

A NOTE FROM FATHER RANDY

From Encounter to Engagement: Encountering Christ in the Eucharist

This Sunday's readings remind us of something at the heart of parish life: **God desires to gather his people together.** Isaiah declares, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." In the Gospel, the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus with the simple prayer, "Lord, help me." Jesus recognizes her faith and brings healing to her family.

Every Sunday, we also come to encounter Christ. We arrive carrying our gratitude and struggles, hopes and worries. Before Mass begins, we need a few moments of **quiet and solitude with the Lord.** This is why we are creating a more prayerful atmosphere before Mass—not to prevent us from welcoming one another, but to give everyone an opportunity to quiet the heart and become attentive to God's presence.

You may also notice the **short periods of silence between the readings.** These pauses are intentional. We do not want to rush from one reading to the next. Silence gives the Word of God time to **sink into our minds and hearts.** Sometimes God speaks most deeply when we simply remain still and allow his Word to remain with us.

Around one altar, Christ gathers us, speaks to us, nourishes us, and makes us one. But our encounter cannot end when Mass ends.

This is our movement **From Encounter to Engagement.** We encounter Christ in the Word and Eucharist and are sent to live what we have received.

This is also the vision behind our future **Parish Life Center.** It is not simply another building. It can become a place where **the Eucharist continues to be lived:** young people growing in faith, adults gathering for formation, ministries serving others, and families building relationships.

The church is where Christ gathers and nourishes us. The Parish Life Center can be where that encounter becomes **fellowship, formation, service, welcome, and mission.**

We do not build simply to create more space. We build to create more opportunities for people to encounter Christ. From the altar, we are sent forth. **From encounter, we move to engagement.**

FR

[Giving Portal](#)

On the Horizon

Saturday

10:30 AM- Confessions

5:00 PM- Mass

Sunday

9:00 AM- Mass

11:00 AM- Mass

Music for the weekend Masses*

Gathering: How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place

Responsorial Psalm: 67 Let All The Earth
/Jesus proclaimed

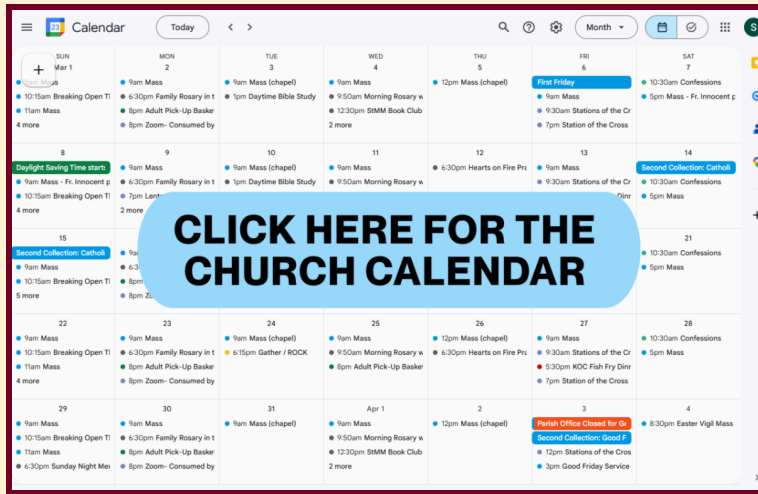
Preparation: Morning by Morning

Communion 1: Behold the Lamb



Click [HERE](#) to livestream our **9:00 AM Sunday Mass** and our **Mon/Wed/Fri** weekday Masses.

Communion 2: Great Are You
Communion 3: In Christ Alone
Sending Forth: Praise



CLICK HERE FOR THE CHURCH CALENDAR

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.

Helpful Information



Registration is underway for all our Faith Formation programs!

Please visit www.stmm.church/religious-ed to determine which program is right for your child, then click on the appropriate Faith Formation program from the website drop-down menu to register.

The mission of St. Mary Magdalene's Religious Education program is to provide students with age-appropriate catechesis guided by biblical faith, the teachings of the Church, and a clear vision of the Gospel. We accomplish this by building upon students' life experiences, fostering family involvement, developing spirituality and involvement in liturgical prayer, encouraging moral development, and challenging students to experience faith in a spirit of joy.



Fraud & Scam Awareness

Scammers often use familiar names, email addresses, or even the names of priests, parish staff, and parishioners to make their messages appear trustworthy. Please remain vigilant, especially when a message asks for money, gift cards, personal information, or urgent assistance.

To help protect yourself and our parish community from fraudulent messages, please review the information provided in [this link](#) and learn how to recognize and avoid common scams.

Parish Life Center

Amount: \$ _____

Envelope No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

81 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 and at the parish office, or they 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.



This week's altar flowers are donated by Mike and Regina Gray in memory of Sandra Sansone.

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.

