

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

12 JULY 2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

+JMJ+

Dear Faithful & Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Our readings for this Sunday include a theme of seed, soil, and fruitful harvest.

In our Gospel (*Mt 13:1-23*), our Lord teaches us the "Parable of the Sower." In this parable, our Lord focuses mostly on the different types of soil that receive the seed. Since the focus is on the type of soil rather than the type of seed, we know the lack of fruitfulness follows not from a deficiency in the seed but rather in the soil or where the seed falls.

When reflecting on this Gospel, we consider our interior receptivity to the person of Jesus Christ. Perhaps, that reflection can cause us a little anxiety. We may want to be more confident in our good Lord in the workplace or among friends but struggle with wondering what others will think of us. Lastly, many of us know someone who no longer practices our holy faith. We may have done this ourselves in the past or find ourselves wandering ever so slightly in the present moment. Many parents also suffer anguish when their children no longer practice their faith as adults.

As you know, there were some self-righteous religious leaders, such as the Pharisees and Scribes, who had fallen into the temptation of thinking they know it all, "[...] they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand" (*Mt 13:13*). Our first reaction to this parable should be an act of humility in prayer, such as "Lord I believe; help my unbelief" (*cf. Mk 9:24*). Our Lord wants to empower you with confidence in His goodness.

It is fitting we hear this Gospel during the month of July, which is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood of our Savior. It is always helpful not to focus too much on our weaknesses, but rather to renew ourselves in what Christ has accomplished for us in the Paschal Mystery, so that we may not lose hope and begin again. The Apostle Paul recognizes that Christ is at work and brings about the growth that produces fruit (*cf. 1 Cor 3:5-9*).

continued on next page



T. Noyes Lewis, *The Sower* (1921)

CLERGY

610-566-8821



Rev. Kenneth L. Cavara

Pastor

frcavara@stmarymagdalen.net

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Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo

Pastor Emeritus

fralph@stmarymagdalen.net

Rev. Robert A. Pesarchick

Parochial Vicar

frbob@stmarymagdalen.net

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Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.

Director of Parish & School Operations

deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

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Deacon James DiFerdinand, M.A.

Permanent Deacon

jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com

Deacon Bob Szipszky, M.Th.

Permanent Deacon

OCIA Program

deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net

Deacon E. Peter Zurbach, Ph.D.

Permanent Deacon, Retired

SCHOOL

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer

Principal

abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

PREP

Mrs. Ryan Cassidy

Director of Religious Education

prep@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension: 125



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 Tuesday 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.

continued from cover

The devotion to the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the Church's most venerable devotions. We contemplate the infinite price paid for the redemption of the world. By honoring the Precious Blood, we give thanks for the immeasurable love of our Divine Redeemer, seek forgiveness and sanctifying grace, and unite our prayers and sacrifices with the merits of Christ's Passion. This devotion inspires confidence in divine mercy, strengthens our soul against temptation, and inspires us to live in holiness.

We just celebrated the 250th anniversary of our nation. We are blessed to have men and women from our nation, even in our city, who are canonized saints. Why not us? As we seek to cooperate with grace to create good soil within our souls and our families, consider praying this *Prayer to the Precious Blood* written by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton for yourself and your family:

Lord Jesus, by faith in Your merits, I now take Your Precious Blood and sprinkle it over myself and my family right from the crown of my head to the very soles of my feet. I claim total and complete protection for my life and my family. Lord Jesus, keep me free today from evil, sin, temptation, Satan's attacks and afflictions, fear of darkness, fear of man, sickness, diseases, doubts, anger, all calamities, and from all that is not of thy Kingdom. Fill me, Lord Jesus, with the gift of Your Holy Spirit, and grant me the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, understanding and discernment so that I will live today in Your glory by doing that which is right. Amen.

Prayer is humble receptivity to all Christ wants us to know. Christ first moves us to pray through the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal 4:6). Thus, prayer is a response to Christ at work in our souls. Please be assured of my prayers, and I humbly ask for yours. May we help each other cultivate good soil for Christ the sower. Thank you again for your warm welcome over this past week. You have been a great blessing for me. Have a blessed week.

May our Lord bless you and our Lady keep you!

