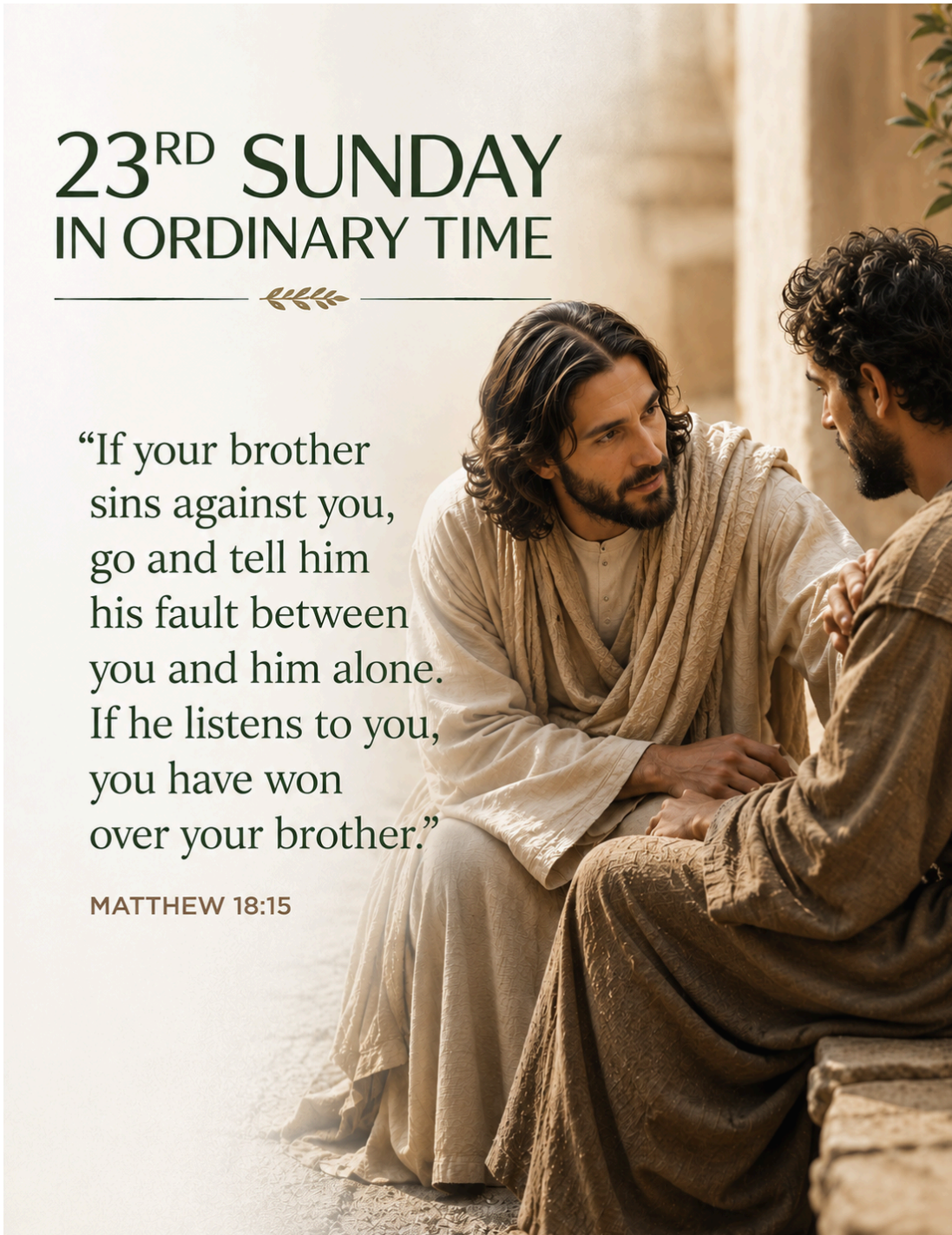


23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“If your brother
sins against you,
go and tell him
his fault between
you and him alone.
If he listens to you,
you have won
over your brother.”

MATTHEW 18:15



For Our Reflection

Living Every Day as a Disciple

Most of us spend a large part of our lives working. We work in offices, schools, hospitals, businesses, restaurants, homes, and many other places. Labor Day gives us a moment to appreciate this part of our lives and, especially, to appreciate the people behind the work.

