

A Note from Fr. Francis

COMMUNITY VS MODERNITY

By nature, humans are relational and interactive beings and as such they form a community. According to Aristotle, "a human person is a social animal, whose full potential can only be realized within a community or polis." Countless researchers, and probably your own personal experience show that social connections lead to better health outcomes and a higher quality of life that improve chances of survival, whereas social isolation is linked with adverse negative health impacts such as but not limited to cognitive decline, depression and anxiety, and weakened immune function with all the consequences.

We need a Community, for it's such crucial that it answers the intrinsic hunger for personal identity, since according to Sociologists; A person becomes who they are through relationships and not by being around others. A community enables each of her members to benefit from the diverse backgrounds in terms of culture, talents and skills, and other human perspectives that form the social fabric.

However, this social fabric is under a terrible threat from socio-economic and environment stressors and as a community, we have to be mindful and probably mitigate them.

Another unbeatable threat is FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out; and lose influence, popularity and status) but all created by the addictive nature of social media, coupled with the need to belong and a desire to avoid loneliness. Many people, especially the teens, view social media as an extension of the self, hence devoting more time for it while losing the real world. This FOMO is a force that needs courage and determination to overcome and reaffirm our community identity.

Many people, to their own and community detriment, are consciously or unconsciously breaking the real community ties in favor of a virtual society, like the "farmer who ate, had his fill and broke his water gourd forgetting that days of thirst are still ahead." Let us uphold our community.

God is good.

I love you.

Fr. Francis

Giving Portal

Upcoming Events & Mass Intentions

Friday Sept 5 - First Friday

9am- Mass (Ginger Gearheart †)
First Friday Adoration to follow Mass,
with Benediction & Reposition at 6:30pm
7pm- Healing Mass

Saturday Sept 6

10:30am- Confessions
5pm- Mass (Parishioners of StMM)

Sunday Sept 7

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 understanding.

9am- Mass (Charles Roba †)
10:15am- Breaking Open The Word
11am- Mass (Dennis Dougherty Sr. †)

Monday Sept 8

9am- Mass (Margaret Sansone)
6:30pm- Family Rosary
8pm- Adult Pick-up Basketball

Tuesday Sept 9

9am- Mass in the Chapel (Elaine Lux)

Wednesday Sept 10

9am- Mass (Jack & Betty Garvey †)
8pm- Adult Pick-up Basketball

Thursday Sept 11

9am- Mass (The Dunnavant Family)
9:50am- Morning Rosary with CSO
6:30pm- Hearts on Fire Prayer Meeting
7pm- Care for God's Planet meeting in church room 1

Friday Sept 12

9am- Mass (Hugh McCloskey †)

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

***Please note: Starting in September, the Tuesday Daily Masses will be in the Chapel.**

Music for Sunday Masses

Gathering: Take Up Your Cross (Amazing Grace)

Responsorial Psalm: 90 In Every Age O God

Preparation: Refiner

Communion 1: You Alone

Communion 2: Like the Deer That Yearns

Communion 3: Down in The River

Sending Forth: Who You Say I Am

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This week's altar flowers are donated by:

**Monty and Janelle Buchanan
in honor of the Buchanan - Prevost
wedding.**

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

*Healing
Mass*

**Friday, Sept 5th at 7pm
St Mary Magdalene, Apex**

All are welcome!

**Praise and Worship
Individual prayer teams available**

Ministry, Group, and Event Highlights



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.](#)

Care For God's Planet is also having a meeting next Thursday, Sept 11, at 7pm in room 1 in the church. All are welcome to attend!

StMM 25th Anniversary Parish Picnic

Join us for a Parish Picnic celebrating 25 years at the Magdala Place campus! This event will be the culmination of our 25th Anniversary Celebrations. The picnic will take place on the soccer fields **Saturday, October 11, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

The Knights will be providing food—hamburgers, hot dogs, and fries—**free** of charge.

We'll have inflatables for the children and lawn games for the adults.

[Please RSVP](#) so we can plan food quantities accurately.

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.
- **Divorced Catholics Seeking an Annulment-** more information can

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, especially designed for women to grow in faith and love for the Lord.

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.
- A Healing Mass will be celebrated at StMM TONIGHT- Fri., Sept. 5, at 7 pm, with Adoration and Healing Prayer led by Fr. Mike, Fr. Francis, and clergy from around the diocese.
- The 2025 StMM Annual Stewardship Report is now available on our website.
- 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.
- The Columbiettes have a few more "Taste and See" cookbooks and Gift Sets left for purchase. All proceeds benefit StMM parish, school, and local charities.
- 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
- St. Mary Magdalene's marriage enrichment fellowship group, Chrysalis, provides space monthly for couples to grow in their love for God & their spouse. Childcare is provided.
- Catholic Senior Organization (CSO) meets the 3rd Monday of the month. The next meeting is on Monday, Sept. 15, at 10:30am

Ministries, Groups, & Events

- Interested in learning more about a 10-day pilgrimage to Ireland with Fr. Scott McCue, pastor of St. Michaels? There will be an information session on Thursday, Sept 11, at 7pm, at the St Michael Conference Center.
- 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.
- Dr. Martin McCaffrey, MD, will speak at Our Lady of Lourdes Fallon Center on Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 pm on "The Proper Pro-life Approach to Challenging Prenatal Diagnoses."
- JobWorks Career Ministry is hosting a talk Breaking Barriers- From Self-Doubt to Career Confidence at St. Andrew Catholic Church on Thurs, Sept 11, at 8:30am.
- Help us feed hungry families in our community by joining the CPO 17th Annual H2O for Hunger Challenge as part of National Hunger ACTION

Pictures of the Week






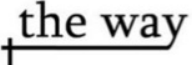

Jen Frazer, our Parish Life Center campaign director, encouraged Monsignor Staib to cheer for the Philadelphia Eagles in last night's NFL opening game.

**FOLLOW StMM
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

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

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



Please click [HERE](#) for more information



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

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

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



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

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