

## St. Mary Magdalene August 23, 2024

### A Note from Father Francis Xavier

#### Role of A Mother

We read in the book of Proverbs 17:6, "Grand Children are the crown of the elderly and the glory of children is their parents". This can be taken to mean that, the elderly can see their descendants but can imply also a call to live a life that makes children proud to be associated with their parents. Parents are thus encouraged to live a life of wisdom and righteousness so that children are proud of them and can wear their names and consequently carry on the legacy. In the same vein, parents are to raise their children in virtue and ensure family harmony.

As we move towards the close of the Marian month of August, I feel obliged to share with you beloved parents at least three traits from mother Mary; Trust, Selfless love, and Patience.

When Angel Gabriel announced to her that she will conceive of a child and even gave a name (Emmanuel) despite the challenges the pregnancy would cause—as a Judean girl, conceiving without marriage would attract a death sentence by being stoned, mother Mary trusted in God. As a couple, how do I respond if pregnancy occurs not according to our logical child-spacing plan or how do I look at those who (in my thinking seem to produce without planning?) GOD FORBID- what if it was your daughter???

Selfless love; recall her visitation to her elder cousin, immediately after hearing from angel Gabriel of the state of Elizabeth, she set out for the hills hastily yet she had just received astonishing news that she would bear the son of God! Mary puts down her own needs for the needs of others. Patience; Can you remember when she spent three days searching for her missing son. More so, at Cana of Galilee, when she asks her son for the need of wine and how in both instances Jesus made answers back? Mary had the wisdom, the patience and would never lose trust whenever His responses didn't make sense to her, rather "treasured all these things in her heart". More than any mother, Mary knew her son and trusted Him to use His capabilities to do good. Make efforts to always understand your child.

We need to be patient with our children as they may not always answer according to our expectations.

We need to encourage them to bring out the best in them as they grow.

We need to look beyond and incorporate the needs of others and strive to share what the lord is accomplishing in our lives—it can inspire.

If we seek to bring love to the world and have our names inscribed in the hearts of our children, let's look to Mary for inspiration and guidance.

Sincerely,  
Fr. Francis Xavier

[Giving Portal](#)

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## Upcoming Events

Aug 24 - Confessions 10:30am  
 Aug 24 - 5pm Mass  
 Aug 25 - 9am & 11am Mass  
 Aug 26 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Aug 26 - Family Rosary 6:30pm chapel  
 Aug 26 - Frassati Young Adult dinner at Panera  
 in Apex 6:30pm  
 Aug 27 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Aug 28 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Aug 29 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Aug 29 - Morning Rosary 9:30am Chapel  
 Aug 29 - Rosary Makers 10am Room 1  
 Aug 30 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Aug 31- Confessions 10:30am  
 Aug 31 - 5pm Mass  
 Sept 1 - 9am & 11am Mass  
 Sept 2 - Labor Day Parish Office Closed  
 Sept 2 - Daily Mass 9am  
 Sept 2 - Family Rosary 6:30pm Chapel  
 Sept 3 - Daily Mass 9am

## Mass This Weekend

Click [HERE](#) to Stream our 9am Mass

### **Music for Weekend Masses**

**Gathering:** Lift Up Your Hearts 566  
**Responsorial Psalm 34:** Taste and See 361  
**Preparation:** Spirit and Grace 362  
**Communion 1:** Miracle of Grace 335  
**Communion 2:** O Come to the Altar  
**Communion 3:** Jesus We Love You  
**Sending Forth:** With One Voice 394

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## Pictures of the Week



115 high schoolers and 20 adult leaders at our StMM annual beach retreat this past weekend.



The Frassati Young Adult Group participated in Deacon Rick's Holy Hour followed by Happy Hour.

## Altar Flowers



This week's altar flowers were donated by Kelli Leonard in Memory of Francis Leonard and Thomas Connelly

Take this opportunity to consider donating flowers to St. Mary Magdalene to beautify the altar and church for weekly Mass to honor our Lord. These flowers will be donated in honor of or in memory of your loved one. Click [here](#). For questions, please contact [floralministry@stmm.net](mailto:floralministry@stmm.net)

**Welcoming volunteers for Floral Ministry.**  
Join us on Fridays at 10am. All are welcome.

## Safe Environment

Returning Volunteers

## Sacraments



**BAPTISMS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email [sansone@stmm.net](mailto:sansone@stmm.net). First time parents must attend a baptism class. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule.

