



The Visionary

ST. MARY MAGDALEN

DECEMBER 2009

Volume XVI Issue 12

ADVENT: THE SEASON OF PRAYERFUL WATCHING

The Season of Advent was added to the Church calendar in the sixth century, as a mini-Lent to prepare us for the coming of Christmas through prayer, fasting and works of charity. Although the penitential character diminished over the years, Advent was still a season of penitential practices until the liturgical reforms of 1969.

Changes to the Lectionary and the liturgical calendar have transformed Advent into a season of prayerful watching. At the start of the season, we await the second *advent or coming* of Christ, the King of the Ages. Only when He does not return in glory do we then turn our attention to His birth, the first coming of the Lord.

The Sacrament of Penance is an important part of our preparation for the coming of Christ. By celebrating the reconciliation Christ gained for us, we open our hearts and lives more fully to His love. During Advent there will be eight communal celebrations within the county and several times for the individual celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. *(Please consult the back page for additional times.)*

COMMUNAL CELEBRATIONS of the SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Dec 9	(Wed - 7:30 pm)	St. Mary in Pinckney
Dec 10	(Thurs - 7:30 pm)	St. Augustine in Deerfield Twp
Dec 10	(Thurs - 7:30 pm)	St. Joseph in Howell
Dec 14	(Mon - 7:30 pm)	Holy Spirit in Hamburg
Dec 15	(Tues - 7:30 pm)	St. Agnes in Fowlerville
Dec 17	(Thurs. - 7:30 pm)	St. John in Hartland
Dec 19	(Sat. - 9 am)	St. Patrick in Brighton
Dec 21	(Mon. - 7:30 pm)	St. Mary Magdalen



CHRISTMAS: A CELEBRATION OF JOY

The original liturgical celebrations of the birth of Christ began in the Holy Land with customs which eventually spread to the rest of the Church. Three special Liturgies proclaimed the good news. The first was celebrated in Bethlehem during the night. Afterwards the participants walked by torch light to Mt. Zion near Jerusalem for a second Mass around dawn, called the Mass of the Shepherds. Later in the day, a third Liturgy - the Mass of the Word Made Flesh - was celebrated in the Church of the Tomb of Christ. For 1700 years, these three separate Liturgies marked the birth of Christ.

In 1969, the liturgical reforms added a fourth celebration: the Vigil Mass. We will have two Vigil Liturgies on Christmas Eve, the first will be at 4 pm. The second Vigil Liturgy, at 6 pm, will *begin with our children's choir*. This liturgy has become very popular, especially for families with younger children. The Mid-Night Mass, which will begin at 10 pm, is the primary Liturgy of Christmas and is especially beautiful. Imitating the Christmas Liturgy of the fifth century, it begins in semi-darkness. Three readings from the Old Testament remind us of how the promise of a Savior guided God's people and prepared us to hear the Good News of Jesus' birth. The morning Mass of the Shepherds (10 am) is much simpler, also very beautiful.

Liturgies of Christmas Eve: 4 pm + 6 pm + 10 pm +++ Christmas morning: 10 am

from the PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our Pastoral Council met in November. There were no action items. But we did continue our discussion of the ideas that came out of our Spring Gathering of Pastoral Councils with the other parishes of our region. These included a program of marriage enrichment called 8 Great Dates; a Ministry Spotlight; and a directory of ministries & contacts. The last two items we will be a joint effort with the Stewardship Council

We also continued our discussion of what we might do to announce the completion of our project to the wider community. Some of our discussion is to have an open house, perhaps a concert or other activities. All of these would be advertised to the community with invitations sent to our neighbors and other folks in our area.

Last month council members began sending postcards to parishioners before calling them. Some members found this very helpful, others did not get the same kind of response. Those who were successful with the postcards discovered that they generated much more dialogue.

