

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

27 JULY 2025

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR FATHER, PART III



St. Mary Magdalen

Let's get our cards out on the table up front: fatherhood is a fraught and difficult topic in our world. And how could it not be? Here's a statistic: there are about 15.7 million children being raised in the United States in a household without a father. The terrible scourge of abortion that the Church in the United States has correctly decried for so long is tied to this reality—nothing would bring the abortion rate down so quickly like women who trusted that the men in their lives would be provident fathers. In the Church, people like me are called "father"—and yet, hasn't the last fifty years given us every reason to see the failure of spiritual fathers too? Perhaps you have had a negative experience with human or spiritual fatherhood yourself. That experience wounds us profoundly.

Yet, for all that, we lose something essential by jettisoning the concept of fatherhood. Are not terrible problems caused by father wounds proof precisely of the importance of fatherhood?

We can even be tempted to abandon the language of fatherhood with regard to God. Better to speak of "creator" or "parent" or even "mother" so as not to offend anyone or "trigger" anyone. But the Lord Jesus was unambiguous on this point. True, the first person of the Trinity is not an old man in the sky with a beard. But he is God the Father. That is how Jesus, his Divine Son, spoke of him. That is how he taught his disciples to pray: "Our Father who art in heaven." In other words, through union with Jesus, we are integrated into his own intimate dialogue of love with the Father in the Holy Spirit.

By praying in this way, we share in the very life of God.

When we open our hearts to God our Father, something amazing happens. We take Jesus' posture of prayer and, like a child, learn to receive everything from God and to offer it back to him in gratitude. Recall Jesus' love for children, which seems so obvious to us but not to his contemporaries! Children were not treated with the kind of romanticism we hold them with today. They were seen as difficult and a burden. Yet Jesus rebukes the disciples who try to keep the children away from him. Along the way, he tells them "unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of God" (Mt 18:3).

This surely came from his Divine childhood. In the Gospel of John, in his Last Supper discourse, he speaks out of this experience: "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me?" (John 14:8-14)

continued on page 3

CLERGY

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*Sacramental assistance
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Rev. Richard Maisano
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*Permanent Deacon
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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

No 6:30 AM Mass on Mondays from July 4th through Labor Day.

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: 5:30 PM Adoration & Confessions,
followed by Mass at 6:30 PM. (Except in July & August)

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.

continued from the cover

In the face of the protests of the Jewish scholars, Jesus repeatedly speaks of God as his Father. In the Garden of Gethsemane, he uses the Aramaic familiar form "Abba" ("Papa"). God is his Father, the definitive sign of which is Jesus' birth to a Virgin.

Notwithstanding the good care provided by Saint Joseph, who is his legal father and truly a father to Jesus, nevertheless, his origin is not from Saint Joseph but from God.

Here's the Good News: through Baptism, we too become children of God! We become adopted children of God the Father. For this reason, we too can speak with the same boldness in prayer that Jesus had. "If you ask anything in my name," he says, "I will do it." I mentioned last week the priest's introduction to the Lord's Prayer in the Mass of the Roman Rite, which dates back to the time of Saint Gregory the Great: *Praeceptis salutaribus moniti et divina institutione formati, audemus dicere*—"at the savior's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say." We dare to say! The priest is imploring us to consider the audacity of these words, in which we call upon God as Father. We do this, as Saint Paul teaches, because he has given us the Holy Spirit, by which we cry "Abba! Father!" From this point, Saint Paul goes on to one of his great crescendos: "So you are no longer a slave, but a Son. And if a Son, then also an heir: heirs with God, joint heirs with Christ" (*cf. Gal 4:7*).

God is our Father, the Father we claim as members of the Body of Christ. That makes the Lord's prayer inherently ecclesial. In other words, I pray not as an isolated individual but as a member of a Body, the Church. For this reason, when I pray I am never alone, even if no one is physically present, because we pray to the Father in union with the whole Church.

To pray the Lord's Prayer sincerely requires a renunciation of self. It means rejecting the deadly sin of pride and self-sufficiency in which I call the shots and set my own path in life. Don't those early chapters of Genesis—the Fall, the murder, the flood, the Tower—show us the perennial truth that when we choose what we want instead of what God wants, it only ever leads to misery? Instead, we must put aside whatever misconceptions we have, ask for healing from whatever wounds we carry, and abandon ourselves into the hands of the Father who knows how to give good gifts, who never abandons us, and who gives us true freedom.

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker



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

Young Adult Service

at

**St. Francis Inn
Ministries**

on

**Saturday
August 30**

We are calling young adults and others able to join us in offering comfort and lending helping hands on Saturday, August 30.

