

## A NOTE FROM FATHER FRANCIS

### DIVINE MERCY WEEK

It is with profound humility that I share with you about how Jesus asked St. Faustina to bring a different group of souls into the ocean of his mercy each day beginning with Good Friday. Referring to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska Diary- Divine Mercy in My Soul, (Entries 1209- 1230) about the Divine plan which from time to time has been to save all mankind as in 1Tim 2:1-4 ".....This is right and acceptable in the sight of God our savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.", let us, beginning with this Good Friday and throughout the Divine Mercy week cry to God for mercy upon everybody. Keep in mind- it is at the very foundation and nature of our Most Merciful Jesus to have compassion on us and to forgive us all, Jesus doesn't look upon our sins but upon our trust we place in his infinite goodness (cf 1 st section of the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet- available from Good Friday).

Humbly, friends accept this sweet invitation to join the many saints who championed a fact that experiencing God's mercy requires us to bring it to the world including the most ignored and the despised. God, in Pt 3:9 is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Therefore, a way from condemning and being judgmental, let us bring to God those who decide to act against their sound judgment and thus act in opposition to light and revealed truth, the impenitent sinners who dedicate themselves to evil, those who knowingly reject God, those of us who voluntarily or involuntarily act in ungodly manner, those who have gone before us without reconciling with God and with mankind and all souls in purgatory. In this week, bring all people to Him, "..... the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our sins only but also for the whole world," (1Jn 2:2). Happy Easter.

I love you all

God is good.

Fr. Francis

#### **Additional Resources:**

Here is a link to [The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy Novena](#)  
Divine Mercy pamphlets are also available in the church narthex.

[Giving Portal](#)

Please click on the video below to hear Fr. Mike and Fr. Francis discuss our upcoming Easter Holy Week schedule.



# Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday <b>2</b> APRIL	7:00pm Holy Thursday Mass <i>Adoration to follow Mass, ending at 12am on Friday.</i>	
Good Friday <b>3</b> APRIL	12:00pm Stations of the Cross 3:00pm The Passion of the Lord	
Saturday <b>4</b> APRIL	10:00am Blessing of Easter Food 8:30pm Easter Vigil Mass	
St. Mary Magdalene CATHOLIC CHURCH	Easter Sunday <b>5</b> APRIL	7:00am Easter Mass (Incense Free) 9:00am Easter Mass 11:00am Easter Mass



## Bishop's Annual Appeal

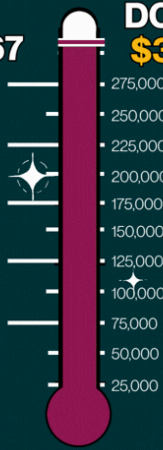
# THANK YOU!

## WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL!

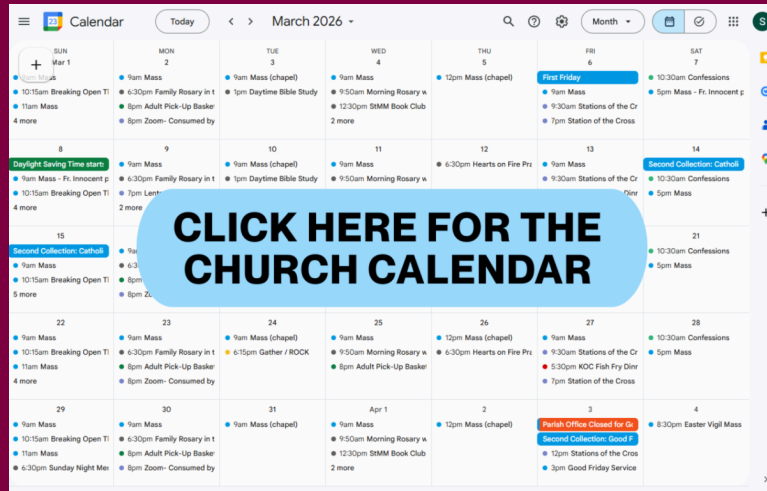
### WE TRULY APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S GENEROSITY.

