

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

Building a family of faith in Jesus Christ through Catholic Worship, Formation & Charity.

25 MAY 2025

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



St. Paul the Apostle

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I mentioned at Mass a few weeks ago, our parish next week will welcome a transitional deacon, Rev. Mr. Jude Opara, who has completed his theological studies at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary and is in his final stage of formation in preparation for ordination to the priesthood. A native of Nigeria, Deacon Jude was ordained a Deacon on May 10th by Archbishop Pérez at the Cathedral. We look forward to his arrival and his presence among us this year!

At the same time, our parish is bidding a fond farewell to several Legionaries of Christ who have assisted with various liturgies in recent years here. Father Ben O'Loughlin, Father Markus Stehmer, Father Aaron Loch, and Father Reuben Nuxoll have all received new assignments from their superiors. I am grateful to all of them for the spiritual support they have provided in various ways at SMM in the last few years. In particular, I am grateful for Father Reuben, who has been a steady presence here and assisted Monsignor Chieffo a great deal in the last year of his tenure. Father Reuben will celebrate Mass on Monday evening, June 23rd, at 6:30 pm. A reception will follow. Make plans to join together in prayer and thank Father Reuben and all the Legionaries for their service here.

Check out our bulletin and website for key updates and invitations, including:

- Monsignor Chieffo's 50th Jubilee celebration next Sunday, June 1st, at the 9:30am Mass. A reception will follow, and we will be joined by the Verdi Band and the Saint Anthony Society.
- A special Parish Envisioning Happy Hour will be held at Sterling Pig Brewery on Monday, June 2nd, from 6 to 8 pm. Come learn about our pastoral planning process while enjoying some beer and snacks!
- A special extended Pentecost Vigil Mass at 7 pm on Saturday, June 7th. Our young adult schola will provide music for this beautiful liturgy.

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker

2 News & Events

CLERGY

610-566-8821

stmarymagdalen.net

Rev. Eric J. Banecker

Pastor

freric@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 110

Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo

Pastor Emeritus

frralph@stmarymagdalen.net

Rev. Robert A. Pesarchick

Parochial Vicar

frbob@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 123

Sacramental assistance
is provided by

The Legionaries of Christ

Rev. Msgr. Francis Beach

Rev. Richard Maisano

Rev. Philip Lowe

Deacon James DiFerdinand, M.A.

Permanent Deacon

jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com

Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.

Pastoral Associate

deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 126

Deacon Bob Szipszky, M.Th.

Permanent Deacon

OCIA Program

deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net

Deacon E. Peter Zurbach, Ph.D.

Permanent Deacon, Retired



PARISH MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM & 7 PM

Weekday

Monday thru Friday
6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

Saturday

8:30 AM & 4:30 PM Vigil

**Confessions from 9 to 10 AM on Saturdays,
and 6:15 to 6:45 PM on Sundays.**

For a private confession time, please call the parish office.

PARISH DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE

Adoration Chapel: Monday from 7 AM to Friday until 1 PM.

Morning Prayer: 7:15 AM from Monday to Friday in the Chapel.

First Friday Holy Hour: 5:30 PM Adoration & Confessions,
followed by Mass at 6:30 PM.

Legion of Mary: 9:30 AM on Tuesdays in the Gathering Room.

Rosary: 7:15 PM on Tuesdays in the Chapel.

Flame of Love Devotions: Noon on Fridays in the Chapel.

See ministries and parish services on our website.

ELECTRONIC PARISH GIVING

Visit our website's 'Giving' page to make a one time gift or sign up for recurring electronic donations using the 'Parish Giving' secure link or scan the QR code.



The tenth chapter of *Acts of the Apostles* presents us with a world-historic moment, in which the Gospel moves beyond the boundaries of Judaism and begins to be accepted by the Gentiles, meaning those peoples

who were not Jewish. *Acts 10* presents us with two parallel visions side by side. In the first, an angel appears to a God-fearer named Cornelius. That term "God-fearer" was a technical one in Israel, referring to a non-Jew who nevertheless worshiped the God of Israel and supported the Jewish community. Cornelius, a Roman centurion, falls into this category, as does his whole household.

The angel tells him to send a message to a man named Simon Peter, who was in a nearby town.

