

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

7 SEPTEMBER 2025

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently, a pilgrimage of altar servers from France arrived in Rome for a Jubilee celebration. While there, they had a private audience with Pope Leo XIV. He encouraged the young men to be open to a vocation to the priesthood, telling them to “little by little, from Sunday to Sunday, discover the beauty, the happiness, and the necessity of such a vocation.”

He then went on to meditate upon the beauty of Sunday Mass and its central importance in the life of every Catholic, clergy and laity alike:

From the first day of her existence, and then for centuries, the Church has celebrated Mass, from Sunday to Sunday, in memory of what the Lord did for her. In the hands of the priest and at His words: “This is my Body, this is my Blood,” Jesus still gives His life on the altar. He still sheds His blood for us today. The celebration of the Mass saves us today! It saves the world today! It is the most important event in the life of the Christian and in the life of the Church, because it is the meeting where God gives Himself to us out of love, again and again. The Christian does not go to Mass out of duty, but because He needs it—absolutely—we need the life of God who gives Himself without awaiting return!

How important these words are, and how needed they are for all of us as we return to the normal patterns of life following the summer holidays. They remind me of G.K.

Chesterton, who once reflected on the question that sometimes we hear people ask, “What would Jesus do if He were on earth today?” Chesterton responds that for a Christian, there is only one answer to that question: Christ is on earth today, alive on a thousand altars!

As we reflect on the petition of the Lord’s Prayer, “give us this day our daily (supersubstantial) bread,” we know precisely where God answers this prayer, which is in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Dear friends, with September comes the return of our usual routines and so many obligations. Many of them are important and urgent. However, our spiritual needs are more important, and they are more urgent.

In a particular way, I welcome back our school and PREP families, and encourage you to be open to a deeper

continued on page 3

CLERGY

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Rev. Mr. Jude Opara
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Transitional Deacon

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is provided by*

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Rev. Richard Maisano
Rev. Philip Lowe

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*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

Tuesday thru 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: 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: 6:15 PM to 6:45 PM Confessions,
followed by Adoration, Vespers, & Benediction at 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.



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.

relationship with Christ the Lord, who calls us to Himself and sends us out to invite others to gather around His altar. We will have many exciting opportunities to do this as this new academic year approaches, and I cannot wait to see how the Holy Spirit works among us this year.

And finally, to echo the sentiments of our Holy Father, I pray that our young parishioners will truly open their hearts to the call of Christ for their lives. For those young men who might hear the quiet stirring of the Lord in their hearts, encouraging them to consider the priesthood, I say, do not be afraid. For those young women who may wish to follow Christ in a radical way in consecrated life, I say the same. And for those couples preparing for and living the Sacrament of Matrimony, may God fill your hearts with His peace as you live your vocation, which is so countercultural today.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our lives. May each of us embrace this supernatural gift anew and live out the Eucharist through active charity to those in need. This is why our parish exists, as our mission statement proclaims: "building a family of faith in Jesus Christ through worship, formation, and charity."

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker

NEW! HANDBELL FOR CHAPEL

We extend our sincere thanks to **Kenneth Schwartz**, who graciously donated a beautiful new bronze handbell for use in the chapel for our weekday Masses. Thank you for your generous heart!

MASS INTENTIONS

Our Mass Intentions Book is full and closed for 2025. The 2026 Book will open in early October.

NEW! LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR SAINT JEANNE JUGAN GALA SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

The Little Sisters of the Poor will hold their annual Saint Jeanne Jugan Gala on Sunday, September 21, from 1 to 3:30 PM, at the Drexelbrook Ballroom in Drexel Hill. Each Raffle ticket purchase is also an admission to this event. This delightful afternoon supports the Sisters' mission in serving the elderly and also honors those who are dedicated to it. This year, they will also celebrate the completion of the newly built home! All proceeds benefit Holy Family Home in Philadelphia. For more information or to purchase raffle tickets and gala admission, please visit littlesistersofthepoorphiladelphia.org.

INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLICISM

Our Catholic faith is the story of abundant life, love, and joy.

Are you considering becoming Catholic?