The Members of the Pastoral Council

Jan Baldinger	Karen Luck	Madelyn Gostomski	Tom Callaghan	Dave Naumowicz	Sandy Oliver
Mark Wright	Ken Kuna	Mike Lamberjack	Mary Beth Rupp	Dan Schifko	Colleen Schulte
Roni Hargenrader (Youth)		Debbie Dehanke, Secretary	Sr. Maryetta Churches, OP	Fr. David F. Howell	

from the FINANCE COUNCIL

July 2008 - June 2009

As of October 31, 2009

<u>REVENUE SOURCES</u>	<u>Oct 31</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Projected Budget</u>
Sunday Stewardship	87,582	347,685	1,160,000
Religious Formation/Donations	11,277	27,484	82,600
TOTAL	98,859	375,169	1,242,600

→ **BUILDING FUND: \$23,622** ←

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>Oct 31</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Projected Budget</u>
Programs & Staffing	64,669	251,285	841,800
Building Operations	13,333	44,291	171,800
Building Pledge	19,083	76,333	229,000
TOTAL	97,085	371,910	1,242,600
BALANCE (plus/minus)	+1,774	+3,259	

BUILDING EXPENSE OCT 09: \$752,283

The Members of the Finance Council

Elaine Tripi	Mark Zawisa	Sandra Howe	Mary Brummer	Sharon Rossiter
Mary Beth Rupp	Duke Davis	Erin Wolfe	Larry Memmer	Ben Lindamood
Bruce Heatley	Chair, Dan Grattan	Fr. David F. Howell	Bookkeeper, Dave Wisniewski	

from the STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

The Stewardship Council will have its November\December meeting on Monday, Dec 7 at 7 pm in the office conference room.

In the meantime, the Stewardship Council is looking for ways to improve the welcoming packet we give new parishioners. We are also working with members of the Pastoral Council to develop a new Ministry Booklet which would list all the stewardship opportunities in our parish. Each booklet would have a separate sheet inserted that would list all of the names and phone numbers for interested parties to contact to volunteer for a ministry.

Members of the Stewardship Council

Brigitte Burke	Jim Chevalier	Ann Fraser	Joe Martinez	(Chair) Sharon Wagner	Sr. Maryetta Churches, OP
Dianne Sweetser	Mary Helen Buntin	Elaine Tripi	Ted Zsovec	Madelyn Gostomski	Fr. David F. Howell

CONFIRMATION

We congratulate the youth of our parish who were confirmed on Saturday, November 21 and November 29. We also commend Dylan Videto who was already confirmed and continued to grow and explore his faith and knowledge of Confirmation. These youth and their parents worked very hard on their journey towards this Sacrament! They attended classes; worked hard at fulfilling their service hours, attended retreat and learned that together they can scale any obstacle. They prayerfully made their decision to be Confirmed and accept the seal of the Holy Spirit. They will "make a difference" with their faith! Please pray that the Spirit continues to grow in them and guide them in all that they do. Those confirmed are:



Michael Albanelli	Gregory Cauley	Jennifer Herrell	Joseph Lusardi	Victoria Price
Savanna Alfanos	Emily Cencer	Rebecca Hlavaty	Alexander Mardeusz	Hannah Riesser
Kara Augustyn	Jacob Demers	Leanne Horning	Shannon McCarthy	Alexandra Schmidt
Michael Babiarz	Cienna Ditri	John Jacobs	Colleen McGrath	Rachel Shipley
Mark Becker	Justin Feiler	Katelyn Jelso-Baerwalde	Connor Mohrenweiser	Joseph Stefanko
Charles Benke, III	Sarah Frank	Jessica Johnson	McKenna Moulton	James Turner
Darlean Bennington	Tara Gessler	Taylor Karinen	Charlotte Mulvihill	Robert VanGuilder
Tyler Bist	Daniel Glowacki	Mark Kenney	Stephanie Nagle	Dylan Videto
Tyler Black	Alexander Hardy	Victoria Knapp	Jessica Neitzke	Garrett Wood
Ryan Bohr	Meg Heatley	Wesley Lanigan	Nicholas Nouhan	
Morgan Brennan	Karsten Heppler	Brendan Lindberg	Eric Poisson	

ADVENT HANDOUTS After all the Liturgies look to hospitality not only for a smile and your bulletins, but for the Advent handouts they will be passing out too! These have ideas for individuals and families to take the weekly readings, look at the background for each one and give you some faith-sharing ideas and ways to respond with action to the readings. There are also prayers for you use as you light the Advent wreath, as well as other information about this wonderful season! Be sure to pick one up after the Liturgies of Advent!