Peter himself was also experiencing a strange vision in which a giant sheet was lowered from the sky containing various animals and reptiles. Peter is told by a mysterious voice to eat the animals, but he refuses: "certainly not, sir. For never have I eaten anything profane and unclean" (*Acts 10:15*). The voice responds, "what God has made clean, you are not to call profane" (*Acts 10:16*).

What is happening here? You may be familiar with the Jewish tradition of keeping kosher by avoiding certain foods and combinations of foods that render a person ritually unclean for worship. This tradition begins with

Leviticus 11, and by the time of the Apostles, it had become a Byzantine system of purity laws and customs. These laws were about much more than food: they were about setting Israel apart as its own unique nation. God had chosen them to be the covenant community, to carry his name even though they were surrounded by many foreign nations with their pagan gods. These purity laws then were never really about the food, but about the preservation of a distinct national identity: the Gentiles eat all these foods, but faithful Jews maintain the tradition of the patriarchs whom God called and whose descendants he freed from slavery in Egypt. This vision helps Peter understand that in the New Covenant, such laws are abrogated. The only parts of the Mosaic law essential to Christianity are those dealing with just and right actions. Because of the death and resurrection of Christ, Jews and Gentiles have a new identity rooted in him, which we receive through faith and Baptism.

As soon as Peter's vision concludes, a knock comes at the door. It is the representatives of the pagan centurion Cornelius, asking to see a certain Simon called Peter. Perhaps you have had moments like that in your life, when God made plain as day his will for you at that moment. For Peter, the confluence of his vision and this invitation confirmed that the Holy Spirit was at work in this. When Peter finally arrives a few days later, he acknowledges how strange this is for him: "You know that it is unlawful for a Jewish man to associate with, or

UPCOMING DATES

MSGR. CHIEFFO'S 50TH JUBILEE MASS & HOSPITALITY

SUNDAY, JUNE 1 • 9:30 AM

Let's celebrate Msgr.'s 50th year as a priest!

Join us at the 9:30 AM Mass, hosted by the school's second grade, with a special tribute to Msgr. Chieffo that includes the St. Anthony Society.

Afterward, come enjoy a breakfast hospitality in St. Francis Hall presented by H&S and the parish.



ENVISIONING HAPPY HOUR

MONDAY, JUNE 2

Happy Hour at the Sterling Pig from 6 to 8 PM.

Enjoy fellowship and share your insights and thoughts with Fr. Eric and the Envisioning

Team as they work to create a new three-year Pastoral Plan for our community.



PENTECOST SUNDAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 & SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Join us at the 7 PM Vigil or Sunday Masses.



SCHOOL GRADUATION MASS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 • 4 PM

Please pray for the upcoming Class of 2025



REGISTER! CAMP GUADALUPE

JUNE 23 TO JUNE 27

Living Bridges' Summer Bible Camp at St. Mary Magdalen School. See page 9 for details, or visit livingbridges.org.

See more events on our website
at stmarymagdalen.net.



PARISH

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stmarymagdalen.net

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Mrs. Jessica Savko
Mrs. Mary Lou Mayer
Office Administrators
Extension: 107

SCHOOL

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stmarymagdalenschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer
Principal
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

Dcn. Joseph P. Boyle, Jr.
President
deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Pentecost Vigil Mass

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 AT 7 PM  ST. MARY MAGDALEN



WITH THE MUSIC BY THE YOUNG ADULT SCHOLA

QUO VADIS DAYS 2025

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

June 23-26, 2025

Registration Due: May 23, 2025

Registration: \$25-300
sliding scale, pay what you are able

Who: High School Men; incoming freshmen to graduating seniors

What: a 4 day 3 night camp for high school men in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia focused on fun, prayer, and fellowship

Where: Black Rock Retreat Center (Quarryville - bus transportation available)

Join the Vocation Office, Philadelphia seminarians, priests, and friends from around the Archdiocese for a week of fun, games, prayer, and faith!