Our flexible hybrid experience will accompany you on your way to the profound gift of Jesus' love and truth of his Holy Church. Your faith journey will deepen as you traverse at your own pace through online videos and interactive face-to-face discussions with Deacon Bob and others this fall. A path for Catholics wanting a 'refresher' and non-Catholics considering becoming Catholic.

EACH JOURNEY BEGINS WITH AN INQUIRY.

To learn more scan the QR, or email deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net

NEW!
Inquiry Sessions
IN THE GATHERING ROOM

SEPTEMBER 7
at 6:15 PM
Before 7 PM Mass

SEPTEMBER 21
at 10:30 AM



PARISH

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stmarymagdalen.net

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Mrs. Jessica Savko
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SCHOOL

610-565-1822
stmarymagdalenschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer
Principal
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

PREP REGISTRATION

2025-2026

Our PREP Registration is open!

We welcome new families to our catechetical programs, which begin in Grade 1 through Grade 7.

Classes begin September 22

Mondays from 5 to 6 PM at SMM.

To register, please visit
stmarymagdalen.net,
or scan the QR Code below.

For more information, email
PREP@stmarymagdalen.net



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Council Order
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Founded by Father Michael J. McGivney in 1881, The Knights of Columbus are a fraternity of men dedicated to the service of the Church and society through educational, religious, social welfare, and other public works.

Today, the Knights of St. Mary Magdalen remain true to their founding principles of **charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.**

Our council was formed in 2010 and offers men a place to lead their families and communities in faith and service by helping those in need and supporting local charities.



Scan the QR Code for more information on our council or visit **smmknights.org**

NEW! SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

The Seniors' Social Club cordially invites you to join them for its first meeting of the new season on Wednesday, September 10, from 12:45 to 3:00 PM. Social Meetings are held in St. Francis Hall on the church's lower level, which is handicap accessible and has an elevator to the lower level. Come and join us for a fun-filled afternoon and meet new friends as you enjoy some lively conversations, fellowship, and refreshments. The SSC looks forward to meeting you.

NEW! RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 TO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5**

Are you struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of a traumatic pregnancy loss? Whether you're suffering from an abortion or miscarriage, you can experience God's Mercy and Compassion. Rachel's Vineyard offers a special retreat that helps you grieve loss and release feelings of anger, shame, guilt, or grief that you may be experiencing. In a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental group setting, your soul will find its voice, and the pain of your past will be transformed into hope. The next retreat weekend is October 3 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. For more information, please call Evelyn at (215) 317-5752 or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.

THE VIRTUE OF HUMILITY

Our parish family, especially our 614 students in School and PREP, will continue to celebrate and practice a virtue each month, in part, through the continued use of the **VIRTUE=STRENGTH®** program. This September, we will concentrate on the virtue of **Humility**, which is the strength and wisdom to put God and others before ourselves. In John 13:1-17, we are led by Jesus' example, as he humbly washes the feet of His disciples, teaching us to serve others.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, who will be canonized on September 7, recognized the importance of humility in prayer and adoration from an early age. He demonstrated this by spending time in prayer and daily adoration, attending confession regularly, and receiving the Sacrament of Communion. He emphasized the importance of a relationship with God, stating, "Find God and you will find the meaning of your life." Each day, we can pray: "Lord, let humility guide me as I learn and interact today. Teach me to value others above myself and to seek wisdom with a humble heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen."

NEW! PHILLY CATHOLIC SINGLES **FOR AGES 30 TO 45**

"PCS" hosts monthly events for Catholic singles across the Archdiocese who are looking to meet someone. Fr. DeLacy is our chaplain.

Upcoming events include:

Saturday, 9/13 Pickup Kickball
(Burholme Park, Jenkintown)

Saturday, 9/20 Abbeyfest: PCS Picnic Area
(Shrine of Czestochowa)

Sunday, 9/28 All-Ages Barn Dance with CYA
(Shrine of Czestochowa)

Join our 300+ members at
www.PhillyCatholic.Singles.

