

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

30 AUGUST 2026

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

+JMJ+

Dear Faithful & Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ! We are familiar with the reality of good news and bad news. Oftentimes, we find ourselves in the midst of situations we welcome and those we want to avoid. With school beginning, some of our young parishioners might be having these feelings. No matter our age, even after our school days, we all face the prospect of good news and bad news. This is the reality of living in a fallen world.

In this week's Holy Gospel, our Lord challenges us, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (*Mt 16:24*). Our Catholic life is not merely a matter of believing certain truths; it is a daily decision to follow Christ, to turn away from sin, and to order our lives according to His holy will.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that we are not to be conformed to this world, but to be transformed by the renewal of our minds (*Rom 12:2*). The world will often tell us that happiness is found in comfort, success, recognition, or doing whatever pleases us. Our Lord teaches something altogether different: "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (*Mt 16:25*).

In our First Reading, the Prophet Jeremiah reveals his interior struggle. He suffers in his role as prophet because he is telling people news that they do not want to hear. Jeremiah laments that he has been "duped." At the same time, he knows that if he does not speak the word of the Lord, then his conscience will not let him rest.

Our readings for this week help us gain a big-picture view of reality. Returning to our Gospel, our Lord succinctly gives us that big picture view when He asks, "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?" (*Mt 16:26*). When we are familiar with these words from our good Lord, we are able to accept

continued on page 3

Christ appearing to Saint Peter on the Appian Way by Annibale Carracci, 1602



CLERGY

610-566-8821



Rev. Kenneth L. Cavara

Pastor

frcavara@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension: 110

Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo

Pastor Emeritus

fralph@stmarymagdalen.net

Rev. Robert A. Pesarchick

Parochial Vicar

frbob@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension: 123

Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.

Director of Parish & School Operations

deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Extension: 126

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 through 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:

Chapel is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week
for personal prayer. Our Exposition Hours are currently
from Tuesday at 9 AM to Thursday at 2 PM.

Morning Prayer:

7:15 AM from Tuesday to Friday in the Chapel.

First Friday Devotions (*except July and August*):

6:15 PM to 6:45 PM Confessions, followed by
Prayer, Adoration & Benediction from 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.

both good news and bad news because faith directs us to salvation which is our ultimate end. "For the Son of Man will come with all His angels in His Father's glory," says our Lord, "and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct" (Mt 16:27).

We are being taught by Christ to have the big picture in mind. Many of us, like Peter, take an initial and immediate rejection to the reality of the cross, i.e., what seems to be the bad news. However, our Lord, in His mercy, helps us to see the cross in the light of His resurrection. Thus, the cross is not the end but opens up the soul to love like Christ. For the cross reveals the love of Christ for His Father and us. Love necessitates a choice. Living for worldly things is living for ourselves to the neglect of others. Christ invites us to live for more. The cross helps us to move beyond an inordinate love of self and living only for ourselves.

We have a choice in how to carry our cross, but knowing Christ willingly carried His cross out of love can change our perspective. Whether that cross is financial, physical, emotional, spiritual, or some anxiety over going back to school, be assured that Christ will help you carry your cross, and that is truly good news.

Lastly, as we approach the beginning of another school year at Saint Mary Magdalen, let us especially entrust our children, parents, teachers, and staff to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. A new school year brings new opportunities to learn, to grow in virtue, to form good friendships, and above all, to know, love, and serve Christ.

Please be assured of my prayers.
May our Lord bless you and our Lady keep you!

Yours in Christ,
Father Cavara



SOON! LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL

Throughout the school year, Little Church School is available during the 9:30 AM Mass for ages 3 through 5. Join us in the Gathering Room beginning September 13, to learn about Jesus through stories, songs, games, crafts, and prayer. Parents can help support the program by volunteering for a session or two throughout the season. For more information, contact Elizabeth Logan at elogan26@gmail.com.



Help us support families in need.

Please leave donations in our metal box, next to the food bin in the Narthex.

Thank you for your continued support!