Scan for registration details or visit:
HeedTheCall.org/QuoVadis



Questions?
gmurphy@archphila.org (610-667-5778)



continued from pg. 3

visit, a Gentile, but God has shown me that I should not call any person profane or unclean. And that is why I came without objection when sent for. May I ask, then, why you summoned me?" (Acts 10:28-29)

At that, Cornelius describes his own dream, and Peter responds with a kerygmatic speech. (Recall my recent column about the Kerygma: the apostolic proclamation of God's creation of humanity, our fall from grace due to sin, and the redemption won for us by Jesus, the Divine Word of God made flesh who suffered, died, and rose again from the dead.) Then, something extraordinary happens: While Peter was still speaking these things, the holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?" (Acts 10:44-47)

As if to ensure Peter clarity (a good idea considering his track record), the Holy Spirit descends upon Cornelius, his household, close friends and relatives, manifesting as speaking in tongues just like the day of Pentecost! Peter, thoroughly convinced of the rightness of his decision, baptizes them all in his role as head of the apostles.

All this means that Israel is fulfilling its mission, given by God from the beginning, to be a light to the nations. As the prophet Isaiah foretold: "I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation will reach to the ends of the earth" (Is 49:6). Now that is coming to pass: the early Christian community, made of solely of Jewish Christians, now fulfills the promise and purpose of Israel by sharing with the Gentile nations the Gospel of Christ. The Church, indeed, is the New Israel, as the Second Vatican Council taught: "Christ instituted this new covenant, the new testament, that is to say, in His Blood, calling together a people made up of Jew and gentile, making them one, not according to the flesh but in the Spirit. This was to be the new People of God" (*Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium* 9).

This had immediate theological and pastoral implications. It meant that entrance into the covenant is not an ethnocultural reality, but embraced all whom God has elected (the word in Greek for the Church, *ekklesia*, means "called out from"). But what was the status of non-Jews in the Church? Were they equally Christians as the apostles and other (Jewish) disciples? Did they have to now follow the demands of the Old Testament laws? This caused the first great theological controversy in the Church, and it would require the brilliant mind and pastoral charity of Saint Paul to resolve. 



Ordained on May 17, 1975

Msgr. Ralph's Jubilee Mass

SUNDAY, JUNE 1
9:30 AM

Come and celebrate
Msgr.'s 50th year
as a priest!

9:30 AM
Mass hosted by the
school's 2nd grade.



10:30 AM
Enjoy a breakfast
hospitality with Msgr.
in St. Francis Hall.

Join Us!

Happy Hour at Sterling Pig

Monday, June 2 • 6 to 8 PM



Enjoy a refreshing Happy Hour with
Fr. Eric and your fellow parishioners!

Our Envisioning Team will provide
updates and seek insights to help
create the new three-year pastoral
plan for our community.



LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady, Queen of Angels

**Every Tuesday at 9:30 AM
in the Gathering Room**

We invite Catholics who would like to draw closer to Jesus through Mary to give Legion a try. Our members meet weekly to pray, plan, and discuss as a group. We perform Spiritual Works of Mercy within the parish and local community with our spiritual director Father Pesarchick.

The Legion of Mary is an international association of volunteers serving the Catholic Church. Our Legion goes to the lonely and isolated in nursing homes, hospitals, and prisons to befriend and pray for them.

Discover more by visiting one of our weekly Tuesday meetings.

Mary, Our Lady, Queen of Angels, Pray for Us!

SOON! REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY OF PHILADELPHIA BENEFIT DINNER

FRIDAY, JUNE 6 AT 6 PM

Join **Archbishop Nelson Pérez** and friends of the Redemptoris Mater Seminary for their Benefit Dinner on Friday, June 6, at the Springfield Country Club at 400 Sproul Road in Springfield from 6 to 9 PM.

Enjoy dinner, silent and live auctions, and more during this fun and memorable event that benefits the seminarians! This year, the seminary will honor

His Excellency Keith J. Chylinski, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia and Rector of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, **Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo**, Pastor Emeritus at St. Mary Magdalen, and **Mr. J. Eustace Wolfington**, Movie Producer of Sound of Freedom & Cabrini.

Individual tickets, tables, and sponsors, are available at rmphiladelphia.org.

NEW! SENIOR SOCIAL CLUB'S BOARD INSTALLATION LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 AT 12 PM

Please join us for the SMM Senior Social Club's 2025 Installation Luncheon on Wednesday, June 11, at Noon at the Spring Haven Country Club at 600 S. Providence Rd. (Rt. 252), Wallingford, PA.

The cost per guest is \$42, and our reservation deadline is Friday, May 30. If interested in attending, please contact Bette at 610-544-6295.

