



THE FIRST SCRUTINY

Saint Mary Magdalen

MARCH 15, 2020

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Brighton, Michigan 48114

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Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.

8:30am - 4:30pm

Thurs. 1pm - 4:30pm

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth." *Jn. 4:21, 23a*

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Weekend Liturgies

Saturday 4:30pm • Sunday 9 & 11 am

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

Sacrament of Penance: Wednesday 5:30-6:30pm

Saturday 11:30am– Noon

Infant Baptism: Contact Erin Wolfe baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org

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

Updates on Search for Pastoral Minister for Youth Religious Formation & Ministry

The search continues for a full-time minister to oversee all of our youth formation and ministry. We have been blessed with 16 resumes as I write this. The search committee has helped me narrow down the number of candidates to five. The position remains open and we will accept cover letters and resumes until a person is hired.

Did You Know: How We Pay the Mortgage

Whenever a parish takes out a loan, we often think it is from the “diocese” or the “bishop.” But in truth, the diocese and the bishop simply oversee the loan. In our diocese, the money a parish borrows comes from what is called the Parish Savings and Loan Trust. This account is made up of the savings accounts of each parish in our diocese. The diocese invests the savings of each parish and currently earns 5% for the parishes on this investment. When we took out our loan, the money we borrowed came through the diocese and *from our fellow parishes* in our diocese.

Regular Payments

Since our loan modification at the beginning of this year, each month we are now billed \$20,500 for our mortgage (loan) payment. (Previous to 2020, the monthly bill was \$44,000.) This amount is approximately \$16,500 toward the principle, and \$4,000 in interest. These payments are scheduled to continue monthly until December 2024. These payments are currently part of our day-to-day budget and so paid for in part by your regular donation to the parish through the weekend collection.

Witness to Hope Payments

In addition to the above, our Witness to Hope capital campaign pledges are being directed toward the payment of our mortgage toward the principle (interest free). This is why it is important that if you are making payments on your Witness to Hope pledge, you are helping our parish become closer and closer to being debt free. Our Witness to Hope outstanding pledges are approximately \$750,000 and are scheduled to be paid by July 2022.

Donor Directed Payments

A final way the parish pays our mortgage is through contributions that are specifically directed by the donor to go toward the mortgage balance. When we receive these types of donations, the money is paid out from the parish toward the mortgage balance. Parishioners wishing to contribute this way are asked not to decrease their regular giving, but rather make this a gift in addition to regular contributions to the parish.

Saints of Lent

This week the Church commemorates the lives of St. Patrick of Ireland, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, and St. Joseph the Spouse of Mary. St. Patrick’s Day is more than a day to dye things green. It’s a good reminder of our call to spread the gospel to everyone we encounter. St. Cyril of Jerusalem is the saint we can thank for the development of a Rite of Christian Initiation. He was bishop of Jerusalem in the 4th Century. St. Joseph’s Day is considered a Solemnity. It is one of three rare Lenten days that the Gloria is included in the Liturgy, and a day in which we can take a break from our Lenten disciplines if we wish. May each of these and all the saints pray for us as we journey closer to Easter.

Peace, Fr. Shaun

MASS OF REMEMBERING



The monthly Mass of Remembering will take place this Wednesday, **March 18, at 7 pm.** Liturgy is offered for deceased parishioners and relatives, especially:

William Campbell, Gwen Maes, Harry Vernon, Robert Krupansky, Francis Wilhelm, Jason Raguso, Geri Harmon, Robert John Wallace III, Jim Cruz and Adam Janssen.



Please remember in your prayers

*Frances Kubacki and family
in the loss of her mother,
Betty Kurkowski.*

*Donna Kovalchik and family
in the loss of her brother-in-law,
Andrew Kovalchik.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 It is about 1000 B.C., 250 years after Moses brought God's people from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. It took a long time for these people from different tribes to unify as a nation. The turning point came when David became their king. The story of how he was chosen is told in today's reading. Samuel was a venerable old prophet. Jesse was a resident of Bethlehem who had eight sons, the youngest being David.