Sometimes we notice the work but forget the worker. We see a clean building but not the person who cleaned it. We enjoy a meal without thinking about the people who prepared it. We drive on good roads without thinking about those who worked in the heat to build them.

Our Catholic faith reminds us that work has dignity because the person doing the work has dignity. Our worth is not determined by our title, salary, education, or position. Every person is created in the image of God.

Today's Gospel brings us into another part of daily life: our relationships. Jesus speaks about what happens when someone hurts us or when there is disagreement. His invitation is simple: go and speak with the person.

We know that is not always easy. Sometimes it is easier to talk about someone than to talk with someone. Yet Jesus invites us toward conversation, listening, understanding, and reconciliation.

This is where daily discipleship becomes engagement. Faith is not only something we practice inside the church. It becomes visible in how we work, how we speak, how we listen, how we treat people, and how we participate in the life of our community.

That same spirit of engagement is also part of our Parish Life Center campaign. The Parish Life Center is not simply about constructing another building. It is about creating a place where relationships can grow—a place for our children and young people, faith formation, Bible studies, fellowship, service, and parish gatherings.

Daily discipleship asks each of us to consider: How am I participating in the life and future of my parish? For some, engagement may mean volunteering. For others, praying for the parish, participating in ministries, welcoming a new family, sharing their gifts, or supporting the Parish Life Center campaign according to their ability.

Jesus ends today's Gospel by saying, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

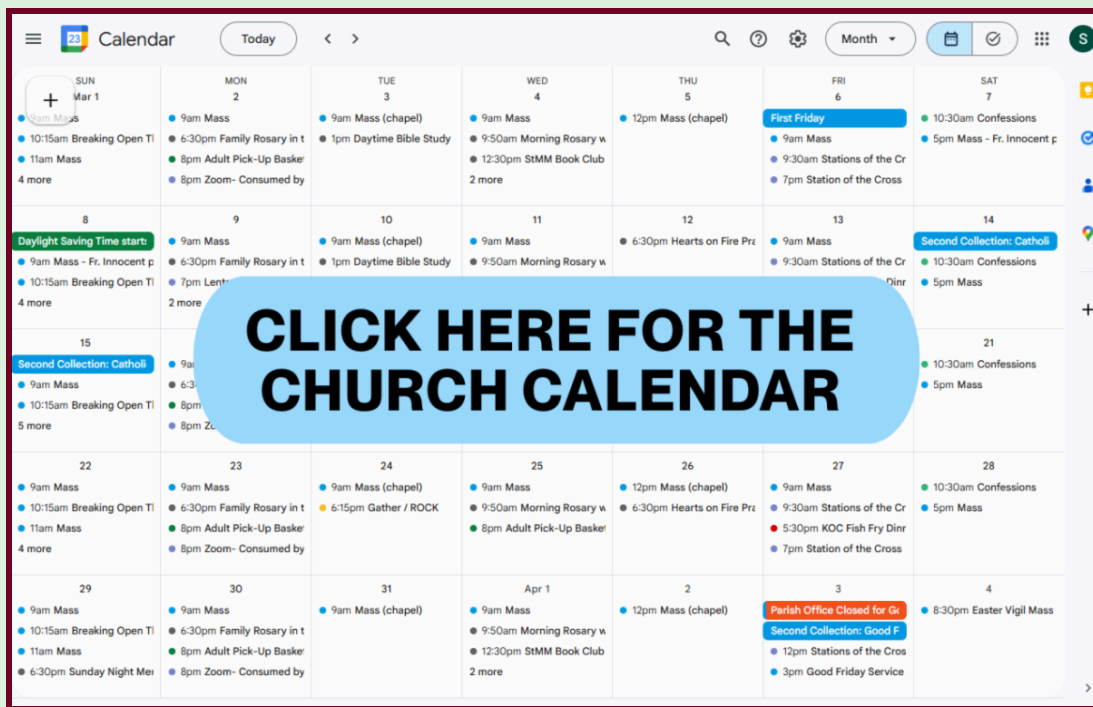
Perhaps that is ultimately what we are building—not simply a building, but a place for people to gather, relationships to grow, and Christ to be encountered.

