

A NOTE FROM FATHER FRANCIS

ENCOUNTERING CHRIST IN THE SCRIPTURE

St. Jerome once said "Ignorance of the bible is ignorance of Christ." That is, the bible is the main way God reveals His Son to the people. Recalling our Pre-School religion class song "Read your Bible every day.....if you want to grow," and aware of the fact that Christ is the Word *par excellence*, I would like to encourage you to read, to listen and ponder upon scripture [the Word] in order to encounter Christ in a more personal way.

The bible, from creation accounts, the prophets, wisdom literature and throughout the New Testament testifies to Christ; In a letter to the Hebrews 1:2 "But in these last days He has spoken to us by His son.....through whom He also created the worlds." Relatedly, in the gospel according to John 1:1ff "From the beginning, there was a word and the word became flesh.....And all things came into being through him, in Him was life." And St. Paul in his letter to the Colossians 1:15-16, affirms that, "He is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created.....". This is, after the fall of man, the offspring promised in Gen 3 who will strike the head of the serpent [the tempter/ the devil] which he will accomplish as the Paschal Lamb of sacrifice prefigured in Exodus chap. 12 and the one hanging on the tree as in the Book of Numbers 21:8-9 quoted by Jn 3:14 "..... As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up."

Beloved, through scripture, we can encounter Christ in whom we are created, redeemed, saved and adopted as sons and daughters of God. This Sunday, in the Gospel, Christ invites us to "take courage, not to be afraid and to come," as He told Peter.

I love you,

God is good.

Fr. Francis

[Giving Portal](#)

On the Horizon



Saturday

10:30 AM- Confessions

5:00 PM- Mass

Sunday

9:00 AM- Mass

11:00 AM- Mass

*There will be a second

collection at all Masses this weekend for Priest Retirement.

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

Music for the weekend Masses*

Gathering: Christ Be Beside Me

Responsorial Psalm: 85 Lord Let Us See

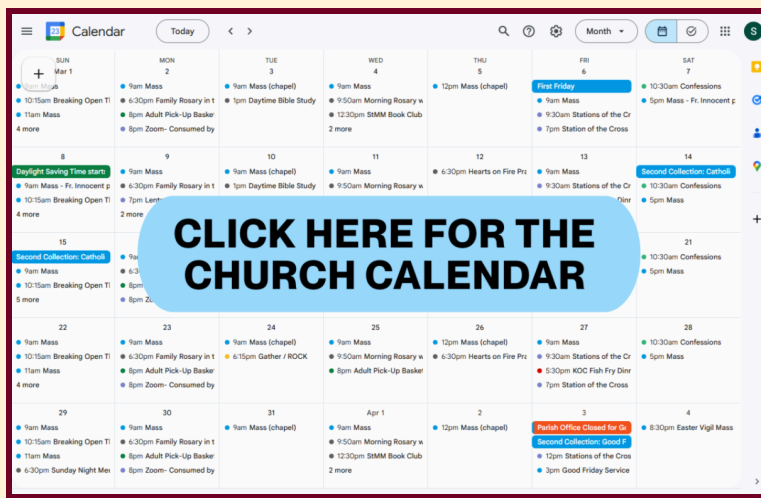
Preparation: Morning by Morning

Communion 1: Be Not Afraid

Communion 2: Canvas and Clay

Communion 3: Trust in God

Sending Forth: Your Love Defends Me



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 for all our Faith Formation programs is underway!

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.



Phishing Scam Alert

Please be aware of fraudulent emails and text messages claiming to be from **Fr. Randy** or **Fr. Francis**. Do **not** reply, click links, purchase gift cards, send money, or provide personal information.

If you receive a suspicious message, please delete it and contact the parish office to verify any request.

Thank you for helping keep our parish community safe.

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 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 in memory of W. Arthur Fessenden by his family.

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



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.



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.

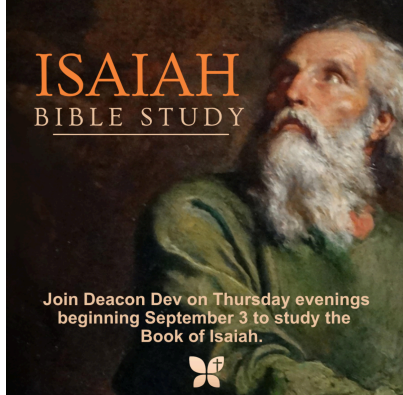
September

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 6.30pm**.

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



The Walking With Purpose Bible study will resume in September with both daytime and evening sessions.

The daytime session will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10:15 AM to 12:00 PM and the evening session on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

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.



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!



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 stmpam@stmm.me.

Meetings, Events, & Information

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.

SCHOOL

- StMM is hiring a Kindergarten Teacher Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year.

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.
- The St. Andrew chapter of St. Vincent de Paul is accepting vehicle, boat, and RV donations, whether they are running or not.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- The Catholic Conference Center is hosting a two-night Labor Day weekend retreat called *Finding God in a New Season of Life*.
- The Care for God's Planet Team will meet on Thursday, August 13, at 7

- 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.

PM in room 4 in the church. All are welcome!

- A Women's Retreat with Sarah Hart and a concert for everyone will be held at St. Andrew's September 19 and 20.

Faith Formation

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



Register for Faith Formation on our website [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

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ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



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

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