StMM Ministry and Group Events

August



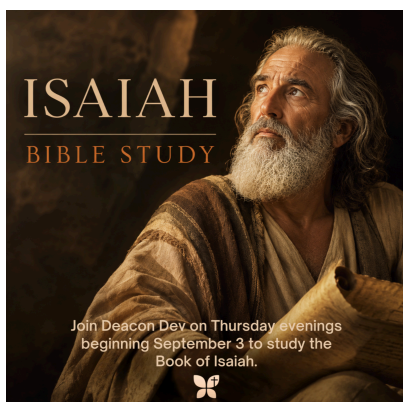
Registration Is Now Open for the Forward in Hope Wednesday Evening Session

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.

A Wednesday evening session is now being offered and will begin in August.

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

September



Join Deacon Dev and many of your fellow parishioners for a unique study of **Isaiah**, the great prophetic book of the Old Testament. Isaiah's oracles are so fundamental to the Gospel message that the early Church often called it the "fifth Gospel."

This promises to be a richly rewarding study and we hope you will join us! Meetings will be in the StMM Church on Thursday evenings, beginning **September 3, 2026, at 6:30 PM**.

Please register [HERE](#) (register each person separately) or go to our website www.stmm.church/bible-study

Everyone is welcome!

StMM Ministry and Group News

StMM Book Club

Do you enjoy a good book and lively conversation? The StMM Book Club invites anyone who loves to read to join us for another season of reading, discussion, and fellowship!

The group reads a variety of fiction, nonfiction, and faith-based books and meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 2:30 PM, August through June, to discuss a selected book.

StMM Book Club



Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 2, at 12:30 PM. New members are always welcome!

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Ann Dudzinski at amdudzinski@gmail.com.

CSO

Catholic Senior Organization

Catholic Senior Organization

The Catholic Senior Organization (CSO) invites women and men ages 60+ to join us for fellowship, faith sharing, outings, and fun! CSO meets on the third Monday of each month, September through May.

Our next meeting will be Monday, September 21, from 10:30 AM to Noon in the Church Narthex.

Interested in joining? For more information and a complete meeting schedule, please contact Jim Schultz at 954-649-0194 or Fran Hughes at gmomfran@gmail.com.



walking with purpose

The Walking With Purpose Bible study will be starting back up in September.

The daytime session will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10:15 AM to 12:00 PM. Unfortunately, at this time the evening session is full. There will be another study in the spring, so be sure to look for the registration information that will be posted in the Enews in December.

To learn more about WWP, watch an informational video [HERE](#).

Please contact Melissa Porter with questions or to register at walkingwithpurpose@stmm.net. Space is limited.



**Chrysalis Marriage
Ministry seeks teen
childcare volunteers**

Teen Volunteers Needed for Sunday Chrysalis Childcare

Chrysalis, StMM's marriage enrichment ministry, is seeking energetic teen volunteers to help in the childcare rooms during monthly meetings. This is a great opportunity to earn service hours while making a difference.

Sessions are held one Sunday a month from 2:30 to 4:00 PM in the StMM Meeting Rooms. Volunteers may help with one, two, or all nine sessions.

To volunteer, email Brandon and Sarah Bowser at stmmchrysalis@gmail.com or click [this link](#) to join the childcare team and email list. A sign-up form will be sent each month so you can RSVP. Thank you for supporting Chrysalis!

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 9:00 AM 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.

GROUPS & MINISTRIES

- Hearts on Fire, a charismatic prayer group with Deacon Dev, meets in the Chapel at 6:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.
- First Friday Eucharistic Adoration is a great way to spend meaningful time with our Lord. Adorers are needed, especially from 5 to 6 PM, so please consider signing up. Email Anita at alanitabecker@aol.com.
- Lily of the Valley Catholic Ministry is hosting a retreat on August 28-29, designed to help women encounter Christ in the midst of their lives.
- Save the date! Mother Teresa Catholic Church is holding a craft fair on Saturday, October 17. Interested artists and vendors can apply now for a table.
- Registration is now open for the next Magnificat Meal on September 12 featuring guest speaker Veronica Clark.
- The Columbiettes at StMM make custom rosaries, chaplets, and rosary bracelets. For more information, email them [HERE](#).
- St. Augustine Homeschool Enrichment holds classes at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Thursdays, starting August 27.
- 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.
- 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 4:30 PM at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.
- The Catholic Conference Center is hosting a two-night Labor Day weekend retreat called *Finding God in a New Season of Life*.
- A Women's Retreat with Sarah Hart and a concert for everyone will be held at St. Andrew's September 19 and 20.
- The Triangle Women's Morning Retreat, Who Do You Say Jesus Is? will be held on August 22 in the St. Andrew's Care Center.
- The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen will occur on September 24 in St. Louis. Tickets and more information can be found [here](#).

Faith Formation

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

More information about our Faith Formation programs can be found on our website at stmm.church/religious-ed



Register for Faith Formation on our website [HERE.](#)

Pictures



Congratulations to Caroline Galuchie on her Baptism on Saturday, August 8!

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