That is daily discipleship. From encounter comes engagement.

FR

[Giving Portal](#)

[This Week](#)



Saturday

10:30 AM- Confessions

5:00 PM- Mass

Sunday

9:00 AM- Mass

11:00 AM- Mass

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

Mass This Week

Music for the weekend Masses*

Gathering: All Are Welcome

Responsorial Psalm: 95: If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts

Preparation: Holy Forever

Communion 1: Be Not Afraid

Communion 2: Goodness of God

Communion 3: Praise The Lord Forever

Sending Forth: Rain Down



Flowers This Week

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. Questions? floralministry@stmm.net.



Please join us in prayer for the deceased and their families.

The following Funeral Masses will be held at St. Mary Magdalene:



Albert Miner



Eleanor Hennessey



JoAnn Wynne

Albert's funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, September 9, at 11:00 AM.

Eleanor's funeral Mass will be held on Friday, September 11, at 11:00 AM.

JoAnn's funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, September 12, at 10:00 AM.

Magdala Teen, Youth & Education

[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

A graphic titled "FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN" with a starburst icon. It lists four programs: "GATHER" (K-4th Grade and First Communion, Tuesday at 6:15 PM), "EDGE" (7th & 8th Grade, Sunday at 7:15 PM), "ROCK" (5th & 6th Grade), and "the way" (9th & 10th Grade and Confirmation, Sunday at 4:30 PM). It also includes a "REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 10TH TO AVOID ANY LATE FEES!!" notice and a small "CROSSING" logo for 11th & 12th Grade. A footer note says "For more information, visit our parish website, stmm.church".

Registration is underway for all our Faith Formation programs!

Sign up by September 10 to avoid a late fee.

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.



Faith Formation for Children of All Abilities

Parents, have you wanted to bring your children to faith formation but have been hesitant? Do you have a child with unique needs that would benefit from a tailored faith formation program? StMM sees you and wants to gauge interest in a program to support children of all abilities. Please contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net for more information.

Are you a student, young adult or teacher who would like to pass on the faith to children of all abilities? Do you have a heart to help students with additional needs?

St. Mary Magdalene is exploring ways to support families with unique learners to access faith formation. This may be a great volunteer opportunity for someone within the health, education and related therapy fields or high school students involved in Unified, Special Olympics and Pepi. Please contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net if you are interested.

Gather Needs Volunteers!

Gather is looking for volunteers to join its Core Team and help serve our children on Tuesday evenings from 6:15–7:30 PM. Please consider helping as a teacher. All materials are provided, and no experience is necessary—just a willingness to serve!

We are grateful for your support in helping the next generation grow in faith and deepen their relationship with Christ.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Suzanne Will at will@stmm.net.

Volunteers Needed



Magdala Stewardship

A form for the Parish Life Center. It includes fields for Amount (\$), Envelope No., Name, and Address. There is a logo on the left that says "Building Faith Together" with a butterfly icon. At the bottom, it says "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 our entire parish community.

Magdala Ministry and Group Events

SEPTEMBER

Forward in Hope - Grief Support Group

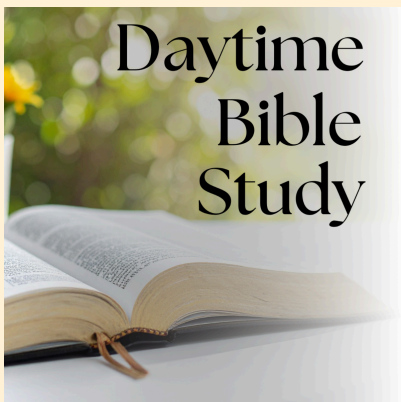
If you're in need of consolation after losing a loved one, this Christ-centered faith sharing group is for you. We recommend participants join us approximately six months after the loss of a loved one.

Our next daytime session will begin on Wednesday, September 16, at 10:00 AM. There are also openings in the Wednesday evening session at 7:00 PM.