In Christ,
Father Cavara



SMM Seniors' Social Club and Tourific Travel
are delighted to present a fall tour of the

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

Wednesday, September 30 to Friday, October 2

The Multi-Day Excursion Includes:

- Round Trip Travel in a Deluxe Motor Coach.
- Two Nights Stay at the Fishkill Comfort Inn in NY.
- **Five Meals** (2 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 2 Dinners), including dinner at the renowned **Culinary Institute of America**.
- Explore **FDR's Presidential Library and Museum**, including his childhood home.
- Visit **Val-Kill**, the home of Eleanor Roosevelt.
- A Guided Tour of **Lyndhurst Mansion**—the grand Gothic Revival style home of Jay Gould.
- Delight in **The Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze** at Van Courtland Manor with its breathtaking display of over 7,000 carved pumpkins and much more.
- Tour **Sunnyside**, the romantic cottage home of Washington Irving on the Hudson.
- A Guided Tour of **Sleepy Hollow** in Old Dutch Church's Graveyard.
- Tour of **Boscobel House & Gardens**.

Trip price includes taxes & gratuities for hotel, meals, driver, and baggage handling—Rate per person is based on room occupancy: \$1259.00 (Single), \$1099.00 (Double), \$1069.00 (Triple).

Reserve Now! RSVP by July 18, to **Ken Brown** at brownk1212@gmail.com, or call his cell at 610-733-2610. Kindly make checks payable to St. Mary Magdalen Seniors and remit it with the reservation form (available in the narthex) to: 12 Saddle Run Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

Lyndhurst Mansion



FDR Library & Museum

PARISH

610-566-8821



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Baptismal & Pre-Jordan Coordinator
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Mrs. Shelly Zeller

Mrs. Mary Lou Mayer
Office Administrators
Extension: 107

INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLICISM

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



Are you considering becoming Catholic?

Or, a Catholic adult who seeks more insight
into our faith and the Church?

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 will deepen as you traverse at your own pace through online videos and interactive face-to-face group discussions this fall. A path for Catholics who want a 'refresher' and non-Catholics considering becoming Catholic. A new season begins in late September 2026.

To take the next step, scan the code, or email
deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net



PREP REGISTRATION

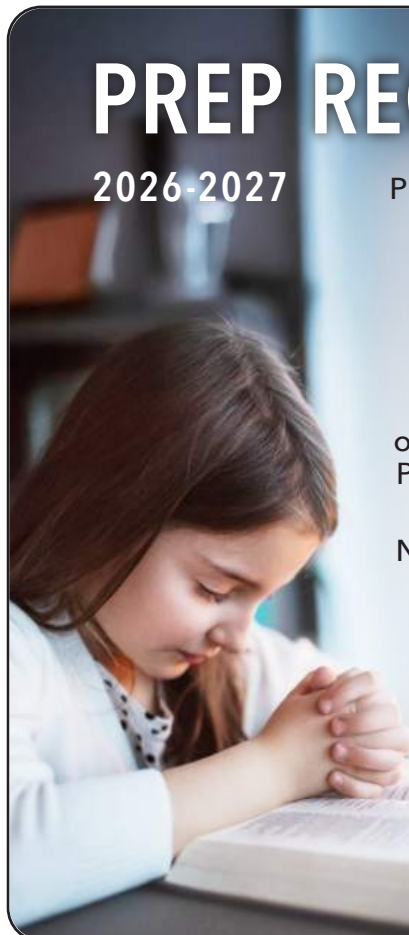
2026-2027

PREP registration for the 2026-2027 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 June 15, 2026, 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



ABOUT OUR NEW PASTOR, FR. KENNETH L. CAVARA

On Wednesday, July 1, the majority of the Catholic Church of Philadelphia's pastoral shifts took place; this changing of the guard, so to speak, coincides with the start of the new fiscal year. And so, with it, our community warmly welcomes our eighth pastor, Rev. Kenneth L. Cavara, who seamlessly and officially transitioned to his new home. Fr. Cavara has deep roots in our surrounding area. Having grown up in West Chester, he was an altar server at St. Agnes, where he also helped mow the grass in its cemetery. After graduating from St. Agnes School, he attended Salesianum School in Delaware. Afterward, he went to West Chester University, where he studied political science.

After college, he decided to travel abroad; he taught English in Taiwan and traveled around Southeast Asia, including Thailand.