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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. Kerry Boyle

Director of Communications
kerry@stmarymagdalen.net

Mrs. Jessica Savko

Communications Coordinator
jessica@stmarymagdalen.net

Mr. John Gill

Director of Advancement
jgill@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 121

Mrs. Daniela DiCandilo

Finance Manager
daniela@stmarymagdalen.net
Extension: 124

Mrs. Stephanie Davey

Baptismal & Pre-Jordan Coordinator
stephanie@stmarymagdalen.net

Mrs. Shelly Zeller

Mrs. Mary Lou Mayer
Office Administrators
Extension: 107

FOCUS

Tina Augustine

FOCUS Missionary
tina@stmarymagdalen.net

Jacob Barajas

FOCUS Missionary
jake@stmarymagdalen.net



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL of Bethlehem Foundation

This year, Holy Family Hospital is part of the Church of Philadelphia's Pontifical Mission Societies initiative.

For families in Bethlehem, daily life remains filled with uncertainty. Economic hardship and the ongoing effects of regional wars have left many families struggling to access basic resources.

Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem is a Catholic hospital located just steps from the birthplace of Christ, and it serves the poor and at-risk women, infants, and children. The Hospital stands as a beacon of hope for families regardless of creed, nationality, or ability to pay.

Your generous donations will deliver life, peace, and hope.



Learn more at phillymissions.org.

To make a gift, please visit birthplaceofhope.org

TMIY THAT MAN IS YOU!

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 17

BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Embark on this incredible journey with men in our community for our new series, "The Revelation of the Father".

We meet Thursday mornings in St. Francis Hall. Doors open at 6:15 AM and we end by 7:30 AM. For men 18 years and up.

Join us anytime, or for more information, contact John Gill at jgill@stmarymagdalen.net.

*"Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you."*

—Psalm 86



**SAVE THE DATE! REV. KENNETH CAVARA'S
INSTALLATION MASS & RECEPTION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 • 11:30 AM**

We are delighted to announce the Installation Mass of our eighth pastor, Rev. Kenneth L. Cavara. Our community invites you to join us on October 11 at 11:30 AM. Our celebrant is the Most Reverend John J. McIntyre. A reception will follow in St. Francis Hall.

We are grateful for your prayers and presence and look forward to being with you as we celebrate.



**NEW! PRAY FOR VOCATIONS WITH
ARCHBISHOP PÉREZ AND HALLOW
BEGINS MONDAY, AUGUST 31**

Called by Name' is a 7-day challenge that invites us into the real stories of people God pursues in their brokenness and calls to a unique path to holiness. Through these stories, we are shown the beauty and cost of every vocation. Archbishop Pérez will lead us through these meditations each day. On the last day, he will share his own vocation story and invite us to consider the impact of our words, prayers, and example on the direction of others' lives. Pray with us on Hallow today! Download or open the Hallow App and go to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on the "Church" tab to join us!



JOIN OUR PARISH'S HOSPITALITY TEAM

Be part of our growing team! From welcoming faces with a smile, opening a door for someone coming to Mass, or helping guide those who have a question after Mass, to serving on a team at one of our parish-hosted events. Serving can be spontaneous or planned—from 10 minutes before any Mass you attend to a few hours helping us host one of our monthly First Fridays, Fr. Cavara's upcoming Installation Hospitality, or various parish events. For more details, please email Kerry at kerry@stmarymagdalen.net or speak with any of our ushers or greeters before or after Mass.

UPCOMING SMM EVENTS

**FIRST FRIDAY
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

Join us for a special day of devotion and community connect. Our First Fridays begin with daily Mass, Dinner & Fellowship from 5:30 to 6:45 PM, Confession from 6:15 to 6:45 PM, and Devotions at 7 PM. See our ad for a full schedule of this month's activities.

**9/11 MEMORIAL CONCERT
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 ✦ 3:30 PM**

The Mainline Ecumenical Choir, led by conductor Ralph Purri, will offer a special concert as we reflect and remember the 25th Anniversary of 9/11.

**THAT MAN IS YOU BEGINS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 ✦ 6:30 AM**

TMIY's fall series, Revelation of the Father, begins on Thursday, September 17 in St. Francis Hall. Doors open at 6:15 AM. TMIY is a free ministry program and welcomes men 18+. Join us weekly!

**MOMS MINISTRY
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 ✦ 9:30 AM**

Catholic MOMS of Delco gather once a month from 9:30 to 11:30 AM in St. Francis Hall to share the joys and struggles of motherhood, and to care and support one another. All are welcome.