UPCOMING! MASS PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 13

4:30 PM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

Sunday, September 14

7:30 AM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

9:30 AM—Fr. Eric Banecker

11:30 AM—Fr. Eric Banecker

7 PM—Fr. Eric Banecker

**This schedule may be subject to change without notice.*

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**

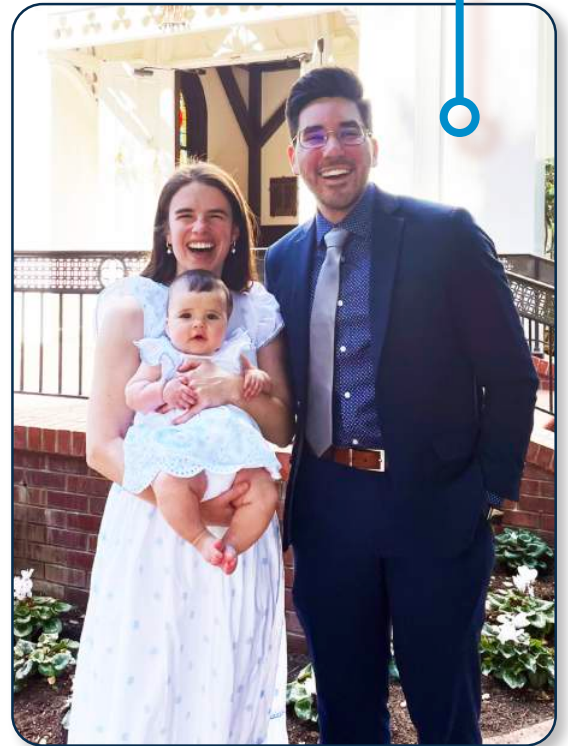
**Morning
Prayer**

Meet our incoming FOCUS Missionaries

Jacob Barajas

Hello! My name is Jake Barajas, and I will enter my 7th year with FOCUS. My wife, Adrienne, and I met while serving together as FOCUS missionaries at the University of California, Berkeley. We were married in December 2022 and are thrilled to have recently welcomed our first child, Mary Clare, into the world this past November. Over the last six years, I have continued to serve at a variety of campuses in the Bay Area, including San Francisco State and San Jose State. I grew up in Northwest Indiana, just outside of Chicago, and Adrienne is a native of Bucks County. We are grateful to be able to move closer to family and to become a part of the community at St. Mary Magdalen. Serving Christ and His Church is our most tremendous joy, and we look forward to meeting you all!

Contact me at jacob.barajas@focus.org



Christina Augustine

Hi, I am Christina, and we are the Augustine family! My husband, Mychal, and I have four boys, ranging in age from 8 years to 4 months: Ignacio, Hugo, Emilio, and Freddy. I grew up in CT and am thrilled to be making my way back East. I have served as a missionary with FOCUS since 2013 in a variety of roles. In 2016, Mychal and I got married and moved to Europe to launch FOCUS's first international team in Graz, Austria. After five wonderful years in Europe, our family moved to Menlo Park, CA, where I currently serve as a Parish Missionary and Regional Director. It is such a joy to accompany my parishioners in the journey of their faith as we seek to live as Disciples for Christ. We look forward to making St. Mary Magdalen our home and meeting you all.

Contact me at christina.augustine@focus.org

Please join us in welcoming them to SMM!
They will be settled into the community this fall.
Learn more about their mission at focus.org.



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 Hertel Family

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Rita Bluebello, Joseph Gosalves, Anthony Carbo**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts including the Holy Land, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, those lost to natural disasters, including in Texas and New Mexico, those lost from 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, Joe Cahill, Tricia Carmen, Christine Cavaliere, Mary Cichanowsky, 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, 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, Nancy Sowa, Amerigo Tomassi, Mark Torregosa, Kathy Will, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

Matthew Davis & Stephanie Binder

BAPTISMS

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

Jude Joseph Barker & Patrick Gregory Denchak



In June, the Hagan family and others celebrated Gigi's retirement from SMMI!

Prayers & Mass Intentions 7

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:30 AM – James Walsh

4:30 PM – Alice Quinn

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

7:30 AM – Thomas Logan, Sr.

