

A NOTE FROM DEACON DEV

This Sunday we celebrate Mother's Day.

Mother's Day has its roots in the Christian tradition of "Mothering Sunday." During the Middle Ages, the custom developed for those who had moved away from their home parishes to return to their "mother church" on the fourth Sunday of Lent.

In the United States, Anna Jarvis is credited with the founding of the modern Mother's Day. She was inspired by her own mother who had organized women to take care of wounded soldiers during the Civil War. Rather than a general holiday, she wanted one's own mother to be honored which is why there is an apostrophe in "Mother's Day." President Woodrow Wilson declared it a national holiday in 1914.

The heart of a mother reflects the heart of God. God's love is often described in parental terms. Isaiah 66:13 states: "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you." This is not just a poetic image – it's a reminder that the tenderness, patience, and sacrificial love of a mother are a reflection of God's own nature.

And so, this Sunday, let us be thankful for all mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and those who have been like a mother to us. May they be celebrated for the wonderful gifts of love and life they are. And let us pray that God in his goodness will bless and strengthen them.

Let us also pray for all those for whom this can be a bittersweet holiday – those who have lost their mothers, those who long to be mothers, those who have lost a child, and those whose relationships with their mothers are complicated.

Let us also remember to pray for the Church, who in many ways is like a mother to us - she guides our steps in helping us understand what it means to be the children of God. And let us remember our Blessed Mother, who protects both the Church and all her children.

God bless,

Deacon Dev

[Giving Portal](#)

LET YOUR FAITH FLOW

Help Us Bring Clean Water to Uganda



Our StMM 5th grade students took part in a water carrying simulation this week, experiencing firsthand how difficult it can be for many people in Uganda to carry water long distances multiple times a day for their families. The experience helped students better understand the daily struggles many communities face when they do not have access to clean, reliable water. The lack of accessible water not only affects health and sanitation, but can also prevent children from receiving an education, as some must spend hours each day gathering water instead of attending school.

Through the Uganda Water Project, we can help provide clean water by supporting the construction of community wells or water catchment systems, bringing this essential resource to hundreds of people. Access to clean water can improve health, education, sanitation, and the overall quality of life for entire communities.

Together, our StMM community can stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Uganda through prayer, support, and generosity. Every drop and every dollar can make a life-changing difference for families in need.

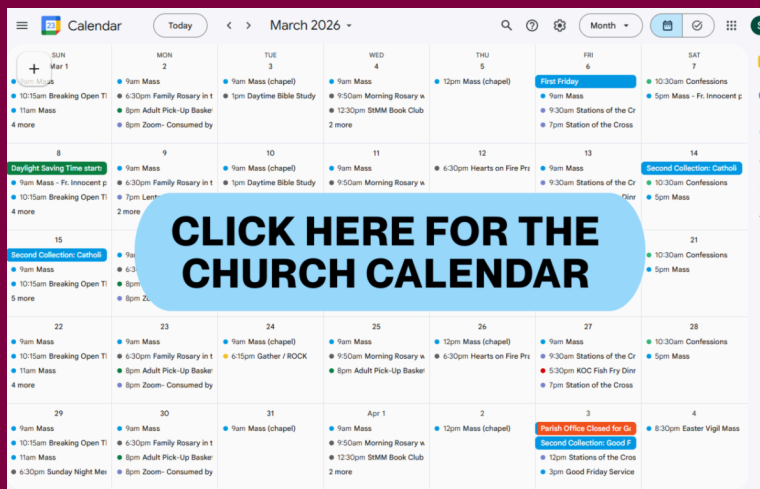
Donate below to help faith and love flow across the world.

Uganda Water Donation

Father Francis is deeply grateful and humbled by your continued support of his home community.

More information about the Uganda Water Project, plus videos of Father Francis' friends and family gathering water, can be found on our website [HERE](#).

