



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



“She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” - Mt 1:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Saint Mary Magdalen

2201 SOUTH OLD U.S. 23 HIGHWAY
BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN 48114
Phone: 810-229-8624 • Fax: 810-229-6471
Preschool: 810-229-0010
Website: www.saintmarymagdalen.org

OFFICE HOURS

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:30am–4:30pm
Thursday 1pm–4:30pm

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION WEEKEND LITURGIES

Saturday 4:30pm • Sunday 9 & 11am

Weekday Liturgies: Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9am Wed. 7pm

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 11:30am–12noon

Infant Baptism: Contact Erin Wolfe.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact the office
at least nine months prior to wedding date.

LOWERY'S LINES

The Accommodating Joseph

Three days until Christmas. Three days until we gather to celebrate the birth of the Lord. Three days until we gather with family and friends. Three days until we “trim the hearth and set the table,” as the carol goes. Three days until we exchange gifts. Three days until someone takes my usual seat in church and my usual parking space. Saint Joseph does not speak any words in the gospels, but he does teach us something valuable by his actions. Matthew’s gospel tells us that he took Mary into his home. With the Lord’s inspiration to strengthen him, Joseph receives Mary, accepts her and everything God has permitted to happen to her, and gives her a place of honor in his life. This Christmas as we gather for the Liturgy, ask St. Joseph for his help in welcoming relatives and friends and visitors into our parish home. Let us ask for his prayers and help making room for everyone who will gather here the next few days (even if my usual seat or parking space is taken).

I look forward to celebrating Christmas with you. Enjoy what remains of Advent!

*Peace,
Fr. Shaun*

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES**Monday, December 23**

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66 13
9:00 am + Barbara Hackett

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Vigil

Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
4:00 pm St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners
6:15 pm St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners

Tuesday, December 24, Mid-Night Christmas

Gn 3:9-20/Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
10:00 pm St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners

Wednesday, December 25,**The Nativity of The Lord**

Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
10:00 am St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners

Thursday, December 26**Saint Stephen, The First Martyr**

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

No 9:00 am Liturgy**Friday, December 27****Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
9:00 am + Michel Ruellan

Saturday, December 28**The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18

Sunday, December 29**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
4:30 pm St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners
9:00 am + Christopher Crowley
11:00 am + Lynn Howell

**HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY & JOSEPH****Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14**

The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. Sirach ran a school for young people in Jerusalem. In today’s section, he advises his students on the proper way to honor their parents.

Colossians 3: 12-21

The letter to the Colossians was written about the year 80 A.D. A significant concern in this letter is how the Christian community appears to outsiders. The author offers guidelines so that Christian families will live in such a way that others will notice the difference.

Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

This gospel passage relates the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt, a story that is told by only one of the evangelists, Matthew. This gospel is intent on establishing Jesus’ Jewish roots as Matthew was well aware the nation of Israel had been in Egypt too.

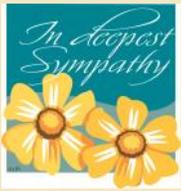
Reflect: In your household, how do you protect and take care of each other, especially in times of danger or sadness?

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marilyn Bitterlee	Pearl Mays	Marilyn Trader
Larry Buslepp	Marlaine	Don Tremel
Cathy Buel	Micunek	Michelle Turner
Ruth Ann	Keri Miles	George White
Campbell	Stan Osdras	Stuart Willits
Barbara Chellis	Louis Ostrowski	Patty Yeager
Terry Clark	Stella Paweski	Jennifer
Hugh Conahan	Karen Polcyn	Yanick
John Davidson	Charlie Rinaldi	Tom Zremski
Karoline DeRosa	Karie Schifko	Artie
Tom Hargrave	Peggy Schmid	Bill
Sr. Joyce Hoile	Lisa Shibley	Carrie
Kathy Jagusch	Samantha	Charlie
Elaine Kay	Shibley	Jeanette
Herb Langer	Richard Smith	Kathleen
Jack Ling	Cindy Sultana	Margie
Ron Linhart	Paul Sultana	Mary
Gwen Maes	Beth Thompson	Stella

Important Note About our Prayer List

The names of the sick will run in this column for 6 weeks, at which time they will be removed. To add a name, re-list a name, or remove a name, please call the parish office at 810-229-8624. Many people have recuperated so we appreciate updates in order to be current. Thank You!

