

Saint Mary Magdalen Church

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

19 JANUARY 2025

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Dear Friends in Christ,

In my homily for the Baptism of the Lord, I mentioned how the feast serves as a transition from the Christmas Season to Ordinary Time when the readings of Mass focus on Jesus' public ministry: his preaching, miracles, and calling and formation of the disciples into the new Israel, the Church. We, too, then, having concluded our celebration of Christmas, must be attentive to our own growth in discipleship as well. God is extending to each of us the grace of daily conversion, which involves more attentiveness to our eternal destiny. This conversion involves having a regular practice of prayer and looking for ways to increase in charity or any of the virtues we seek to grow in patience! (Don't all of us need more patience with ourselves and those around us?)

Let me offer a suggestion: Spend some time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each week. If you do it consistently and intentionally, it need not be for hours on end. Just an hour a week will have a profound impact on your life. But don't take my word for it—here's a great article recently published in CatholicPhilly.com by a local mom who rediscovered the beauty of this form of prayer right here in our adoration chapel at SMM.

May the Lord grant you peace!

—Father Eric Banecker

This New Year, Rediscover Jesus in Adoration

by Sarah E. Albanese

When I reflect on the past few years, I see a frazzled mom who had lost her direction in life. All too often, I compared myself to other moms and failed to remove myself from gossip and drama within my community.

My family and I were faithful about attending Sunday Mass and maybe an occasional holy hour, but most of my hours were filled with running from activity to activity. Honestly, it was not enjoyable, and many moments were fraught with anxiety. I often did not know why I was doing all that I was doing, but I felt like I was following the crowd.

continued on page 5

CLERGY

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Parochial Vicar
frbob@stmarymagdalen.net
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*Sacramental assistance
is provided by*

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Rev. Richard Maisano
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Deacon Bob Szipszky, M.Th.
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OCIA Program
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Deacon E. Peter Zurbach, Ph.D.
Permanent Deacon, Retired



PARISH MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM & 7 PM

Weekday

Monday thru Friday
6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

Saturday

8:30 AM & 4:30 PM Vigil

**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: 5:30 PM Adoration & Confessions,
followed by Mass at 6:30 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.

ELECTRONIC PARISH GIVING



Visit our website's 'Giving' page to make a one time gift or sign up for recurring electronic donations using the 'Parish Giving' secure link or scan the QR code.

**MONDAY! A DAY OF SERVICE
ON MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

Our school has two projects in the works for this year's MLK Day of Service to support our friends at Catholic Social Services.

They will hold a "Diaper Drive" to assist mothers in crisis pregnancies and those struggling to make ends meet. **The students will collect diapers at school from Wednesday, January 15 to Friday, January 17, and again on Monday, January 20.** (All sizes are appreciated, but there is a special need for sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6.) They are grateful to the community for its support!

Also on Monday, to help those struggling with food insecurity, student volunteers will make PB&J sandwiches at school and deliver them to CSS for distribution throughout Delaware County.

**NEW! CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 3 PM**

Violinist Eiko Ogiso will perform in a chamber music concert in our church on Sunday, January 26, at 3 PM. Eiko and the orchestra will perform Brahms *Violin Sonata, opus 78 (1st movement)*, Vivaldi's *Winter* from the *Four Seasons*, Mendelssohn's *Octet*, and a few smaller works. The concert should last about one hour and is free to the public.



An Invitation from Archbishop Pérez

**Your voice and presence are essential
as we plan a new way forward**

Archbishop Pérez published an important Pastoral Letter on January 5th. This letter outlines his hopes for the Church of Philadelphia over the coming years. He invites each of us to participate in a conversation about the trail we will blaze together for our Church.

Learn more about the vision to unite and with open hearts to build the strongest possible Church of Philadelphia, please visit trustandhope.org or scan the QR code below to access his letter and video.

Then, he ask you to sign up for a session near you to share your thoughts. We will host a session at **St. Mary Magdalen on Thursday, April 3, at 6:30 PM.**



**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 2025.

The 2025 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.



PARISH

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Mrs. Jessica Savko
Mrs. Mary Lou Mayer
Office Administrators
Extension: 107

SCHOOL

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stmarymagdalenschool.net

Mrs. Amy Crawford Bauer
Principal
abauer@stmarymagdalen.net

Dcn. Joseph P. Boyle, Jr.
President
deaconjoe@stmarymagdalen.net

Save-the-Date

40 HOURS

at St. Mary Magdalen
with Fr. Alex Gibbs

March 11

March 12

March 13



Celebrate the glorious gift of Jesus in the Eucharist
in adoration, prayer, and discipleship.

