

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Glorify The Lord With Your Life

One of the newest Doctors of the Church, St. Irenaeus, is known for saying: "The glory of God is man fully alive!" As we embrace the beauty of Lent, let us remember his words as we strive to become the best versions of ourselves. We all aim to be "fully alive," fully in communion with our Lord, others, and ourselves. Through glorifying God in our lives, we accept his will to become missionary disciples in our homes, communities, and workplaces. Lent's true grace and goal is a journey toward a deeper relationship with Jesus through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

'Love of Neighbor' is the virtue of the month for our school, PREP, and parish family. If our journey towards a deep understanding of Jesus and his love for us is our goal for Lent, then the human and divine result is love of neighbor. How, or in what ways, do I need to improve my response to God's will?

Our question for this Lent should be: *"What aspect of my life not only needs improvement and movement towards virtue but what remains hidden from me?"*

We all tend to see others' sins and see them as they are. Often, our family, friends, coworkers, and acquaintances are blinded to their faults. Hopefully, by our actions and words, we are examples of their blind side of Christian living. Again, if we can see other "blind sides of faith," where does ours exist?

By virtue of our Baptism, we all have an innate desire to glorify God. We yearn to be fully alive! As we practice the virtue of love of neighbor through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, this Lent lets us feast on the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will experience our best Lent by participating in the Mass, receiving Holy Communion, and recognizing our faults and how we have grown through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

"For the glory of God is a man fully alive, and the life of man consists in beholding God. For if the manifestation of God, which is made by means of the creation, affords life to all living on the earth, much more does that revelation of the Father, which comes through the Word, give life to those who see God."

—Saint Irenaeus

**PARISH CLERGY
& RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

610-566-8821

stmarymagdalen.net

Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo

Pastor

fralph@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 110



Fr. Reuben Nuxoll, LC

Coordinator of Assisting Clergy

frreuben@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 123

Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.

Director of Religious Education

deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 124

Deacon James DiFerdinand, M.A.

Permanent Deacon

RCIA Program

jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com

Deacon E. Peter Zurbach, Ph.D.

Permanent Deacon, Retired

Mrs. Dorothy Brown

Coordinator of Religious Education

dbrown@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension 125



SCHOOL

610-565-1822

stmarymagdalenschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer

Principal

abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

Dcn. Joseph P. Boyle, Jr.

President

deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

8:30 AM & 4:30 PM Vigil



Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM,
11:30 AM, and 5:30 PM



Weekday

Monday thru Friday

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

ADORATION, ROSARY & CONFESSION TIMES

Adoration Chapel:

Monday at 7 AM through Friday until Midnight.

Confessions from 9 to 9:30 AM on Saturdays.

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

Pro-Life Rosary & Reflection at 7 PM on Mondays in the Church.

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

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

Flame of Love Devotions on Friday at Noon in the Chapel.



ELECTRONIC PARISH GIVING

Visit our website's 'Giving' page to make a one time gift or sign-up for recurring electronic donations through the 'Parish Giving' program, or send your offertory to our parish office. Thank you!

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Glorify The Lord With Your Life

SOON! THANKSGIVING PRAYER SERVICE IN HONOR OF FR. BILL ATKINSON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Join us at 6:30 PM on **Thursday, February 22**, for a **Prayer Service of Thanksgiving** in the church to remember the anniversary of Father Bill Atkinson's accident and to thank the Servant of God for his intercessions. Afterward, join us in St. Francis Hall for refreshments, a prayer testimonial of parishioner and traumatic accident survivor **Cole Keith**, and a brief presentation about a legacy "Sit, Rest, Pray, Heal" **Sculpture Memorial Project** in recognition of Fr. Bill Atkinson, OSA.

As we honor Fr. Bill Atkinson's legacy and celebrate his journey toward sainthood, his friends and family are diligently working to construct three sculptures to memorialize his example of virtue and dignity.

The legacy project "**Sit, Rest, Pray, Heal**" consists of a life-sized permanent bronze sculpture of the Augustinian priest, complete with a bench where visitors can reflect and pray, created by artist Timothy Schmalz. The first is in the Healing Garden of St. Augustine Parish in Old City Philadelphia, the first formation of Augustinians in America, and the founding location of Villanova University.