Sessions will consist of prayer, Scripture, faith sharing, and fellowship. For more information, please feel free to email stmmForwardinhope@stmm.net, or call 919-657-4800 ext. 7280.

Pictured: Forward in Hope Season four participants



StMM Daytime Bible Study

For the 2026-2027 season, we will be studying the Catechism of the Catholic Church using materials from Ascension Press.

Foundations of Faith - A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

The study consists of reading to be done at home from the Catechism and the workbook. We will meet on Tuesdays to watch a video and discuss the study questions. We will not be reading every line of the Catechism.

The study is 20 weeks long. We will start on **Tuesday, September 29, 2026**, and go through April 20, 2027 with a few breaks.

All sessions will be on Tuesdays from 1:00-3:00 PM in rooms 3 and 4 of the StMM Church building.

Please contact Laurie Wendt for more information and details about ordering the materials (cost \$40) at lauriewendt@gmail.com.

OCTOBER



Blessing of the Animals

In celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, bring your beloved pets for a special **Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 3**, in the courtyard in front of the church.

Blessings will take place at **9:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 10:00 AM.**

All pets are welcome! Please be sure animals are safely leashed or secured in a carrier.

We look forward to seeing our parish families and their furry, feathered, finned, and four-legged friends!

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? St. Mary Magdalene's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) **begins Monday, October 19**. OCIA offers participants an opportunity to explore the Catholic faith while being accompanied on a spiritual journey of knowing, loving, and serving God and others. More detailed information can be found [HERE](#), or you may contact Deacon Rick Stevens at stevens@stmm.me.



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Sessions will be held on **Monday evenings from 7:00–8:30 PM** and will include prayer, discussion, Scripture, and opportunities to experience the Catholic faith more fully. We look forward to welcoming you to our group!



Adult Confirmation Preparation

Are you an adult Catholic who has been baptized and received First Holy Communion but has not yet been confirmed? St. Mary Magdalene's **Adult Confirmation Preparation Series begins Wednesday, October 21.** This six-week series offers an opportunity to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation and deepen your understanding of the Holy Spirit and the gifts received through this sacrament. More detailed information on the series can be found [HERE](#).

Sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8:30 PM, followed by a mini-retreat at the

conclusion of the series. Attendance at all sessions is required.

For more information or to register, contact Deacon Rick at 908-910-0309 or stevens@stmm.me.

PARISH LIFE

A Peal for Peace



A Peal for Peace

Beginning in September, our church will join A Peal for Peace, a public witness rooted in faith and our shared hope for peace.

On the first Monday of each month from September through November, our church bells will ring from 6:00–6:15 PM, inviting all people and faith communities to pause wherever they are—to pray, reflect, and hope together for peace.

In a world often marked by conflict and division, may the sound of our bells be a simple but powerful reminder that we are called to be people of peace, prayer, and hope.

Safe Environment Training Renewal Deadline — September 15

Safe Environment Training is required for all volunteers and employees who work with children or youth at parish, preschool, or school events.

The renewal window for existing Level C Safe Environment volunteers closes September 15, 2026. If you are currently certified, please be sure to complete your annual renewal before the deadline. Those who miss the renewal period will have their files suspended and will need to be recertified before they can resume volunteering.

Safe Environment Training



Existing volunteers can log in to their profiles to complete their renewal [HERE](#).

Please see [this flyer](#) for additional information about renewals and certification for new volunteers.



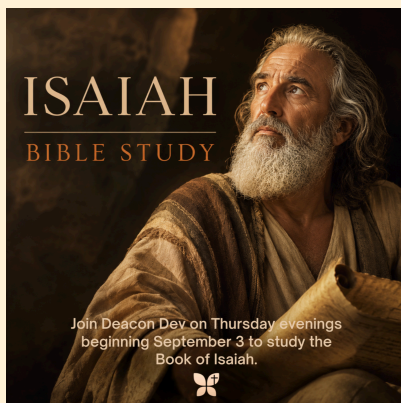
Chrysalis Marriage Enrichment

All married couples at the parish are invited to join Chrysalis ministry as they kick off a new year. This marriage enrichment fellowship group provides space for couples to grow in their love for God and their spouse. Chrysalis meets monthly from September through May, from 2:45-4:00 PM in Meeting Room 3. This year's Sunday meeting dates are: 9/27, 10/25, 11/15, 12/13, 1/10, 2/7, 3/14, 4/11, 5/16. Childcare is provided.

