

# 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 8<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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](http://stmarymagdalen.net)

Rev. Eric J. Banecker  
*Pastor*  
[freric@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:freric@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension 110



Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Chieffo  
*Pastor Emeritus*  
[frralph@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:frralph@stmarymagdalen.net)

Rev. Robert A. Pesarchick  
*Parochial Vicar*  
[frbob@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:frbob@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension 123

Rev. Mr. Jude Opara  
*Transitional Deacon*  
[deaconjude@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:deaconjude@stmarymagdalen.net)



Deacon James DiFerdinand, M.A.  
*Permanent Deacon*  
[jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdiferdinand@gmail.com)

Deacon Joseph Boyle, M.Th.  
*Director of Parish  
& School Operations*  
[deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension 126

Deacon Bob Szipszky, M.Th.  
*Permanent Deacon  
OCIA Program*  
[deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:deaconbob@stmarymagdalen.net)

Deacon E. Peter Zurbach, Ph.D.  
*Permanent Deacon, Retired*

### FOCUS

Tina Augustine  
*FOCUS Missionary*  
[tina@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:tina@stmarymagdalen.net)

Jacob Barajas  
*FOCUS Missionary*  
[jake@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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 · NARTEX



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 · NARTEX

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](http://stmarymagdalen.net)

Mrs. Gina Staiber  
Office Manager & Notary  
[gina@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:gina@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension: 111

Mr. Ralph Purri  
Director of Sacred Music  
[rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:rpurri@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension: 128

Mrs. Dorothy Brown  
Director of Religious Education  
[dbrown@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:dbrown@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension: 125

Mrs. Kerry Boyle  
Director of Communications  
[kerry@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:kerry@stmarymagdalen.net)

Mr. John Gill  
Director of Advancement  
[jgill@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:jgill@stmarymagdalen.net)

Mrs. Daniela DiCandilo  
Finance Manager  
[daniela@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:daniela@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension: 124

Mrs. Jessica Savko  
Communications Coordinator  
[jessica@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:jessica@stmarymagdalen.net)

Mrs. Joanne Hinkle  
PREP Administrator  
[jhinkle@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto:jhinkle@stmarymagdalen.net)  
Extension: 109

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

## SCHOOL

610-565-1822  
[stmarymagdalenschool.net](http://stmarymagdalenschool.net)

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer  
Principal  
[abauer@stmarymagdalen.net](mailto: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](http://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.

Vincentians 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](mailto:msmullin290@gmail.com).

SVDP  
at Masses  
on 2/1!

# KENTUCKY DERBY 60 GALA

## ‘OUT OF THE GATE’ SALE

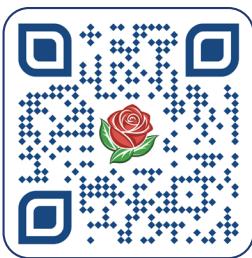
Gain entry NOW and SAVE BIG!

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.

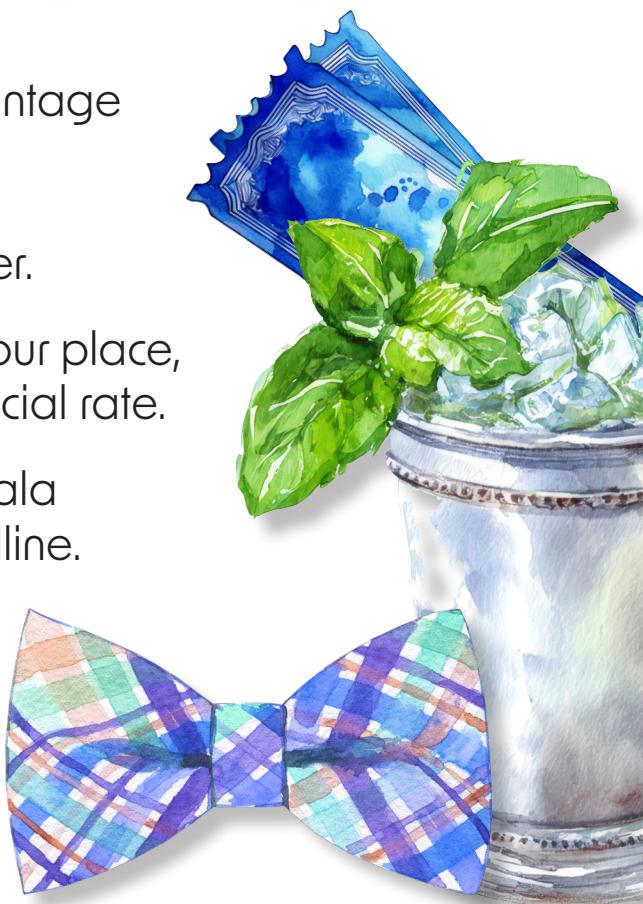
So, get out of the start gate, secure your place, and enjoy all the festivities at this special rate.

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](mailto:clarkscholarship@stmarymagdalen.net).



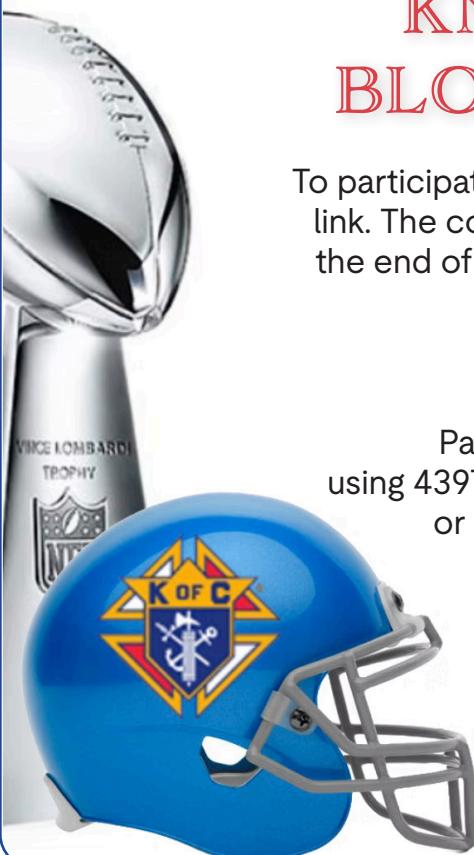
## KNIGHTS' SUPER BOWL BLOCK POOL FUNDRAISER

To participate, scan the code or go to [smmknights.org](http://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](mailto:baptisms@stmarymagdalen.net).

Laila Ida Caro



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

## Prayers & Intentions 7

### 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](http://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/9fc95U5B4> 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](mailto: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

St JOHN PAUL II  
FOUNDATION

FEBRUARY 28, 2026  
ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH  
WEST BRANDYWINE, PA

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Domestic Church

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**COUPLE \$64  
CHILDCARE \$5/CHILD**

Register by January 26 to grab  
an Early Bird discount



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