

A NOTE FROM FATHER RANDY

Week 4: Recognizing Jesus in Ordinary Moments

One of the beautiful truths of the Christian life is that God often reveals Himself in ordinary moments. We may look for dramatic signs or extraordinary experiences, yet Jesus reminds us that the Kingdom of Heaven is often discovered in places we least expect. In this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 13:44-52), the treasure hidden in a field and the pearl of great price reveal that God's presence is often closer than we realize, waiting to be recognized by attentive hearts.

Saint Mary Magdalene experienced this on Easter morning. Through her tears, she did not immediately recognize the risen Lord. It was only when Jesus called her by name that her eyes were opened. Once she encountered Him, she joyfully proclaimed, "I have seen the Lord." Her encounter became her mission.

This weekend, the Church also celebrates the **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**, which falls each year near the Feast of **Saints Joachim and Anne**, the grandparents of Jesus, celebrated on July 26. We thank God for grandparents and older members of our parish who help us recognize Christ through their faith, prayers, wisdom, and quiet witness. Like Saints Joachim and Anne, they remind us that passing on the faith is one of the greatest gifts we can offer future generations. Take time this week to thank them, visit them, pray with them, or simply let them know how much they are loved.

As we continue our journey **From Encounter to Engagement**, we are called not only to recognize Christ ourselves but also to help others encounter Him. Many people are waiting for a simple invitation: "Come with me to Mass," "We have missed you," or "There is a place for you here."

The greatest treasure of Saint Mary Magdalene Parish is not our buildings but our people. May we recognize Christ in one another and, like Saint Mary Magdalene, joyfully lead others to encounter His love.

FR

Giving Portal

On the Horizon

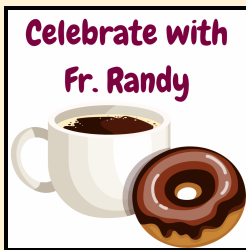


Saturday
10:30am- Confessions
5:00pm- Mass
Sunday
9:00am- Mass
11:00am- Mass

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

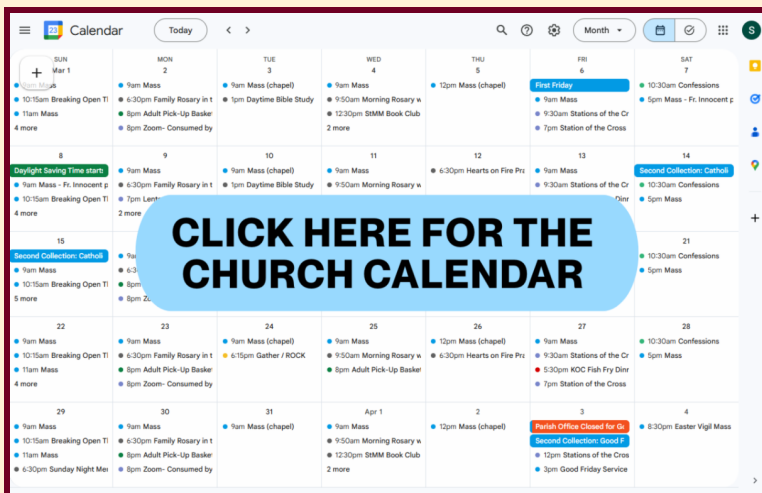
Music for the weekend Masses*

Gathering: Your Grace is Enough
Responsorial Psalm: 119: Lord I Love Your Commands
Preparation: 10,000 Reasons
Communion 1: Be Not Afraid
Communion 2: I Shall Not Want
Communion 3: Revelation Song
Sending Forth: Praise



On **Wednesday, July 29**, we will have coffee and donuts after daily Mass to celebrate Fr. Randy's Ordination Anniversary.

All are welcome!



See the latest happenings and events at St. Mary Magdalene on our online Google Calendar, where you can click on any event to find more detailed information.

St. Mary Magdalene Feast Day Concert



St. Mary Magdalene Feast Day Concert

A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who helped make the St. Mary Magdalene Feast Day Concert such a beautiful celebration for our parish community. We are especially grateful to the musicians, singers, and dancers who shared their gifts so generously, making the evening a joyful and inspiring experience for all who attended.

A special thank you to our Music Director, Andrew Witchger, whose tireless dedication, countless hours of planning, and unwavering commitment brought this wonderful concert to life. We are deeply grateful to everyone whose time, talent, and hard work made this memorable celebration possible.