Ephesians 5:8-14 Ephesus was located on the western coast of what today is Turkey. The Christians there existed in a society dominated by pagan values, which today's reading equates with darkness.

John 9:1-41 This gospel reading is a short story with a situation, conflict, resolution, and so on. It is literally and figuratively, about not seeing the light, being afraid to see the light, seeing the light, and refusing to see the light because we are convinced we already do! We are struck in this story by the degree of resistance to something wonderful.

Reflect: Do we find the Good News too good to be true, or a threat to one's position?

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

Monday, March 16

2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30

9:00 am +Patrick Kelly

7:00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday, March 17

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 18

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

7:00 pm +Mass of Remembering

Thursday, March 19

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

9:00 am +Patrick Kelly and Keith Wolfe

Friday, March 20

Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

9:00 am +Gwen Maes

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 21

Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

Sunday, March 22, Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41

4:30 pm +Tom Garity

9:00 am St Mary Magdalen Parishioners

11:00 am +Nancy L. Hool

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Fr. Shaun Lowery

pastor@saintmarymagdalen.org

Deacon H. David Scharf

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Deacon James Chevalier

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Deacon Devon Wolfe

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Administrative Asst. Sandi Phillips

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Facilities & Maintenance Dan Tuthill

maint1@saintmarymagdalen.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Victoria Berns

Larry Buslepp

Cathy Buel

Keith Craffey

Karoline DeRosia

Dorothy Guidos

Lauren Hahn

Julie Hargenrader

Kathy Hershberger

April Hilton

Sr. Joyce Hoile

Kathy Jagusch

Herb Langer

Ron Linhart

Hannah Metcalf

Marlaine Mounek

Joe Nashar

Stan Osdras

Stella Paweski

Carolyn Phillips

Kathy Riccardi

Karie Schifko

Dave Scharf

Peggy Schmid

Lisa Shibley

Cindy Sultana

Marylyn Trader

Don Tremel

Michelle Turner

Michelle Warren

Gerry Wszola

Jennifer Yanick

Elaine Zawisa

Tom Zremski

Artie

Heather H.

Jeanette

Margie

RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS



9th Grade Confirmation Jesus Paper Assignment

In January, our 9th grade Confirmation candidates were given an assignment to write a "Jesus Paper." This assignment asked them to reflect and write a paper on *their* answer to Jesus' question to Peter, "Who do you say I am?" They were also asked to include a reflection on their current relationship with Jesus and how a relationship with Jesus can and will impact their future.

Stasia and I have been reading the Jesus papers with great interest and enthusiasm. We are proud of the effort, care and sensitivity invested in this assignment. Their papers are mature, insightful, meaningful, sensitive, honest and forward thinking. There were many personal stories shared; we are so grateful for the trust they placed in us when sharing their story. Below are just a few of their insights I wanted to share with you:

"I have accepted Jesus Christ as the Messiah, my personal role model, and the rock on which I build my life. I may stumble, but with Jesus as my rock, I will dust myself off, get back on the path, and follow Jesus all the days of my life."

"When I hear the word Jesus, I think love. I think amazing. I think peace."

"Jesus is the flashlight of the world; he will guide me through the darkest of nights. Jesus is the compass of the world and guides you to people and experiences to help you grow."

"Jesus is the glue that holds our world together and my reminder that the world is filled with love and kindness as long as you look for it."

"When I think of Jesus, I think of a wise owl protecting a beautiful forest with no other owls in it. The owl loves and protects all the other creatures in the forest even if they do not feel the same way about him."

"I hope to grow in my relationship with God and to live a more holy life. I want to help other people not just physically, but also spiritually so they can come to know and love God too."