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



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: 66: Let All The Earth Cry Out

Preparation: I Know a Name

Communion 1: Ubi Caritas (Hurd)

Communion 2: Refiner

Communion 3: Holy Forever

Sending Forth: Praise You Anywhere

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Starting Monday, June 8, our Parish Office summer hours will be 9am to 2pm. Regular office hours will resume on August 3. We wish everyone a safe and blessed summer!



The flowers this weekend are donated by:

Mike and Regina Gray in memory of Don and Jane Gray, and by Karen Kovacs in loving memory of Helen Lukesh.

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



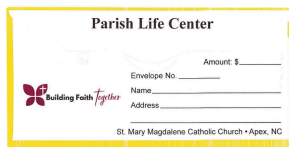
Road construction and resurfacing work will be taking place in neighborhoods surrounding St. Mary Magdalene in the coming months. This work is part of the Town of Apex's

ongoing street maintenance efforts and may impact traffic patterns in the area. We will share more specific dates and updates as they become available. Information on the road construction may be found [HERE](#).



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.



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!**



For those who are sensitive to incense, please note that incense will be used at the 9am and 11am Sunday Masses for the following solemnities:

- May 24 - Pentecost
- June 7 - Corpus Christi

The Saturday Vigil Masses will be incense-free.

StMM Ministry and Group Events

May

THIS TUESDAY IS THE DISCUSSION

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

LIVING THE GOSPEL THE CATHOLIC DOCTRINE ON IMMIGRATION

**TUESDAY
MAY 12TH,
2026**

**7:00PM-8:30PM
IN THE CHURCH**



**Presentation by Deacon
Joshua Klickman, M.A.**



**Guest Speaker: Father
Francis**



Guest Speaker: Consuelo Kwee

share how our faith calls us to respond with compassion, dignity, and justice. Father Francis will also present on immigration in Uganda, and Consuelo Kwee, Director of Immigration Services with the Diocese of Raleigh, will speak as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn, reflect, and engage in dialogue on an important issue. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments provided. [Please RSVP here.](#)



Are the Columbiettes for You? Are you a Catholic woman 18 years or older, seeking ways to serve your community, grow in faith, and also to make new friends with other Catholic women like yourself? 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.

We have two joining ceremonies coming up, one on **May 18** and one on **June 7**. These are the last opportunities until fall. If you'd like to learn more, contact us at fr.hcmulhollandcolumbiettes@gmail.com, or check out our website [HERE](#). If you are ready to join, please RSVP at these

links: May 18, at 6:00 pm: Register [HERE](#). June 7, at 1:30 pm: Register [HERE](#).

June



SAVE THE DATE! Ordering information coming soon!

Knights of Columbus Pulled Pork BBQ Dinner

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026

The Knights of Columbus Council 7186 is proud to host a Barbeque Dinner fundraiser at St. Mary Magdalene on **Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM**. All proceeds will go to supporting individuals in our community with intellectual disabilities (LAMB FOUNDATION OF NC).

Great Food, Great Beer, and a Great Cause!



Discover your God-given purpose at the Steubenville Conference: Power and Purpose, June 12 to 14, 2026.

This powerful weekend invites you to reignite your faith through dynamic speakers, meaningful worship, and authentic community. Encounter the healing power of the Holy Spirit, be inspired, and grow deeper in your relationship with Christ alongside fellow Catholics.

Join for a transformative experience of worship, study, prayer, and growth. You can register for the conference [HERE](#). Make sure to use code **26EMcCleskey** to sit with the StMM group in Steubenville. Email powerandpurposeraleigh@gmail.com if you would like to carpool up in a passenger van with other parishioners.

Prayer Ministry



St. Mary Magdalene Church Announcement: Prayer Ministry Renewal & Invitation

We are pleased to announce the renewal of the Prayer Ministry at St. Mary Magdalene, a sacred opportunity for our parish community to come together in faith, compassion, and intercession.