Helpful Information

Parish Life Center

Envelope No. _____ Amount: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church • Apex, NC

Are you making a payment toward 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!**



Would you like to set up an automatic bank 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.



Help bring beauty to our altar and church by [donating flowers](#) for weekend Masses. Flowers may be given in celebration of a special occasion or in honor or memory of a loved one. When flowers are donated, the donor's name and occasion are included in the weekly eNews.

Please [click here](#) to sign up. For questions, email floralministry@stmm.net.



Over the summer, our Parish Office and Chapel hours will be from **9am to 2pm**. Regular Parish Office and Chapel hours will resume on August 3. We wish everyone a safe and blessed summer!



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](#).

StMM Ministry and Group Events

July



Parish Athletics Shop Weekend - 20% OFF Throughout the Store! - Friday, July 24 through Monday, July 27 - Coupon valid at ALL Raleigh area DICK'S & DICK'S House of Sport Store Locations

Save the date! Our partner, DICK'S Sporting Goods, is offering all our members an exclusive discount of 20% off throughout the store! Be sure to grab all the things you will need for the upcoming season as well as all the other items that you have had your eyes on for the summer! To access exclusive savings, click the coupon linked below. The coupon is valid in-store on the dates above and must be shown at the register during checkout.

[CLICK HERE FOR YOUR IN-STORE COUPON](#)

August



The St. Mary Magdalene Care for God's Planet Team invites all parishioners to join the diocesan faithful for this special Jubilee Mass honoring St. Francis of Assisi.

The Mass will be held at **Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral** on **Wednesday, August 5, at 6:30 PM**. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the life and legacy of St. Francis and gather in prayer with Catholics from throughout our diocese. Carpooling is encouraged as a simple way to care for God's creation by reducing our environmental impact.

After Mass, members of the **St. Mary Magdalene Care for God's Planet Team** will be outside in the circle near the statue of Jesus with **cookies** for St. Mary Magdalene parishioners.

We hope you'll stop by for a treat and some fellowship before heading home! For more information, email

StMMCareForGodsPlanet@gmail.com



StMM BSA Troop 316 is hosting a charity night at the local Culver's on Kelly Road on **Monday evening, August 10**. A portion of the evening's proceeds will benefit the troop and help support troop activities.

Parishioners, school families, and friends are warmly invited to come out and support Troop 316. Please show [this flyer](#) when placing your order so the troop receives credit for your purchase..

Troop 316 uses donations to help fund activities and buy supplies for events like summer camp (pictured here). The troop is always happy to welcome interested middle and high school students as guests Monday nights. More information and contacts are available at www.t316Apex.org.



Register now for the Faith Formation High School Beach Retreat. Only a few spots remain!

Faith Formation High School students are invited to join us for an unforgettable weekend at the beautiful Fort Caswell Coastal Retreat & Conference Center in Oak Island, NC!

The retreat will be held August 14 to 16, 2026. The cost is \$275, which includes chartered bus transportation from St. Mary Magdalene.

Register for the Oak Island Beach Retreat [HERE](#)



Registration Is Now Open for the Forward in Hope Wednesday Evening Session

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you do not have to walk the journey alone. Forward in Hope is a Christ-centered faith sharing group that provides a caring community through prayer, Scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship.

An evening session is now being offered and will begin on a Wednesday evening in August. The exact start date will be determined based on participant registration.

For more information, call the parish office at 919-657-4800 ext. 7280 or email stmmforwardinhope@stmm.net

Parishioner Assistance Ministry (PAM)



Parishioner Assistance Ministry

The Parishioner Assistance Ministry (PAM) is looking for caring volunteers, especially those with Level C certification, to help support fellow parishioners in practical ways. Volunteers are needed to provide rides to appointments, prepare and deliver meals, or shop for and deliver groceries. Other volunteer opportunities are also available.

To learn more or to get involved, email stmmmpam@stmm.me.

Prayer Ministry



St. Mary Magdalene Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry offers a meaningful way to care for others and strengthen our parish through prayer. Ministry members faithfully lift up the needs of individuals, families, and the wider community, offering spiritual support through compassionate and intentional prayer.

Those who feel called to support others through prayer are invited to join the ministry, and anyone in need of prayer is encouraged to submit a request.

For more information, to join the ministry, or to submit a prayer request, please email stmmprayerteam@stmm.me.



