

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

11 MAY 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have had exciting days here at Saint Mary Magdalen, with First Communion for our young parishioners, special persons' day in our school, and several weddings and baptisms. I wanted to let you know of a few other exciting opportunities on the horizon.

On Sunday, June 1st, at the 9:30 am Mass, we will celebrate **Monsignor Chieffo's 50th Jubilee** as a priest. This special Mass will feature our friends from the Saint Anthony Society. A breakfast reception will follow afterward. Please join us as we offer prayerful congratulations to our beloved pastor emeritus.

On Monday, June 2nd, our envisioning team will host a special **Happy Hour at Sterling Pig Brewery** in Media. Join us from 5 to 7 pm for snacks, sips, and an update along with an opportunity to give feedback as we develop our three-year pastoral plan.

On Saturday, June 7th, we will have a special **Pentecost Vigil Mass** at 7 pm. This extended Vigil is a beautiful way to enter more deeply into that awesome feast. Note that the 4:30 pm Mass will also take place as usual.

Finally, save the date for a **celebration in anticipation of Corpus Christi**, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, on Thursday evening, June 19th. I am working with Father Bell at Nativity BVM on a joint celebration. More details to follow!

This weekend, we celebrate **Mother's Day**. It is an opportunity to show gratitude for the many ways that our mothers have formed us. It has been said that children can never repay their parents for what they give us, which is true. And yet, by showing gratitude, we can begin to bridge the gap.

Thank you to all moms, grandmoms, godmothers, and all who play a motherly role in the lives of others.

A couple of weeks ago, we celebrated the memorial of a great saint, Catherine of Siena. She is certainly a saint for our times, especially with the election of a new pope. I used this prayer of hers several times, and a few people said I should publish it in the bulletin, so here it is on page 3.

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker

continued on page 3



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.

I have tasted and seen the depth of your mystery and the beauty of your creation with the light of my understanding. I have clothed myself with your likeness and have seen what I shall be. Eternal Father, you have given me a share in your power and the wisdom that Christ claims as his own, and your Holy Spirit has given me the desire to love you. You are my Creator, eternal Trinity, and I am your creature. You have made of me a new creation in the blood of your Son, and I know that you are moved with love at the beauty of your creation, for you have enlightened me.

Eternal Trinity, Godhead, mystery deep as the sea, you could give me no greater gift than the gift of yourself. For you are a fire ever burning and never consumed, which itself consumes all the selfish love that fills my being. Yes, you are a fire that takes away the coldness, illuminates the mind with its light and causes me to know your truth. By this light, reflected as it were in a mirror, I recognize that you are the highest good, one we can neither comprehend nor fathom. And I know that you are beauty and wisdom itself. The food of angels, you gave yourself to man in the fire of your love.



Chapter five of the *Acts of the Apostles* recounts the first of two prison breaks.

As we come to see, the primary protagonist of this book of the *Bible* is the Word, and the apostles are the instruments of its proclamation. This Word, which tells of the salvific death of Christ, now risen again in glory, advances from Jerusalem, to Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. This spread of the Word is led by the Holy Spirit, which means nothing so mundane as being thrown into prison can stop it!

This is how Luke describes the event in Acts 5:

Then the high priest rose up and all his companions, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and, filled with jealousy, laid hands upon the apostles and put them in the public jail. But during the night, the angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, led them out, and said, "Go and take your place in the temple area, and tell the people everything about this life." When they heard this, they went to the temple early in the morning and taught. When the high priest and his companions arrived, they convened the Sanhedrin, the full senate of the Israelites, and sent to the jail to have them brought in. But the court officers who went did not find them in the prison, so they came back and reported, "We found the jail securely locked and the guards stationed outside the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside." (continued)

UPCOMING DATES

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 11



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

MONDAY, MAY 12 • 7 PM

Young Adults Bible Study with Fr. Eric at 7 PM followed by fellowship in St. Francis Hall.



BETHESDA PROJECT'S NEXT CASSEROLE COLLECTION

MAY 17 & 18 MASSES

We will collect frozen casseroles, socks, and toiletries for the men at Connelly House.