**WELCOME BACK MASS & PICNIC
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 ✦ 4:30 PM**

Join us at the 4:30 PM Mass followed by our Home and School's Welcome Picnic at 5:30 PM. Enjoy games and fellowship. Food Trucks available.

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 ✦ 9:30 AM**

We welcome our PREP families and catechists to a new year! Families can pick up their children's books and enjoy hospitality in St. Francis Hall after the 9:30 Mass.

**BEATIFICATION WATCH PARTY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 ✦ 1:30 PM**

Watch the Beatification of Fulton Sheen with us from 1:30 to 3:30 PM in St. Francis Hall. Light refreshments provided. Hosted by Good Tree Co-op.

SEE MORE EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

8:30 AM – Peter Rakestraw

4:30 PM – James Avato

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

7:30 AM – Ints. of Fr. Eric Banecker

9:30 AM – Ligia Quinn

11:30 AM – Margaret Schieck

7 PM – The People of the Parish

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

6:30 AM – No Mass

8:30 AM – Peter DiMaggio

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

6:30 AM – Anthony D'Angelo

8:30 AM – Ints. of Joanne Thomas

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

6:30 AM – Benjamin M. Baldi

8:30 AM – Ints. of the Holy Souls
In Purgatory

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

6:30 AM – Matthew Mullin

8:30 AM – Marie Verna

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

6:30 AM – Bob Jackson

8:30 AM – Joan Flynn

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:30 AM – Marie Stinson

4:30 PM – Peter Minizak

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

7:30 AM – The People of the Parish

9:30 AM – Private Intentions

11:30 AM – Clotilda Liberatore

7 PM – Tony Antonello



FLOWERS

In memory of Jack L. Fatica

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Gary DeNapoli

CANDLE

In memory of Gary DeNapoli

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 Ford Family, Stephanie Palma, David Ward



CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **John Smirga, Penny Henwood**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts, including US 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, 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!

Michael Doyle & Shannon Finn

Scott Romano & Katelyn Redwanowski



BAPTISMS

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

Ella Noel Buzza, Bryson James Dawson



Thank you to those who worked on our new playground over the summer!

NEW! PRE-CANA AT ST. MARY MAGDALEN **OCTOBER 23 & 24**

Calling all engaged couples! St. Mary Magdalen is delighted to offer a new two-part, interactive Pre-Cana certificate course utilizing Dynamic Catholic's 'Better Together' program, designed to prepare you for a strong, faith-filled marriage as you embark on your lifelong journey—together. Join Elese and Randy Wichmann in St. Francis Hall, along with other engaged couples, plus married mentors who will support and assist you during the class and continue to offer additional care as you prepare. The course is \$50 per couple, which includes materials and refreshments. Plus, lunch on Saturday afternoon. You do not have to be parishioners or getting married at St. Mary Magdalen to attend our Pre-Cana class. To register, visit our wedding page on the website or pick up a flyer in the narthex.



NEW! ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia launched a ministry for Catholic mental health support, called Be Encouraged, over a year ago to respond to the growing need for pastoral care for those who experience mental health struggles and those who love them. As more Catholic resources become available, the new expanded website will provide crisis numbers, a Catholic therapist directory, mental health ministries for parishes/schools, Catholic podcasts, local mental health events, and more at PhillyCatholicMH.org.



NEW! VENERATION OF FIRST CLASS RELICS OF ST. MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE **SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2026**

Last June, as part of the Consecration of the United States to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Knights of Columbus made possible the visit of the First Class Relics of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque to the United States. Before the Major Relics are returned to France, they will be here in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for public veneration in two locations: September 12 & 13: The Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia; September 14 & 15: The Sacre Coeur Perpetual Adoration Shrine at St. Denis Parish in Havertown. All are welcome!



First Friday

CELEBRATING
HIS LOVE

Friday, September 4

First Fridays at SMM, where we gather in Christ through fellowship, faith, and fun! Let's celebrate God's love for us in community.

6:30 AM

MASS

7:15 AM

MORNING PRAYER
IN THE CHAPEL

8:30 AM

MASS

AFTER, ENJOY A COFFEE & SNACKS
IN NARTHEX CAFE.



5:30 PM TO 7 PM

DINNER & ACTIVITIES
IN ST. FRANCIS HALL.