Please register for the year [on our website](#) by **September 12** so that your curriculum may be ordered.

Chrysalis is also seeking volunteers (Level C adults and energetic teenagers) to staff its childcare team during ministry meetings. Volunteering is a great way to support strong marriages in our parish, to gain childcare experience, and to spend time pouring into the next generation of our Catholic Church!

For information about joining or volunteering with this ministry, please visit the Chrysalis website [HERE](#) or contact Brandon and Sarah Bowser at stmmchrysalis@gmail.com.



Book of Isaiah Bible Study

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 for one or all of the sessions! Meetings will be in the StMM Church, approximately every other Thursday evening, 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!**

Come sing, pray, and grow in faith with Hearts on Fire!

Join us for an uplifting evening filled with charismatic praise and worship, along with intercession, testimony, Scripture reading, teaching, and time together in community.

Hearts on Fire meets in the chapel from **6:30 to 8:00 PM on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month**, August through June.

All are welcome! We hope to see you there.



Questions? Please contact Deacon Dev at lobo@stmm.net.

StMM Book Club



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.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 7, 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.



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.

The 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.

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,
- 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 2026 StMM Annual Stewardship Report is available

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.

on our website.

- A special note from Fr. Randy, John Corcoran, and the Finance Committee about this year's Annual Stewardship Report can be found [HERE](#).

SCHOOL

- A part-time Aftercare Assistant is needed to supervise school-aged children in the afternoon.
- Are you considering a Catholic education for your child? Campus tour appointments are now being scheduled! Join us to learn more about our school and discover all that we have to offer your family. Applications for the 2026-2027 school year will open in October.

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.
- The Columbiettes at StMM make custom rosaries, chaplets, and rosary bracelets. For more information, email them [HERE](#).
- The Gabriel Project Ministry needs volunteers to accompany women in crisis through their pregnancy and beyond. Click [here](#) to learn the many ways to volunteer!
- Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry
- Traveling St. John Vianney Ministry- Sign up to host a beautiful St. John Vianney statue in your home for a month while you pray for our priests.
- StMM Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 12:30 to discuss a selected reading. The next meeting will be on October 7. Click [here](#) for more information.
- The Care For God's Planet team invites you to join them in reflecting on Pope Leo XIV's message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation AND to join them at the next event, "Gather at the Globe," on September 12.
- JobWorks Career Ministry's next meeting will be on September 10 with speaker Russell W. Scott presenting *Intentional Career Planning - From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be*.

Diocesan and Local Events

- 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
- 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.

September 12 featuring guest speaker Veronica Clark.

- The Knights of Columbus Council #6650 is having a yard sale Saturday, October 3, at St. Michael's to benefit the LAMB foundation, which helps children with physical and intellectual disabilities.
- The 2026 Friends of the Poor Walk benefiting the St. Andrew St. Vincent de Paul Society is on Saturday, September 26, at 9:00 AM. This is a family-friendly event which raises funds and awareness for the Society's work serving people living in poverty.
- CPO is holding its annual H2O for Hunger Challenge September 14-20, which encourages everyone to drink tap water instead of buying drinks and then donate the money saved to feed the hungry in our community.
- A Women's Retreat with Sarah Hart and a concert for everyone will be held at St. Andrew's on September 19 and 20.
- The Beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen will occur on September 24 in St. Louis. Tickets and more information can be found [here](#).
- Bishop Zarama will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Good Health on September 12 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Durham. All are invited to attend. More information can be found [HERE](#).
- A St. Peter Claver Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. Wall at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral on September 9 at 1:00 PM.
- The 2026 Life Chain, a peaceful prayer witness to end abortion, will be on Sunday, October 4, starting at 2:00 PM.

Magdala Pictures



Congratulations to Jake and Kensi Kaplan, who celebrated the convalidation of their marriage on August 29 with Deacon Rick. May God continue to bless their marriage and their life together!

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ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



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