The second sculpture is at Bonner-Penergast Catholic High School, where Fr. Bill served for nearly thirty years. Additionally, they plan to place a third sculpture in Rome, Italy, at the International Headquarters of the Augustinians.

To learn more or to donate, visit frbillatkinson.org or augustinian.org/the-cause.

NEW! YOUR LENTEN INTENTIONS BASKET IN NARTHEX

Lent invites us to draw closer to Our Lord through the mystery of his Passion and Death on the Cross.

Throughout Lent, a Cross will be in the Narthex with a basket for our intentions. Please place your intentions in an envelope and put them into the basket. We will have some paper and envelopes on hand for your convenience. We wish you a deeply meaningful Lenten journey with Jesus.

NEW! A MESSAGE FROM MSGR.

I am thankful for your prayers, kind words, and support since I made the decision to retire in June.

Several key dates will provide us with a more translucent framework as we work collectively, as a parish family, toward a smooth transition under the love and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

On **Friday, May 17**, Archbishop Pérez will notify me of the next shepherd to be entrusted with this spiritual home, after which we will meet privately at a time of our choosing to begin the necessary task to ensure a smooth transition. On **Monday, June 17**, after the school and many other ministry programs have begun their summer break, I will leave in the morning for my new off-campus residence (which is yet to be finalized, but I will reside in the area), and my predecessor will arrive in the afternoon.

I, the deacons, staff, and ministry council leaders look forward to and will continue to serve our parish family, and I will provide you with any additional information as it becomes known.

I hope for your prayers and understanding as I continue to serve you as your pastor until June and as I begin a new phase of my life.

**Always remember, YOU DO YOUR BEST
AND GOD WILL DO THE REST!**

Jesus loves you, and so do I,
Father Ralph



Middle school girls attend Blaze Program at SMM.

**NEXT WEEK! THE ROSARY
SORROWFUL MYSTERIES SERIES
FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 27**

This Lent, embark on a spiritual journey that will deepen your love for Jesus through the Mysteries of the Rosary. Discover deeply reflective insights into the life of Christ and theological truths through captivating stories and see the places he journeyed in the Holy Land. Join us for five one-hour consecutive Wednesday evenings to discover theological truths about the powerful gift of the Rosary as we explore the Sorrowful Mysteries. This fantastic series was created by Paradisus Dei and sponsored by our TMIY program on these dates: **Wednesdays on February 28, March 6, March 13, March 20, and March 27**, in St. Francis Hall from 7 to 8 PM. We will begin with a prayer, a 30-minute video, and a reflective discussion.



**NEXT SUNDAY! FR. ALEX GIBBS
& OUR SUNDAY GRADE MASS
FEBRUARY 25 • 9:30 AM MASS**

Fr. Alex will celebrate our Grade Mass, hosted by 4th-grade school and PREP students, at the 9:30 AM on February 25. Afterward, we welcome you to join us in St. Francis Hall for a reception in honor of Fr. Alex to celebrate his successful dissertation and doctorate in Sacred Theology. We are grateful to H&S for providing the coffee and donuts for these Masses.

**TODAY! CASSEROLE COLLECTION
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18**



Knights' Free-Throw Competitors move to Regionals.

**UNLOCK YOUR HIDDEN POTENTIAL:
THE UNFORESEEN BENEFITS
OF JOINING A CHURCH CHOIR**

Singing in a choir is about a lot more than just making music; it's about being part of a community. It's about coming together with people who share your passion for music and creating something beautiful together. Moreover, being part of a choir provides an opportunity to serve your community and draw closer to God through worship. When you sing praises with others, you're participating in an act of communal worship that can deepen your faith. Don't let fear or uncertainty hold you back from experiencing the joy and fulfillment that comes from singing in a choir. We are in need of singers for our SMM adult choir. **Contact Ralph Purri at rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net or stop by the organ and speak with him.**



**SUPPORT! ANNUAL APPEAL
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES APPEAL**

Did you know that one in five individuals throughout the greater Philadelphia area count on the Archdiocese's Catholic Charities Appeal? Your gift provides vital support to almost a million people in need who are served in various organizations, ministries, and programs in our archdiocese. For a complete listing of beneficiaries and more ways to support or donate to this year's campaign, which began in February, visit catholiccharitiesappeal.org, or pick-up an flyer or envelope in our Narthex.