GOAL  
\$312,667

DONATED  
\$315,770



**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 Alleluia

**Responsorial Psalm:** 118: This Is The Day

**Preparation:** This Is Amazing Grace

**Communion 1:** Behold The Lamb

**Communion 2:** O Come To The Altar

**Communion 3:** Great Are You Lord

**Communion 4:** O God My Soul Is Thirsting For You

**Sending Forth:** Alleluia! Love Is Alive

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This weekend, our flowers were donated by:

**Vanita Reeve, In loving memory of Triza D'Silva,**

**mother and grandmother, and by**

**Mike and Regina Gray, for a Happy Easter.**

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](mailto:floralministry@stmm.net)

**Are you making a payment to the Parish Life Center?**

To help keep everything

organized and ensure your payments are

**Tax Season**

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

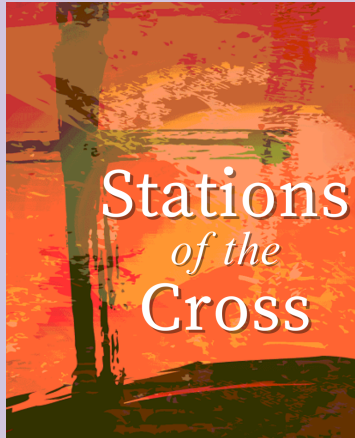
Your generosity sustains our parish and is vital to

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!**

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 Lenten Activities



For Catholics worldwide, the **Stations of the Cross** is a popular Lenten devotion, also called the "Way of the Cross." It is a prayerful meditation on the final hours of Jesus' life.

**Stations of the Cross will be held in the main church on Good Friday at noon.** The Stations of the Cross will also be livestreamed on Good Friday. Everyone is welcome!



Father Innocent Montgomery, CFR, led a weekly Lenten online prayer journey for StMM called ***Consumed by Fire***. This interactive series included reflection, discussion, and Q&A. Links to the recorded sessions can be found below.

- Feb 23-** Made for Communion ([Recording here](#))
- Mar 2-** The Fire of Contemplative Prayer ([Recording here](#))
- Mar 16-** The Fire of Transfiguration ([Recording here](#))
- Mar 23-** The Fire of Mission ([Recording here](#))
- Mar 30-** The Body of Christ on Fire

## StMM Ministry and Group Events

### APRIL



Join us as Fr. Mike leads the beautiful tradition of the **Blessing of Easter Food on April 4 at 10:00 am** in the chapel.

This cherished Catholic custom, especially rooted in Eastern European traditions, invites families to bring baskets filled with foods that will be shared on Easter Sunday. These foods often include bread, eggs, meats, and sweets, each symbolizing the joy of the Resurrection and the end of the Lenten fast.

Through this special blessing, we ask God to sanctify the food that will nourish our bodies as we celebrate the new life of Easter. It is a meaningful way to prepare both our homes and our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection.

### **The Sunday after Easter 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](mailto: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](mailto:fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.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](https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1744350)



**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](mailto:stevens@stmm.me) or 908-910-0309 for more information or to register. **Advance registration is required.**

**StMM Community Golf Outing**  
Hosted by 

**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  
Devils Ridge Golf Club  
Hosted by 

**THANK YOU SPONSORS!**

**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!**

## 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.
- Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or donation to our Parish Life Center campaign, enabling us to build a lasting space for our parish family. Campaign and donation information can be found [HERE](#).
- Breaking Open The Word is a new weekly Gospel discussion group that is held after the 9am Sunday Mass.
- 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 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.
- 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,

- 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 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.
- 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](mailto: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.
- JobWorks Career Ministry will hold its next event, Faith, Identity, & Showing Up Differently in Your Job on Apr 9, 8:30am, at St. Francis.

## PICTURES





The Mulholland Columbiettes wish to thank the St Mary Magdalene Parish and School communities for making our 3rd annual Easter egg hunt a huge success. Bringing families together for joyous celebrations is one of the many ways our auxiliary seeks to make a difference.



Luca Blankenship was baptized on March 29 by Father Mike.

**FOLLOW StMM  
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](mailto:will@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7280

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

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

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

**Confirmation**- contact the coordinator at [confirmation@stmm.net](mailto:confirmation@stmm.net)



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