Whether you are newly called or feel led to re-engage, we warmly invite you to be part of this meaningful ministry. The Prayer Ministry serves as a spiritual support for our parish, lifting up the needs of individuals, families, and the wider community through intentional and faith-filled prayer.

Robert Gleason will be our new prayer ministry lead, and the program will begin the week of May 17. If you're

interested in joining the ministry, or if you have a prayer request, please email

stmmprayerteam@stmm.me.



There are still a few of the Columbiettes' "Taste and See" Cookbooks available! The cookbooks are chock full of the Columbiettes' favorite family recipes and a few from our priests and deacons, too! They make perfect Mother's Day, Father's Day, bridal shower, housewarming, or hostess gifts! They are being sold at the closeout price of \$20 per book, while quantities last. There are also gift-wrapped combo sets with the incredible tomato slicer knife available!

Once the cookbooks are gone, they're gone! Cash, check or charge accepted. Contact Linda Hergenroeder for more details, lhergens@bellsouth.net.

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, 4th, 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 on the first Wednesday of the month to discuss a selected reading. The next meeting is on June 3. 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.
- A Call to Prayer rosary on Zoom is held every Tuesday at noon for human dignity and immigration.
- A 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.
- The Knights of Columbus invite you to be part of a brotherhood of men dedicated to faith, service, and fellowship. Contact Steve at stevefitzhenry@outlook.com for more information.
- There will be a Homeschooling High School and College Planning information meeting at St. Joseph's on May 14.
- Magnificat, an international Catholic women's ministry, is holding their Magnificat Meal on Saturday, May 30, at St. Ann.
- Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry
- Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry. Sign up to pray for our priests.
- Project Rachel Support Group: hope and healing after an 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, May 18, 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.
- The next JobWorks meeting will be on May 14 at StMM discussing Agent AI at Work: New Opportunities for You.
- JobWorks was recently highlighted in an article at St. Francis. Learn more about this Career Ministry and how it supports and encourages those seeking employment.
- The Triangle Women's Morning Retreat, "Jesus and Our Father," will be held May 16 at St. Andrew. Join women from across the Triangle for a morning of faith, reflection, and fellowship.
- Join Fr. Dan Oschwald, Pastor of Mother Teresa Catholic Church, on a pilgrimage to Prague and

- Everyone is invited to attend the **Feast Day Mass of St. Josemaría Escrivá** on Friday, June 26, 6pm, at St. Michael's with Bishop Luis.
- **Walking with Moms in Need (Gabriel Project)** is seeking volunteers to help connect mothers with local resources, including transportation, and to offer a steady, caring presence.

Poland, October 8-19, 2026. There are only a few spots left, so register soon!

- **Belmont Abbey's Summer Schola for High School Students** offers their summer program **Great Books, Great Adventure** the week of July 5-11.

PICTURES



Fr. Mike celebrated Mass in the Cathedral of Santa Maria in Burgos, Spain, last Saturday. Pictured is Deacon Ramon on the left and Fr. Mike's brother-in-law, Deacon Michael Ward, on the right.



Our Edge students wrapped up a fantastic year filled with faith, fun, friendship, and growing closer to Christ together.



Congratulations to Stephanie Fitzhenry and John Paul Roque, who were married at St. Mary Magdalene on May 2, by Fr. Chris.



Congratulations to Olivia Bartol and Edward Bell, who were married at St. Mary Magdalene on May 1, by Deacon Rick.



Congratulations to Camille Guy, who was baptized on Saturday, May 2, by Fr. Francis.



Congratulations to Vivienne Limoli, who was baptized on Sunday, May 3, by Deacon Dev.



Fr. Francis joined the CSO group for his very first bowling outing last Monday and had a great time! Everyone enjoyed sharing laughs, fellowship, and a fun morning together.



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ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

Our 2026-2027 Faith Formation Calendar will be available soon!

Questions about Faith Formation:

GATHER (K to 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 to 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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