

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

4 OCTOBER 2026

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

+JMJ+

Dear Faithful & Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ! The readings for this Sunday have the important theme of divine providence. Almighty God, from the source of His goodness, has given us everything we need. The First Reading and the Parable of the Vineyard in the Gospel help us to reflect more deeply on salvation offered to the world through the person of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul encourages us to constantly call this to mind instead of merely earthly matters.

Paul reminds us where we should direct our thoughts and attention. He writes, "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (*Phil 6:8*).

There is nothing more true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent or worthy of praise than Jesus Christ.

Turning our thoughts to Him can transform us.

Those who have come to believe in Jesus are able to cast off fear and anxiety. The Apostle Paul gives us a remedy for anxious thoughts when he writes, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God" (*Phil 4:6*). Notice that he does not say, "Pretend that nothing is wrong." He tells us to pray. When something troubles us, we should bring it directly before our Lord. Tell Him what frightens you. Tell Him what you need. Ask for the conversion of a loved one, strength in temptation, healing, employment, peace in the family, perseverance in suffering, or whatever else weighs upon you.

Then we should add something that anxiety often forgets, which is thanksgiving. We thank Almighty God not only after He has answered our prayers, but even while we are waiting. Thanksgiving is an act of faith. We are saying, in uncertain times or in the midst of our concerns, I know, Lord, that You are good. I know that You love me. I know that nothing is outside Your Providence.

continued on page 3

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants by Abel Grimmer, 1590



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PARISH MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Sunday

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

Weekday

Tuesday through Friday

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

On Mondays Mass is at 8:30 AM.

Saturday

8:30 AM & 4:30 PM Anticipated Mass

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:

Chapel is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week
for personal prayer. Our Exposition Hours are currently
from Tuesday at 9 AM to Thursday at 2 PM.

Morning Prayer:

7:15 AM from Tuesday to Friday in the Chapel.

First Friday Devotions (*except July and August*):

6:15 PM to 6:45 PM Confessions, followed by
Prayer, Adoration & Benediction from 7 PM to 8 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.

Notice that Paul does not promise that every problem will immediately disappear. His promise is something deeper, "the peace of God will guard your hearts and minds." Our peace does not come from having control over every circumstance.

It comes from knowing that it is Almighty God who is in control. This is why prayer is not merely a last resort when every human solution has failed. Prayer should be our first recourse and our constant companion. The Holy Mass, Eucharistic adoration, the Rosary, acts of spiritual communion, and simple prayers throughout the day train the soul to turn repeatedly toward Almighty God.

Our thoughts matter. If we continually feed our minds with fear, anger, scandal, speculation, and the troubles of the world, we will naturally become disturbed. On the other hand, if we fill our minds with the things of God through Sacred Scripture, the lives of the saints, the teachings of the Church, good spiritual reading, prayer, and the mysteries of Our Lord's life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection, then we enter into His peace. We cannot always prevent a troubling thought from entering the mind. But with grace, we can refuse to entertain it and turn our attention toward Him.

On this Respect Life Sunday, the Church reminds us of a fundamental truth: every human life is created by God, bears His image, and possesses an inviolable dignity. From the child in the womb to the person approaching the end of life, from the strong to the weak, from the healthy to the suffering, no human life is without value in the eyes of Almighty God.

The Apostle Paul's words in today's Second Reading give us an important key to living this truth faithfully: "Have no anxiety at all." This does not mean we should be indifferent to the difficulties and injustices of the world. Quite the opposite. We are called to care deeply for human life and to defend those who are vulnerable. But we must not allow fear or discouragement to overcome us.

There are many reasons for concern in our own families and in society. We may worry about children, the elderly, the sick, the unborn, those who are lonely, those who are poor, or those whose lives are treated as though they are burdens rather than gifts. The Catholic response is not despair. It is prayer joined to faithful action.

We pray for the conversion of hearts. We pray for mothers and fathers facing difficult circumstances. We pray for children whose lives are threatened. We pray for the sick and elderly, that they may always be treated with the dignity they

deserve. We pray for families, that they may become places where life is welcomed, protected, and cherished. And then we should ask ourselves:

What is God calling me to do? Perhaps it is to encourage someone about the joy of being forgiven, no matter their past, assist a family in need, visit someone who is lonely, offer practical help, speak with charity for the dignity of the unborn, or seek to treat every person we encounter as someone made in the image of God.