Adoration Chapel

Monday
from 7 AM
to Friday
at 1 PM



We are the Delaware County location for
Philly Adoration for Vocations

Thursdays from 9 to 4 around the Archdiocese

**Weekdays
at 7:15 AM
in the Chapel**

**Morning
Prayer**

SMM will launch a "Mass Library" in June, to provide quiet activities for young children in the church. We plan to fill a basket in the narthex with church-related toys and books that children may borrow during

Mass. If you have any toys or books that fit this mission for ages 3-6, please place them in the marked donation bin in the narthex or contact Laura Lane at LauraL33@gmail.com or 215-694-7105. Thank you!

CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD

We are grateful to all the parents, catechists, and children participating in CLOW this school year.

Our remaining CLOW session is June 8. We will return in the fall. Have a great summer!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in joining our parish? Visit our website or stop by our parish office to register. We welcome new parishioners weekly.

The Farrell Family, Connor Thomson, & Erica Braunlinger

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Ellen Curran**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts including the Holy Land, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, those recently lost to natural disasters or acts of violence, and the 4,000+ babies aborted daily.

A TIME TO HEAL

Please pray for our sick. Call the Parish Office if you or a loved one is ill.

Carol Austin, Charles Bastian, Danielle Bastian, Kevin Boylan, Bill Boylan, Joe Cahill, Anthony Carbo, Tricia Carmen, Christine Cavaliere, Mary Cichanowsky, Jim Clark, Jean Cotter, Joseph DeFabio, Kieran Doran, Rosemary Dougherty, Theresa D'Orazio, Kevin Gallagher, Katie Garwood, Jacquelyn Gibbons, Bob Gentile, Rodie Henson, Mary Ellen Hoffman, Francis Iacovone, Rita Klauder, Gregory Lewis, Leonard Lombardi, Shellz Mangan, Floyd Marvin, Robin Marvin, Mary Jane & Pat McCloskey, Mary Theresa McDevitt, Michael McFadden, Dorothy Milliner, Dorothy Moerman, Daniel Murphy, Joan Murphy, Mike Murphy, Carol Ortner, Bill Pace, John Pollera, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr., George Rodgers, Naomi Rouse, Daught Ryan, Peter Salemo, Angelina Scarpa, Brendan Shain, Lisa Innaurato Shaine, Bill Snyder, Susan Sowa, Amerigo Tomassi, Mark Torregosa, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

Wally Rutecki & Casey Quigley

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to our newly baptized! For baptismal information, visit our website for an intake form, call, or email baptisms@stmarymagdalen.net.

Margaret Rae Rosenberg, Gavin James Dwyer,
Reese Catherine Maddocks, and Beau Thomas Sheller, Lucina Elvira Felix



On May 2, the school celebrated Mass with its First Holy Communicants.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 24

8:30 AM - Eileen Marie Johnson

4:30 PM - Nancy C. Cicione

SUNDAY, MAY 25

7:30 AM - Nancy C. Cicione

9:30 AM - Mary Ellen Grady

11:30 AM - Lester Fry

7 PM - The People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAY 26

Memorial Day

8:30 AM - Joseph Cirotti

TUESDAY, MAY 27

6:30 AM - Robert Dieter

8:30 AM - Eleanor Tiongson

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

6:30 AM - Joseph Malloy

8:30 AM - Cathryn D. Schumacher

THURSDAY, MAY 29

The Ascension of the Lord

6:30 AM - Ints. of Bonnie & Jim Clark

8:30 AM - Yolanda DiMaggio

6:30 PM - The People of the Parish

FRIDAY, MAY 30

6:30 AM - The People of the Parish

8:30 AM - Edward Rutkowski

SATURDAY, MAY 31

8:30 AM - Ann & Angelo Codevilla

4:30 PM - Nancy C. Cicione

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

7:30 AM - Kevin Coyne

9:30 AM - Ints. of Kerry &
Deacon Joseph Boyle

11:30 AM - Gerald Halt, Sr.

7 PM - The People of the Parish

FLOWERS

In memory of deceased servicemen

BREAD & WINE

In memory of first responders

CANDLE

In memory of our veterans

PRE-JORDAN CLASSES

We offer parents preparing for the joyful Baptismal day of their child a Pre-Jordan class. Parents are asked to attend the class before their child is baptized as it provides them with the theology of Baptism, explains the ritual and responsibilities, and shares some of the practical information regarding the Baptismal process in our parish. Godparents are also welcome and encouraged to attend.