**CONFESSIONS** - Confessions are usually, but not every week, at 10:30am on Saturdays in the Church. See "Upcoming Events" section for schedule.

**WEDDINGS** - See the Guidelines on the Website - then email [weddings@stmm.net](mailto:weddings@stmm.net)

## Frassati Young Adult Fundraiser

Every Wednesday emails have been going out from [techsupport@dioceseofraleigh.safeenvironment.org](mailto:techsupport@dioceseofraleigh.safeenvironment.org) to remind our existing volunteers to update their safe environment compliance. If you have not gotten this email yet, please send your current and correct email address to Bertha Smith ([bsmith@stmm.net](mailto:bsmith@stmm.net)) and ask for renewal instructions. Thank you for being an active volunteer at StMM.

### New Volunteers

To become approved to volunteer, please go to the [StMM Safe Environment web page](#). See the *New Church and School Volunteers* paragraph for information and required paperwork. See the [Diocese of Raleigh Safe Environment Training calendar](#) for upcoming training dates. There are other meetings on the calendar, so look for "Safe Environment Training". To register, select the one you'd like to attend. Please contact Bertha Smith ([bsmith@stmm.net](mailto:bsmith@stmm.net)) with any questions.

## Gabriel Project Ministry

**Gabriel Project Update** - It is a great joy to let you all know that in August two of our Gabriel Project mothers welcomed their precious babies! Your prayers for them and the two mothers whose little ones will arrive in September are greatly appreciated!

**Mark Your Calendars** - The next Gabriel Project meeting will be on Sunday, Sept. 8th at 12:15 pm in Room 1 of the church building. This meeting will focus on sharing some new information/resources and orienting volunteers who want to be directly involved with mentoring expectant mothers.

## New Parish Position Open

Are you able to effectively communicate across many platforms and people? Are you able to be a social media presence and have talents in website design? The Parish is seeking applications for a newly created position of communications coordinator. This position is envisioned as a part time (20-24hrs), located on site (with remote hours a possibility). Please respond with a letter of interest and resume to [galkowski@stmm.me](mailto:galkowski@stmm.me).

## Extraordinary Minister Training

## Faith ON Fire 2024 Registration



**FAITH ON FIRE 2024 CONFERENCE**  
**SEPTEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**GUEST SPEAKER DCN. RALPH POYO**  
Praise and Worship led by  
"withYou" Music Ministry

We begin at St. Andrew the Apostle Church, 3008 Old Raleigh Road, Apex NC with a night of Praise and Worship led by "withYou" Music Ministry and prayer teams on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM  
Followed by a full, Spirit-filled day on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:00AM

\$25 per person (FREE entry for Clergy and Students) \*Beverages and refreshments available, lunch not included

REGISTER HERE: <https://raldioc.configio.com/faith-on-fire-2024>

Join us for this opportunity to grow in Discipleship

Learn to Use and Discern your Spiritual Gifts

How to Serve with a heart for the Lord

Get "unstuck" Spiritually

WITH YOU! MUSIC MINISTRY

Diocese of Raleigh  
Catholic Charismatic Services  
Director: Maria Muratore  
[mmuratore@crsraleigh.org](mailto:mmuratore@crsraleigh.org)  
[crsraleigh.weebly.com](http://crsraleigh.weebly.com)

## StMM School Aftercare Employment Opportunities

Hiring in Aftercare. Must be 18 years or older. Aftercare is looking for someone who enjoys children and who can commit to five days a week: Monday through Friday. We've got a great team and would welcome new people with open arms. Hours are 2:30pm to 6pm. Please email Kate Lawson at [lawson@stmm.net](mailto:lawson@stmm.net) if interested.

## StMM Book Club



## Answer the call to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion!

Extraordinary ministers assist the Presider with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. All parishioners who are practicing confirmed Catholics may become extraordinary ministers.

If you would like to be trained to be an extraordinary minister, or if you just need a refresher, training has been scheduled in the Church for **Tuesday, September 10th at 6pm and Sunday, September 15th at 4:30 pm**. Please choose one of the sessions and RSVP to Lisa Westberg at [lbwestberg13@gmail.com](mailto:lbwestberg13@gmail.com).