If you would like to read more of our 9th grade insights on this assignment, take a look at the Religious Formation bulletin board in the gathering area.

YOUTH NEWS

TIME TO ORDER YOUR
DEARBORN MEATS FOR
EASTER!



Many of our youth are selling Dearborn Meats again for your Easter celebrations.

If you are interested in ordering, please look for the **Order Forms** in the Gathering Space! There will be envelopes and a drop box for your completed order.

Deadline to order is March 29. Proceeds earned from this fundraiser will help to lower the cost for our summer service trip. **Delivery will be Wednesday, April 8. Pick-up for your order will be between noon and 7pm in the youth room.**

Thank you for supporting our youth!



Sock Box Drive!

Help us collect new warm socks for the Flint Warming Center. Our highly decorated sock box will be in the Gathering Space through Palm Sunday. Please consider picking up a pack of socks on your next shopping trip!



Easter Vigil Reception help needed!

After the Saturday evening Easter Vigil, we have a reception to welcome the new members of our parish community.

We will need donations of sweet and savory food. We are also looking for help setting up, serving, and cleaning up the reception. Please look for the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area.

Thank you for helping us Feed His Sheep!

CHARITY & JUSTICE

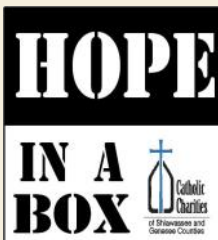


Our **Lenten Senior Giving Tree** is in the Gathering Area! Please consider taking a tag to help our neighbors. **Gifts must be returned by March 29.**

The following organizations helped by your generosity are: Senior Centers of Brighton, Howell, and Hartland, Medilodge of Livingston and Howell and LCCC. Thank you!

Our Hope in a Box need for the month of March is Feminine Care Products.

Many items we take for granted are out of reach for our sisters and brothers in Flint. Please remember them during your family shopping. **Please place donations in the large blue box next to the food cart in the Gathering Area!**



St. Mary Magdalen Food Donation/Delivery Needed

Our food cart in the Gathering Space is for Saint Mary Magdalen parishioners' donations to our local food banks in Livingston County; specifically Gleaners, located on Dorr Road in Genoa Township, and Bountiful Harvest Food Pantry, located behind the Brighton Presbyterian Church.

Please sign up to deliver food to the listed food banks. **Deliveries to Gleaner's Food Bank (HOWELL) are made Monday thru Friday** and **deliveries to Bountiful Harvest (BRIGHTON) are made on Thursday or Friday.**



LOOKING AHEAD

On The Rise Bakery will be here to sell their bakery items April 25 & 26.

Our **St. Vincent de Paul** bi-annual clothing drive will be May 2 & 3. Please set aside your gently used clothing for that weekend!

WELLNESS MINISTRY

ADOLESCENT DRUG USE AND RESOURCES

We would like to make you aware of a few educational programs in our community that will help you to understand the scope of the abuse of drugs and/or alcohol among adolescents; provide real life scenarios of how teens access, use and attempt to hide their drugs; and most importantly, provide resources for family support and treatment.

The following are programs offered in our community:

Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do
Sponsored by

Dawn Farms & Family Services Therapists

Part One: What to Know

Tuesdays - April 7, May 5, June 2
6-7:30pm

Part Two: What To Do

Tuesdays—April 14, May 12, June 9
6-7:30pm

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center –
Exhibition Room, 1st floor

For more information call
Dawn Farms 734-485-8725

Journey with Jesus (Vacation Bible School)

Inquiring minds want to know...

Does St. Mary Magdalen have Journey with Jesus scheduled for this summer?

We typically run JWJ the last week of July. However, this year we are not planning to run JWJ. We encourage our families to participate in one of our neighboring parish's Vacation Bible School programs.