TMIY

THAT MAN IS YOU!

BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART



In the New Year, take a leap of faith with TMIY.

Do you want a transformative encounter and lasting relationship with Jesus Christ? Discover a new path to become a man fully alive among other men, wherever they are in their own spiritual lives, and take a few steps further on your faith journey.

If so, join us for a **4-session TMIY introduction** on Thursday mornings from **now** through **January 30th**, in St. Francis Hall. Come, check it out!

Then, the season return on **February 6th** with the continued theme of *Apostles of the New Springtime*.

To learn more, stop by any Thursday morning, contact John at johngill@comcast.net or visit us online.

"This program has been a experience that helps you to open your mind, heart, and soul to understand the role of each one of God's children, by his mercy."

WWW.TMIY.ORG

Like most moms, I put on the façade that I had it all together. However, I often found myself overwhelmed by my ever-growing to-do list. After one particularly difficult moment, I finally acknowledged that hubris was guiding my actions, not my faith. Then, an invitation helped to redirect my life. A nearby church was asking people to help keep their perpetual adoration chapel open. I immediately knew I had to respond. It was a Holy Spirit moment.

Almost a decade ago, I had been faithful to attending perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and I had allowed this practice to slip away. As a mom of five, I did not think I could get away for an hour once a week. God knew that if I trusted him, it would all work out. God always knows what we need. I immediately signed up for an evening adoration time when my little ones would be asleep and my teens would be home from their activities. Instead of curling up on the couch, scrolling through Instagram, or worrying about the next day, I was choosing to allow Jesus to enter into one hour of my busy week.

Jesus was gently nudging me toward him, and I accepted the call. My first evening in the adoration chapel was the balm that my anxious and worried mind needed. The quiet is what struck me the most. My home is rarely quiet, and I had forgotten how you can hear your heartbeat and your breathing when it is quiet. I had forgotten how to pray without being

interrupted as I so often am at church or in my home. Frankly, I had forgotten how to sit still.

My first month in adoration was very emotional. I was struck by how much the Father loves me, and I was in desperate need of his love and mercy. One evening, the image of God the Father embracing me filled me with great solace and brought me to tears.

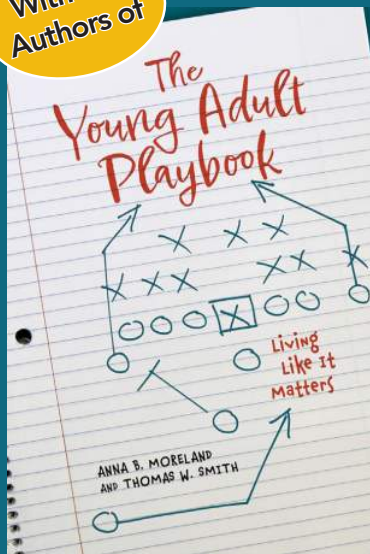
In our moments of despair, loneliness, and overwhelming sadness, God is there to give us a hug. He will break through every moment if he is allowed. Psalm 117 reminds us: "For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever." Through the gift of adoration, I was rediscovering my faith all over again. I was allowing the Lord's presence to wash over me and bring me back to him.

In this new year, I invite you to experience Jesus in adoration. He is waiting for you. Even if your parish does not have an adoration chapel, look around at the nearby parishes in your community. There are also weekly adoration services and First Friday adoration devotions practiced throughout the archdiocese. Make adoration a habit—and it will bless your life in unexpected and beautiful ways.



Sarah E. Albanese is a mother of five and a parishioner at St. Pius X Parish in Broomall.

With the Authors of



Parents' Night Out

Saturday, February 22

Live like it matters! Come for an evening with fellow SMM parents and young adults as we discuss *The Young Adult Playbook*, a guide that delves into what makes life meaningful while addressing the struggles young adults face today.


We will explore the topic of what constitutes a happy life with our special guests—the authors, **Anna B. Moreland** and **Thomas W. Smith**. They will discuss the unprecedented challenges and offer ways to support parents and young adults as they navigate today's rough terrain.

The evening begins with food, drinks and fellowship on Saturday at **6 PM** in St. Francis Hall. We hope you join us!

Scan the QR to RSVP.



Celebrate
with us!



All Are Welcome!