## Planning for Our 25th Anniversary

It's time to celebrate St. MM's 25th anniversary and we need your help! If you're interested in helping on the planning committee, please email Nicole Kroeger ([nkroeger@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:nkroeger@alumni.nd.edu)) or Aine Lynch ([Ainel2000@gmail.com](mailto:Ainel2000@gmail.com)).

## Mass Intentions

August 24 – 5pm – Virginia Power + (Mother of Nancy Grace)  
August 25 – 9am – Parishioners of [StMM](#)  
August 25 – 11am – Ross Engel +  
August 26 – Zackary Muller's birthday  
August 27 – Elizabeth Perez +  
August 28 – Jane DeSales Nugent +  
August 29 – Barbara Riel +  
August 30 – TJ DiMarco +  
August 31 – 5pm – Lawrence Wray +  
September 1 – 9am – Parishioners of [StMM](#)  
September 1 – 11am – Janie Nugent +  
September 2 – John Karpien +  
September 3 – John Patrick Moran +  
September 4 – Elizabeth Reese +  
September 5 – Marilyn Boggiano-Phillips +  
September 6 – Aurelia Cochrane +

StMM Book Club is a group of people who love to read and share their thoughts about a topic. We will have our yearly organizational meeting on September 4, at 12:30, in the church meeting room. We welcome everyone to join us. We will be reading fiction, nonfiction, and faith based books and discussing with our Catholic Faith as a guide. We meet once a month on the first Thursday at 12:30 pm. Some of the books we will be reading this year include [Guests on Earth](#) by Lee Smith and [Saint John Paul The Great: His 5 Loves](#) by Jason Evert. Please send any questions you have to [amdudzinski@gmail.com](mailto:amdudzinski@gmail.com).

## Frassati Young Adult Group

The Frassati Young Adult group provides a community for those in their 20s and 30s. We meet regularly on the first and third Wednesdays at the Church with other events throughout the month. Email us at [frassati@stmm.net](mailto:frassati@stmm.net) for more information and to be added to our email list. Our upcoming events are:

**Mon, Aug 26 at 6:30pm**

Frassati dinner at Panera in Apex

**Wed, Sept 4:** 7pm Meeting

**Sunday, Sept 8:** Brunch after the 11am Mass

## Thursday Evening Study with Deacon Dev



**Weekday Study on the Development of the Church**

Do you have questions

about why we do what we do in the Church? If you do, join Deacon Dev and many of your fellow parishioners on **Thursday evenings** for a unique series focused on building an in-depth understanding of the Church today. However, in order to do this, this series starts at the beginnings of the Church and then traces its development through the centuries. As we do this, a very wide range of topics will be covered - the apostolic age, sacraments, the Mass, orders, heresies, councils, church fathers, doctors of the church, the origins of Catholicism and Roman Catholicism, Catholic Spirituality, the Great Schism, the Orthodox Churches, the rise of Islam, Crusades, the Reformation and Protestantism, the Church in America, Vatican II, the worldwide Catholic Church – and so much more!

This promises to be a richly rewarding study and we hope you will join us! Meetings will be in the STMM Church on Thursday evenings, beginning from **September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm**. Please register by accessing the attached link (each person to

## Upcoming Blood Drive

### Take 15 minutes and Save A Life!

Donate blood! Sign up for the Knight's Blood Drive on Sept. 7th, from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm in the school parking lot. Reserve your space in the following link: [https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/226331](https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/226331)

## Adult Faith Refresher

Do you wish you had a better understanding of your faith so you can lead a more joyful life? Do you feel like you aren't able to connect the dots with all you've learned?

Then come join me and your fellow parishioners for a dynamic six-week series that will enhance your daily spiritual life.

We typically get a small group of participants together for what is more discussion and less lecture.