We will meet at SMM at 10:00 a.m. and then serve lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the St. Francis Inn Ministries, located at 2441 Kensington Avenue in Philadelphia.

To sign up, scan the QR Code.
Info: Email Kathleen at
kathleenlogan@gmail.com.



PARISH

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Mrs. Jessica Savko
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Extension: 107

SCHOOL

610-565-1822
stmarymagdalschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer
Principal
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

PREP REGISTRATION

2025-2026

PREP registration for the 2025-2026 school year is open. All families must complete the registration process via Parish Giving.

Returning families were sent an email from **Parish Giving** (not from the PREP Office email) on May 27, 2025, with instructions. Please check your email and follow the instructions provided.

New families to PREP must register via the link on the parish website under the Formation/PREP tab, or scan the QR Code below.

PREP@stmarymagdalen.net



OMYA
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WITH YOUNG ADULTS

Inviting all college campus ministers,
chaplains, and missionaries to...

CAMPUS MINISTER APPRECIATION DINNER

The Office for Ministry with Young Adults (OMYA) cordially invites you and your campus ministry staff to the first annual Campus Minister Appreciation Dinner!

Come for.... Holy Hour, catered dinner, drinks and views of the city.
Stay for... fellowship, testimonials, and words of encouragement for the coming semester.

August 12th, 2025

6PM: Holy Hour with Evening Prayer

7PM: Dinner

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NEW! ST. MARY MAGDALEN SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2026-2027

Our **2026-2027 Inquiry Form** opened on our website on July 1, 2025. Parents who wish to enroll new students in our school must complete the **Inquiry Form** to be eligible for the next stage of our Application Process, which is based on availability. For more information, or to inquire about openings for this fall, go to the 'Admissions' section on the school's website at stmarymagdalenschool.net.

NEW! MASS PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 2

4:30 PM—Fr. Eric Banecker

Sunday, August 3

7:30 AM—Msgr. Francis Beach

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.*

NEW! BETHESDA CONNELLY HOUSE

We had a good collection of casseroles for July. We collected approximately 25 casseroles, which is excellent for a summer month. Thanks to all who contributed. We celebrated the July birthdays at Connelly on Wednesday, July 23. We are grateful to all who participated in preparing the dinner.

Our sincerest thanks to DiFabio's restaurant and **Maryann Schriever**, who works closely with DiFabio's to ensure everything runs smoothly.

We remain grateful to **Joe Sheehan**, who drove the dinner to Connelly House, as well as **Ro D'Angelo** and **Fran Jackson** for their help with events, cake, and food logistics. To all our friends on vacations, may God bless your time away.

Our next casserole collection will be on the weekend of August 16 and August 17.

HOME VISITS

Would you like Holy Communion brought to you in your home? Would you like your home blessed?

We are here for you! **Please call our parish office to schedule a visit.**

CYO FALL SPORTS

REGISTER NOW

FOOTBALL • CROSS COUNTRY
GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL • FIELD HOCKEY
CO-ED SOCCER • CHEERLEADING

CYO is open to all girls and boys in our parish.

Cross Country is open to Grades 1-8. Girls' Volleyball, Field Hockey, and Co-Ed Soccer are all open to Grades 5-8.

Football: Grades 1-4 are eligible to play Flag Football. Grades 5 & 6 are eligible to play JV Tackle Football, and Grades 7 & 8 are eligible to play Varsity Tackle Football. Cheerleading is open to Grades 1-4.



For more information and to register, scan the QR Code or visit stmarymagdalen.net/cyo.



INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLICISM

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

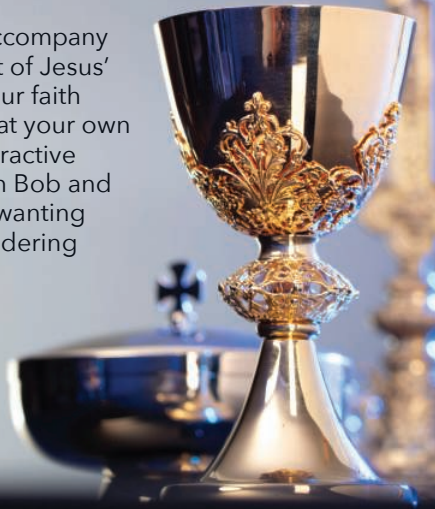


Are you considering becoming Catholic?

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



A PRAYER TO ST. MARY MAGDALEN

*Saint Mary Magdalen, through your
friendship with our Lord, Jesus
Christ, you were delivered from the
seven demons of pride, anger, lust,
greed, envy, gluttony, and sloth.
Through the grace and guidance
of the Holy Spirit, renew within
us the sevenfold gifts of wisdom,
knowledge, understanding,
counsel, courage, piety, and fear
of the Lord, so that like you, we,
too, can announce the good news
of our Risen Lord by a life of virtue.
Amen.*

On Tuesday, July 22, we celebrated
the Feast of our great patroness.
St. Mary of Magdala, pray for us!



ECUMENICAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THE 1700TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNCIL OF NICAEA

Monday, October 6, 2025 - 7:00 PM

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
Philadelphia, PA

Presiders: Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez and
Metropolitan-Archbishop Borys Gudziak

Details: archphila.org/holyyear



Office for Divine Worship | Archdiocese of Philadelphia | 215-587-3537

CHOIR IS CALLING

*Are you yearning for a closer
relationship with God?
Have you been looking
for a way to get more
involved in the parish?
Would you like to
expand your circle of friends?*

Consider joining one of
our parish choirs.

We are seeking new members for
our adult choir, handbell choir,
and children's choir. If you have
sung in a high school or college
choir or played an instrument,
we need your skill—even if it's
a bit rusty. Help your child grow
closer to Jesus and the liturgy.

Notice how they gain more
confidence by singing
in the children's choir.

Contact Ralph Purri at
rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net
or speak with him before or after
any Mass to get the details
specific to each choir.

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 Hahn Family, The White Family

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Mary McDevitt, Harry Balkenhol, Geraldine Banecker, Susan Sowa**, 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, Anthony Carbo, 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,
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.

Seamus Michael Fuglio, William Edmund Klein,
& Caroline Elizabeth Morris



Triple the blessings! The baptisms of Seamus Fuglio, William Klein, and Caroline Morris.

Prayers & Mass Intentions 7

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 26

8:30 AM - Ints. of Sharon Higgins

4:30 PM - Patricia Kosman

SUNDAY, JULY 27

7:30 AM - Dolores B. Lerro

9:30 AM - Genevieve Giangiulio

11:30 AM - Eileen Miller

7 PM - The People of the Parish

MONDAY, JULY 28

6:30 AM - No Mass

8:30 AM - Bill Boylan

TUESDAY, JULY 29

6:30 AM - Bob Taraborelli

8:30 AM - David Franklin

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

6:30 AM - Loretta Hrabosky

8:30 AM - Joseph Conan

THURSDAY, JULY 31

6:30 AM - The People of the Parish

8:30 AM - Regina Terranova

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

6:30 AM - The People of the Parish

8:30 AM - Holy Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

8:30 AM - Anna DiBuonaventura

4:30 PM - Michael B. McFadden

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

7:30 AM - Barbara Regan Chillemi

9:30 AM - Mary Maliza Pace

11:30 AM - Deceased Members
of the DiMedio Family

7 PM - The People of the Parish



FLOWERS

In memory of Mary McDevitt

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Harry Balkenhol

CANDLE

In memory of Geraldine Banecker

**NEW! THE HONOR ROLLS
ARCHBISHOP JOHN CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL**

The following students have achieved
Academic Honors for the Fourth Quarter
of the 2024-2025 school year:

First Honors: **Shane Ebersole**, '26;
Owen Gallagher, '27; **William Wood**, '27.

Second Honors: **Reagan Zalis**, '26;
Ryan Hefferan, '27.

We congratulate these dedicated students!



**PRAY! HOLY HOUR & NOVENA
FOR EILEEN GEORGE'S INTERSESSION
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 AT 2 PM**

Join us for a grace-filled Holy Hour on Sunday,
July 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.

**SOON! RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE
LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE
AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 3**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their
marriages through Retrouvaille. Couples learn
to develop practical communication skills and
enhance their intimacy. It provides help for
marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. The
following program will be held from August 1 to
August 3 at the Family Life Center in Malvern.

For more information or to register,
visit HelpOurMarriage.org or contact
us at 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

CALL TO ACTION! VOLUNTEER FOR CLOW

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) hopes you
will consider volunteering to lead children from
1st through 3rd grades to the chapel during the
9:30 AM Mass from September to June.

The readings are provided with ideas and
suggestions for discussing the Gospel. Please,
prayerfully, consider volunteering for this vital
children's program. The time commitment is
minimal, and the reward is infinite! **Please email
Carol at clow@stmarymagdalen.net.**

**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**

STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

June 2025 \$112,409

Collection: \$35,479

Mail-in: \$26,023

EFT: \$50,159

June 2024 \$ 88,173

Collection: \$33,365

Mail-in: \$13,665

EFT: \$41,143

School Annual Fund 2025 \$49,318

School Annual Fund 2024 \$58,730

We are grateful for your generous spirit!



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REGISTRATION

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FOR THE 2025-2026

SCHOOL YEAR

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