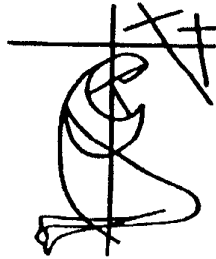


Saint Mary Magdalen School  
2430 North Providence Road  
Media, PA 19063  
Phone: 610-565-1822



*PASSIONATELY CATHOLIC  
AND  
ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING*

**MISSION STATEMENT & BELIEFS**

**The mission of St. Mary Magdalen School is to partner with parents,  
as primary educators of their children,  
to spread the gospel teachings of Jesus,  
by educating the students toward moral awareness,  
academic excellence,  
responsible citizenship,  
and cultural development  
in a nurturing Catholic environment.**

*During the Middle States Self- Study, we, as a faculty, stated the beliefs for St. Mary Magdalen School.  
These are what we believe to be essential for a Catholic education of a child.*

**We believe that:**

- We provide a Catholic education based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.
- We support the spiritual and moral needs of our students and share with parents the responsibility for teaching Catholic values.
- Participation in liturgical services helps to develop a living and active faith.
- Stewardship opportunities allow the talents and resources of all to be shared with the community.
- Our parish school serves as a model for the community.
- Administrators and teachers strive to instill in the students a desire to learn and a joy in the process of learning.

- Both basic and higher level thinking skills play an important role in the academic program.
- Educational needs of all students are continually assessed and addressed.
- Classroom experiences and participation in school activities encourage creativity, self expression, responsibility, and discipline in each child.
- We provide an opportunity for students to develop social skills through interaction with students at the same and other grade levels.
- Teachers strive to develop a nurturing and supportive relationship with students.
- Students are influenced by the positive nature of the relationships they witness among teachers and parents.
- Teachers are professional partners who work together in a cooperative way to educate their students.
- Lines of communication are kept open with mutual respect for concerns and authority because teachers and parents are partners in the education of the child.
- Principal and pastor, with the cooperation of faculty and staff, develop school policy.
- Annual evaluation by the principal helps each teacher set goals and recognize professional proficiencies.

## CURRICULUM

*The Catholic Identity of a school is seen, felt, lived, and shared  
through values, beliefs, curriculum, activities and policies.  
Catholic Identity captures the essence of a Catholic School.*

The students of St. Mary Magdalen School have regular instruction in their faith, not only through their religion classes, but also through the Christian witness of the parish/school community that surrounds them. St. Mary Magdalen School, an accredited elementary school, follows the approved curriculum of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, in compliance with the standards set by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Along with these guidelines our school implements the Archdiocese Program of religion, rigor, relevance, reflection and relationship.

Our teachers utilize a variety of teaching strategies and instructional tools to meet the learning styles of all students. Critical thinking, science experiments, banking skills, stock market games, and word problem solving are some of the strong, interactive, learning engagements that take place in the classrooms. Technology at St. Mary Magdalen is critical to enhancing curriculum development and stimulating instruction for the students and faculty. Textbooks and instructional materials are consistently being updated. Academic Teams led by curriculum coordinators monitor the progress of programs and make appropriate recommendations for educating the students of St. Mary Magdalen School to their fullest potentials.

### *Student Services:*

Bus Transportation

Departmental Classes from Grades 3 to 8

Delaware County Intermediate Unit Services

Health and Screening Services

IST - Instructional Support Team

Flexible Grouping

*Exposure offered in the following Extension Activities:*

Art	Music
Challenge Classes for Advanced Students	Library
Physical Education	Technology
Foreign Languages	

## FACILITIES

St Mary Magdalen School is passionately Catholic and academically challenging in the development of the whole person in a values based atmosphere. Rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, our school informs and forms the students spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically. St Mary Magdalen faculty and staff strive to create a supportive atmosphere which affirms the dignity of all persons within the school community. We are committed to serve our young people while helping them to reflect and integrate their Catholic Faith into their daily living experience with rigor and relevance. Our teachers address the unique needs of each student and seek to develop not only the students' academic skills, but their moral and leadership skill as well. Our school endeavors to help each student become a faith-filled, responsible and productive member of the Church and of society.

*Our campus includes:*

Elementary school on a parish campus	Reading Resource Room
Computerized Library	Classrooms equipped with computers, projectors and Smartboards
Spacious Art Room	Health Room
Sizable Music Room	Multi-purpose Meeting Room
Fully equipped Gymnasium	Instructional Music Room
Technology Lab	Playground area
Two Laptop carts	Rooms for Guidance, Speech, and Reading Services offered by DCIU
Science Lab	
Student Dining Room	

## STUDENT LIFE & TRADITIONS

St. Mary Magdalen School offers extracurricular programs. These programs encourage students to develop responsible citizenship, cultural development, and healthy attitudes.

