

# Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

8 MARCH 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Dear Friends in Christ,

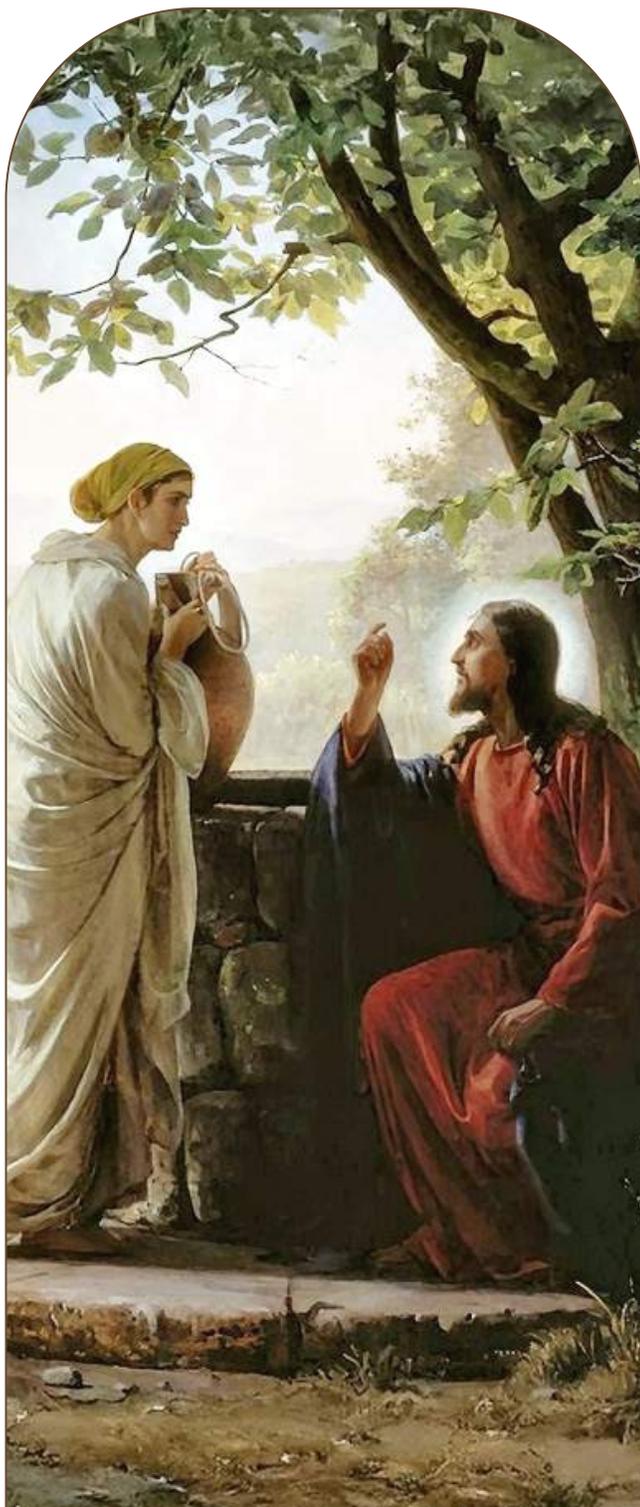
*"The Lord has freed you from your sins: go in peace."* These words are often spoken by the priest at the end of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (also called "Confession"). The Samaritan Woman, whom we encounter on this Third Sunday of Lent, met Jesus at the well and experienced His transforming mercy and love. Her life up to that point had been filled with turmoil and disappointment. She did not experience her sins as liberation or joy, but the exact opposite: a slavery and drudgery. Yet only when Christ stepped into her life did she begin to discover the answers to her deepest longings, which nothing on earth could satisfy. By placing her faith in Him, she experienced the forgiveness of sins. Then she went forth, not turning in on herself, but going out to others, to announce the liberating power of the Lord's mercy to the others in the town. These very people, who before had gossiped about her for her scandalous behavior, now are drawn to Christ, the source of living water, through her invitation to come and see.

