

A NOTE FROM DEACON RICK

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!

On Sunday, we celebrate the 8th day in the Octave of Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday. This is the day in which we receive our Easter Gift.

And what is this very special Easter Gift? It is the special gift of the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment that the Catholic Church offers in the form of a plenary indulgence.

Our opportunity to purchase a nonstop ticket to heaven. Without a layover in purgatory.

The origins of Divine Mercy Sunday date back to the jubilee year 2000. It was Blessed St. John Paul II established this new feast indicating that he had fulfilled the will of Christ.

In the words of Jesus Himself, as revealed by St. Faustina:

"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners.

On this day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened.

Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity.

Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."

In this celebration, the Church re-emphasizes God's tremendous gift of divine mercy that the Lord wants to pour out on each and every one of us.

And isn't it fitting that the very first instruction of Jesus after His Resurrection from the dead, was the institution of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We recall what Jesus said to His Apostles in the Gospel today: "Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Along with the Eucharist, these two sacraments comprise the Fount of Divine Mercy. The grace needed to receive total forgiveness of sins and the nourishment of our souls to avoid future sins.

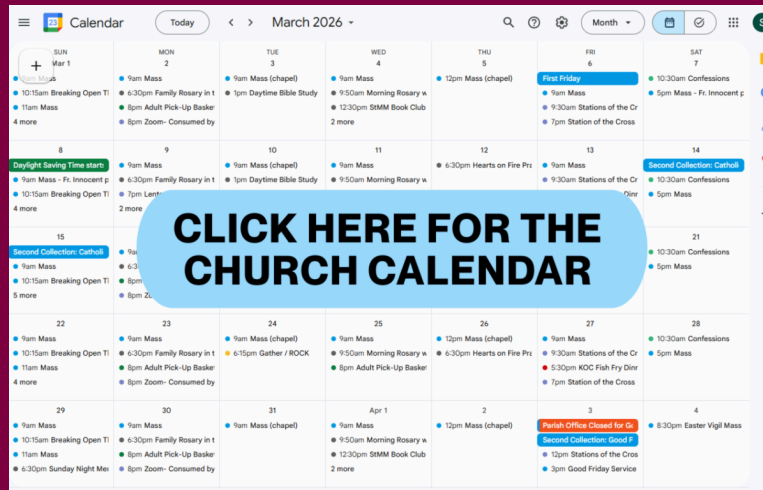
And it's this divine mercy from God that enables to carry our works of mercy for others- one that sets in motion a beautiful perpetual cycle of love and charity.

This is what the spirit of Divine Mercy Sunday is all about. Not just receiving our Easter gift but unwrapping it, putting the batteries in it and turning it on.

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!!!

Giving Portal

Our calendar is now available online! Click here to view our new Google Calendar, where you can click on each event for more details.



FOR BEST VIEWING, OPEN THE CALENDAR ON YOUR LAPTOP OR PC

Mass This Weekend

Click [HERE](#) to Live Stream our **9am Sunday Mass** and our **Mon/Wed/Fri** weekday Masses.

Music for Easter Sunday Mass
Gathering: Alleluia Entrance Antiphon
Responsorial Psalm: 118: This Is The Day
Preparation: Holy Forever
Communion 1: We Walk by Faith
Communion 2: I Shall Not Want
Communion 3: Goodness of God
Sending Forth: Alleluia! Love Is Alive

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This weekend, our flowers were donated by:

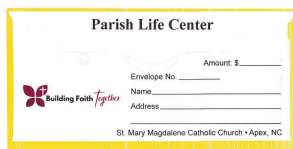
Marlene Cefaratti: In honor of Kimberly and Henry's

wedding on 4/11/26

and Rhea Philip: In honor of Rhea and Joel's wedding on 4/11/26

Would you like to donate flowers to beautify the altar and church for weekend Masses? If so, please go [here](#) to sign up. Flowers may be donated to mark a special occasion or made in honor or in memory of your loved ones.

Questions? Please email floralministry@stmm.net



Are you making a payment to the Parish Life Center?

To help keep everything

organized and ensure your payments are properly credited, please use these designated envelopes when making your PLC contributions for the new building. Using these envelopes helps reduce confusion and allows us to process your gifts more efficiently.

Envelopes are available in the narthex, at the parish office, or can be mailed to you upon request.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!



Directions for accessing your 2025 StMM tax statement can be found [HERE](#). We are grateful for your continued support of St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Your generosity sustains our parish and is vital to keeping St. Mary Magdalene running and fulfilling its mission. Thank you!

Would you like to set up an automatic draft to support St. Mary Magdalene?

Directions can be found [HERE](#). **Thank you** for your generosity, which in turn helps St. Mary Magdalene continue serving and supporting you and our entire parish community.

StMM Ministry and Group Events

APRIL



This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday!

