

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

25 JANUARY 2026

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are approaching the time of year in which our young parishioners begin final preparation for First Penance and First Communion. It is also the time when those to be baptized at Easter start to prepare for their Election at the beginning of Lent.

Saint John Paul II's encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* reminds us that the Sacraments are not ritualized ways of passing on the faith. Rather, we pass on the faith precisely so that we can properly receive the Sacraments. The Church exists from and for the Sacraments. Without the Eucharist and the entire sacramental economy, there simply is no Church. How exciting it is to help young people prepare to receive the Sacraments!

And how important it is for all of us to always have that "Eucharistic amazement," which is connected to the Holy Spirit's gift of "fear of the Lord" (also known as "wonder and awe").

There may be some members of our community who never made First Penance, First Communion, or Confirmation for one reason or another. We are happy to work with you to complete these sacraments. I know it is also possible that some are in marriages contracted without the proper dispensation/permission of the Church. Know that there are options available to you as well. The Church, as a mother, always wants her members to be drawn more deeply into her sacramental embrace. For it is in this that we find peace in this life and happiness in the life to come.

For all of us, even if we received the Sacraments of Initiation many years ago, there is constantly the need to be renewed in faith, hope, and charity, so that our continued participation in the Eucharist may produce the fruits of charity and peace in us, and for others through us. We are working on many exciting opportunities for Lenten faith formation and prayer. Keep an eye here for announcements in the next few weeks.

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker

P.S. We have new altar server training on Sunday, February 8th, and Sunday, February 22nd, after the 9:30 AM Mass, concluding just before the 11:30 AM Mass. Server trainings will be open to any young parishioner who has made his or her First Communion and is currently in **third or fourth grade**. For questions, please contact me at the parish offices.



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 Monday 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! SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The SMM Seniors' Social Club cordially invites you to join them on Wednesday, February 11th, from 12:45 PM to 3:00 PM in St. Francis Hall. Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with lively conversations, fellowship and refreshments. This month we will be playing Crazy Bingo. To play, you'll need a wrapped gift between \$5-\$10. We hope to see you.

NEW! THAT MAN IS YOU
THURSDAY MORNINGS

Join us for our spring series on Thursday mornings at 6:15 AM. All Catholic men aged 18+ are invited to join us for this free, transformative series. Hundreds of our fellow parishioners are part of TMIY. Contact John at jgill@stmarymagdalen.net for information.

NEW! MASS PRESIDER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 31

4:30 PM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

Sunday, February 1

7:30 AM—Fr. Robert Pesarchick

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.*

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

We are grateful for your support!



venmo

@StMaryMagdalenParish-StMaryMag

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



First Friday

CELEBRATE
LOVE & VIRTUE

Friday, February 6

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

CHAPEL

8:30 AM

MASS

AFTER, ENJOY COFFEE & SNACKS · NARTHEX



5:30 PM TO 7 PM

DINNER

FAMILY BINGO & ACTIVITIES

ST. FRANCIS HALL

6 TO 6:45 PM

CONFESSIONS

7 TO 8 PM

ADORATION HOUR

MUSIC, VESPERS & BENEDICTION

AFTER, ENJOY A DESSERT · NARTHEX

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

OUR NEXT ONE IS MARCH 6!

PARISH

610-566-8821
stmarymagdalen.net

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
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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

CANCELED ON 1/23 DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

Catholic Schools Week at St. Mary Magdalen



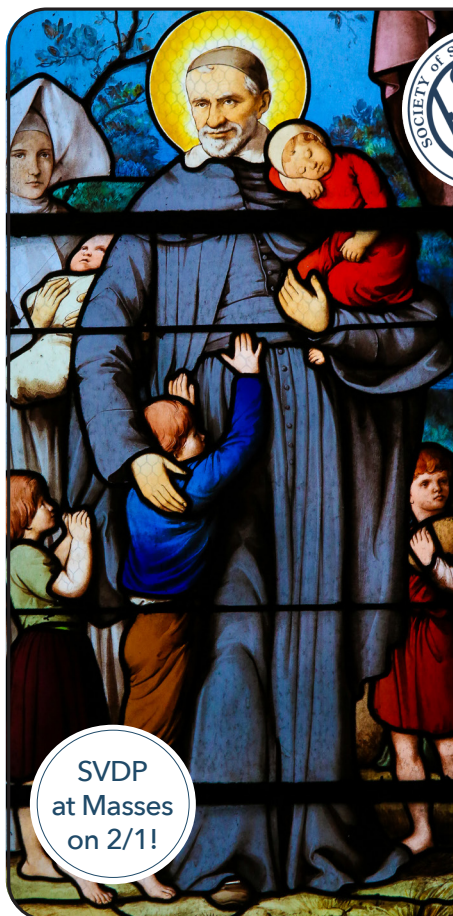
All Are Welcome!
Sunday, January 25

9:30 AM
Opening Mass

10:30 AM to Noon
Open House

Refreshments, Science Fair,
Art Display & More!