SCHOOL MAY PROCESSION

FRIDAY, MAY 16 • 1:30 PM

Join the school students for their annual May Procession and crowning of Mary.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

THURSDAY, MAY 29

Masses at 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM, 12:30 PM & 6:30 PM



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 the parish & H&S.

PARISH

610-566-8821
stmarymagdalen.net

Mrs. Gina Staiber
Office Manager & Notary
gina@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 111

Mr. Ralph Purri
Director of Sacred Music
rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 128

Mrs. Kerry Boyle
Director of Communications
kerry@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 122

Mrs. Daniela DiCandilo
Finance Manager
daniela@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 124

Mrs. Dorothy Brown
Director of Religious Education
dbrown@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension 125

Mrs. Joanne Hinkle
PREP Administrator
jhinkle@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 109

Mrs. Shelly Zeller
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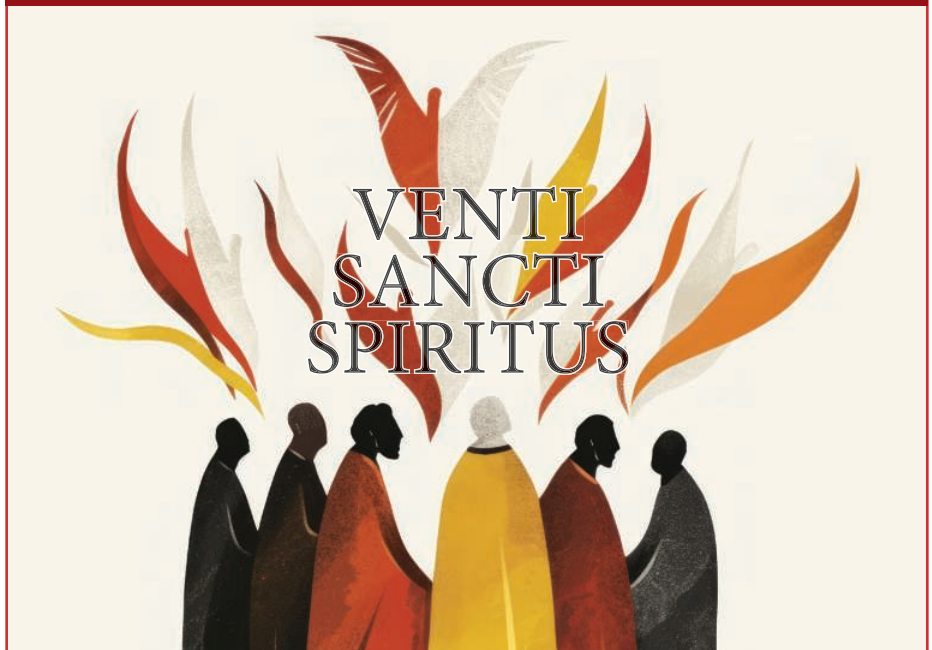
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stmarymagdalenschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer
Principal
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

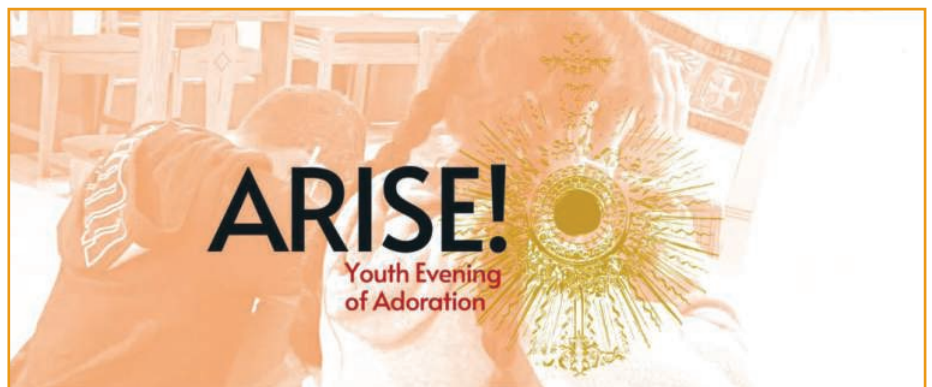
Dcn. Joseph P. Boyle, Jr.
President
deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Pentecost Vigil Mass

SATURDAY, JUNE 7 AT 7 PM ✠ ST. MARY MAGDALEN



WITH THE MUSIC BY THE YOUNG ADULT CHOIR



Holy Innocents Church, 1337 E. Hunting Park Ave,
Philadelphia

Friday, MAY 16 | 7:00pm to 9:00pm

An evening of Adoration, Music, Reconciliation,
Intercessory Prayer as community.