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Dennis Cruz and family, in the death of his mother, Marge.
Dan Murphy and family, in the death of his father, Richard.

FORMED

FORMED Faith Sharing Group Signups

In January, we will be offering Faith Sharing Group experiences using the **Presence** and **Forgiven** series on **FORMED**.

Faith Sharing Groups are for everyone! You can sign up with an existing Faith Sharing Group if you'd like, or if you aren't already in a group, we can help you find one. So, prayerfully consider this great way to start out 2020 and sign up! Look for sign up sheets in the Gathering Area today.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor	Fr. Shaun Lowery	pastor@saintmarymagdalen.org
Deacon	H. David Scharf	deacon1@saintmarymagdalen.org
Deacon	James Chevalier	deacon2@saintmarymagdalen.org
Deacon	Devon Wolfe	deacon4@saintmarymagdalen.org
Pastoral Minister	Sr. Maryetta Churches, OP	pastmin2@saintmarymagdalen.org
R.C.I.A. & Infant Baptism	Erin Wolfe	baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org
Liturgist/IT Specialist	Diane Kubus	liturgist@saintmarymagdalen.org
Pastoral Musician	Steven H. Schulte	steve@colleengleason.com
Director of Preschool	Amanda Faiola	preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org
Bookkeeper	Jeri Gawlowski	bookkeeper@saintmarymagdalen.org
Rel. Form. Coordinator	Karen MacDonald	sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org
Rel. Form. Asst.	Stasia Eisenhut	reledasst@saintmarymagdalen.org
Administrative Asst.	Gayle Zawisa	sect3@saintmarymagdalen.org
Administrative Asst.	Sandi Phillips	sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org
Facilities & Maintenance	Dan Tuthill	maint1@saintmarymagdalen.org

**ST. MARY MAGDALEN
25TH ANNIVERSARY
ORNAMENTS**

Did you miss out on the chance to purchase a 25th Anniversary Ornament last year? The MOMS group has additional ornaments for sale at \$10 each.

Please contact Erin Wolfe at 810-229-8624 if you are interested in purchasing one.

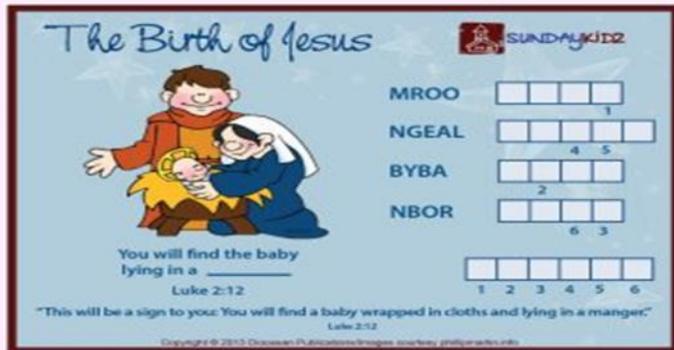
RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS



Celebrating Love

The fourth Sunday of Advent the final candle on the Advent wreath is lit; our candle of **love**. The hope, peace and joyful waiting of Advent is moving us toward celebrating a time of endless love. Let us rejoice in the endless love God has for us, shown to us in the birth of his Son.

As Christmas draws near, I hope you are able to spend some quality time with family and friends. Whether you are shopping for last-minute gifts, making cookies, wrapping gifts, snuggling on the couch watching Christmas movies or putting the final touches on your decorations, savor the lasting memories you are making with the important people in your life.



Blessing the Christmas Tree

Do your Christmas preparations include blessing your Christmas tree? If not, try something new this year! Gather your family together to write a blessing prayer (or use the one below). Once your blessing is prepared, ask everyone to gather around the tree and extend a hand toward the tree. Take turns reading a part of the blessing or have the leader read the blessing.