December Dates to Remember:

During Advent all classes will gather in Church for prayer and a lighting of the Advent wreath at the beginning of class - all are welcome to join us!

- 2 Children's Christmas choir practice 6-6:30
- 2-3 2nd gr. Parent Penance Activities 4:45 & 6:45
- 6 HOME STUDY PARENT MEETING 10:15
- 9 Children's Christmas choir practice 6-6:30
- 16 Children's Christmas choir practice 6-6:30
- 22 Children's Christmas choir practice 6-8:00
- 23-Jan 2 Christmas Break! Classes Resume Sunday, Jan. 3



**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS from
MAGDALEN'S LITTLE PEOPLE** *from Kathie Anderer, director*

Our month of Thanksgiving was spent on making lists of all the things that we are thankful for... our families, our teachers, our friends, our toys, and of course our pets. We are working with the children on giving to others. Our big project this year is helping the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor. The children have been bringing in food and snack items. We also put together little bags filled with toiletries for the families. The chapel coins collected during our chapel time will be sent to the Ronald McDonald House for them to use in whatever way they need. What a wonderful way for the children to learn about giving and helping others.

We are also busy working on our Christmas Program. It will be on Sunday, December 6th. The children will sing for their families and guests and then we will all gather for cookies and punch to celebrate the birth of Jesus... the REAL reason for the season!

We will be closed for Christmas break December 23 and return to school on Monday, January 4. We will be learning about all of the many wonders of winter when we get back.

The count-down to Christmas is on with each day more stressful than the day before. Only so many more shopping days left; your plans have changed -- now the family is coming to *your* house for dinner. Death has taken a loved one too soon and the holiday celebrations will feel different. A family member is sick and things just won't be the same. You have suffered the loss of income and have to cut back, how can we do what has always been done? It will look bare under the tree.

STOP! Evaluate what the holiday really means. What are the treasures you hold dear in your life and in your heart? How can you celebrate **that**? Things here in Michigan are challenging with job losses, unemployment, spouses working out of town while the family stays here....everyone is touched by the economy in one way or another. Everyone needs to make changes not just for the holidays but in everyday living as well.

Take a minute this advent season to talk as a family about what changes can be made. Celebrate each member with a personal letter telling them how special they are. Have a pot-luck dinner and every family member bring their favorite dish to pass. Snuggle together on a couch, pop popcorn and enjoy a favorite holiday movie. Play cards, listen to music and dance. These are all gifts of quality time together that will last a lifetime and cannot be bought with any amount of money. Gifts that come from the heart are worth more than anything money can buy. Talk with your family and get creative.

Our Youth Christmas celebration will take place on Saturday, December 19, beginning with the 4:30 Liturgy. Dinner will follow and then the overnight continues with games and fun. Don't forget the ever-favorite White Elephant exchange. Bring in that sweatshirt your great aunt gave you last year, or that knitted pair of socks your neighbor made for you....whatever the gift, the gaudier the better!

We will only meet on Dec 6 and 13.

EDGE NEWS *[for 6 - 8 graders]*

Thank you to everyone who brought in filled shoeboxes to donate for the holidays and even the loose things were a welcomed gift. The boxes will be taken up to the Women's Center in Flint this month for those most in need. Thank you. Our only meeting this month is Monday, Dec 14. We will gather for fun, food and holiday themed games. Contact me at youth1@saintmarymagdalen.org If you have never been before, you are invited and welcomed anytime to join us. Bring a friend or come and make new ones!

THANKS & PRAISE

from Sr. Maryetta

We would like to thank and praise our youth group for the awesome job they did in assisting the Community Life Team with Trunk or Treat. Our youth are a wonderful example of giving and serving others. You are the BEST! We would also like to thank & praise Charlie List who remade the steps to our altar platform safer for all who use them. Thanks for your carpentry skills, Charlie! Great job!