- For youth 8th through 12th grade.
 - Youth must be accompanied by a minister or other adult.
 - Parents welcomed.
 - Evening ends with a social. Feel free to bring snacks.
- Arise! is done in collaboration with parishes and Ministers.




continued from pg. 3

Peter and John are just instruments, after all, as are each one of us. Eventually, of course, Peter would be martyred on the Vatican Hill in Rome, and John would die a prisoner on the penal colony of Patmos. But that would come later. For now, God wants them to continue their mission of teaching, making disciples, and baptizing, given to them by Christ.

Though they escape (*this time*), they end up face-to-face with the chief priests. And though Peter and John are ordered to stop preaching in “that name” (*that is, the name of Jesus*), they reply instead, “we must obey God rather than men.” In other words, while Christianity is not inherently subversive to earthly authority, in the conflict between the two, we know what we must choose. We must remain faithful to the Gospel. Ironically, such resistance from others often moves people to a more fervent and confident proclamation of Christ. God can use even enemies of the Church for his purpose, which is the salvation of the human race from our great fears—sin, suffering, and death.

Ultimately, the spirituality given to us by the *Acts of the Apostles* is a spirituality of martyrdom. The Greek word *martyrein* means “to be a witness” as in a legal matter. If you have ever been called to be a witness in court, you know it can be quite intimidating. Yet, in that circumstance, we are called to say “the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.” How much more should we announce the truth of our faith with clarity and boldness! Indeed, the apostles, Saint Stephen, and many others since have witnessed to the faith even as it cost them esteem, livelihood, and even their earthly lives. But the truth revealed to us in Christ is too fundamental to our lives to deny it. And—here is the amazing part—these weak, flawed men do not seem all that perturbed by the situation. They rejoice when they suffer dishonor. They willingly surrender any respect for the great and the good in Jerusalem.

We live in times not all that different from the *Acts of the Apostles*. And while no Christian should go seek confrontation with the authorities or martyrdom, neither can we be afraid to be a witness for Christ. The news of salvation—if we really let it permeate our hearts—is too urgent, its liberation too essential for the happiness of others to hide it away. As Acts 5 teaches us, even prison bars cannot stop the fire of the Holy Spirit from renewing the face of the earth. Gathered around the altar of the Lord in the Eucharist, we grow in friendship with God, which we are commissioned to share with others. That is the witness—the martyrdom—the Lord calls forth from each of us today. 



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!

Casserole Collection

Next weekend before all Masses

Place your frozen casserole in the cart.
Tins and lids are available in the Narthex, or
party size frozen meals may be purchased.

Donations of toiletries and
socks are also appreciated.



 Bethesda
Project



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

NEW! 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! CHILDREN'S MASS LIBRARY

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!



NEW! LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL

The last week of Little Church for the school year will be Sunday, May 18. Thank you to all who participated in this program, which is dedicated to bringing the light of Jesus to our littlest members. We have greatly enjoyed being with the children and look forward to seeing them again in the fall. We are also most grateful to **Miss Elizabeth Logan**, our catechist of this special program. We wish you and yours a blessed and beautiful summer.



NEW! CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD

We are grateful to all the parents, catechists, and children participating in CLOW this school year. We only have a few weeks remaining for Children's Liturgy at 9:30 Mass for children in grades 1-3. Our remaining sessions will be on May 18, and June 8. CLOW break is for summer, but we will resume in September. Thank you and have a great summer!



It only takes one encounter conversation invitation prayer



GO WALK WITH ONE

Someone in your life is waiting for a moment that will change everything. God is ready to deliver, and he wants YOU to be a part of that story. This is your opportunity to be God's instrument in the life of someone you know and love.