We do not have to carry the weight of the world upon our own shoulders. Divine Providence is at work. We have duties to fulfill, and we must do them faithfully. However, the final outcome belongs to Almighty God. This is especially important when defending human life.

We may sometimes feel that our efforts are small compared with the problems around us. Yet our Lord does not ask us to accomplish everything. He asks us to be faithful. May we therefore not be paralyzed by anxiety or discouraged by the difficulties before us. Instead, let us pray, give thanks, act with courage and charity, and trust in Almighty God.

May our Lord bless you and our Lady keep you!

In Christ,
Father Cavara



IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR,
THE COMMUNITY OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

THE INSTALLATION MASS OF
REVEREND KENNETH L. CAVARA

AS THE EIGHTH PASTOR OF OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, THE ELEVENTH OF OCTOBER
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-SIX
AT HALF-PAST ELEVEN IN THE MORNING

CELEBRANT
MOST REVEREND JOHN J. MCINTYRE
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR PRAYERS
AND PRESENCE, AND WE LOOK FORWARD
TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU.

PARISH

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St. Mary Magdalen invites you to a

DAY OF MERCY

Embrace the gift of God's love, peace, and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

MONDAY
OCTOBER
19TH

We will have multiple priests available from 5 to 6 PM and 7 to 8 PM.

ROOTED IN GRACE A BAPTISMAL RETREAT

First-time parents and new SMM parents preparing for their child's Baptism are encouraged to join us for a Pre-Jordan Retreat offered on the following dates from 1 to 3 PM in St. Francis Hall.

November 1
February 7
April 11
August 8

Includes Fellowship & Food.

Registration is required, please contact Stephanie at stephanie@stmarymagdalen.net.

NEXT WEEK! SVDP SECOND COLLECTION **ALL MASSES OCTOBER 10 & 11**

Next weekend, our Second Collection will benefit St. Vincent de Paul to assist several area families in critical need and struggling with their rent payments. One a single Mom with four children facing eviction, and another single mom with a two-month-old and two-year-old also facing eviction. We are grateful to our parishioners for your continued support!



LAST CALL! SMM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED **FOR 'LUNCH IN THE PARK' EVENT** **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**

Christ in the City (CITC) and SMM are on a mission! CITC prepares their missionaries and volunteers to 'grow deeply in their faith, articulate it boldly, and lead with compassion and conviction'. As part of our pastoral plan, SMM partners with CITC to help fulfill our collective mission as His disciples. We need a handful of volunteers to assist with our CITC Lunch in the Park on October 10. Volunteers will receive a quick training to help serve our lunch at Christ in the City's Lunch in the Park from 10:30 AM to about 1 PM. Learn more about the event at christinthecity.org/philadelphia-lunch-in-the-park. To volunteer, email michael.puchtler@gmail.com.



NEW! SMM SENIOR SOCIAL CLUB **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14**

The SMM Senior Social Club cordially invites you to join them on Wednesday, October 14, from 12:45 to 3:00 PM in St. Francis Hall, located in the lower level of the church. Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with lively conversations, fellowship, and refreshments. Our entertainment this month will be singer Calvin Pressley. If you're interested in joining our group, we meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month from September to June. Our annual membership dues are only \$25. We hope you can join us!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. PESARCHICK **THURSDAYS AT 9:30 AM THIS FALL**

Join us for our Women's Bible Study on the Gospel of St. Matthew each Thursday this fall, beginning September 10, from 9:30 to 11 AM in St. Francis Hall, led by Fr. Bob Pesarchick. For more information or questions, text 571-212-7254. All are welcome!

UPCOMING SMM EVENTS

CYO'S GOLF TOURNAMENT **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 + 9 AM**

Join with our CYO community for a great day of golf and fellowship at The Springhaven Club in Wallingford. To be a sponsor or to register, visit the CYO page on our website. All are welcome!

SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 + 4:45 PM**

SHE begins a new season on Monday evenings for all women. Its fall theme is: Lift Up Your Hearts, and it is offered weekly from 5 to 6 PM. Doors open at 4:45.

THAT MAN IS YOU **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 + 6:30 AM**

TMIY's fall series, Revelation of the Father, meets on Thursdays in St. Francis Hall. Doors open at 6:15 AM. TMIY is a free ministry and welcomes all men 18+.

MOMS MINISTRY **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 + 9:30 AM**

Catholic MOMS of Delco gather once a month from 9:30 to 11:30 AM in St. Francis Hall to share the joys and struggles of motherhood, and to care and support one another. All are welcome.

SMM & CITC SERVICE DAY **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**

SMM and Christ in the City (CITC) partner to serve lunch at CITC's Lunch in the Park from 10:30 AM to 1 PM. Volunteers needed. Please email michael.puchtler@gmail.com.

INSTALLATION MASS **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 + 11:30 AM**

Join us for the Installation Mass of our pastor, Rev. Kenneth L. Cavara on October 11 at 11:30 AM. Our celebrant is the Most Reverend John J. McIntyre. A reception will follow in St. Francis Hall.

DAY OF MERCY **MONDAY, OCTOBER 19**

Embrace the gift of God's love, peace, and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests available from 5 to 6 PM and 7 to 8 PM.

SEE MORE EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:30 AM – Elizabeth Franco

4:30 PM – Ann Miniszak

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:30 AM – Carmela Ward

9:30 AM – Patricia Kay Kohler

11:30 AM – Francis Brzozowski

7 PM – Marie Sanders

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

6:30 AM – No Mass

8:30 AM – Ints. of Lynn Finelli

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:30 AM – Matthew Mullin

8:30 AM – Private Intention

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

6:30 AM – Joseph Conan

8:30 AM – Kathleen Carini

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

6:30 AM – John Roberts

8:30 AM – Ted Rozzi

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

6:30 AM – Jack E. Keenan

8:30 AM – Joseph &

Antoinette McGoldrick

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:30 AM – Edward J. Kinslow, Sr.

4:30 PM – Edward J. Kinslow, Sr.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

7:30 AM – Ints. of Anthony
& Ro D'Angelo

9:30 AM – David Dilenno

11:30 AM – Stephen Wiley

7 PM – People of the Parish



FLOWERS

Ints. of our parishioners

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Joseph Ashbach II

CANDLE

In memory of Pat Moore

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.

Michael Miller, Caitlin Laber, The Pangburn Family



CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Maria Duca, Caryl McDonnell, Raymond Perko**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts, including US Service Members recently lost in the Middle East, those lost to natural disasters or acts of violence, and the 4,000+ babies aborted daily.



A TIME TO HEAL

Please pray for our sick. If you or a loved one is ill and would like to be included for the quarter, please call the Parish Office.

Mary Cichanowsky, Mary Connor, Jean Cotter, Diane Delaney, Betty Diedrich, Jean Godorecci, Rodie Henson, Judy Larkin, Fr. Alan Okon, Michelle Okon, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr., Naomi Rouse, Cynthia Sannutti, Quintin Sarne, Mark Scaleri, Bill Snyder, Anna Ortiz Torrent, Natalie Tuffy, Maria Johnson Twining, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.



MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

Michael Doyle & Shannon Finn

Scott Romano & Katelyn Redwanowski



BAPTISMS

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

Nico Cruz Juliano, Owen Gregory Juliano



Last year's Christ in the City (CITC) volunteers from SMM. Join us this year on Saturday, October 10. See page 5 for details.

**NOW! LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL
& CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM**

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
Throughout the school year, Little Church School, for children ages 3 to 5, and Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW), for children in grades 1 through 3, are available during the 9:30 AM Mass. Little Church School meets in the Gathering Room before Mass to learn about Jesus through stories, songs, games, crafts, and prayer. CLOW is offered during Mass, and the instructor and children gather in the Chapel for the readings and an age-appropriate discussion of the Gospel. All are welcome!



