



# ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Serving the Needs of God's People Since 1949

*Serving*

## Parish Mission Statement

As a Roman Catholic Community, St. Mary Magdalene is a community of Christians who profess and share a common, loving faith in Jesus Christ and are nourished through prayer and activity, especially the Eucharist, and are inspired by the Spirit who calls each of us to use our gifts in the midst of our neighborhoods and throughout the world.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT  
12-18-2022

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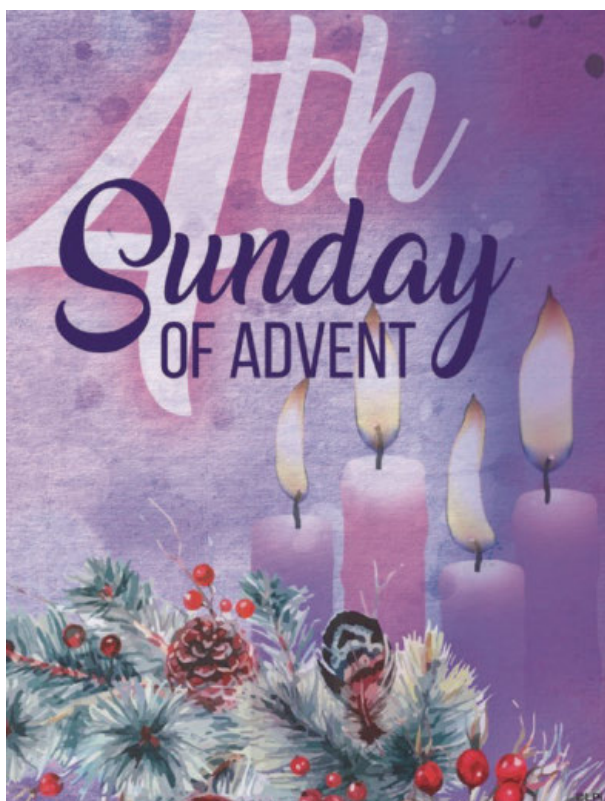
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### WEEKEND MASS

Saturday | 4:30 pm &  
Sunday | 8:00 am & 11:00 am

### DAILY MASS

Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. | 9:00 am

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday | 3:15-4:00 pm  
In Church Confessional  
Or by appointment

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Thursday  
8:30 am ~ 4:30 pm  
Closed Friday &  
Saturday  
Sunday ~ 9:00 am ~  
Noon  
Office Closed from  
12:00 to 1:00 Weekdays

### Mass in Parking Lot!

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your radio.

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## CELEBRATING

Monday, Dec. 19, 2022

*Late Advent Weekday*

9:00 am....Jean Kelly

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022

*Late Advent Weekday*

9:00 am.....Kenney Evans

Wednesday, Dec 21, 2022

*Late Advent Weekday*

9:00 am.....Ray & Loretta Adams

Friday, Dec. 23, 2022

*Late Advent Weekday*

9:00 am....Elizabeth Hiti

Saturday, Dec 24, 2022

*Late Advent Weekday*

4:30 pm.....Baby Coletta DiCello

6:30 pm.....Colleen Troy Clap

8:30 pm.....Kenney Evans

## **The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)**

8:00 am....Pro Populo

11:00 am....Janet Uram

## **Readings for the Week of December 18, 2022**

**Sun.:** Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

**Mon.:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

**Tues.:** Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**Wed.** Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

**Fri.:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

**Sat.:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk  
1:67-79

## From Fr. Steve...

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent everyone! This Advent we are getting our money's worth! A full four weeks of Advent. This week is the last week for our Advent Holy Hour and Taize Prayer. Thank you for attending these opportunities for prayer and reflection. Speaking of reflection, many of you took an Advent Blue Book to help you get ready for the Christmas Season. I hope you enjoyed the daily reflections. These are great little books indeed! If you were unable to attend our Communal Cluster Evening of Confession, have some opportunities this week for you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession times are Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30PM to 6:15PM and Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30M to 6:15PM. There's no Confessions on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Confession will resume on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 3:15PM. Looking for a last minute gift item to put under the tree or in a Christmas Stocking? Good news! Mega Raffle tickets are still available. You can purchase a Mega Raffle ticket at the parish office. Be sure to consult the bulletin for our parish office hours during the Christmas Season. Our staff has worked very hard this past year and they deserve a little break to rest and to get ready to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord.