Scan the code to get started!

eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one

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 Mirabello Family, Linda Grapes, Matthew Lawson

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Ellen Curran, Anthony Dirado, Francina Collins**, 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 Klauer, 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.

Matthew James Rushton II



Congratulations to all our First Holy Communicants. This beautiful group image was taken at the Mass on Saturday, April 26.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 10

8:30 AM - Thanksgiving Tierney & Guastella Families

4:30 PM - Ints. of The McCabe Family

SUNDAY, MAY 11

7:30 AM - Ints. of Ro D'Angelo

9:30 AM - Marion Hill

11:30 AM - Angelina DeMario

7 PM - Lucas Keating

MONDAY, MAY 12

6:30 AM - Janice R. Letourneau

8:30 AM - Giana Campbell

TUESDAY, MAY 13

6:30 AM - Gerald Antonelli

8:30 AM - Ints. of Morro Family

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

6:30 AM - Ints. of Fr. Reuben Nuxoll

8:30 AM - Ints. of Fr. Eric Banecker

THURSDAY, MAY 15

6:30 AM - James P. Sherry

8:30 AM - Sharlene Ann Neelan

FRIDAY, MAY 16

6:30 AM - Thomas P. Logan

8:30 AM - Cathryn D. Schumacher

SATURDAY, MAY 17

8:30 AM - Evelyn Peisochenski

4:30 PM - Ints. of Fr. Alan Okon

SUNDAY, MAY 18

7:30 AM - Ints. of Msgr. Ralph Chieffo

9:30 AM - Dale Wilson

11:30 AM - Deceased members of the Vinci Family

7 PM - The People of the Parish



FLOWERS

In memory of deceased mothers

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Francina Collins

CANDLE

In memory of Ellen Curran

**JOIN US! SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB TRIP
'NOAH' AT SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE
TUESDAY, MAY 20**

St. Mary Magdalen Seniors invites you to join them on Tuesday, May 20, for a day trip to the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster to see the incredible production of NOAH. Get on board the Ark! With a catastrophic storm approaching, Noah faces a monumental task: to build a boat large enough to save his family from a flood that will engulf the entire earth. Set sail inside the enormous ark as this extraordinary story comes to life in this special 30th Anniversary season! The cost is \$210 per person, which includes the round trip by deluxe coach, lunch at Huckleberry's Restaurant, and a reserved seat at the show. **For information and reservations, please e-mail Bill Moore at patbillbr4@comcast.com, call 484-420-4575, or pick up a flyer in the narthex.**

**MONDAY! MOTHERS' HOME
ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF OUTING
MONDAY, MAY 12**

Join us for this year's Mothers' Home Charity Golf Outing at Paxon Hollow Country Club on Monday, May 12. Enjoy lunch at 11 AM, followed by Golf with a 'Shotgun Start' at Noon. All proceeds benefit the Mothers' Home in Darby. **To sponsor or register for this year's event, please visit mothershomegolf.com.**

**HOLY HOUR & NOVENA
FOR EILEEN GEORGE'S INTERSESSION
SUNDAY, JUNE 15 AT 2 PM**

Join us for a grace-filled Holy Hour on Sunday, June 15, from 2 to 3 PM at Annunciation BVM Church on 401 Brookline Blvd. in Havertown. The Holy Hour includes Adoration, Confessions, Benediction, and Novena for Eileen George's intercession for our personal needs. Priests will be available for Confessions. Afterward, all are welcome to a social in the parish hall. Additional Holy Hour dates this year are July 13, August 10, and September 14. All are welcome!

*"Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again."*

**SOON! TEA WITH THERESE
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SAINTHOOD
SUNDAY, MAY 18**

Join author and EWTN guest Susan Brinkmann of LiveCatholic, for a **Lady's Afternoon Tea** to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the canonization of St. Therese of Lisieux on Sunday, May 18, from 2 to 4 PM in the Memorial Dining Hall at the Malvern Retreat House. The afternoon will feature assorted teas, treats, a video about the life of the **Visit livecatholic.org to register.**

**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. Thank you!

FOLLOW SMM ON



STEWARDSHIP & 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
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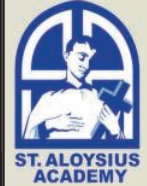
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