COUNCIL COMMENDATIONS

The Council would like to commend Carl Demers for his work creating a new concrete pad for the recycling bins and landscaping around them. Great job, Carl!

The Council would also like to commend Garrett Wood for the beautiful work he did at the Shrine of the Cross. Garret installed several hundred paving stones that will serve as marker stones for those whose remains are buried beneath the stones. You did an awesome job, Garrett!

*We wish you a very
Blessed Christmas and New Year*



From the Staff † *St. Mary Magdalen*

NEW TO OUR PARISH IN NOVEMBER

Robert & Sherette Mickles
Britney and Jessica
Milford

Marcy Garrison
Brighton

THE DEACONS BENCH *from Dave Scharf*

What do all these have in common?

At an intersection, the green light changes to yellow - At the theater the house lights flash.

In the Battalion Tactical Operations Center a Warning Order comes down from Brigade.

At the airport terminal the boarding call comes over the intercom.

At a railroad crossing the lights begin to flash. - In a small Midwestern town the tornado siren screams.

On the football field the two minute warning sounds. - In the cargo bay of a C-140 a red-light comes on.

In the Desert of Judea, a voice of one calling in the wilderness is heard declaring, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

They are signs or warnings that we need to prepare ourselves for what is about to happen.

The Advent season challenges us to prepare for God's coming to us in the future, with power and great glory on the clouds of heaven, and for his present "coming" to us in his Word, in the Eucharist, and in the abiding presence of his Holy Spirit in our souls. Our Advent readings say very little about Jesus' birth because what we are really anticipating is the advent of our salvation which takes root in our lives as we respond to God's grace. Our waiting for that advent will be brought to completion when Christ comes in glory.

This time of the year gives us an invitation to recall God's saving deeds in the history of Israel, culminating in the coming of the promised Messiah. Our remembrance of God's saving deeds during the Advent season is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence so that, as Scripture puts it, "*the One who began a good work in us will continue to complete it*". Please remember those who are less fortunate at this time of the year and in the year to come. We could be in the same state except by the grace of God.

THE OTHER BENCH *from Jim Chevalier*

When Herod was king of Judea, and Augustus was emperor of the Roman Empire, there developed among the people of both countries a feeling of expectancy. This feeling was associated with the figure of a savior or deliverer – a great man, perhaps a superman, with "something of divinity" about him. Many Romans felt Augustus was this "savior." But Augustus died, leaving Romans puzzled.

But the expectancy among the Jews didn't die. Unlike the Romans, the Jews could pinpoint the reason for their expectancy. It was the ancient prophecies about a Messiah. It is against this background that we read Luke's birth announcements of both John the Baptist and Jesus. With great joy, John will prepare the people for the coming of Jesus. How eagerly do we look forward to Jesus' coming, not only as a baby at Christmas, but to His final coming at the end of history? According to Isaiah: "The light of my glory will shine on you." And regarding the end of history: "Your days of grief will come to an end." If we have faith, you will truly be happy.

ADVENT ... A TIME OF CHANGE ... ON THE JOURNEY *from Diane Kubus*

On Saturday, November 28 at 4 pm we began a new year in the Church. Over the next four weeks as we prepare for Christmas celebrations in our homes, we prepare for the coming of Christ -- not in a cave in Bethlehem 2000 years ago -- but in our lives today. We are called not to reflect so much on Jesus' birth, but on the coming of a Savior into our lives today and every day. It is also a time of looking deep within ourselves to what we need to change so that we might "put on Christ" more completely, appropriating his vision and values, thinking and feeling with him, recognizing his heart in the suffering of humanity. In a word, Advent is about transformation.

So when we get caught up in all the "stuff" of the season, which is so easy to do, let's remember what is most important. All the money and presents and material things are nothing compared to the gift of a Savior and all that he offers. No one knows this more than those who go without, those who have no money to buy Christmas presents, those who have lost jobs and homes, and those who have suffered tragedy and loss. They *need* God and *rely* on Him and they truly value what they receive.