Catholic Schools Week

at St. Mary Magdalen

Sunday, January 26

9:30 AM
Opening Mass

10:30 AM to Noon
Open House

Refreshments, Science Fair,
Art Display & More

Learn more at
stmarymagdalenschool.net

NEW! A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

Dear Fr. Eric and Parishioners,
Thank you for your generous contribution of \$1,450 in gift cards and for so many of other thoughtful gifts for babies, children, and families. Your selfless giving reflects the true spirit of love and compassion, and it has touched the hearts of so many in our community.

We are overwhelmed with gratitude by your generosity and kindness. These gifts will bring joy and comfort to families who truly need them, and your support means more than words can express.

Since 1974, the Delaware County Family Service Center offers hope and a sense of belonging for hundreds of individuals that battle poverty and addiction. Last year, thanks to you, we provided 13,000 meals, 1,000 showers, and 800 free laundry services. We also distributed 35,000 diapers to 700 babies, 50 babies received formula, and 250 moms attended parenting and prenatal classes. In total, 5,000 people visited our family services center for guidance and support services.

May you continue to be blessed as you bless others.

NEW! SMM SCHOOL SEEKS AN ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR



St. Mary Magdalen School seeks a full-time Advancement Director to engage with our alumni, donors, and groups to plan events and support the school with its current and long term sustainability goals.

For more information about this dynamic position, or to apply, interested candidates should visit stmarymagdalenschool.net/advancement or scan the QR code.

NEW! CYO CALL FOR TRACK & FIELD COACHES!

Our CYO Track & Field team is looking to continue the growth and success of its program. This spring, we need two assistant coaches to join the existing coaching staff and another individual to help build a Pee Wee Track program that we could offer to grades K through 3rd. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED—you will learn the ropes from the existing coaching staff. **If interested, please get in touch with Julie Stonelake at (610) 937-1945 or Tommy Lake at (215) 840-4479.**



She Shall Be Called Woman

Happy New Year!

SHE returns on January 27, 2025

SHE is a transformative journey designed to meet the deepest longings of the feminine heart. Join us for food, fellowship, and faith on Mondays from 5 to 6 PM in St. Francis Hall. Doors open at 4:45—All are welcome. It's never too late to bring a friend!



Want Information?
Contact Patty at
pszipzsky@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES

Are you interested in joining our parish? Visit our website or stop by our parish office to register. We welcome new members weekly.

Kristin McGoldrick & family, Kenneth & Laura Clark and family

CALLED HOME TO GOD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of Michael DeFino, Dr. Emilio Valdes, those souls who have died due to wars or conflicts including the Holy Land, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, those recently lost to natural disasters, famine, 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, Charles Bastian, Danielle Bastian, Kevin Boylan, Bill Boylan,

Joe Cahill, Anthony Carbo, Tricia Carmen, Christine Cavaliere,

Mary Cichanowsky, Jean Cotter, Joseph DeFabio, Kieran Doran,

Rosemary Dougherty, Theresa D'Orazio, Phil Franco, Kevin Gallagher,

Katie Garwood, Jacquelyn Gibbons, Bob Gentile, Rodie Henson,

Mary Ellen Hoffman, Francis Iacovone, Cole Keith, Ray Kenney,

Rita Klauder, Gregory Lewis, Leonard Lombardi, Shellz Mangan, Joe Malloy, Floyd

Marvin, Robin Marvin, Marion McCarthy, Mary Jane & Pat McCloskey,

Mary Theresa McDevitt, Michael McFadden, Dorothy Milliner,

Dorothy Moerman, James Moerman, Joan Murphy, Mike Murphy,

Carol Ortner, Bill Pace, John Pollera, Nicholas Quercetti, Sr.,

George Rodgers, Naomi Rouse, Daught Ryan, Peter Salemo,

Angelina Scarpa, Brendan Shain, Lisa Innaurato Shaine,

Bill Snyder, Susan Sowa, Amerigo Tomassi, Mark Torregosa,

Roseann Yannacone, and Ernie Zappacosta.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to our newly baptized!

For baptismal information, call or email baptisms@stmarymagdalen.net

Nora Anne Matheson



The Seniors' Social Club had fun on Wednesday during Crazy Bingo. Enjoy fun and fellowship the second Wednesday of each month at 1 PM. See bulletin for events.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

8:30 AM - Ints. of Nancy & Tom Caramanico

4:30 PM - Margaret Nilan Kennedy

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

7:30 AM - Mary Francis Scott

9:30 AM - Regina & Edward Brennan

11:30 AM - Janet Zurbach

7 PM - Irene Loder

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

6:30 AM - Ints. of Bonnie Kozemchak

8:30 AM - Thomas McNeila

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

6:30 AM - Ints. of Joanne Brogan

8:30 AM - Jackie DiOttavio

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

6:30 AM - Ints. of Dr. Gil Leidig

8:30 AM - Regina Feeney

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

6:30 AM - The People of the Parish

8:30 AM - Ints. of Phillips & Caruso Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