WEDNESDAY 4/8, 6:30PM
COMMUNITY ROOM

YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE
IN THE GATHERING AREA

SEATING IS LIMITED, DEADLINE 4/5
PLEASE TAKE A TAG OFF
OF THE BOARD TO
BRING A DISH TO SHARE

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WEEK OF 3/8/20

Approximately 1250 people participated

Env/Cash \$27,428

Debt Reduction \$ 660

EFT/Online \$21,175

TOTAL \$49,263

*Children's Collection \$47.65***THE WEEK AHEAD****Monday, March 16**

9:00 am Preschool
 9:45 am Yoga
 6:00 pm Magdalen's Kitchen
 7:00 pm Evening Prayer
 7:30 pm K of C Business Meeting

Tuesday, March 17

9:00 am Preschool
 12:15 pm Exercise and Balance
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
 7:00 pm Formed Small Group
 7:00 pm Catholic Bible School of MI

Wednesday, March 18

9:00 am Preschool
 9:15 am MOMS Group
 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
 5:00 pm Religious Formation
 5:30 pm Reconciliation
 7:00 pm Mass of Remembering
 7:30 pm Pastoral Council

Thursday, March 19

9:00 am Preschool
 9:30 am Panning Small Group
 5:30 pm Religious Formation
 7:00 pm Wellness Meeting
 7:15 pm Adult Volleyball
 7:30 pm Music Ministry

Friday, March 20

9:00 am Preschool
 9:45 am Yoga
 6:00 pm Soup and Bread Supper
 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
 7:45 pm RCIA Scrutiny

Saturday, March 21

11:30 am Reconciliation
 5:00 pm Pack 343 Blue & Gold Banquet

Sunday, March 22

9:00 am Family Program
 11:00 am RCIA Second Scrutiny
 12:00 pm Ninth Grade Confirmation Session
 6:00 pm Youth Group
 6:30 pm FORMED

Blood Pressure Screenings After All Liturgies

"HAPPY THE ONE WHO TRUSTS IN THE LORD!"
PROVERBS 16:20

Thank you to everyone who has made a gift or pledge commitment to our **Diocesan Services Appeal**. Our gifts to DSA enable our diocese to provide services crucial to our parish. The programs and services funded by DSA offer direct assistance to individuals and families, and to parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities agencies.

If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, you are invited to do so today. Gift envelopes are available in church or the parish office. **Or you may submit your gift online at www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa.**

This first week we reached 11% of our DSA goal. Thus far 69 families have contributed to this year's appeal. Thank you for your generous support!

**Welcome Newly Baptized**

Grayson Theodore Couls, parents are Lauren & Tony; Hudson Elliot Bragg, parents are Savannah & Jacob; Samuel James LaGrow Jr., parents are Christina & Sam; Colton Michael Cobb, parents are Kristina & Michael; and Charlotte Lynn Ham, parents are Hannah & Joseph.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 11, 12:00pm
AT THE BARN
Ages 0-12 welcome!
Candy donations needed!
Basket for candy is in the Gathering Space.
****RAIN DATE: APRIL 18**

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

- - Martin Luther

Regional Monthly
Men-on-Fire Catholic Men's Night

THURSDAY, March 19
Feast Day of St. Joseph

Prayer: 5:45pm / Mass: 6:15pm / Speaker: 7:00pm
Followed by Refreshments from *The Wooden Spoon*

Hosted by
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
9565 Musch Rd., Brighton MI 48116

This Month's Speaker is:
JOHN BEAULIEU Director of
Evangelization & Engagement
Franciscan University of Steubenville
For more info: RkcLaw@msn.com



MINISTERS OF PRAYER

March 15—March 21

Sunday	Volunteer
Monday	Lee O'Connell 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

SOUP & BREAD SUPPERS



This Lent, on Fridays, we meet for fellowship and a simple supper of soup and bread at 6 pm, before Stations of the Cross at 7 pm. **Join us this Friday, March 20**, or March 27 or April 3. Sign up in the Gathering Area to bring soup or bread and if you plan to come!