So I have to ask myself, how can I let go of selfishness and self-centeredness with all the *stuff* around me? I think if we can open our eyes to all of the gifts God has given us, we would know that all we really need is the gift of gratitude for all that God has given us and done for us. This might require a change in how we look at things and even how we think. The *ability* to see beyond ourselves, to the needs of others, to look *not to our own interests* but to the interests of others is a great gift from God. I remember being at a conference a few years back and hearing the speaker say, "Your life is not about you." Don't most of us normally think the opposite of that? What is he talking about – of course my life is about me! Who else would it be about? That phrase has played over and over in my mind and I realize how true that must be if we truly want to become like Christ. We need to let go of our ego self and see others as better than ourselves. In letting go of ourselves, we are more able to see ourselves and others in the light of Christ. To live in that awareness, in that light, is the greatest gift of all. It is the gift of Christ in our lives at Christmas and always. Blessings on the journey!

OF FAITH AND SERVICE *from Sr. Joyce Hoile, OSF*

An Invitation to Non-Practicing Catholics

Would you like to have a more enriching and fulfilling faith life in the Catholic Church? Have you considered becoming an active member of our Parish family? Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to church anymore? Are you a Catholic who now feels angry or separated from your Church? Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, you are invited to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church. Please join us on **Welcome Home Sunday, December 13** at the **9 am Liturgy**. Coffee and bagels will be served after and an opportunity to meet some of the Parish Staff and talk about how to reconnect. For more information call Sister Joyce Hoile at 810-229-8624.

Parishioner participation includes inviting someone you know who may be at a stage of coming into a more consistent faith commitment. Detailed invitations are in the gathering area. Bring someone to Mass and then to bagels & coffee afterward. Introduce them to staff or direct them to the E-Team members hosting the event. Let them know we miss having them here with us.

School for Discipleship: Winter Offerings

APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE IN THE BIBLE: Sister Maryetta will be the instructor for this class on the Book of Revelation and other similar books and sections like it in the Old & New Testament. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings from 7-9 pm, beginning Jan. 11.

THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH: Deacon Dave Scharf will be teaching this popular course on the Church and how it has changed over the centuries. Sessions will be on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 pm beginning January 12. Register at our website, by filling out a brochure in the pamphlet rack or by calling Sr. Joyce.

BIBLE STUDY Mondays, 7 – 8:45 pm Christian Religions show Catholics how to hold the Bible as central and sacred to our faith and spirituality. Come for some basics to Bible usefulness. The first session will help us get comfortable with what we know about Scripture. In the second evening we will view the scope and sequence of our Advent & Christmas Scriptures. On Dec 7, we will peruse the Bible and talk about how to read & use it. On Dec 14, we will look at the Advent/Christmas Scriptures. Beginning Jan 4, we will look at the Gospel of Luke in more depth.

CAFÉ: CATHOLIC ADULT FORMATION & EDUCATION This is an opportunity for parents of Religious Education students who attend class on Thursdays at 6:30 pm and for any interested adult. The classes include prayer, Catechism & Scripture references and discussion. The topics are open and in January we will be covering the faith elements the students learn in each grade. Each week has its own topic, so participants can join in at any time. The classes will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 -7: 50 pm while Religious Education classes are in session. On Dec 3: *Naming Our Stressors*; Dec 10: *Be Your Best Self as God Intends*; Dec 17: *Holiday Calm*.

Senior Lunch Bunch (50+) Everyone is welcome to join us for a Birthday Brunch for Sister Maryetta and Father Dave on Friday, December 4, from 10:30 am to noon. (Please bring a dish to pass.) Please call Sr. Joyce if you are coming.