The next series runs begins on September 18 and runs five more consecutive Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Please contact me if you wish to join!  
[stevens@stmm.me](mailto:stevens@stmm.me) or 908-910-0309

*NOTE: THIS SERIES ALSO SERVES AS  
CONFIRMATION PREP FOR ADULTS  
WISHING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT.*

## Eucharistic Adoration Times

First Friday Adoration will be in the church on Friday, **September 6th**

be separately registered). If you have any questions, or need more information, please email Deacon Dev at [lobo@stmm.net](mailto:lobo@stmm.net).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA-BA923A3FCC52-50312695-series>

## StMM Daytime Bible Study

StMM Daytime Bible Study

Topic: Angels in the Bible

When: Sept. 24th - Oct. 29th (6 weeks) on Tuesdays from 1-3 pm

Where: StMM Church Building rooms 3 & 4

Cost: \$18 for materials

Contact: Laurie Wendt to sign up and get more details

## Walking With Purpose



Praise be to God!  
The Holy Spirit is active in St. Mary Magdalene! Walking

With Purpose is a women's program new to our parish. WWP aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Christ through individual scripture study and small group discussions, linking our everyday challenges with solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. Please watch this [video](#) and find out what it's all about!

Are you interested in getting together with other women to explore your faith? Would you like to see how the Scriptures apply to your everyday life? If so, we invite you to consider joining Walking with Purpose at St. Mary Magdalene. Registration is open and space is limited for **Opening Your Heart**, a 22-week foundational study designed for women new to WWP as well as those with more Bible study experience. We will meet weekly on Thursday mornings from 10am-11:30am starting on September 26 and concluding on March 27, with breaks for the holidays.

Register today by completing [this form](#). If you have any questions about WWP or if you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to be involved in a lead position, please contact us at [walkingwithpurpose@stmm.net](mailto:walkingwithpurpose@stmm.net)

## Prayers & Squares Ministry

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is founded on the idea that there is power in prayer to comfort in times of need. The ministry makes quilts

**from 9:30am - 7pm.** All are encouraged to pay a visit to the church throughout the day and spend some time in prayer. Can you help by committing to 1 hour a month to spend with our Lord? **We really need help in the 3-4 and 4-5 hours.**



Please contact Anita Becker at [ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM](mailto:ALANITABECKER@AOL.COM) or 919-280-8931 if interested.



Pope Francis encourages us to spend time in Eucharistic Adoration and allow our encounter with Jesus to transform us. If you are willing to spend an hour communing with our Lord before the Blessed Sacrament, please join Deacon Dev and your fellow parishioners in a spirit of Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication followed by Benediction. Handouts will be available to help you participate in prayer and song.

**Next Holy Hour: Tuesday, September 17th, from 7- 8pm**

## RCIA Prayer Corner

Please pray for Stephen, Stephany and Elaine who have started their RCIA journey.

Please pray for all of those who are considering starting the RCIA journey.



for anyone who is in need of this prayer and comfort. The quilt is blessed and prayed over by the parishioners. If you would like to request a prayer quilt for someone please contact Lorraine Morris

at [lcmorris0707@gmail.com](mailto:lcmorris0707@gmail.com)

## Prayer Team



For companionship in your trials and joys of life, our team of prayer warriors are here to walk with you. It is a sincere privilege to help lift our parish family through

intercessory prayer. As we pray for one another's needs, it helps us all to hear how loved ones are continuing on their journeys.

Please feel encouraged to share updates of your prayer intentions via email to [StMMPayerTeam@stmm.net](mailto:StMMPayerTeam@stmm.net).

Request Prayers

All are welcome to join our team in lifting the prayers of our parish family, in whatever ways you like to pray best. Parish intentions are shared weekly, drop us a note if you would like to learn more about this ministry. \* [Share Prayer Updates via email](#). \*

Join the Prayer Team

## RCIA






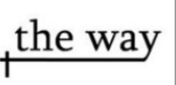

Rite of Christian Initiation  
for Adults

Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic? Are you wanting to participate fully in the sacraments instituted by Christ? Are you a baptized Christian and desiring to

receive the Eucharist and Confirmation? The next module of the RCIA process at StMM is starting on August 5, 2024. Now is a great time to start. Will you join us? Please contact Kathy and Scott Strednak at [rcia@stmm.me](mailto:rcia@stmm.me) and let's have a conversation. We can help you start the process. Be assured by Christ's very own words: *"Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you"*.