Optional blessing: Bless this tree, this sign of life, of freshness and of perseverance. It stands as a reminder you are born anew in us each day. Bless our family and friends as we celebrate this joyous season. Keep us safe in our travels, kind in our conversations and gracious in our giving and receiving. Help us to share the unconditional love You have for us with our family and friends as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. **All:** Amen.

YOUTH NEWS

Tonight we have our annual Christmas party with food, fun, games and a great present exchange (\$10 gift please). If you have never been to Youth Group, start tonight with some relaxing fun now that the semester has ended! All high school youth are welcome.



Next week will be our Youth Group overnight starting at 6 pm on Saturday, Dec. 28, and ending with 9 am mass on Sunday morning, Dec. 29. We hope to see everyone at Youth Group!

There will be no evening meeting on Dec. 29. We will meet again on Sunday night, January 5th.



Our annual Winter Weekend Getaway is scheduled for **February 28 through March 1**. The cost is \$100 per participant. The \$100 covers lodging at Edgetts Lodge and meals. This is a fun weekend away for fellowship, ice breakers, indoor and outdoor games, winter walks, sledding, and optional skiing at Caberfae Peaks Ski Resort.

We will travel up to Luther, Michigan, to stay at the same lodge we have rented for nearly 10 years now. For a preview, look at the website <http://edgettslodge.com/gallery-of-edgetts-lodge/>.

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Livingston County Catholic Charities is Hiring...

- Full-time Substance Abuse and Mental Health Counselor
- Full-time Foster Care Caseworker
- Full-time Be Our Guest Adult Day Program Assistant
- Part-time Special Ministries Program Assistant



All full-time positions are benefits eligible and LCCC offers a competitive benefits program. LCCC is an EOE. To view full descriptions of each position and how to apply, please visit our Job Postings page on our web site under the "About Us" tab at www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org.

Come and join a dynamic team that works to change lives in Livingston County.

CHARITY & JUSTICE



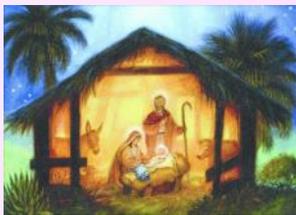
Severe Weather Network of Livingston County Early Help Needed!

The Severe Weather Network of Livingston County has set up a homeless shelter for the upcoming winter months at Chilson Hills Church. At this time, **volunteers are needed for NOW through January 11**. Opportunities include: meal preparation (no training needed), evening chaperone (6-10pm) and overnight chaperones (10pm-7am), both of which require online training.

Trained volunteers are welcome to sign-up, or if you wish to be trained, it is available on their website. Please visit www.livingstonswn.org and select **Volunteer & Training Info**. This page will guide you to training and volunteer opportunities! **Thank you** for assisting individuals in our community who are experiencing homelessness this winter.



A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who generously gave to the charities that our parish supports for Christmas through our **Advent Giving Tree**. Through the generosity of SMM parishioners, you were able to help 6 charities including Magdalen's Kitchen this year. Each charity receives about 100 tags and an additional 25 were included for Magdalen's Kitchen. Our total for this year was 661 tags! Additionally, a big thank you to all the volunteers in the background who helped with: working with the charities, making tags, putting up the tree, sorting, and delivering gifts. May God bless your kindness this Christmas!



A big **Thank You** to all of our parishioners who supported the **Right To Life Christmas Cards and Ornaments Sale** with your purchases. We were able to bless our local RTL office with over \$400 in sales!!



SAVE the DATE!

Young Couples Game Night will be a chance to have fun playing cards and board games with your spouse and fellow young couples from our parish. Join us on Friday, **January 10th**, from 6-9pm!

Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages provided. BYOB. **FREE** childcare will be available! Kindly RSVP for childcare by January 7th to deacon4@saintmarymagdalen.org.

Sponsored by the Marriage Ministry Team.

AWAITING the RESURRECTION

St. Mary Magdalen has two places for the interment of cremains: the Resurrection Tower (Columbarium) and the Shrine of the Cross. The policies governing the Resurrection Tower and the Shrine of the Cross can be viewed on our parish website.



The interior of the Tower has 1,500 niches; each holds one or two special urns. The names of each person interred there will be engraved on their urn and niche. The parishioner fee for a space in the Tower is \$2,600. There is an additional fee for engraving the names on the urns and the niche.