CHARITY & JUSTICE *from Lisa Klein*

Each year during the season of Advent, our parish community comes together to provide needed items to various charities in our local and greater area. The Advent Giving Tree is located in the gathering space. Hanging from its branches are tags listing the names of the organizations, requested items and a due date. You are welcome to take a tag from the tree, purchase the item, return it with the tag attached and place it under the tree. The items will be delivered to the various locations the week of December 13. Some of the organizations we serve are Maxey Boys Training School, St. Anne Church and Mary Lou Brown mission in Detroit, LACASA (local spousal abuse shelter), Pregnancy Helpline, Livingston County Catholic Social Services, Salvation Army, St. Mary Magdalen families and Cornerstone (which is an Adult Foster Day Care Facility in Flint). Thank you for taking a tag. Your generosity will help make a brighter Christmas for someone in need. Enjoy this season of joyful hope.

ON THE DEATH OF A PARENT *From the BeFriender Ministry*

The death of a parent is a turning point in the emotional, personal, and social lives of most adults.

It initiates a time of substantial change and redirection in the way we view ourselves, our relationships to others, and our place in the world. It has consequences for the dynamics in families. Yet friends, coworkers, and even relatives often minimize the extent of loss felt by adults following a parent's death. They may expect the bereaved to quickly recover and emerge largely unchanged from the loss. The truth is that the death of a parent often launches a period of self-reflection and the transformation of adult identity. Even individuals in their 50s, 60s, and beyond report feeling abandoned or orphaned when a parent dies -- even when the loss is anticipated. (Umberson, Debra. *Death of a Parent: Transition to a New Adult Identity*, Cambridge University Press, 2003).

If you have lost a parent and are dealing with the transition it brings, you can request a BeFriender to be a companion on your journey. BeFrienders provide a listening presence that is respectful and nonjudgmental. To request a BeFriender or to find out more about BeFriender Ministry, call Judy Scharf 248-889-0274 or George Schultz 248-548-4856

SERVANT OF MANY *from Gary Prise*

On October 19, I met with a small group of parishioners each of whom shared something in common. I suspect there are a number of other parishioners who also have the very same thing in common with these eight individuals. I have not had the experience these people are undergoing or the challenges these people are facing. They come from a variety of careers, ages, genders, political ideologies, and economic statuses. So what do they share in common? Each of them has lost their job due to the down-turn in the economy. They did nothing to deserve this outcome. As a matter of fact, after listening to their stories, they were model employees; they went to work every day and were productive contributors to the success of their respective organizations.

I need your help. I am trying to get an idea of how we might assist these parishioners and others who are in the same situation. Do you have skills and insights in obtaining employment? Do you have knowledge of job opportunities (on a corporate or individual level) that need to be filled now? How can we be of assistance to fellow parishioners who are unemployed?

Because we are Christians, we have been commanded by our Lord to, "Love one another as I have loved you." This command is not about feelings, it is about action! It is about sharing our gifts and talents; and many of us do exactly that on a number of different fronts. I need your experience and special gifts related to job networking and obtaining employment.

I asked a series of questions above ---

If you can supply some information, insights, and/or experiences email me at deacon3@saintmarymagdalen.org, telephone me at 810.229.8624, or approach me. I encourage people who are unemployed and people who have knowledge and experience in obtaining employment, to join me Monday mornings at 9:40 am on December 7 and December 21. Through our listening, compassion, and encouragement, with the Lord, we can address this challenge.

DO YOU WORRY ABOUT LOSING YOUR JOB & HEALTH INSURANCE?

from Susan O. Frank LMSW, ACSW, CEAP

As the economy has taken a severe downturn, companies are reducing the number of their employees. Unemployment rates are at a high not seen since Sept. 11, 2001. We are personally impacted, because we know of family members, neighbors and friends losing their jobs. We try to strategize and plan by watching our spending, staying within our budgets, and seeking financial advice for our retirement and investments. We may also find ourselves updating our own resume to be proactive and network in the event we face personal job loss. We find ourselves focusing on all the pressing demands that we must attend to, that we forget to focus on our own health needs.