**NEW! FOUR COMPETITORS ADVANCE
TO KNIGHTS' REGIONAL FREE-THROW**

The Knights of Columbus held its District Free-Throwing competition at St. Kevin's on Saturday, February 10. The following SMM contestants won and have advanced to the Regional competition, which will take place on February 25. We had a great showing, with four of SMM's six youths winning for their age group. Below are the names of those moving on to the Regional. We wish them the best of luck!
Age 10: **Kara Walker** and **Sammy Landgraff**;
Age 11: **Gabriella Votta** and **Colin Lake**.
(See photo left)

**NEW! TRIBUTE BOOK
HONORING MSGR. CHIEFFO**

The Gala is assembling a *Tribute Book* in honor of Msgr! Share a unique remembrance, warm wishes, gratitude, or favorite photo together. Full pages are \$1200, half pages are \$600, and quarter pages are \$300 available if you wish to place a color display tribute. The submission deadline is **March 6**, and they must be print-ready.

For more information, contact Shelly Zeller at 610-505-0559 or email shellsing2@aol.com.

(See more event details on page 6)



**NEW! THE HONOR ROLLS
CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOL**

Congratulations to these diligent students for their first semester second quarter marks.

First Honors: **Jason DiPietro '24, Michael Foster '24, Cassidy Martin '24, Andrew Ortego '24, Kira Carroll '25, Keara Mangan '25, Jane McAnally '25, Kara McLaughlin '25, Abigail Adolph '26, Matthew Chin '26, Gianna Mariano '26, Lucas Ortego '26, Jim Smith '26, Eva Marquis '27, Penelope Miller '27, and Kathleen Rayfield '27.**

Second Honors: **Paul Giacomucci '24, Joseph Mariano '24, Hope Scolis '24, Kara Hoy '25, Chiara Mersch '25, Ryan Crowley '26, Avery Murphy-Costanzo '26, and Molly Carroll '27.**

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY HS

Congratulations to these dedicated ladies who earned first semester honors.

Distinguished Honors: **Caroline Naughton**

First Honors: **Samantha O'Donnell, Shay Gaglioti, Alyssa Sexton, Mary Grace Coyne, and Anna Vickers.**

PRO LIFE NEWS

The right to life is a human right.

Our defense of that right is a joyful witness to the beauty and dignity of every human person.

We encourage more participation in the fight for life with added participation and voices.

We need more support for women who need more aid and care during their pregnancies.

Can you help? Join SMM and St. Anastasia Prayer Warriors on **Saturday, March 2** in West Chester for the **40 Days for Life** campaign. **To sign up for an hour, go to 40daysforlife.com/en/chestercounty.**

**NEW! HOLY FAMILY HOME
A SPECIAL NEED FOR ITS RESIDENTS**

The **Little Sisters of the Poor** contacted us because their residents are in need of **liquid body wash**. **Could you help them by donating body wash?**

If so, please place soap into the marked container in the Narthex behind the Statue of St. Mary Magdalen. We are so grateful to you for helping the Sisters with this urgent request!

**SIGN UP! MAN UP PHILLY
SATURDAY, MARCH 2**

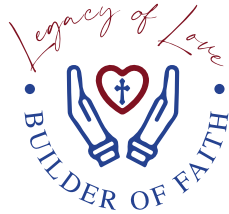
As Catholic men, we strive to make Jesus Christ present in our lives and the lives of others as His missionary disciples. The 16th Annual **Man Up Philly** Catholic Men's Conference at St. John Vianney Hall Theater at Cardinal O'Hara on **Saturday, March 2**. It is a day to inspire, energize, and enable us to be better sons, fathers, and husbands by living our faith and leading our families by example and as witnesses of the Gospel as we serve our families and the Church. Its tradition of fantastic speakers continues this year with **Mike Schmidt (Phillies), Mark Hartfiel (Paradisus Dei), Danny Bader (Author, Back to Life), Mark Forrest (Irish Tenor), and Deacon Nathan Gunn.**

To register, visit manupphilly.com.