His parents, Kenneth and Noreen Cavara, exemplified strong faith and service at St. Agnes, embodying the values they cherished. However, at sixteen, while playing in an international soccer tournament in the Netherlands, he received the news that he needed to return home. It was then that he learned of the sudden death of his father. As his mother remained steadfast, she raised seven children, the youngest of whom was only six years old at the time of her husband's passing. Fr. Cavara recalls her saying, "I knew the Lord would take care of us, as He always had."

After returning to the US, while working in medical sales in Mississippi, he became involved in his local parish, serving as a lector and catechist in the Parish Religious Education Program, and reading more about the faith. His pastor posed the question, 'Have you ever thought of becoming a priest?' This moment marked a significant step in his spiritual journey toward the priesthood. Another amazing aspect of the Cavara family is that his younger brother, Mark, was also ordained a priest in 2016, and they were together in formation at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary for several years. As he settles in, takes the lead in our pastoral care, and immerses himself in our vibrant community, he also looks forward to being in closer proximity to his family, including his sister, Teresa, and her family, who are active members at SMM.

Having been ordained in 2021 and serving in several parishes, most recently as pastor at St. John the Baptist in Manayunk, Fr. Cavara understands the challenges of living in a world filled with distractions and devices. His role as a priest is a reminder to us of enduring faith, and as he shared with *CatholicPhilly* just prior to his ordination, 'To be a witness, a reminder of the Lord who sustains us and who we're going to behold face-to-face through his goodness and mercy and enjoy everlasting life; to be able to talk about that with people, sounds to me like a great life.'

We are truly blessed to have Fr. Cavara with us, and we invite everyone to support his leadership and vision. As we work together to grow in faith and serve God, your ongoing care and engagement will continue to strengthen our community and shared journey.



Images by Sarah Webb

**NEW! RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER
THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE
JULY 31 TO AUGUST 2**

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 next program will be held from July 31 to August 2 at the Family Life Center in Malvern. An additional program will be held October 2 to October 4. For more information or to register, visit MarriageHelpDelVal.org, or call 215-766-3944. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



NEW! MASS PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 18

4:30 PM—Msgr. Francis Beach

Sunday, July 19

7:30 AM—Fr. Kenneth Cavara

9:30 AM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

11:30 AM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

7 PM—Fr. Kenneth Cavara

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



CASSEROLE COLLECTON

Next Weekend!

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.

Thank you!





**NEW! A STATEMENT FROM
ARCHBISHOP PÉREZ
EITC & OSTC NEWS • JUNE 23**

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez issued the following statement June 23 on the proposed elimination of Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs.



"The recent passage of House Bill 2632 by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives poses a serious threat to school children and families throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This legislation seeks to eliminate the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs. The result would be devastating for school children and their families.

If enacted into law, this bill would negatively impact tens of thousands of students across Pennsylvania who currently rely on these scholarship programs. EITC and OSTC scholarships are funded by companies and individuals who see value in providing families with educational choice. These programs are vibrant, successful, and reduce taxpayer burdens when it comes to educating our young people, particularly those who come from challenging financial circumstances and live in underserved communities.

Parents should have the ability to choose the educational environment that best suits the needs of their children. I am deeply grateful to those who support EITC and OSTC. These programs are vital and no one can afford to see them disappear.

I urge our elected officials to work for their preservation without reduction in funding levels."

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia



Scan the code to contact local officials in regard to this matter by utilizing the Voter Voice tool of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference.



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 Billington Family & The Small Family



CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of **Brian Downey**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts, including our 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, Jean Cotter, Diane Delaney, Betty Diedrich, Lynn Finelli, Jean Godorecci, Penny Henwood, Rodie Henson, Judy Larkin, Fr. Alan Okon, Michelle Okon, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr., Naomi Rouse, Cynthia Sannutti, Quintin Sarne, Mark Scaleri, Bill Snyder, Maria Johnson Twining, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.



MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

Riley Schmidt & Jackie Lerro

BAPTISMS

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

Francesca Jane Acchione



Fr. Cavara greets our community after the 9:30 AM Mass last Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 11

8:30 AM – Phillip J. Daveler, Sr.
4:30 PM – Margaret "Daught" Ryan

SUNDAY, JULY 12

7:30 AM – Anthony D'Angelo
9:30 AM – Antoinette McGoldrick
11:30 AM – Marie L. Berenato
7 PM – The People of the Parish

MONDAY, JULY 13

6:30 AM – No Mass
8:30 AM – Steve Comly

TUESDAY, JULY 14

6:30 AM – Patricia Moore
8:30 AM – Ints. of Alex Plocki

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

6:30 AM – Ints. of Frances Jackson & Family
8:30 AM – Ints. of Joseph Sincavage, Sr.