It is important to make our health care a top priority at all times. If we are concerned that we may be facing the possibility of losing a job and our health care benefits, then now is the time to make appointments with our various health care providers, while we have our health insurance. This is the time to focus on obtaining health care for the entire family. While you still have your health insurance coverage make plans to be up-to date in the following areas that may apply to you and your family's physical and mental health needs:

Annual physical, Lab work, X-Rays- mammograms etc., Prescription refills, Mental Health Counseling, Substance Abuse Treatment, Dermatologist- skin cancer screening, skin care, Immunizations- Flu shots, tetanus, etc. Dental care, Podiatrist, Eye Exam- glasses and lenses, OB/GYN Examinations, Diabetes supplies.

Let your health care provider know that you are in need of an appointment as soon as possible, because you are concerned that you may lose your job and health insurance. Tell them that you want to make sure that you are up-to-date for your age, with all the tests and diagnostic work ups that need to be done. The above list is not all encompassing, but meant only to remind us of the health care we may need based upon our personal health care status. Make your health and health care needs a top priority.

SAINT MARY MAGDALEN PARISH

2201 South Old US 23 Highway
Brighton, Michigan 48114-7609
(810) 229 - 8624
www.saintmarymagdalen.org

MARKING THE CALENDAR

The FEAST of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Tuesday, December 8

This Holy Day of Obligation honors Mary, who was especially graced from the first moment of life to be the Mother of the Savior. **Liturgies for this Holy Day will be at 9 am and 7pm .**

Taizé Prayer - Friday, December 11 - 8pm

CELEBRATING the SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Monday Dec 21 1 to 2 pm *individual celebration. 7:30 pm Communal Celebration*
Tuesday Dec 22 from 11 am to 12 noon and 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Wednesday Dec 23 from 4 to 5 pm

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

++ 4 pm - Vigil Mass ++ 6 pm - The Vigil Mass ++ (with the Children's Choir)
++ 10 pm - The Mid-Night Liturgy ++
++ 10 am - The Mass of the Shepherds ++

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 1, 2010 is the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God and a holy day of obligation. There will be two Liturgies for the beginning of the new year: 5pm New Year's Eve and 10 am on New Year's Day.

THE EPIPHANY - Sunday, January 3 This Feast celebrates the revelation of Jesus as the Savior of the world. By the light of a star, magi, the first Gentiles, found Christ. This Feast celebrates our hope that we will be led by the Light of Christ as well. After the 11 am Liturgy, the Eucharist will be brought in procession to Holy Cross Chapel. The Eucharist will be exposed there until 4 pm, when we will return to the church for Evening Prayer. Everyone, especially our Ministers of Prayer and Eucharistic Ministers is encouraged to spend time in prayer.

DEDICATION OF OUR CHURCH SATURDAY, January 9 at 4 pm Bishop Boyea will join us to dedicate our newly renovated church. This is one of the most important Liturgies in the history of any community. Join us!!

THE PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR

Fr. David F. Howell
pastor1@saintmarymagdalen.org

PASTORAL MINISTER

Sr. Maryetta Churches, O.P.
pastmin2@saintmarymagdalen.org

FORMATION & EVANGELIZATION- ADULTS

Sr. Joyce Hoile, O.S.F.
pastmin1@saintmarymagdalen.org

EDUCATION & FORMATION- YOUTH

Mary Mahar, Director
mmahar@parishmail.com
Stasia Eisenhut, Adm. Assistant
Karen MacDonald, Secretary
sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org

RCIA AND LITURGY

Diane Kubus
rcia@saintmarymagdalen.org
liturgist@saintmarymagdalen.org

DEACONS

H. David Scharf
deacon1@saintmarymagdalen.org
James Chevalier
deacon2@saintmarymagdalen.org
Gary Prise
deacon3@saintmarymagdalen.org

MAGDALEN'S PRESCHOOL

Kathie Anderer, Director
kanderer@juno.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Tom & Margaret Callaghan
youth1@saintmarymagdalen.org

PASTORAL MUSICIAN

Steven H. Schulte
steve@colleengleason.com

SECRETARIES

Josie Doucette
sect1@saintmarymagdalen.org
Debbie Dehanke
sect3@saintmarymagdalen.org
Sandi Phillips
sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org

BOOKKEEPER

Dave Wisniewski
bookkeeper@saintmarymagdalen.org

MAINTENANCE

Leo Camden