6:30 AM - Fr. Reuben Nuxoll, LC

8:30 AM - William Onorato

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

8:30 AM - Fr. Eric Banecker

4:30 PM - Janet Zurbach

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

7:30 AM - Joy Carideo

9:30 AM - Charlie LaSpada

11:30 AM - William Bricker

7 PM - Bill Virbitsky

FLOWERS

In memory of Michael DeFino

BREAD & WINE

In memory of Dr. Emilio Valdes

CANDLE

In memory of Dr. Eleanor Tiongson

NEW! SMM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPER BOWL BLOCK POOL

The SMM Knights Council is offering its annual Super Bowl Block Pool to help with our continued support of charitable organizations, including Little Sisters of the Poor, The Mothers' Home, Coats for Kids, and Seminary support. To participate in this year's Super Bowl Block Pool, go to SMMknight.org or scan the QR code and pick a block or two. Each block is \$25, and a chance to win \$125 at the end of the first quarter, \$185 at the end of the second quarter, \$315 at the end of the third quarter, and \$625 at the end of the game. Payment can be made by Venmo (@Larry-Donato) using 4397 for the request of the last four digits of the cell phone.



If you don't use Venmo, please contact Larry Donato at 610.322.4397 to arrange payment. The Knights appreciate your support of its SMM Council and its goal of helping those in our area.



NEW! CALL FOR SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES

We have a call for judges for the 6th to 8th grade Science Fair on Friday, January 24. Flexible judging times, beginning anytime after 9 AM but judging must be concluded by 2 PM. Science interest or knowledge helpful but not necessary, and it's a fun engaging way to help support the students and their efforts. **If you can help, please contact the school office at 610.565.1822, or email Maureen Clark at mclark@stmarymagdalen.net.**



LEGION OF MARY

How Does It Work?

Our members meet weekly to pray, plan, and discuss as a group. Then, we go out in pairs to perform Spiritual Works of Mercy within our parish and local community under the guidance of a Spiritual Director, usually a priest or deacon. We call all Catholics who would like to draw closer to Jesus and His Mother to give the Legion a try.

How Do I Start?

Be a guest at our meeting! We invite you to come and see the Legion from the inside. All you need is to offer a little of your time and energy to serve Mary and your love of God! Join us any Tuesday. **Every Tuesday at 9:30 AM in the Gathering Room.**

NEW! PHILLY CATHOLIC SINGLES 30-45 WINE TASTING EVENT

Join other Catholic singles for fun events! We host friendly events for marriage-minded Catholics ages 30-45, including this upcoming **Wine Blending Event at Vino Bambino** in Broomall. Enjoy this delightful wine-tasting and blending event on Sunday, February 9, at 1 pm. \$85 covers a series of seven wines to taste, a private room, pizza, and your own bottle of wine. Upcoming events include Bowling (April), Nature Hike (May), and Art Museum (June). Our chaplain is Fr. DeLacy. **Email PhillyCatholicSingles@gmail.com to sign up for events, or visit PhillyCatholic.Singles.**

BETHESDA CASSEROLE COLLECTION

Our weekend collection is on February 15 & 16.

TODAY'S READINGS BEGIN ON PAGE 87 IN THE HERITAGE MISSAL

STEWARDSHIP & TITHING

December 2024	\$123,744
<i>Collection:</i>	\$46,759
<i>Mail-in:</i>	\$27,591
<i>EFT:</i>	\$49,394
December 2023	\$ 92,252
<i>Collection:</i>	\$28,675
<i>Mail-in:</i>	\$20,103
<i>EFT:</i>	\$43,474
Christmas 2024	\$110,885
2023:	\$108,217
Parish Appeal 2024	\$ 48,530
2023:	\$71,155
Sound System	\$ 35,500

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.

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**Registration due by:
January 30, 2025**

ITINERARY

Day 1: Palermo (2 nights)
Day 2: Alcamo (1 night)
Days 3-6: Taormina (4 nights)
Day 7: Castelbuono (1 night)
Day 8: Palermo (1 night)

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ST. ALOYSIUS
ACADEMY

WINTER OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday
January 29, 2025
9:00 - 11:00 am

St. Aloysius Academy is the only private, Catholic, K-8 school for boys in the five county Philadelphia metro area committed to the spiritual, moral, and academic development of each student.

To register, please call us at 610-525-1670 or
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