THURSDAY, JULY 16

6:30 AM – Arthur & Jane Raymond
8:30 AM – Joanne Stumm

FRIDAY, JULY 17

6:30 AM – Judith Althouse
8:30 AM – Dorothy Zachey

SATURDAY, JULY 18

8:30 AM – Nicholas Rubino
4:30 PM – Corinne Murphy

SUNDAY, JULY 19

7:30 AM – Kathleen MacDonald
9:30 AM – Philip Mullen
11:30 AM – Edward J. Kinslow, Sr.
7 PM – The People of the Parish



FLOWERS

In memory of Lucille Francesco

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Brian Downey

CANDLE

Ints. of Nenita Victoria

8 Tithing News & Notes

NEW! CONVERSATIONS OF FAITH WITH DEACON BOB

Interested in partaking in some spiritual exchange about Pope Leo's recent AI encyclical '*Magnifica humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence*,' or Bishop Barron's new read, *What Do Their Deaths Demand?: Christian Persecution Today*, which highlights global atrocities against Christians and urges Western Christians to end their silence? Maybe both? Then, join Deacon Bob for a cold beverage and conversation this summer. Contact him at deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net, and he will contact you in mid-July to make arrangements.



NEW! HONOR ROLLS

Our parish received the following notifications of the performance of our high school students who earned Academic Honors for the 4th quarter.

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY

Distinguished Honors: Victoria Bradley

First Honors: Alyssa Sexton

Second Honors:

MaryGrace Coyne, Madelyn Bonner

CARDINAL O'HARA

First Honors:

Matthew Chin '26, Gianna Mariano '26,
James Smith '26, Molly Carroll '27, Griffin Saleski '27,
Ella Eusebio '28, Kylie Sobel '28, Bella DiPaulo '29,
Kate Kalinchak '29, Julie McAnally '29,
Keira Stonelake '29, Joseph Thompson '29.

Second Honors:

Abigail Adolph '26, Connor Bray '26,
Nathan Evert '26, Avery Murphy-Costanzo '26,
Owen Flowers '27, Eva Marquis '27,
Penelope Miller '27, Alanna Phillips '27,
Kathleen Rayfield '27, Isabella Tillilie '27,
Harry Bastian '28, Colette Breen '28,
Alex Foster '28, Fiona Gribbin '28.



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.



NEW! SMM CAR MAGNETS

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



NOTE! MASS INTENTIONS

Our Mass Intentions Book is available on our homepage, 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

May 2026 \$106,182

Collection: \$32,518

Mail-in: \$20,326

EFT: \$53,338

May 2025 \$104,322

Collection: \$32,750

Mail-in: \$22,543

EFT: \$49,029

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.



PROROME



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OMYA
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WITH YOUNG ADULTS
— ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA —



The Catholic
of Philadelphia

Join the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on a
Pilgrimage to South Korea

World Youth Day Seoul 2027

Hosted by the Office for Ministry with Young Adults

August 1 - 10, 2027

\$4190 per person + airfare (TBD)

Join young adults from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on an unforgettable pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. This 10-day journey combines participation in World Youth Day events with Pope Leo XIV, exploration of Korea's rich Catholic heritage, and immersion in Korean culture and history.

South Korea is home to one of the most inspiring stories of faith in the modern Church. Thousands of Korean Catholics gave their lives for Christ during brutal persecutions in the 18th and 19th centuries—and the faith not only survived but flourished. Today, pilgrims will walk in the footsteps of these martyrs while joining hundreds of thousands of young Catholics from around the world for the largest gathering of young people on earth.

Highlights include the Welcome Ceremony, Stations of the Cross, Prayer Vigil and Closing Mass with Pope Leo XIV, the USCCB Gathering for American pilgrims, visits to historic martyrdom sites including Jeoldusan Martyr's Shrine and the burial place of St. Andrew Kim Dae-geon, and exploration of traditional Korean culture at Jeonju Hanok Village and Gyeongbokgung Palace.

For more information or to register please visit www.prorometours.com/wydseoul or contact ProRome directly at (434) 953 1112 or by email at office@prorome.com

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