Learn more at
stmarymagdalen.net



Let's Provide
Help and Hope
to Neighbors
in Need

In the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul, the Society of SVDP is a Catholic lay organization inspired by Gospel values. Our Society leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering.

Vincetians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. SVDP collaborates with others of goodwill, like you, in relieving need and addressing its systemic causes as we see the face of Christ in everyone. Join us, or help us to support others in need with donations to our box in the nathex. To assist us, contact Mike Mullin at msmullin290@gmail.com.

KENTUCKY DERBY



GALA

'OUT OF THE GATE' SALE

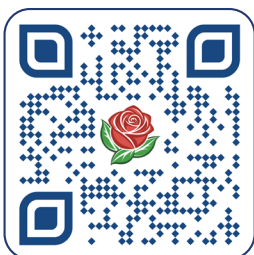
Gain entry NOW and SAVE BIG!

Only from **SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**
to **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2** until NOON!

Position yourself for a win! Take advantage and save \$50* per admission. These limited-release gala admissions are moving faster than a Derby contender.

So, get out of the start gate, secure your place, and enjoy all the festivities at this special rate.

Scan the code or visit our website's gala page to purchase yours by the deadline.



*Discount applied to regular admission rate of \$250 per guest. This discount may not be combined with other offers.

No physical tickets will be issued. Guests check in by name at the Springfield Country Club on Friday, April 17, 2026. Proceeds benefit St. Mary Magdalen School's Annual Fund.





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.



KNIGHTS' SUPER BOWL BLOCK POOL FUNDRAISER

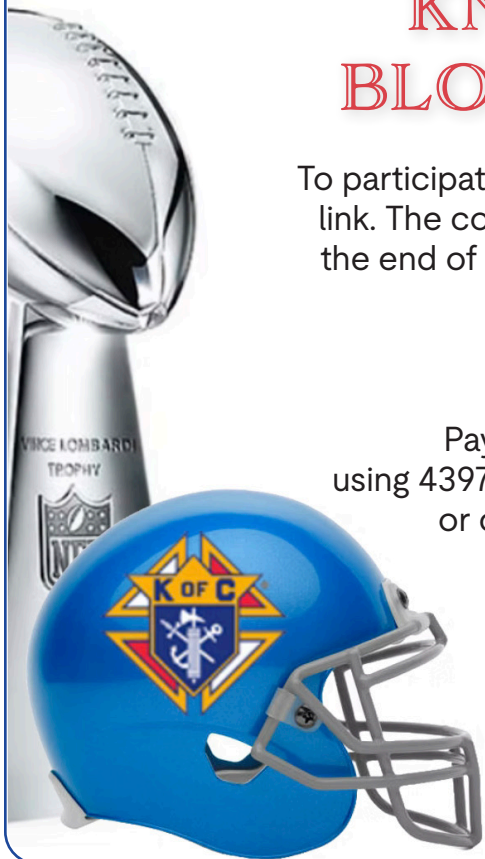
To participate, scan the code or go to smmknights.org for the fundraiser link. The cost of entry is \$25 per block. Total Prizes will be awarded at the end of each quarter and at the final score of the game as follows:

1st Quarter \$125, 2nd Quarter \$185,
3rd Quarter \$315, End of Game \$625

Payment can be made via Venmo to @Larry-Donato using 4397 as the required last four digits of the cell phone number, or contact Larry at 610-322-4397 to arrange payment.

Our thanks to all our participants!

Proceeds benefit organizations, including donations to local food pantries, Mother's Home, coats for kids, and seminarian support.



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.

Abigail Di Gravio, The Rafferty Family

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of **Diane Thornton, Anna Santore, Joseph Fuscaldo**, those souls who died due to wars or conflicts, 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. Call the Parish Office if you or a loved one is ill.