I encourage you to experience the liberating mercy of Christ this Lent by going to the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. If you haven't been in a while, that's okay. Father Bob and I are happy to welcome you and extend to you Christ's peace through sacramental absolution. There are few joys as a priest greater than welcoming back someone who has been away from the sacrament for a long time!

Our Confession times are Saturday from 9 AM to 10 AM, and Sunday from 6:15 PM to 6:45 PM. On Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we have our Lenten Day of Mercy, with extra priests to assist with Confessions from 1:15 PM to 2:30 PM, and again from 4:30 PM to 6 PM. We also have additional Confession opportunities on Good Friday.

May the Lord grant you peace!

–Father Eric Banecker



Carl Bloch, Woman at the Well (1865–1879)

## 2 Mass & Devotions

### 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

Rev. Mr. Jude Opara  
*Transitional Deacon*  
deaconjude@stmarymagdalen.net



Deacon James DiFerdinand, M.A.  
*Permanent Deacon*  
jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com

Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.  
*Director of Parish  
& School Operations*  
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*

### FOCUS

Tina Augustine  
*FOCUS Missionary*  
tina@stmarymagdalen.net

Jacob Barajas  
*FOCUS Missionary*  
jake@stmarymagdalen.net



### 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.

**NEW! SISTERS OF LIFE AT SMM  
DAY OF REFLECTION FOR YOUNG WOMEN  
SATURDAY, MARCH 28**

As we enter Holy Week, join the Sisters of Life for a Day of Reflection on **Saturday, March 28, from 10:30 AM to 7 PM**, for young women (ages 18 to 35). We will enter into the mystery of the Triduum with Mary Magdalene. The day will include: lunch and dinner, several discussions with the Sisters, time for prayer and reflection, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and time for adoration and confession.  
To register, email [philly@sistersoflife.org](mailto:philly@sistersoflife.org).



**NEW! KNIGHTS EASTER EGG HUNT  
PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29**

Calling all kids to the Knights of Columbus Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, **following the 9:30 AM Mass**. This delightful annual egg hunt will take place in the back of the church, near the lower-level parking lot. All children are welcome to participate, and will receive some candy—guaranteed!



**TEAM HOPE FRIENDSHIP  
CELEBRATION AT ST. NORBERT  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**

All are welcome to join Team Hope's Friendship Celebration at St. Norbert Church, located at 6 Greenlawn Road in Paoli, on **March 18 from 7 to 8:30 PM**. Enjoy an evening of prayer, guest speakers, and music. Plus, a glove of St. Padre Pio will be present for veneration. For more information, please visit [teamhopeministries.org](http://teamhopeministries.org).



**NEW! MASS PRESIDERS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, March 14**  
4:30 PM—Msgr. Beach

**Sunday, March 15**  
7:30 AM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick  
9:30 AM—Fr. Eric Banecker  
11:30 AM—Fr. Eric Banecker  
7 PM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

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

ARE YOU JOINING US FOR THE  
**KENTUCKY DERBY?**

**Gain entry by  
March 20**




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ADMISSION.

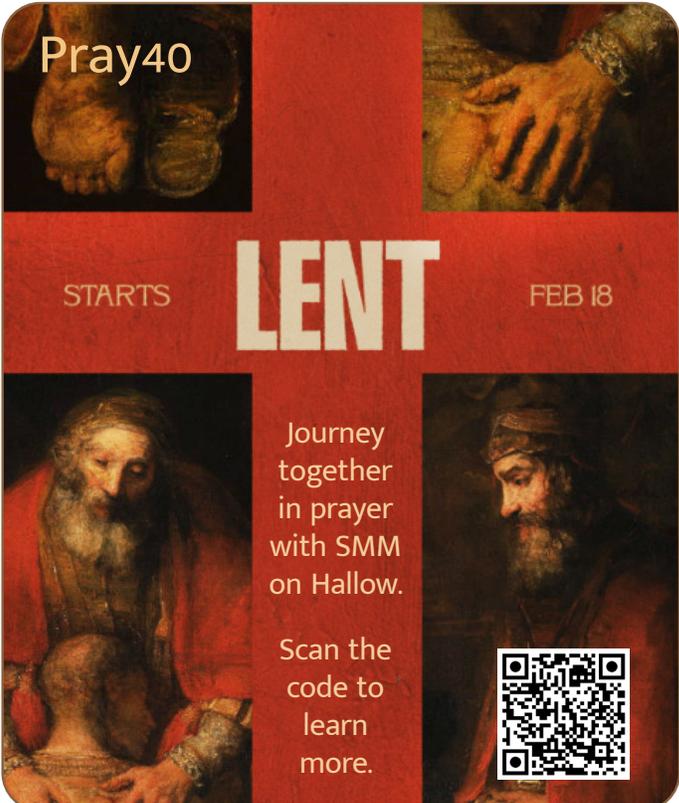
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AUCTION IS  
OPEN FOR  
BIDDING.