Come celebrate the Feast of Mercy on **Sunday, April 12th at 3pm** in the church. All are welcome! Bring your family, friends, and children. There will be music, prayers, Adoration, Confession and Benediction. **Doors open at 2:40pm, we will begin promptly at 3pm.**

Questions: hoffman@stmm.net



Is the Columbiettes for You? Are you a Catholic woman 18 years or older, seeking ways to serve your community, grow in faith, and make new friends with other Catholic women? We are a network of auxiliaries spanning the US, who do good works for those in need AND strengthen bonds in our parish communities. Among our many activities, we host the annual Family, Bingo Night, Easter Egg Hunt, and popular Advent Gift /Bake Sales. We also host spiritual and social events - there is truly something for every woman at every stage of life. **Come meet us at our information table after every Mass on April 11-12, to learn more about the Columbiettes.** You can check out our website [HERE](#) or email fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com,



Join The Knights of Columbus in Serving Saint Mary Magdalene! Are you ready to make a real impact in our parish, school, and community? The Knights of Columbus invite you to be part of a brotherhood of men dedicated to faith, service, and fellowship. Together, we bring lasting support to Saint Mary Magdalene through meaningful projects and volunteer opportunities..**All-Parish Membership Drive on April 11-12!** Come meet our members, ask questions, and discover how your unique gifts and talents can strengthen our parish family. Let's build faith, friendship, and service—together! For more information, please contact: Steve Fitzhenry stevfitzhenry@outlook.com

Please support the upcoming Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on **Saturday, April 18 from 8:30am to 1pm** in the St. Mary Magdalene parking lot. Look for the Big Red Bus!

The need for blood is constant, and your donation can help save lives. Please consider giving this simple and meaningful gift.

Reserve your time here: https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1744350



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you an adult interested in becoming fully initiated into the Catholic faith? Are you a baptized Christian looking to receive the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation? Then you owe it to yourself to get more information on the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). While coming to know Jesus and His invitation to become a disciple, the OCIA process involves the journey of faith and conversion. A person is introduced to the beliefs, life, liturgy, and apostolic work of the Catholic Church. **The next OCIA journey begins on April 27, 2026 for those who wish to be initiated into the Catholic faith.** Please contact Deacon Rick at stevens@stmm.me or 908-910-0309 for more information or to register. **Advance registration is required.**

StMM Community Golf Outing
Hosted by **Parish ATHLETICS**

SPONSOR A HOLE

\$125 BUSINESS & FAMILY SPONSORS WELCOME

All proceeds will support the construction of a new restroom facility at the Apex Parish Athletics Field!
Contact parishathleticsinfo@gmail.com for more information!

StMM Community Golf Outing April 20th
Hosted by **Parish ATHLETICS**

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

TRI SOUTH MECHANICAL HVAC SERVICES
UltraPure Systems, Inc.
ADVANCED DENTAL ASSOCIATES, INC. DENTAL STAFFING
Hendrick BUICK GMC
ACTION OVER OBSTACLES
The Clark Family
The Malfeo Family
Performance Fitness
Chrysalis
BPO
Blazing Trail
CASH
Wally Park
Fritz & Wilson

StMM Community Golf Outing hosted by Parish Athletics- April 20th Happy April! Our StMM Community Golf Outing is just around the corner! Join us on April 20th at Devils Ridge Golf Club! **Limited foursomes remain- Register HERE to Golf!** Can't make it to the tournament? **Sponsor a hole with your family or business name for \$125-- Register HERE to Sponsor!**

May

LIVING THE GOSPEL
THE CATHOLIC DOCTRINE ON IMMIGRATION

TUESDAY MAY 12TH, 2026 7:00PM-8:30PM IN THE CHAPEL

Presentation by Deacon Joshua Klickman, M.A.
Coordinator of Human Life and Dignity through the Diocese of Raleigh

Guest Speaker: Father Francis
Learn more about immigration in Uganda

Care for God's Planet Team invites you to join them for a meaningful conversation on immigration and Catholic social teaching on **Tuesday, May 12, from 7:00 to 8:30pm.** They are honored to welcome Deacon Joshua Klickman, Coordinator of Human Life and Dignity for the Diocese of Raleigh, who will share insights on how our faith calls us to respond with compassion, dignity, and justice. Father Francis will also present on immigration in Uganda. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn, reflect, and engage in dialogue on an important issue. All are welcome to attend and grow together in understanding and faith. Refreshments provided. **Please RSVP here.**

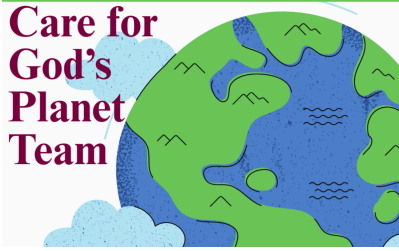
StMM Ministry News

Our Lenten Fish Fries were not only a great time for fellowship, they were also a big win for stewardship of our environment. **The Care for God's Planet Team is grateful for everyone's participation in their composting efforts.** Together, an incredible 1,275 pounds of waste was



diverted from landfills. From that, 421 pounds of compost were created, which can help grow the equivalent of 3,155 tomatoes.

Even more exciting, these efforts helped avoid 118 pounds of methane emissions and 3,314 pounds of CO₂ equivalent, which is like taking 3,721 miles off the road. Thank you to all our volunteers and parishioners who made this possible. Your small actions made a big impact. Let's keep up the great work caring for God's Planet.