Carol Austin, Charlie Ayers, Charles Bastian, Kevin Boylan, Joe Cahill, Christine Cavaliere, Mary Cichanowsky, Jean Cotter, Joseph DeFabio, James D'Amore, Kieran Doran, Theresa D'Orazio, Kevin Gallagher, Katie Garwood, Bob Gentile, Rodie Henson, Mary Ellen Hoffman, Francis Iacovone, Gregory Lewis, Kay Greiser, Shellz Mangan, Floyd Marvin, Robin Marvin, Mary Jane McCloskey, Dorothy Milliner, Dorothy Moerman, Daniel Murphy, Joan Murphy, Mike Murphy, Michelle Okon, Carol Ortner, Bill Pace, John Pollera, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr., George Rodgers, Rosemary Rogers, Naomi Rouse, Peter Salemo, Brendan Shain, Lisa Innaurato Shaine, Kristin Ball Shortt, Bill Snyder, Nancy Sowa, Amerigo Tomassi, Mark Torregosa, Forest Wheeler, Kathy Will, Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to our newest newlyweds!

Angelique Villas & Matthew Logan

Vanessa Zeller & Kevin Murray

Michael Mullan & Karen Sakoff

BAPTISMS

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

Laila Ida Caro



Students gathered this week for acts of service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

8:30 AM - Anthony Joseph Piraino

4:30 PM - Winnie McElroy

7 PM - The People of the Parish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

7:30 AM - Ints. of Kathleen Logan

9:30 AM - Christina Palomba

11:30 AM - Regina & Edward Brennan

7 PM - No Mass, moved to 1/24

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

6:30 AM - No Mass

8:30 AM - Charles Marra

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

6:30 AM - Ints. of Christopher Felix
& Family

8:30 AM - Catherine Boyle

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30 AM - Ints. of Shelly Zeller
& Family

8:30 AM - Thomas Patrick Logan Sr.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

6:30 AM - Florence D'Arcangelo

8:30 AM - Ints. of Fr. Michael Onyekuru

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

6:30 AM - David Driskill

8:30 AM - Dr. Anthony Piraino

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

8:30 AM - Lillian DiColli

4:30 PM - The People of the Parish

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

7:30 AM - Jack McCann

9:30 AM - Philip J. Cavalcanto

11:30 AM - Maria Theresa Kilcur

7 PM - Thomas O'Connell

FLOWERS

In memory of our parishioners

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Agnes Ruggieri

CANDLE

In memory of Marie Tramantana

NEW! 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 on the following Wednesdays: **February 4, February 18, March 11, March 25, April 8, and April 22.**

DONATE! ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

This month, we are helping a veteran and his wife, who faced sudden homelessness due to family circumstances. They have no car and contacted us, with just two suitcases as their possessions. We put them into a local motel while we try to get them into a sustainable living situation. If you can help, please leave a donation in our metal donation box, next to the food bin in the Narthex. Thank you!

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez has proposed a bold vision for the future of the Catholic Church of Philadelphia in his pastoral letter, *Trust and Hope* (more information can be found at TrustandHope.org). The Catholic Church of Philadelphia is not defined by its structures, but by its greatest treasure – it's people. To plan its future, the Archdiocese is working with the Steier Group, a national Catholic fundraising firm, to conduct a campaign planning study. Please accept the invitation to share your feedback on the the Church of Philadelphia's proposed plans. This is our moment to renew the Catholic Church of Philadelphia – to strengthen parishes, form missionary disciples, and bring Christ to a world in need. **YOUR VOICE MATTERS!** Impact our future by taking our survey at: <https://forms.office.com/r/9fcs95U5B4> or scan the QR code.



The Catholic Church
of Philadelphia



ROOTED IN GRACE

A BAPTISMAL RETREAT

First-time parents and new SMM parents preparing for their child's Baptism are encouraged to join us for a Pre-Jordan Retreat offered on the following dates from 1 PM to 3 PM.

February 1
April 12
August 2



Includes Fellowship & Food.

Registration is required, please contact Stephanie at stephaniepdavey@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

December 2025	\$144,115
Collection:	\$43,523
Mail-in:	\$39,677
EFT:	\$60,914
December 2024	\$123,744
Collection:	\$46,759
Mail-in:	\$27,591
EFT:	\$49,394
Christmas 2025	\$121,829
Christmas 2024	\$113,675

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.



TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™
CONFERENCE SERIES



FEBRUARY 28, 2026
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