**JOIN US! THAT MAN IS YOU!
THURSDAY MORNINGS • 6:25 AM**



An event you don't want to miss!

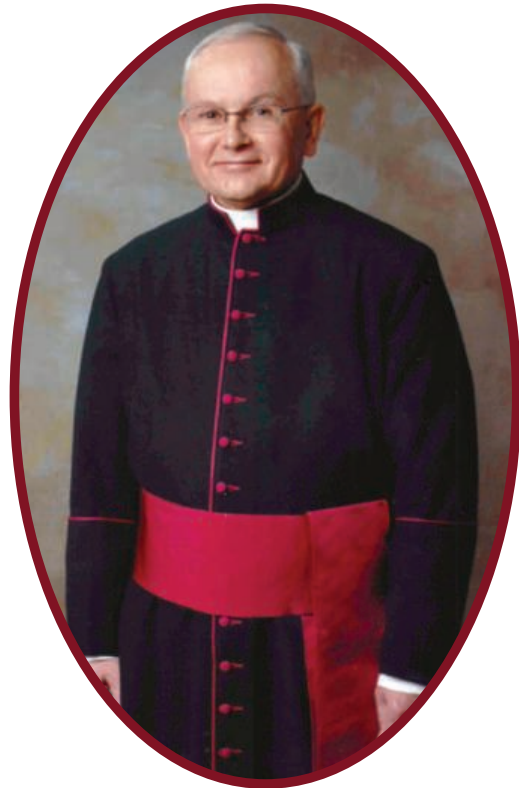


St. Mary Magdalen School 2024 Gala

Saturday, April 6, 2024
six thirty in the evening

Drexelbrook
4700 Drexelbrook Dr, Drexel Hill, PA

Honoring Monsignor Ralph Chieffo



Sponsorship Levels

\$50,000 St. Raphael

- 2 premier reserved tables of 12
- Opportunity to participate in event video
- Name/Logo on event brochure/invitation and all promotional materials
- Full page ad/tribute with prominent placement in tribute book
- Marquee recognition at event
- Special listing in St. Mary Magdalen School website

\$25,000 St. Michael

- 2 Premier reserved tables of 10
- Name/Logo on event brochure/invitation
- Full page ad/tribute in tribute book
- Marquee recognition at event
- Special listing in St. Mary Magdalen School website

\$10,000 St. Gabriel

- Reserved seating for 6 guests
- Full page ad/tribute in tribute book
- Marquee recognition at event
- Special listing in St. Mary Magdalen School website

\$5,000 St. Thomas

- Reserved seating for 4 guests
- Half page ad/tribute in tribute book
- Recognition listing in Tribute Book

\$1,000 Seraphim

- Reserved seating for 2 guests
- Recognition listing in Tribute Book

WE WELCOME OUR NEW FAMILIES

Welcome! New family to our parish? Stop by or call the office to register.

Morgan and David Rinnier & family

WELCOMED HOME BY GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Vanessa Dulisse**, those souls have died due to the wars in the Holy Land and Ukraine, the US military personnel who died in Jordan, 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.

Kevin Boylan, Bill Boylan, Joe Cahill, Anthony Carbo, Christine Cavaliere, Phil Franco, Joseph DeFabio, Kieran Doran, Rosemary Dougherty, Theresa D'Orazio, Les Fry, Kevin Gallagher, Katie Garwood, Jacquelyn Gibbons, Bob Gentile, Cole Keith, Gregory Lewis, Leonard Lombardi, Joe Malloy, Floyd Marvin, Robin Marvin, Marion McCarthy, Mary Jane McCloskey, Mary Theresa McDevitt, Dorothy Milliner, James Moerman, Joan Murphy, Mike Murphy, Carol Ortner, Bill Pace, John Pollera, George Rodgers, Naomi Rouse, Daught Ryan, Peter Salemo, Angelina Scarpa, Brendan Shain, Susan Sowa, Eleanor Tiongson, Amerigo Tomassi, Mark Torregosa, Bill Virbitsky, Joanne Winchester, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations and blessings to newest newlyweds.