**CATHOLIC COUPLES
AND CONVERSATION AT ST. NORBERT**

Join Catholic couples from our area at St. Norbert Catholic Church in Paoli from 6 to 7:30 PM. Dates for 2026 include October 23 and November 13. Drinks and light fare provided, or bring your own. We encourage couples to go on a date after to continue the conversation! Located in the Oratory. For more information, contact Jen & Charlie Reid at 484-437-6894 or email jreid@peoplevest.com.

**Hallow^o
& St. Mary Magdalen**

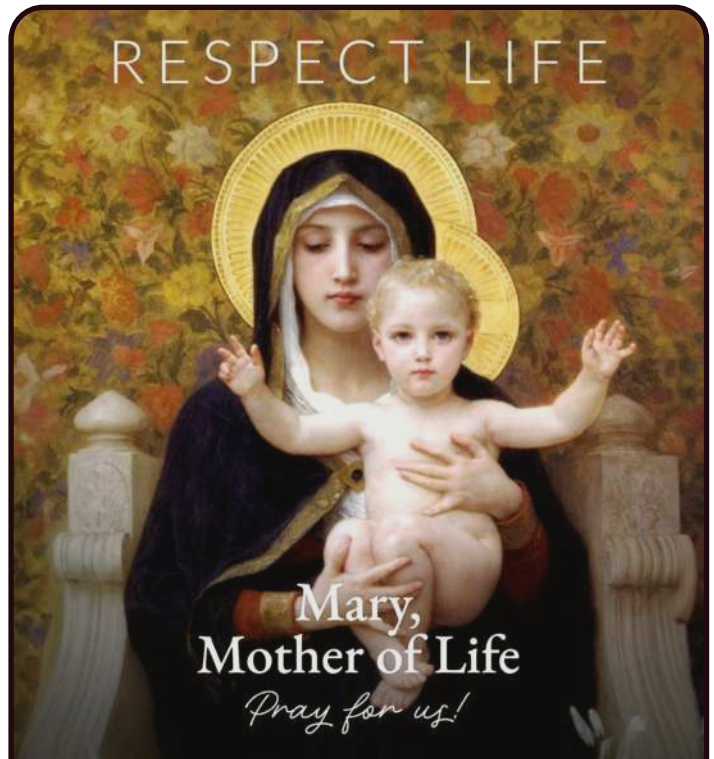


**Parish
Week**

Rebuild My Church

**7-Day Prayer Challenge
BEGINS TODAY!**

Join our SMM community!



October is Respect Life Month.

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her she would conceive and bear a son, Mary responded with her fiat: "May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). By becoming the mother of Jesus, Mary becomes the mother of life. Mary's acceptance in this unforeseen moment demonstrates how each of us must welcome the gift of new human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices.

Our Lady's distinguished role as mother of all the living. The Blessed Mother's life teaches us to value and respect every human life at every stage and in every circumstance. We ask her intercession to help all to recognize the gift of human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices. Each October, the Church celebrates Respect Life Month.

Today, please stop by our Respect Life table after Mass in the narthex for literature on ways to support and value the gift of human life and help build a culture that cherishes and protects it. The Respect Life ministry will also collect donations, which are greatly appreciated, to support the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Delco. Mary, Mother of Life, Pray for us.

Oh Mary, "Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life."
—Evangelium vitae





SMM CAR MAGNETS

St. Mary Magdalen car magnets are available for a donation of \$5 in the Parish Office.



2027! MASS INTENTIONS

Our Mass Intentions Book for 2027 opens on October 1. Visit our site, or scan the code.

St. Mary Magdalen Church Offers Venmo:
@StMaryMagdalenParish

We are grateful for your support!



venmo

Don't forget to add your gift type (e.g., Mass Collection).

STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

August 2026 \$100,553

Collection: \$33,503

Mail-in: \$22,280

EFT: \$44,770

August 2025 \$95,744

Collection: \$22,128

Mail-in: \$31,147

EFT: \$42,469

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.