**Soccer & Baseball
Fall sports
registration is now open!**

Apex-Cary Fall Soccer 2026- Register [HERE](#)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (3-year-olds) through 8th grade. **Dates:** August to October. **Cost:** Pre-K - \$65; K - 1st grade - \$70; 2nd - 8th grade - \$85. **Note:** Pre-K players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. Kindergarteners thru 8th graders have one weekday practice per week and weekend games.

Apex Fall Baseball 2026- Register [HERE](#)

Grades: Coed, Pre-K (4-year-olds) through 4th grade. **Dates:** September to October. **Cost:** Pre-K/K - \$65; 1st thru 4th grade - \$70 **Note:** PreK thru Kindergarten plays T-Ball; 1st - 4th grade play machine pitch. Pre-K and Kindergarten players have a combined practice/game on Saturdays. 1st - 4th grade have one weekday practice per week and games on Saturdays. 3rd/4th grade may be combined into one team that

will practice and scrimmage together.

Meetings, Events, & Information

Please click on the link for more details.

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 Nine Month Report are available on our website.

SCHOOL

- StMM School is looking for substitute teachers for grades 6-8 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- StMM is hiring an Assistant Principal for our vibrant PK3-Grade 8 parish school.
- St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School is seeking a faith-filled and innovative Digital Learning Specialist to join our school community.

GROUPS & MINISTRIES

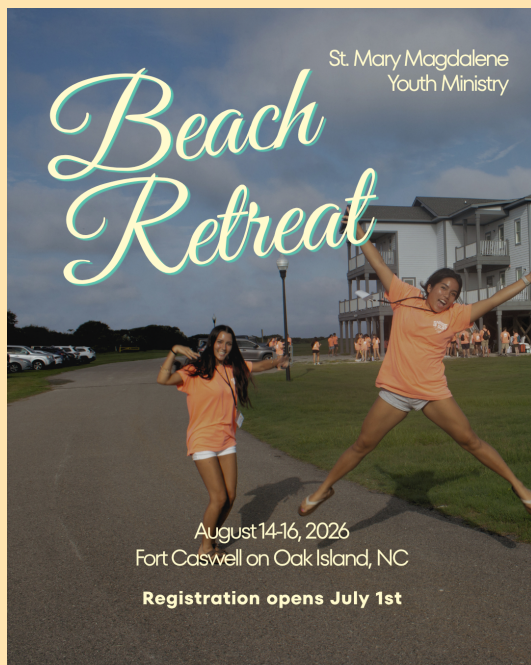
- Hearts on Fire, a charismatic prayer group with Deacon Dev, meets in the Chapel at 6:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. Please note that there will be no meetings in July.
- Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry
- A Call to Prayer rosary on Zoom is held every Tuesday at noon for human dignity and immigration.
- Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry. Sign up to pray for our priests.
- The St. Andrew chapter of St. Vincent de Paul is accepting vehicle, boat, and RV donations, whether they are running or not.
- Project Rachel Support Group: hope and healing after an abortion.
- First Friday Eucharistic Adoration is a great way to spend meaningful time with our Lord. Adorers are needed, so please consider signing up for one hour once a month. Email Anita at alanitabecker@aol.com.
- Join Bishop Luis Zarama on a Catholic pilgrimage to Hungary and Poland, October 4–14, 2027 and journey together through lands rich in faith and history.
- The Annual Diocesan African Heritage Mass and Celebration will be held on Sunday, August 23, at 4:30pm at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.
- Lily of the Valley Catholic Ministry is hosting a retreat on Aug 28-29, designed to help women encounter Christ in the midst of their lives.
- Join Divine Mercy Radio every Monday and Thursday after the 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet on Catholic 540AM for Divine Mercy Kids, a program designed to help children learn about virtues and saints.
- Save the date! Mother Teresa Catholic Church is holding a craft fair on Saturday, Oct 17. Interested artists and vendors can apply now for a table.
- JobWorks Career Ministry presents *The Job Market is Tough, But Your Role Still Exists* at the next meeting on Thursday, August 13. All are welcome.
- Registration is now open for the next Magnificat Meal on September 12 featuring guest speaker, Veronica Clark.
- The Catholic Conference Center is hosting a Labor Day weekend retreat lasting two nights called *Finding God in a New Season of Life*.

**FOLLOW StMM
ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



Faith Formation

*Our *NEW* 2026-2027 Faith Formation Calendar is available [HERE](#).*



Register for the Oak Island Beach Retreat [HERE](#)



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

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

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