9:30 AM – Marg Liney

7 PM – The People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

6:30 AM – No Mass

8:30 AM – Amadio DiBuonaventura
& Joan Flynn

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:30 AM – Gary DeNapoli

8:30 AM – Mary Stevenson

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

6:30 AM – Matthew Mullin

8:30 AM – John Dzwonczyk

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6:30 AM – Rose Anne Leonard

8:30 AM – Rose Anne Leonard

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

6:30 AM – Jim Clark

8:30 AM – Joanne Sarkees

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:30 AM – Thomas Logan, Sr.

4:30 PM – John T. Gill

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

7:30 AM – Thomas Logan, Sr.

9:30 AM – Philip & Jessie Cavalcanto

11:30 AM – Dr. Emilio Loy Valdes

7 PM – The People of the Parish



FLOWERS

In memory of our deceased alumni

BREAD & WINE

In memory of William Simpson

CANDLE

In memory of Mary McDevitt

SIGN-UP! SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB TRIP THE SHORE CLUB

Our Seniors' Social Club invites you to join them on **Tuesday, November 11**, for a trip to The Shore Club in Spring Lake, New Jersey, for an afternoon of music, comedy, dancing, and good food. The trip includes a deluxe coach to and from the venue, which departs and returns to SMM.

The day includes lunch with your choice of entrée, one hour of open bar, and a fabulous all-star show with tributes to amazing artists!

To reserve your seat, please contact Bill Moore at patbillbr4@comcast.net or call 610-742-3191. Pick up the flyer in the narthex.



FR. BILL ATKINSON PILGRIMAGE Thursday, September 25

Registration at 3 PM
Prayer Service 3:30 PM

at **ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA CHURCH**

Followed by a 4-mile accessible walk
to **OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION**



For more information or to register visit us at friendsoffatherbill.org



REGISTER! CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN DOYLESTOWN SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Join Catholic women from around the Archdiocese for a day of fun, friendship, faith, and prayer at the Catholic Women's Conference. This year, our theme is "Women on Mission: The Feminine Genius in the New Apostolic Age."

We will explore the beauty of our feminine genius and the unique position of Catholic women, transformed by Christ, to bring the light of the Gospel to a society that no longer recognizes its need for Him. Many outstanding speakers, including Mary Ann Wiesinger-Puig, Sr. Faustina Maria Pia, SV, Bishop Joseph Perry, Fr. Sean Loomis, Fr. Thomas Viviano, Dr. Delia Larrauri, and Elizabeth Leon.

Saturday, October 18, 2025, 9 AM to 4 PM,
at the National Shrine of Our Lady of
Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA (Jubilee site).
Tracks available in English and Spanish.
Register today, as the event may sell out, at
catholicwomensconference.org.



STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

July 2025	\$96,456
Collection:	\$28,590
Mail-in:	\$14,560
EFT:	\$53,306
July 2024	\$104,981
Collection:	\$23,495
Mail-in:	\$30,668
EFT:	\$50,818
School Annual Fund 2025	\$63,824
School Annual Fund 2024	\$58,730

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.

Annual SMM CYO & Teacher Appreciation GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, October 6th
The Springhaven Club | Wallingford

Join us for a great day of golf with friends, all while raising funds for an excellent cause!
Our annual Golf Tournament raises proceeds to enhance the Athletic Department.
A portion of the funds raised goes to benefit our teachers through bonuses.

Details for the Day

\$275 per Golfer

- 9:00am – Registration
- 10:00am – Golf (shotgun start) with snacks and drinks on-course
- 3:00-5:00pm – Cocktails and entertainment on the porch, including:
 - Cocktails/beer/wine
 - Slider stations
 - Heavy hors d'oeuvres

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- Name Recognition in Golf Outing Program

\$1,000 - Sponsorship

- 1 Free Golfer
- 1 Tee Sign
- 1 Half-Page Ad in Golf Outing Program

\$3,500 (10 spots available)

- 4 Free Golfers
- 1 Full-Page Ad in Golf Outing Program
- 1 Tee Sign

To sign up online please scan the QR code below or visit:

<https://stmarymagdalen.sportngin.com/register/form/677781495>

Any questions please contact:

Brian Grandieri brian.grandieri@gmail.com



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