The names of one or two people whose ashes are buried at a space at the Shrine of the Cross will be engraved on the stone marking their resting place. The parishioner cost for a space at the Shrine of the Cross is \$500, plus the added cost of engraving the stone.



If you would like to make arrangements for a space, either in the Resurrection Tower or at the Shrine of the Cross, please contact Gayle Zawisa in our parish office (810.229.8624) for an appointment.

WELLNESS QUOTE

“Love liberates everything.”

-Maya Angelou

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, December 23

NO Preschool
9:45am Yoga
6:00pm Magdalen's Kitchen

Tuesday, December 24

Parish Campus Closed
4:00pm, 6:15pm, & 10 pm Christmas Eve Liturgies

Wednesday, December 25

Parish Campus Closed
10:00am Christmas Liturgy
No Evening Liturgy

Thursday, December 26

Parish Campus Closed
No Morning Liturgy

Friday, December 27

NO Preschool

Saturday, December 28

4:30pm Baptism
6:00pm Youth Group Overnight

Sunday, December 29

12:00pm K of C Rosary



THE ANGEL TREES

"And with the angel there was a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God!"

Continuing the tradition in the parish that we began years ago, all are invited to bring an *unbreakable* "angel ornament" of any size or type for the trees at the stable in the gathering area (ONE PER FAMILY). Please place them in the basket near the trees. We store them each year and the angel trees continue to be filled adding to the beauty of our Christmas environment.

Young Adult Ministry Upcoming Events

MASS & DINNER with Fr. Joe!

Sunday, December 29
5pm Mass @ St. Patrick
6:30pm Dinner @ the St. Patrick Rectory
Don't miss this special chance to dine with Fr. Joe in his home!

Dinner provided - BYOB

Festive Christmas Attire Encouraged!

Please RSVP to Shannon Scherba by email at livingstoniam@gmail.com or by phone 810-588-7665



YOUNG ADULT CONNECT NIGHT

Thursday, January 3, 7-9pm
Join us for an evening of conversation and connection!



HEART OF JESUS HOLY HOUR

Saturday, January 11
7:00 - 8:30pm
St. Patrick, Brighton

ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL @St. Mary Magdalen



Thursday evenings 7:15 - 9:15 pm
All adult men and women welcome!

There will be no volleyball on December 26 or January 2. **Volleyball will start up again in the new year on January 9.**

For more information, please contact Jerry Sams at billlearjet@gmail.com or 248-882-2065.

YOGA

Gentle hatha yoga class - adults of all ages and flexibility are welcome. This gentle class focuses on linking breath and movement in a variety of yoga postures designed to calm the mind, strengthen the body and increase flexibility.

Bring your yoga mat, wear comfy clothes and join us for a healthy morning of yoga. \$5 free-will donation per class. Class is taught by parishioner Janine Fogg-Liedel, RYT 200. Please email her at janine@foggliedel.com with any questions.

Classes meet in the gym on Mondays and Fridays at 9:45 a.m. Enter through the Activities Door. **The last class of 2019 will be on December 23. Classes will resume after the holidays on Monday, January 6.**



St. Patrick School News

The Saint Patrick School new virtues program continued through the month of November. November's virtue for the month was fortitude. Fortitude is having courage in the face of adversity. An example of fortitude is when an athlete continues to play a sport or run a race even if they are injured.

In the Bible, Daniel showed fortitude when he faced the lions' den for his prayers (Daniel 6). The fortitude winners were announced on November 26th at mass. The winners have showed courage all month in challenging situations.

The virtue for December is hope.

Article by 6th grader, Olivia Jagst

MINISTERS OF PRAYER

December 22 - December 29

Sunday	Volunteer
Monday	Lee O'Connell Gwen and Larry Maes
Tuesday	Mary Ann Hargrave Cass and Ros Wodarski
Wednesday	Renee Shinska
Thursday	Jim Hynes Kathy Riccardi
Friday	Julie Wendell/ Mary Bidinger
Saturday	Volunteer



BLOOD DRIVE
St. Mary Magdalen
TODAY, DECEMBER 22
9:30 am-3:15 pm