safe Environment Training for Volunteers**
- **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation):** For those looking to become fully initiated into the Catholic Faith, a new cohort is forming to begin on Mon., Oct 20. Please click here to learn more.
- **First Friday Eucharistic Adoration** information may be found here.
- **Adult Faith Refresher & Confirmation Prep with Deacon Rick-** Next series will begin on Wed., Oct 22.

Ministries, Groups, & Events Continued

- **Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry**
- **Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry-** sign up to pray for our priests.
- **Project Rachel Support Group -** for hope and healing after abortion.
- **Courage -** A support group for those facing same-sex attraction.
- **EnCourage-** A support group for relatives of people who experience same-sex attraction.
- **Walking with Purpose** started a 22-week bible study on Sept. 4th,

- Divorced Catholics Seeking an Annulment- more information can be found by clicking [here](#).
- Join Father Mike on a Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, & Spain from 4/28/26 through 5/8/26.
- Our Sound and Video System Ministry needs help with Masses, Funerals, and Weddings. The hours and commitment level are flexible. Can you help us out?
- Breaking Open The Word is a new weekly Gospel discussion group that is held after the 9am Sunday Mass.
- Interested in becoming a Deacon in the Diocese of Raleigh? Two information sessions will be held on Sat 9/13 at the Catholic Center. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.
- The 2025 StMM Annual Stewardship Report is now available on our website.
- There will be a Discernment Retreat at NCSU on Saturday, Sept 13, for young men discerning a vocation to the priesthood.
- especially designed for women to grow in faith and love for the Lord.
- Are you gluten-free due to a medical condition and need a low-gluten Communion Host? Click [here](#) to learn how to receive low-gluten Communion at StMM.
- Hearts on Fire, a charismatic prayer group with Deacon Dev, meets in the Church at 6:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.
- Calling all Prayer Warriors- StMM's Prayer Team needs an organizer. Will you help us out?
- The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Oct 24-26 at Emerald Isle will help you to rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married. Sign up today!
- StMM Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month to discuss a selected reading. The first meeting was on Sept 3. Everyone is welcome. Click [here](#) for more information.
- StMM Daytime Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays from 1-3pm from Sept 16 to Nov 18. Please click [here](#) to learn more and register.

School News

- Thinking about a Catholic education for your child? StMM school tours are now being scheduled.
- Jeff Bell, Cardinal Gibbons Head of School, will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting on Oct. 13 to discuss the new Catholic High School projected to open in Fall 2028

Ministries, Groups, & Events

- The Care for God's Planet Team invites you to join in celebrating the Season of Creation, beginning September 1. Check back each week for practical tips on how we can care for God's creation together.
- Help us feed hungry families in our community by joining the CPO 17th Annual H2O for Hunger Challenge as part of National Hunger ACTION Month!
- A Bible study on the Book of Revelations will begin on Thursday, Sept 18 at 6:30pm with Deacon Dev.

Pictures of the Week



A Healing Mass was celebrated at StMM on Friday, Sept. 5 by Fr. Mike, with Fr. Francis, Fr. Alapaty, and Fr. Epperson concelebrating, assisted by Deacon Dev.



From the Columbiettes: Our Columbiettes #7186 Rosary Makers have made and shipped 105 rosaries to The Annunciation School in Minneapolis, MN. We pray that Our Lady's perfect prayer brings peace and comfort to the students and families in this difficult time. Jesus, we trust in You!






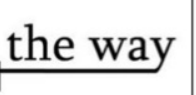

Our two StMM School Ambassadors encourage everyone to come to a Parish Life Center reception!

**FOLLOW StMM
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

[Click HERE for the 2025-2026 Faith Formation Calendar](#)

				
Grades K – 4 & Parents	Grades 5 & 6	Middle School – Grades 7 & 8	High School – Grades 9 & 10 Pre-Confirmation	High School – Grades 11 & 12 Post Confirmation
Parent Enrichment	Parent Enrichment	Sunday Evenings	Sunday Evenings	Sunday Evenings
Tuesdays	Tuesdays	7:15 – 8:30 pm	7:15 – 8:30 pm	Time & location determined by small group
6:15 – 7:30 pm	6:15 – 7:30 pm	<u>StMM</u> Gym	<u>StMM</u> Church	
<u>StMM</u> Church & School	<u>StMM</u> Gym	Youth Mass 6:00pm on Sundays when the Middle School and High School Faith Formation Programs Meet (Refer to the Faith Formation Calendar)		

First Night of




Tuesday
Sept. 30

6:15 pm
Church

[Please click here for more information and to sign up](#)

Singers, Dancers, Actors, Designers
Please Join us in the Musical Performance

Christmas Joy Revealed

Friday, December 5, 2025
6:00 pm

Sign Up Here 



Christmas Joy Revealed is a Musical being performed by members of the StMM parish; children grades 1 - 12 and adults on Friday, December 5th at 5:30 pm.

Come join the fun. Sign up today.

Rehearsals Schedule is (6:15 - 7:30 pm) same time as Gather; Tuesdays in October Oct 7, 21, 28 during Gather Mondays in November Nov 3, 17, 24 (Optional Rehearsal on Mon. Nov 24 before Thanksgiving)

Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday, Dec 2 During Gather

Performance: Friday, Dec 5th 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm.
Dinner to Follow

Questions? email Music@stmm.net



The EDGE Retreat will be held November 18-19 at Camp Caraway in Sophia, NC. Please click [HERE](#) for more information and how to register.

[Please click HERE for more information](#)





Registration is open
Register Now

Late Fees apply after 8/30/25

www.stmm.church/religious-ed

Questions K-4: will@stmm.net
Grades 5-8: ritchie@stmm.net
Grades 9-12: furnier@stmm.net

[Please click HERE to register for Religious Education](#)

Questions about Faith Formation:

GATHER (K-4th grade)- contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7280

THE ROCK (5th & 6th grade)- contact Sarah St. Aubin at st.aubin@stmm.me or 919-657-4800 x7307

EDGE (7th & 8th grade)- contact Sarah St. Aubin at st.aubin@stmm.me or 919-657-4800 x7307

Apostello and the Way (9th-12th grade)- contact Niki Furnier at nfurnier@stmm.net or 919-657-4800 x7309

Confirmation- contact the coordinator at confirmation@stmm.net

St. Mary Magdalene | 919-657-4800 | 625 Magdala Place | Apex, NC 27502 US

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