**Pray40**

STARTS **LENT** FEB 18

Journey together in prayer with SMM on Hallow.

Scan the code to learn more.



## PARISH

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

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

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

**Mrs. Kerry Boyle**  
*Director of Communications*  
kerry@stmarymagdalen.net

**Mr. John Gill**  
*Director of Advancement*  
jgill@stmarymagdalen.net

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

**Mrs. Jessica Savko**  
*Communications Coordinator*  
jessica@stmarymagdalen.net

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

**Mrs. Shelly Zeller**  
**Mrs. Mary Lou Mayer**  
*Office Administrators*  
Extension: 107

## SCHOOL

610-565-1822  
stmarymagdalenschool.net

**Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer**  
*Principal*  
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

St. Mary Magdalen invites you to a

# DAY OF MERCY

Give yourself the gift of God's  
peace and forgiveness in the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## MONDAY MARCH

# 23

1:15 to 2:30 PM  
& 4:30 to 6 PM

All are welcome!



Join YCP Philadelphia's

St. Joseph



Saturday Retreat

"Living as  
Missionary  
Disciples in the  
Workplace"

MARCH 21ST

12:45 PM-4:30PM

St. Mary Magdalen's Parish  
Media, PA

Talks by Tina Augustine & Jake Barajas

Lunch will be provided



**TODAY! IN THE NARTHEX****LITTLE BETHLEHEM CARVERS**

The Al Sahouri family will return with their carved collectible pieces, which will be on sale in our narthex before and after Mass the weekend of **March 7** and **March 8**. Little Bethlehem Carvers offers quality religious items containing various samples from the Holy Land. All the carvings offered through **Little Bethlehem Christian Group** are taken from the prunings of olive wood trees within and around Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

**THE KNIGHTS SOUP SALE**

Visit the The Knights of Columbus Charity Soup Sale after Masses while supplies last.

**NEW! SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB NEWS****MARCH CLUB MEETING**

The SMM Seniors' Social Club cordially invites you to join them on **Wednesday, March 11, from 12:45 PM to 3 PM** in St. Francis Hall.

Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with lively conversations, fellowship, and refreshments. Our entertainment this month will be Theresa Murtagh, Irish Singer. We hope you can join us.

**LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION**

The SMM Seniors' Social Club invites you to attend our *"Lenten Day of Reflection"* on **March 20, from 9:30 AM to 2 PM**, at the I.H.M. Conference Center in Bryn Mawr. Deacon Joseph Boyle is our presenter. The cost is \$45 per person, and includes a Continental breakfast and lunch. If interested, please send your check, payable to St. Mary Magdalen Seniors, by March 14 to Bill Moore, 535 Gradyville Rd., Newtown Square, PA 19073. Contact Bill at 484-420-4575 with any questions.

**CARDINAL O'HARA  
CLASS OF 1971 REUNION**

Calling all lions from Cardinal O'Hara Class of '71 to celebrate their 55th reunion on **Friday, April 17**, at the Drexelbrook in Drexel Hill from 5 to 9 PM. Tickets are \$75 per guest. To register online, please visit [cohs.com/alumni](http://cohs.com/alumni).