*Organizations:*

Altar Servers	Student Council	
Stewardship Service Project	Yearbook Club	
Language Clubs	Orchestra	
Band	Youth Choir	
CYO Sports		
Soccer	Track	Softball
Cross Country	Volleyball	Field Hockey
Basketball	Baseball	Lacrosse
	Golf	

*Activities & Traditions:*

First Friday School Masses  
Followers of Jesus Award  
Living Rosary  
All Saints Celebration  
May Procession  
Para Liturgical Celebrations  
Stewardship Projects  
Harvest Bash

Santa Secret Workshop  
Christmas Show  
Spirit Day  
Science Fair Field Day  
Academic Fair  
Fall and Spring Book Fairs  
Special Person's Day  
Field Day

*“Every heart that has beat strong and cheerfully  
has left a hopeful impulse behind it in the world,  
and bettered the tradition of mankind.”*

Robert Louis Stevenson

## ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School provides a competitive curriculum where every student is challenged and encouraged to work to his/her ability. Our students rank in the top 20% in Reading, Mathematics, and Language in standardized testing. Many eighth grade students receive highly competitive full and partial academic scholarships to Archdiocesan and private high schools. Our graduates consistently rank in the top 10% of their high school classes.

*“The greatest achievements are those that benefit others.”*

St. Mary Magdalen graduates are currently enrolled at the following high schools:

Archbishop Carroll High School  
Archmere Academy  
Cardinal O'Hara High School  
Devon Preparatory School  
Malvern Preparatory School  
Merion Mercy Academy  
Notre Dame Academy  
The Episcopal Academy  
Sacred Heart Country Day School  
Saint Joseph Preparatory School  
Salesianum Academy  
Villa Maria Academy

### *Our Faculty:*

There are 26 Teachers in the following positions: 18 Homeroom Teachers, Art, Librarian, Math, Music, Physical Education, Reading, and Spanish. The average years of teaching experience of our faculty is 15 years.

### *Our Alumni:*

An Alumni Association is in the process of being formed to enable the alumni to keep in touch with our school and their former classmates.

## HOME & SCHOOL

St. Mary Magdalen Home and School Association is an active organization that has set as its objective the advancement of Catholic education and the welfare of all the school children. It strives to enhance the parents' and teachers' role in education by providing opportunities for parents and teachers to work together for the good of the children. The Association promotes parent-school activities to increase members' interest in education and civic affairs, and conducts fundraising activities to provide financial assistance to programs and activities.

### *Officers:*

Pastor	Principal
President	Vice-President
Treasurer	Recording Secretary
	Corresponding Secretary

### *Support & Services:*

- Home And School Meetings
- Communication Envelope and Website Information
- Instant Chain Call
- Family Directory
- New Families Meeting
- Secret Santa Workshop
- Special School Parties
- Special Lunch Program
- Assemblies for Students
- Annual Fundraisers

More information about Home & School Association can be found in the Parent/Student Handbook or contact the school's office to find out about upcoming events that serve the school children, family and community.

# SCHOOL HISTORY

Our parish looks to the future with high expectations for our school, as we reflect on the past:

- On June 4, 1963, Archbishop John J. Krol established St. Mary Magdalen Parish to serve 143 families in Rose Tree - Marple Newtown area. Temporary quarters in neighborhood structures were used for the clergy and as a chapel while waiting for permanent buildings.
- The construction of a rectory and a combination chapel/school began in April of 1965. The parish buildings were to be located on a 12.7 acre tract of land which was formerly part of "El Rancho", the Fetterman farm. The founding pastor, the Reverend Gilbert J. McDevitt J.C.D., announced the opening of St. Mary Magdalen School in September 1965. With the new chapel/school building still under construction, classes were held at St. Pius X and St. Kevin Schools. Children in grades one through eight were enrolled in double grade classes. Four Dominican Sisters staffed the school.
- On November 8, 1965 the doors of the parish school opened. The building contained the chapel, sacristy, four classrooms and an office. The double grade situation continued until September 1968. That year, the first and second grades were divided into separate classes, and a lay teacher was employed. In September 1969, class separation continued with the third and fourth grades. In 1970, the church was completed and the entire building was for school use with all grades individualized. Facilities for a library and an auditorium were available.
- Sister Mary Kathleen O.P., the founding principal, served the school in this capacity from 1965 to 1984. In 1984, Sister Mary Immaculate Doyle, O.P., became her successor. Through the years, the parish witnessed the school's religious faculty gradually replaced by lay teachers. In September 1993, Miss Patricia Miniszak became the first lay principal with a lay faculty. In September, 2008, Mrs. Barbara Burke replaced Miss Miniszak as principal. Miss Miniszak became President of the School.
- In response to parish needs, many changes and improvements have occurred since our founding in the 1960's.
  - A half-day Kindergarten program was begun in 1985. In 1987, the Parish Center was dedicated. This facility provided a cafeteria and gymnasium/auditorium for the school.
  - In 1990, with enrollment increasing, two classes of each primary grade were begun. A full day Kindergarten was added in 1991. With the increase in enrollment, additional classroom and educational facilities were needed. Maria Hall was dedicated in October, 1992. The facility contains nine classrooms and a library. Three of the rooms serve as an Art Room, and Science and Computer Labs.
  - Increased enrollment necessitated two classes of all grade levels, including Kindergarten. Therefore, Sister Kathleen Hall was dedicated in November, 1998.

Building upon the strong foundations and high standards that have been established, our school will continue to offer the highest quality Catholic education to the children of the parish.