Sarah Doyle & James Eden

Courtney Bollinger & David Ostmann

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to our newly baptized!

For baptismal information, call or email baptisms@stmarymagdalen.net

Tessa Margaret Puliti, Erin Regina Fox



The joyful baptism of Daniel Bodalski last Sunday.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:30 AM – Ryan P. McKnight

4:30 PM – Charles Foster

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30 AM – Doris Dolan

9:30 AM – Ints. of Lauren & Jim Finore

11:30 AM – Charles Foster

5:30 PM – Luciano Spennato

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

6:30 AM – Anthony D'Angelo

8:30 AM – Ints. of Kathy
& Bill Mortellite

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

6:30 AM – Mary Narzikul

8:30 AM – Ints. of Jim Burke

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:30 AM – Helene Jane Mirante

8:30 AM – Joseph Boyle, Sr.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

6:30 AM – The Souls in Purgatory

8:30 AM – Martin T. Sarkees

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6:30 AM – Ints. of Frances Jackson

8:30 AM – Jarrod Nelson

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

8:30 AM – Frances Maria Iannucci

4:30 PM – Mary Lastowka

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:30 AM – Rosemarie
& Jack Campbell

9:30 AM – Joseph P. McGowan

11:30 AM – Charles Foster

5:30 PM – Kerk Farrell

BREAD & WINE

In memory of John Mangan

CANDLE

In memory of Vanessa Dulisse

NEW! ST. VINCENT DEPAUL NEWS

Our SVDP ministry helps individuals and families facing a crisis with food and shelter.

This February, we are helping a single grandmother caring for her two grandsons. SVDP is raising funds to help pay for a car transmission repair so she can resume her work cleaning houses. We are also assisting a woman, spiritually, who lost her son and is struggling with her deep grief. For now, we are just listening with love while suggesting organizations she should consider and comforting her with our prayers. Place donations in our metal donation box in the Narthex. **If you know someone facing a crisis, call Paul Feuerstein at 610-529-1672.**

**NEW! PROJECT HOME
BONNER & PRENDIE SPEAKER
MARCH 27 AT 7 PM**

As part of its 70th Anniversary, Monsignor Bonner and Archbishop Prendergast in Drexel Hill will host Sister Mary Scullion R.S.M., President and Executive Director of Project HOME, in a lecture series. Sister will speak about her life's work, the inspiration that led to her desire to care for the homeless in Philadelphia, and her mission at Project HOME. All are welcome to attend in their auditorium on Wednesday, March 27, at 7 PM. **All are welcome to attend.**

A LAUGH WITH THE PASTOR



**'COME AND SEE' EVENTS
DISCERNING A CALL TO PRIESTHOOD**

Come & See Events are for men in high school and post-high school, who are considering a vocation. These are a great opportunity to visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood. **For information, visit heedthecall.org or contact Fr. David Friel, Vocations Director, fr.dfriel@archphila.org.**

2023 DONATION LETTERS

Our annual tax letters for 2023 are available by request. We are no longer automatically mailing households an end-of-year donation letter. If you need an gift donation letter for 2023, please contact us at records@stmarymagdalen.net.

**TODAY'S READINGS BEGIN ON 605
IN THE CHORAL PRAISE HYMNAL**

STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

January 2024	\$136,348
Collection:	\$45,061
Mail-in:	\$44,062
EFT:	\$47,225
January 2023	\$136,667
Collection:	\$41,731
Mail-in:	\$45,455
EFT:	\$49,481

2023-24 ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL

Parish: **\$68,655** School: **\$30,875**
 2022-23: \$82,781 School: \$44,105



Scan our QR code for a secure link to our electronic 'Giving' for Weekly Collection, Annual School Fund, In Memory, Single Gift, Stewardship, and more.

We are grateful for your generous spirit!