PRE-CANA AT ST. MARY MAGDALEN OCTOBER 23 & 24

Calling all engaged couples! St. Mary Magdalen is delighted to offer a new two-part, interactive Pre-Cana certificate course utilizing Dynamic Catholic's 'Better Together' program, designed to prepare you for a strong, faith-filled marriage as you embark on your lifelong journey—together. Join Elese and Randy Wichmann in St. Francis Hall, along with other engaged couples, plus married mentors who will support and assist you during the class and continue to offer additional care as you prepare. The course is \$50 per couple, which includes materials and refreshments. Plus, lunch on Saturday afternoon. You do not have to be parishioners or getting married at St. Mary Magdalen to attend our Pre-Cana class. To register, visit our wedding page on the website or pick up a flyer in the narthex.



TODAY! VENERATE THE RELICS OF ST. BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, located on Woodbine Avenue in the Overbrook section of Philadelphia, will welcome the relics of St. Bernadette Soubirous from Friday, October 2 through Sunday, October 4.

We invite pilgrims throughout the Archdiocese and beyond to a weekend of prayer and sacramental devotion. We also need volunteers to assist visitors and pilgrims. To volunteer, please email relic@ourladyoflourdes.org.



RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT OCTOBER 16 TO OCTOBER 18

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat provides a safe, confidential, non-judgemental environment in which women and men can experience the forgiveness, mercy, and compassion of God and grieve the loss of a child. No matter how much time has passed, there is a place for you to heal. Our next retreat weekend is October 16 at IHM Spirituality Center in Malvern.

For more information, please contact Susan at 610-716-4795 or susiemck@comcast.net.



REMINDER! MORE NEWS & EVENTS

For more parish news and information on events, visit stmarymagdalen.net, follow us on social media, or pick up flyers in the narthex.



She Shall Be Called Woman

A PROGRAM FOR ALL WOMEN BY
PARADISUS DEI



SEASON FIVE LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS

Worship is one of the most fundamental aspects of what it means to be Christian. All of creation was made to worship, and we, as humans, have an intimate connection to the call to praise, revere, and venerate. It is what we were made for. This season, dive deep into not only the practical aspects of worship, but more importantly, recenter your deep longing to pour out your heart fully to the Lord. Make no mistake: authentic worship is not always easy. However, the fruit it bears is unlike anything we can experience in this world.



JACKIE ANGEL
Catholic Worship Leader
Podcaster & Author



JULIANNE STANZ
Catholic Speaker & Author
Director of Outreach at Loyola Press



LAUREN GROTH
Catholic Evangelist & Ministry Leader



KATIE HARTFIEL
Content Coordinator
She Shall Be Called Woman



KATIE PREJEAN MCGRADY
Catholic Speaker & Author
Media Host & Vatican Analyst



NOELLE GARCIA
Catholic Speaker & Podcaster



MARY LENABURG
Catholic Speaker & Author
Co-host of *The Mary and Jerry Podcast*



SR. AMADA FILIA, S.V.
Professed Sister of Life

OFFER CHRIST YOUR LOVE

EACH SESSION OFFERS:

- ENCOUNTER:** "I am listening and really hearing God's voice more than I ever did before thanks to SHE and my new friendships."
- MESSAGE:** "Each and every speaker had an amazing story to tell. Every woman spoke from the heart."
- FELLOWSHIP:** "Our ladies love SHE! It has made an important difference in building our faith community even after one year!"

SEASON SIX
MORE THAN CONQUERORS
COMING THIS SPRING

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Mondays in St. Francis Hall
October 5, 19, 26
November 2, 9, 16, 23
December 7, 14

SCHEDULE:

4:45 Fellowship
5:00 Video Presentation
5:30 Small Group Discussions
6:00 Dismissal



REGISTRATION:

Scan the QR code to Register

For more information,
contact Patty Szipszky
pszipszky@gmail.com

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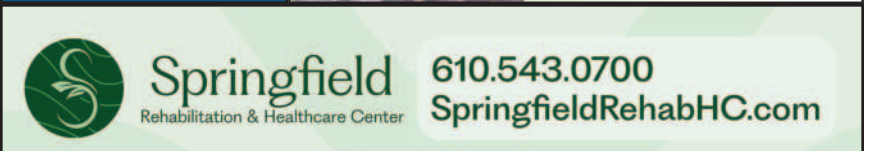
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