**LENTEN EVENTS****CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays from 9 to 10 AM  
Sundays from 6:15 to 6:45 PM  
First Fridays from 6 to 6:45 PM  
Good Friday: 9 to 10 AM, 12:30 to 2 PM, 6 to 7 PM.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

7 PM on Fridays during Lent.

**MORNING & EVENING PRAYER**

Morning prayer: Tuesday through Friday at 7:15 AM  
Vespers: Tuesday through Friday at 5:15 PM

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES**

Contact Fr. Eric or our FOCUS missionaries for times and information at [tina@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:tina@stmarymagdalen.net).

**DAY OF REFLECTION 🌿 MARCH 20**

The Seniors' Social Club "Lenten Day of Reflection" at the I.H.M. Conference Center from 9:30 AM to 2 PM.

**YCP SPRING RETREAT 🌿 MARCH 21**

Join YCP Philly for our spring St. Joseph Saturday Retreat, an afternoon of prayer, reflection, and renewal. Free to all Catholics in their 20's and 30's. [page 4]  
Check-in begins at 12:45 PM in St. Francis Hall.

**DAY OF MERCY 🌿 MARCH 23**

Give yourself the gift of God's mercy and grace.  
Confessions from 1:15 PM to 2:15 PM and 4:30 to 6 PM.

**EASTER EGG HUNT 🌿 MARCH 29**

The Knights of Columbus annual Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday after the 9:30 AM Mass.

**LIVING STATIONS 🌿 MARCH 31**

Join us for Living Stations of the Cross presented on Tuesday at 2 PM and 6:30 PM.

**KNIGHTS SIMPLE SUPPER 🌿 MARCH 31**

Enjoy pizza and salad in St. Francis Hall. Doors open at 5 PM. Any donations will go to benefit a Knights selected charity. Stay for Living Stations at 6:30 PM.

**HOLY THURSDAY 🌿 APRIL 2**

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 6:30 PM,  
Night Prayer (Compline) at 9 PM in Chapel.

# 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! HONOR ROLLS

### ARCHBISHOP CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL

The following students have achieved honors for the First Semester of this school year.

First Honors:

Shane Ebersole '26, Reagan Zalis '26,  
Owen Gallagher '27, Brie Urbanski '29

Second Honors:

Ryan Hefferan '27, William Wood '27



### VILLA MARIA ACADEMY

The following students have achieved honors for the First Semester of this school year.

Distinguished Honors:

MaryGrace Coyne, Victoria Bradley

First Honors:

Anna Vickers

Second Honors:

Alyssa Sexton

Application deadline is March 31



# The Drs. John J. and Margaret T. Clark Memorial Scholarship

Dr. John J. and Dr. Margaret T. Clark were devoted members of St. Mary Magdalen Parish. The Clarks directed that a gift be made through their estate to endow scholarships for students who are members of Saint Mary Magdalen parish toward their post-secondary education.

Annually, one eligible student will be selected by the St. Mary Magdalen Scholarship Committee to receive a scholarship toward the first two (2) years of undergraduate tuition for their chosen college, university, or trade school. The annual scholarship amount is \$5,000 for up to two years. Eligible students must be active St. Mary Magdalen parish members and current high school seniors graduating in May or June of 2026.

The 2026 Application and information are available on the parish website under 'Clark Scholarship' or scan the QR code. Send questions to the scholarship committee at [clarkscholarship@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:clarkscholarship@stmarymagdalen.net).



## 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.

Virginia Fitzsimons, The Dabagian Family



## CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Robert Messina, Paul Ringiewicz, Joseph Cahill**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts, including our U.S. 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.

Paul Berenato, Jean Cotter, Betty Dietrick, Lynn Finelli, Rodie Henson, Fr. Alan Okon, Michelle Okon, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr., Naomi Rouse, Cynthia Sannutti, Quintin Sarne, Mark Scaleri, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.



## MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

John Szwajkowski & Beth Wiseley

## BAPTISMS

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

Matteo John Martinelli



*Celebrating the first 100 days of learning, laughter, and growing together this school year!*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, MARCH 7

8:30 AM – Ints. of Patricia Sarkees  
4:30 PM – Rocco Rufo

### SUNDAY, MARCH 8

7:30 AM – Ints. of Thomas & Regina Logan  
9:30 AM – The People of the Parish  
11:30 AM – Maria Theresa Kilcur  
7 PM – The People of the Parish

### MONDAY, MARCH 9

6:30 AM – No Mass  
8:30 AM – Philip & Silvia Franco

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10

6:30 AM – Diane Thornton  
8:30 AM – Ints. of Elese Wichman & Family

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

6:30 AM – Benjamin Lehman  
8:30 AM – Edwina Lotka

### THURSDAY, MARCH 12

6:30 AM – Francis James Johnson  
8:30 AM – Francis James Johnson

### FRIDAY, MARCH 13

6:30 AM – Elizabeth Sommo  
8:30 AM – Angelo Vinci, Sr.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 14

8:30 AM – Ints. of Don & Catherine Curran  
4:30 PM – Ann & Peter Miniszak

### SUNDAY, MARCH 15

7:30 AM – Patti Ryan  
9:30 AM – Patrick, Eleanor, & Joyce Bizzari  
11:30 AM – Anthony Biondi  
7 PM – The People of the Parish



### BREAD & WINE

In memory of Josephine & Francis Gavio

### CANDLE

In memory of Antoinette McGoldrick

### BEREAVEMENT SESSIONS

**WEDNESDAYS • 10:30 AM TO NOON**

St. Mary Magdalen offers our care and support to those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Join us for in-person group sessions with Deacon Jude Opara in St. Francis Hall at 10:30 AM until Noon on the following Wednesdays: **March 11, March 25, April 8, and April 22.**



### TEAM HOPE FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATION AT ST. NORBERT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

All are welcome to join Team Hope's Friendship Celebration at St. Norbert Church, located at 6 Greenlawn Road in Paoli, on **March 18 from 7 to 8:30 PM.** Enjoy an evening of prayer, guest speakers, and music. Plus, a glove of St. Padre Pio will be present for veneration. For more information, please visit [teamhopeministries.org](http://teamhopeministries.org).



### APOLOGETICS SERIES FOR TEENS SUNDAYS DURING LENT • 6 PM TO 8 PM

Ever wondered why you believe what you believe—or how to talk about it without feeling awkward? Our **Apologetics Series** is all about helping high school students confidently share their Catholic faith in today's world using both faith and reason. This isn't just lectures. It's real conversations, honest questions, and meaningful experiences. You'll grow in prayer, encounter Christ in the sacraments, and build genuine friendships with other Catholic teens who are figuring it out right alongside you. Come learn how to stand strong in your faith, ask big questions, and discover why being Catholic actually matters.

A casual dinner will be served at 6:30 PM, with talks beginning at 6:45 PM with speaker Fr. Henry Graebe at the Church of St. Joseph in Aston. For more information, please email [admin@churchofstjosephaston.org](mailto:admin@churchofstjosephaston.org).



### MASS INTENTIONS

Our Mass Intentions Book is now open for all of 2026. To make a request, scan the code or visit our homepage.



### St. Mary Magdalen Church Now Offers Venmo for Your Convenience.

We are grateful for your support!



**venmo**

@StMaryMagdalenParish

Don't forget to add your gift type e.g., Mass Collection.

### STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

February 2026	<b>\$102,771</b>
Collection:	\$30,803
Mail-in:	\$20,635
EFT:	\$51,333

February 2025	<b>\$94,315</b>
Collection:	\$27,229
Mail-in:	\$19,962
EFT:	\$47,124

Parish Appeal 2026	<b>\$117,242</b>
Parish Appeal 2025	<b>\$85,295</b>

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.

# The Knights of Columbus



*Lenten*

## Simple Supper

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31**

**Simple Supper** 🌿 5 to 6:20 PM 🌿 **St. Francis Hall**

*Join us for an evening of goodwill and fellowship that begins with a prayer and a meal of homemade salad and pasta, with sauce by Vincent Canzanese.*

*Any goodwill offerings will benefit a Knights local charity.*

**Living Stations** 🌿 6:30 PM 🌿 **Main Church**

*Afterward, we invite you to stay to journey with Jesus during a special presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross.*



**RSVP by Tuesday, March 24**

*Scan the code or email [events@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:events@stmarymagdalen.net) and please include your name and number in your party.*

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