Classes are offered on the **first Sunday of each month after the 11:30 AM Mass** in the Gathering Room. Although advance registration is not required, it helps us for our planning purposes.

Contact Stephanie at stephaniepdavey@gmail.com

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE MEMORIAL DAY!

NEW! THE NEW SOUND SYSTEM WITH DEEP GRATITUDE

In Father Banecker's first few months, several parishioners came forward to express their interest in a new church audio system. Thanks to their interest and the donations of those listed below, we installed a new audio system before Easter. We are a blessed parish and want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our contributors, including:

Daniel Amoroso
Jill Boyce-Zalis
Richard & Mary Jane Boyland
Charles & Michelle Bramley
Melissa Caromano
John & Diane Chambers
Frank & Joanne Cook
Anthony & Rosamaria D'Angelo
Diane Delaney
Lauren Denchak
Joseph & Susanne DiBianca
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Stephen & Judith Dilenno
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Michael & Meghan McKee
Judy McLaughlin
Kathleen Mesticelli
Patricia Miniszak
Thomas Pilong
Patricia Rafferty
Amelia Register
Joseph & Rose Rigolizzo
Eric & Catherine Rosenberg
Joseph & Jessica Sheenan
Mary Ellen Stack
Joseph Storm
David & JoAnne Thomas
Carolyn Truscello
Peter Van Pelt
Joanne Vinci
Mark & Joyce Volpe
Philips & Susan White
Kathleen Will
Robert & Wendy Wuest

NEW! BEYOND THE PULPIT VIDEO SERIES WITH FR. ERIC

Discover more about the foundations of the Catholic faith and go deeper into Scripture, with our pastor, Fr. Eric J. Banecker, with his new '**Beyond the Pulpit**' videos. The video series is available on our YouTube Channel or the '**Beyond the Pulpit**' page on our website, under 'Worship'. Plus, enjoy the audio recording of the Sunday Homily through our SoundCloud channel, or recorded Masses on YouTube. Direct links are all accessible at stmarymagdalen.net on the 'Mass Online' page.

TAKE NOTE! SUMMER SCHEDULE

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR & MASS

We will take a 'summer recess' from the Friday Holy Hour at 5:30 PM & Masses at 6:30 PM on July 4 and August 1. Thank you!

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Our parish offices are closed on Fridays from Memorial day through Labor Day.

STEWARSHIP & TITHING

April 2025	\$126,290
Collection:	\$43,494
Mail-in:	\$30,875
EFT:	\$51,921
April 2024	\$94,824
Collection:	\$29,195
Mail-in:	\$23,823
EFT:	\$41,806
Easter 2025	\$43,173
Easter 2024	\$54,400

We are grateful for your generous spirit!



Scan our QR Code for a secure link to our 'Parish Giving' link for Weekly & Special Collections, Annual School Fund, In Memory, Single Gifts, Stewardship, School Fund, and more.

CAMP GUADALUPE

June 23-27, 2025

in partnership with

St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Media, PA

Campers ages 4-12

Teen Volunteers ages 13-17

Adult Volunteers ages 18+ with clearances



Join us for a fun-filled, memorable week where we pray and play through games, original music, crafts, formation, adoration, Mass, processions & apostolic service

Monday - Thursday
9:30am - 2:30pm

Friday

9:30 - 12:30

**Procession - Mass - Closing
(Families included)**

OUR THEME FOR 2025 IS:

**JUBILEE for
YOU and ME**

Total Cost

\$90 First Child
\$75 for each additional child
\$275 maximum per family

*Scholarships available



To register or volunteer online at:

www.livingbridges.org

For more info contact: 610-525-4770

or staff@livingbridges.org

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FOR THE 2025-2026
SCHOOL YEAR**



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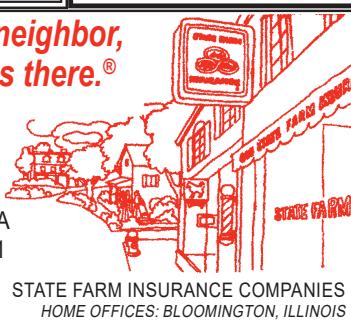
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