AA Meetings		267-934-3455	Thursdays at 7 PM in Rectory Basement
Adoration Chapel	Shelly Zeller	610-353-7739	shellsing2@aol.com
Adult Choir	Ralph Purri	610-566-8821	rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net
Altar Servers	Deacon Joseph	610-566-8821	deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net
Altar Society & Church Care	Monica Grzeczowski	610-891-9483	monicajmj@gmail.com
Baptismal Class (Pre-Jordan)	Stephanie Davey		stephaniepdavey@gmail.com
Baptismal Sacrament Schedule	Gina Staiber	610-566-8821	baptisms@stmarymagdalen.net
Bethesda Project	Joanne Hinkle	610-246-4529	johinkle@verizon.net
Bereavement Ministry	John Donohue	610-359-9394	jadd9394@aol.com
Centering Prayer	Fran Poole	610-565-4090	fmpoole1@verizon.net
Charity Board	Joshua Ortego	610-635-8407	abcjosh@yahoo.com
Children's Liturgy (CLOW)	Carol Lachowicz		CLOW@stmarymagdalen.net
Children's Choir	Ralph Purri	610-566-8821	rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net
Communion Calls & Anointings	Parish Office	610-566-8821	
CYO Ministry	Mike Sirkin	215-313-3356	CYO@stmarymagdalen.net
Elder Care	Anita Morro, RN		amorroconsulting@gmail.com
Extraordinary Ministers	Joanne Hinkle	610-246-4529	johinkle@verizon.net
Greeters	Ginny McHugh	484-444-2900	jmchugh123@verizon.net
Finance Committee	Bill O'Shea	267-255-4281	billoshea617@gmail
Food Collection	Susan Fromhold	610-356-3626	sfromholddcihn1@verizon.net
Flame of Love	Regina Dougherty	610-565-0694	reginadoc@comcast.net
Funeral Planner	Ralph Purri	610-566-8821	rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net
Guitar Group	Bernadette Ciavardini	610-353-1375	bernsing@yahoo.com
Home & School Association	Leslie McCarthy		homeandschool@stmarymagdalen.net
H.O.P.E. Ministry	Kelly Hassey	610-353-1750	kellyhassey@msn.com
Knights of Columbus	Larry Donato	610-322-4397	donatol@comcast.net
Legion of Mary	James Fawcett		jamesfawcett400@comcast.net
Lectors & Sacristans	Deacon Joseph	609-868-9138	deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net
Little Church School	Anne Fenerty	610-715-1930	afenerty@verizon.net
Malvern Retreat	Ed Pazulski	215-806-4399	pazulskicarp@comcast.net
Marriage Encounter	Dennis & Lorraine Kinslow	610-742-7693	lorrainekinslowre@gmail.com
Men's Bible Study	Len Wroblewski	610-353-3647	lenwrob@outlook.com
Neocatechumenal Way	John Brokars	610-696-5969	johnbrokars@yahoo.com
Notary Services	Gina Staiber	610-566-8821	gina@stmarymagdalen.net
Pastoral Council Board	Joe Bodalski	484-432-0016	jb623623@yahoo.com
PREP	Deacon Joseph	610-566-8821	PREP@stmarymagdalen.net
RCIA	Deacon James		jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com
Religious Endowment Board	Joseph Raspa	610-613-0294	lizraz@comcast.net
Respect Life	John Duffin	610-565-5032	jduff1973@comcast.net
Ushers	Carmen DiMichele	610-742-4696	cdimichele1@gmail.com
School	Amy Crawford Bauer	610-565-1822	abauer@stmarymagdalen.net
School Board	Larry Donato	610-322-4397	smmboard@stmarymagdalen.net
Seniors' Social Club	Paul Berenato	609-478-2246	pberenato35@outlook.com
St. Vincent de Paul	Paul Feuerstein	610-529-1672	paulfeuerstein@comcast.net
That Man Is You	John Gill	610-864-8074	johngill@comcast.net
Walking With Purpose	Susan Jones		smmwwp21@gmail.com
Wedding Coordinator	Gina Staiber	610-566-8821	weddings@stmarymagdalen.net

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WINTER CLINICS

SATURDAY MORNING
 2016-2017
 Location: Academy Sports Complex
 1st Grade - 8th Grade: 10am - 11:30am
 Advanced 8th Grade - 12th Grade: 11:30am - 1pm

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