6:15 TO 6:45 PM

CONFESSIONS

7 TO 8 PM

DEVOTIONS
WITH ADORATION, MUSIC,
& BENEDICTION

All are welcome to join the day's activities,
as they fit into your family's schedule.

8 Tithing News & Notes



SMM CAR MAGNETS

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



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

July 2026 \$91,894

Collection: \$26,021

Mail-in: \$17,514

EFT: \$48,359

July 2025 \$96,456

Collection: \$28,590

Mail-in: \$14,560

EFT: \$53,306

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.

NEW! MASS OF HEALING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Charismatic Renewal will offer a Mass of Healing on September 4. Adoration begins at 5:30 PM, followed by a Rosary Novena at 6:30 PM, and Holy Mass at 7 PM at Our Lady of Fatima in Secane.

Afterward, a laying on of hands will be offered for individual healing. Rev. Amal Sawarimuthu, SdC, will be the celebrant, assisted by Deacon Gary Guy.

Plus, enjoy music by Martha's House.

All are welcome.



NEW! VENERATE THE RELICS OF ST. BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, located on Woodbine Avenue in the Overbrook section of Philadelphia, will welcome the relics of St. Bernadette Soubirous from Friday, October 2 through Sunday, October 4. We invite pilgrims throughout the Archdiocese and beyond to a weekend of prayer and sacramental devotion. We also need volunteers to assist visitors and pilgrims. To volunteer, please email relic@ourladyoflourdes.org.



NEW! CATHOLIC COUPLES AND CONVERSATION AT ST. NORBERT

Join Catholic couples from our area at St. Norbert Catholic Church in Paoli from 6 to 7:30 PM. Dates for 2026 include: October 2, October 23, November 13.

Drinks and lite fare provided, or bring your own.

We encourage couples to go on a date after to continue the conversation! Located in the Oratory. For more information, contact Jen & Charlie Reid at 484-437-6894 or email jreid@peoplevest.com.



NEW! RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT OCTOBER 16 TO OCTOBER 18

A Rachel's Vineyard retreat provides a safe, confidential, non-judgemental environment in which women and men can experience the forgiveness, mercy, and compassion of God and grieve the loss of a child. No matter how much time has passed, there is a place for you to heal. Our next retreat weekend is October 16 at IHM Spirituality Center in Malvern.

For more information, please contact Susan at 610-716-4795 or susiemck@comcast.net.



She Shall Be Called Woman

A PROGRAM FOR ALL WOMEN BY
PARADISUS DEI



SEASON FIVE LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS

Worship is one of the most fundamental aspects of what it means to be Christian. All of creation was made to worship, and we, as humans, have an intimate connection to the call to praise, revere, and venerate. It is what we were made for. This season, dive deep into not only the practical aspects of worship, but more importantly, recenter your deep longing to pour out your heart fully to the Lord. Make no mistake: authentic worship is not always easy. However, the fruit it bears is unlike anything we can experience in this world.



JACKIE ANGEL
Catholic Worship Leader
Podcaster & Author



JULIANNE STANZ
Catholic Speaker & Author
Director of Outreach at Loyola Press



LAUREN GROTH
Catholic Evangelist & Ministry Leader



KATIE HARTFIEL
Content Coordinator
She Shall Be Called Woman



NOELLE GARCIA
Catholic Speaker & Podcaster



KATIE PREJEAN MCGRADY
Catholic Speaker & Author
Media Host & Vatican Analyst



MARY LENABURG
Catholic Speaker & Author
Co-host of *The Mary and Jerry Podcast*



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- ENCOUNTER:** "I am listening and really hearing God's voice more than I ever did before thanks to SHE and my new friendships."
- MESSAGE:** "Each and every speaker had an amazing story to tell. Every woman spoke from the heart."
- FELLOWSHIP:** "Our ladies love SHE! It has made an important difference in building our faith community even after one year!"

SEASON SIX
MORE THAN CONQUERORS
COMING THIS SPRING

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Mondays in St. Francis Hall
October 5, 19, 26
November 2, 9, 16, 23
December 7, 14

SCHEDULE:

4:45 Fellowship
5:00 Video Presentation
5:30 Small Group Discussions
6:00 Dismissal

REGISTRATION:

Scan the QR code to Register

For more information,
contact Patty Szipszky
pszipszky@gmail.com



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