## Faith Formation

**Religious Education**  
2024-25

				
<p>Grades K – 4 &amp; Parents</p>	<p>Grades 5 &amp; 6</p>	<p>Middle School – Grades 7 &amp; 8</p>	<p>High School – Grades 9 &amp; 10 Pre-Confirmation</p>	<p>High School – Grades 11 &amp; 12 Post Confirmation</p>
<p>Parent Enrichment</p>	<p>Parent Enrichment</p>	<p>Sunday Evenings</p>	<p>Sunday Evenings</p>	<p>Sunday Evenings</p>
<p>Tuesdays</p>	<p>Tuesdays</p>	<p>7:15 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>7:15 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Time &amp; location determined by small group</p>
<p>6:15 – 7:30 pm</p>	<p>6:15 – 7:30 pm</p>	<p>StMM Gym</p>	<p>StMM Church</p>	
<p>StMM Church &amp; School</p>	<p>StMM Gym</p>	<p>Youth Mass 6:00pm on Sundays when the Middle School and High School Faith Formation Programs Meet (Refer to the Faith Formation Calendar)</p>		

[Click Here for the 2024-25 Faith Formation Calendar](#)

[Gather Registration Link](#)

[Way Registration Link](#)

[Rock Registration Link](#)

[Way Abbreviated Track Registration Link](#)

[Edge Registration Link](#)

[Apostello Registration Link](#)





**Last Call for Online Registration**

**Late Fees apply after 8/15/24**

[www.stmm.church/religious-ed/](http://www.stmm.church/religious-ed/)

Questions K-4: [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net)  
 Grades 5-8: [ritchie@stmm.net](mailto:ritchie@stmm.net)

*Calendar*

GATHER MEETS MORE OFTEN IN

**2024-25**

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION  
for children grades 3 - 12

First Reconciliation & First Communion  
(919) 657-4800 ext. 7280 or [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net)

For Baptism  
(919) 657-4800 ext. 7303 or [sansone@stmm.net](mailto:sansone@stmm.net)

**Click Here for the 2024-25 Faith Formation Calendar**

**Questions:**

For **GATHER**, contact Suzanne Will at [will@stmm.net](mailto:will@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7280

For the **ROCK** contact Sarah Ritchie at [ritchie@stmm.net](mailto:ritchie@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7307

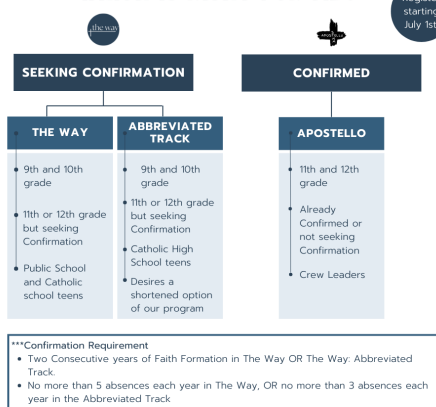
**StMM Middle and High School Youth Ministry**

**JOIN OUR CORE TEAM FOR EDGE AND THE WAY**

**APPLY TODAY!**

It takes an army of adult volunteers to run our youth ministry! If you want to join, or you're Interested In learning more, please fill out the Interest form below

**STMM HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION WHICH IS RIGHT FOR ME?**



Core Team Interest Form for EDGE, The Way, Abbreviated Track, and Apostello: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdny1wY2eZ8-YrIVCG2iTGPhA6gjdrt\\_hoRxA52orhGk4Y8DQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdny1wY2eZ8-YrIVCG2iTGPhA6gjdrt_hoRxA52orhGk4Y8DQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Registration Opens July 1st! Which High School Program is Right for Me?

**Questions:**

For **EDGE**, contact Sarah Ritchie at [ritchie@stmm.net](mailto:ritchie@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7307

For **Apostello and the Way**, contact Niki Furnier at [nfurnier@stmm.net](mailto:nfurnier@stmm.net) or 919-657-4800 x7309

For **Confirmation**, contact the coordinator at [StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com](mailto:StMM.confirmation@kristoffs.com)

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## School News

**YOU**  
matter

SEATS AVAILABLE  
FOR THE 24-25 SCHOOL YEAR  
IN 6TH, 7TH, & 8TH GRADE.  
**APPLY TODAY!**

 *We pray. We learn. We care.*

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School is accepting applications for the 24-25 school year in PreK4 and grades 6th-8th. Applications are closed for K-5th grade. If you are interested in a Catholic education for your child(ren), apply [HERE](#) or contact Lisa Portland ([portland@stmm.net](mailto:portland@stmm.net)) to schedule a tour!

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StMM E-News | 625 Magdala Place | Apex, NC 27502 US

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