Sign up to host one of our beautiful St. John Vianney statues in your home for a month. This is a simple but meaningful way to bring prayer into your home in a special and intentional way.

During his visit, take time each day to pray for our priests, seminarians, and religious using the prayers and resources provided. This devotion offers a powerful opportunity to support vocations and those who serve the Church, while also growing in faith through regular prayer.



Spend time in the peaceful presence of the Lord through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a quiet opportunity for individuals or families to pray and reflect before the exposed Eucharist. This beautiful time allows for personal prayer, meditation, and simply being present with the Lord.

Adorers may choose a scheduled one hour time each First Friday or simply stop in as their schedule allows. The scheduled time is just one hour a month, yet a meaningful way to grow in faith. Adoration typically begins at 9:30am, following daily Mass in the Church, and continues until 7:00pm. Please contact Anita at alanitabecker@aol.com for more information

Meetings, Events, & Information

Please click on the link for more details.



We are making improvements to our website!

As we work behind the scenes, you may notice a few minor technical glitches or broken links. Thank you for your patience while we complete these updates.

CHURCH

- **Deacon Rick offers an Adult Faith Refresher & Confirmation Prep series** Please click here for more information.
- **Breaking Open The Word is a new weekly Gospel discussion group that is held after the 9am Sunday Mass.**
- **Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or donation to our Parish Life Center campaign,**
- **Are you gluten-free due to a medical condition and need a low-gluten Communion Host? Click**

enabling us to build a lasting space for our parish family. Campaign and donation information can be found [HERE](#).

here to learn how to receive low-gluten Communion at StMM.

- The 2025 StMM Annual Stewardship Report and the 2025-2026 Quarterly Report are available on our website.

SCHOOL

- Thinking about a Catholic education for your child? StMM school tours are now being scheduled.
- 2026-2027 School Year Applications are now being accepted for 1st and 6th grades.

GROUPS & MINISTRIES

- Hearts on Fire, a charismatic prayer group with Deacon Dev, meets in the Chapel at 6:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.
- StMM Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month to discuss a selected reading. The next meeting is on May 6. Everyone is welcome. [Click here](#) for more information.
- 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.
- Would you like to be an Angel for expectant mothers? Gabriel Project needs Walking Angel volunteers to accompany women facing crisis pregnancies with prayer, practical assistance, and loving friendship.
- Forward in Hope is a grief support group at StMM. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- 2026 Appalachia Service Project (ASP) applications are now being accepted for high school students and adults. Please go [HERE](#) to apply and for more information.
- A Call to Prayer rosary on Zoom is held every Tuesday at noon for human dignity and immigration.
- The Catholic Parish Outreach Food Pantry's Annual Pig Pickin is on Saturday, April 11.
- The 2026 Power and Purpose conference will be held in
- 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, and EnCourage- A support group for relatives of people who experience same-sex attraction have local chapters which meet regularly.
- Catholic Senior Organization (CSO) meets the 3rd Monday of the month. The next meeting is on Monday, April 20, at 10:30am.
- Let Your Faith Flow- Help Us Bring Clean Water to Uganda! St. Mary Magdalene is launching the Uganda Water Project to bring life-changing clean water to the people of Kicheche, Uganda.
- Frassati is the Young Adult group at StMM offering faith, fellowship, and community. Email Nicole at frassati@stmm.net for more information.
- Birthchoice is recruiting volunteers for a new Pregnancy Resource Center which will support parents carrying to term a child with a prenatal diagnosis.
- Oak City Cares is hosting a fundraiser on April 16 to raise money for meeting the needs of the homeless in Raleigh. Please go [HERE](#) for more information.

Steubenville, Ohio, on June 12-14. Click here for registration and more information.

- Walking with Moms in Need has a national monthly newsletter and this time it highlighted our local Gabriel Project/ Walking with Moms in Need ministry.
- The Worldwide Marriage Encounter helps couples to communicate better in their relationship. Retreats are held throughout NC, including an upcoming weekend on May 1-3 in Raleigh.
- Project Rachel retreat will be held June 12 to 14, 2026. This retreat offers a healing opportunity for individuals in need of post abortion support.

- JobWorks Career Ministry will hold its next event, Faith, Identity, & Showing Up Differently in Your Job on Apr 9, 8:30am, at St. Francis.
- Join the Triangle Women's Retreat on April 25 from 9:30am to 11:30am at St. Andrew's Care Center in Apex. Grow in faith through prayer and reflection. Click here to email for information and to RSVP.
- Pope Leo invites everyone to pray the Holy Rosary for Peace with him tomorrow, Saturday, April 11, at 12pm EST.

PICTURES



Yoogin Lean kindly shared some beautiful photos from the Easter Vigil, capturing the joy and reverence of this special night in our parish.



Fr. Mike blessed Easter food last Saturday, with many parishioners participating in this beautiful tradition. Families brought their baskets and gathered for this special moment in the Easter season. It was a nice way for our parish to prepare together for the joy of Easter.



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ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

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



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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