Speaking of Christmas, recently I learned from a parishioner the history of the Twelve Days of Christmas Song. If you like to learn about the history of this popular carol, go to the Catholic News Agency Website and type in the search bar, "History of the Twelve Days of Christmas." I learned that this English Carol was written as catechism song to teach the youth about our faith. From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to openly practice their faith, so the song has a hidden meaning to teach children about our beliefs. For example, the three French hens represent the three theological virtues of "faith, hope & love." Also, the "true love" in the song is Jesus. Jesus is also the partridge because that bird is willing to sacrifice its life to protect its young. So, as Catholics in England went about singing this Christmas Carol openly, non-Catholics had no idea that the six geese a laying was about the six days of creation. So, if you want to impress your family and friends while enjoying a Christmas Goose, share with them this fun little Christmas fact. Or pull up the article and see if anyone at the table can guess what each number represents. Maybe if they answer correctly, they get a piece of ribbon candy. What a fun way to talk about faith at the table! I hope you have a wonderful Christmas Season. If you are traveling, may God bless and guide you safely to your destination. God bless and have a great week!

# PARTICIPATING

## SAVE THE DATES!!

January 28, 2023	Anniversary Dinner
February 11-19th	Our Lady of Lourdes Novena
February 22nd	Ash Wednesday
March 12th	St. Patrick's Party
March 24th	Fish Fry
April 9th	Easter Sunday
April 29th	1st Communion
April 30th	1st Communion
May 8th	May Crowning
May 13-14th	Spring Bake Sale
May 16th	Confirmation
June 1st-4th	Festival

### This week at SMM:

Dec. 19th	Bible Study 7:00pm-8:30pm	Room 103
Dec. 20th	Advent Holy Hour 3:15pm-4:00pm	Church
	Confessions 5:30pm-6:15pm	Church
	Taize 6:45pm-8:00pm	Church
Dec. 21st	SVDP 7:00pm-8:30pm	Room 103
Dec. 22nd	AA Meeting	Room 104

*Oplatki Wafers are available in the Parish Office or in the gathering area in the Church.*

**\$4.00**



### HOLY HOURS

#### TUESDAYS IN ADVENT



3:15-4:00 p.m.

St. Mary Magdalene

Dec. 20

Please Join Us For:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Rosary

Litany of St. Joseph

Benediction

All Are Welcome!

### Taizé Prayer Tuesdays in Advent

Taizé Prayer started in a monastery in France and is a prayer around the cross. There are several songs/chants, scripture, and intercessions. The music of Taizé Prayer is contemplative, soul-freeing, repetitive, and opens the mind to the Spirit. It's a great way to relax in a quiet atmosphere and spend some time with the Lord.

Musical prelude 6:45pm

Taizé Prayer begins at 7pm

St. Mary Magdalene Church

Tuesday Dec 20

All are welcome!



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Due to the Holiday deadline for the bulletin, no postings of Contributions will be reported this week.



**St. Vincent de Paul Society**  
440-943-2133, ext. 6179

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is pleased to serve those in need on behalf of the parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene Parish. We depend on your donations [Food Pantry—1% Envelope or the Poor Box] for the funds that we expend and sincerely thank you on behalf of those in need for your ongoing support. St. Vincent provides emergency assistance to individuals & families in need, on a strictly confidential basis. Anyone in need of assistance should call SVdP, 440-943-2133, ext. 6179 and leave a message. A volunteer member of SVdP will return your call.

### LUNCH PACKING

January 9th & 23rd

The Lunch Packing crew thanks you for your support over the years with this project of helping feed the needy at the West Side Catholic Center. We meet on the second and fourth Mondays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am to make sandwiches.

Needs: JELLY~ place donations in SVdP basket clearly marked, or bring item to the parish office during regular business hours. These brown bag lunches are delivered by volunteers to the West Side Catholic Center to feed the needy.

## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

<http://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/>



**SVDP:** Please consider donating the Following items for our Christmas food distributions:

**Hams, pancake syrup,  
Noodles and crackers!**

### A NOTE OF



Donations from the Advent Giving Project were delivered this past week. Staff and volunteers at all of the agencies are grateful for your generosity.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Catholic Cemeteries Association:

Offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings in-person in six of our offices and virtually:

For details, visit: <https://www.clecem.org/Information/>



## RCIA CORNER:

Please continue to pray for our Catechumens, **Stephen Phillips** and **David Sladewski**, along with **Candidate Brittany Krajewski** as they continue their journey to full initiation into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass.



## YEAR END GIVING

As the calendar year comes to a close, the spirit of the holidays and tax consideration lead people to plan charitable contributions before December 31st. Cash gifts may be made through the Sunday Collection or by sending your donation to St. Mary Magdalene, 32114 Vine Street, Willowick, OH 44095. Also consider gifts of appreciated stock, which can lower your income tax by reducing capital gains.

Your gifts will help sustain the ministries of St. Mary Magdalene Parish throughout 2023 as we bring the light of Christ to children & adults in our community.

Thank you for your continued financial support through 2022. SMM is so very grateful to our parishioners for your commitment to our parish!!

## Anniversary Dinner Is Coming! January 28, 2023

St. Mary Magdalene Gym 5:30 pm ~ 10:00 pm

Tickets \$10.00 Adults

Includes: Pasta Dinner, Salad, Rolls & Dessert

Mega Raffle Drawings!

*Tickets can be purchased in the parish office.*



## AUTOMATIC GIVING

The St. Mary Magdalene Automatic Giving Plan is a safe, convenient and reliable way to make your contributions using electronic transfers. Similar to programs offered by banks, insurance and utility companies, your contributions are automatically withdrawn from a regular checking account or at any bank or credit union.

Use your Debit/Credit CRD OR Checking Account—Earn points and rewards from your banking institution. It's 100% safe and you can cancel or change your contributions at any time. Best of all, it saves you time, and helps us keep track of our budget throughout the year. For more information or help call Rosemarie Sisler at 440-854-6001 or stop in the parish office.

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SMM Holiday Office

### Hours

#### Christmas:

Office Closed from Thursday Dec. 22-  
Monday Dec. 26

Office will reopen on Tuesday Dec. 27

#### New Years :

Office Closed from Friday Dec. 30-  
Monday Jan. 2

Office will reopen on Tuesday Jan. 3

## CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

There will be NO 3:15 pm Confessions  
on SATURDAY 12/24/22.

4:00pm-Musical Prelude in Church  
Masses at 4:30pm, 6:30pm and 8:30pm

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

Masses at 8am and 11am

Please note all Masses will be in the Church



## MATER DEI ACADEMY NEWS

Have a child ready for Kindergarten?

Come and see what Kindergarten really looks like! Join us for our Kindergarten Preview on January 21, 2023 from 10:00am-12:00pm. Please call the school office at 440-585-0800 to register.

Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner, beginning January 29<sup>th</sup>! MDA is now enrolling for grades Preschool 3yr – 7<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2023-2024 school year. Stop in during one of our open houses during Catholic Schools Week to learn more about Mater Dei!

January 29 --12:30-2:30pm or  
February 1 – 6:00-8:00pm

St. Mary Magdalene is hosting a Women's Book Study.

We will meet in Room 103 from 7:00-8:00 on January 11, February 8, March 8, and April 12. Our first book will be *Holy Moments* by Matthew Kelly. Participants should purchase the book prior to our first meeting. More details will come upon registration.

Register by calling the Parish Office or using the link posted on the church website.

Questions?

Please contact Jessica Sinkovic at:  
[JSinkovic@smmwillowick.org](mailto:JSinkovic@smmwillowick.org)

## MEGA RAFFLE

*First Prize: \$5,000.00*

*Second Prize: \$ 750.00*

*Third Prize \$ 250.00*

Thank you to all who have returned Mega Raffle tickets. We are over half way to our goal!

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF TICKETS SOLD AS OF December 7th IS...751 TICKETS = \$ 18,775.00**

**ONLY 1,000 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD! LAST YEAR WE SOLD ALL 1,000 TICKETS!!!!** Winning tickets will be pulled at the Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, January 28, 2023. If you need additional tickets they are available in the Parish Office and after the Masses .

# SACRAMENTS

## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

The Infant Baptismal Preparation Process assists parents with newborns through age 6 to understand the basic theology of the Sacrament & realize the responsibilities that come with the baptism of their child. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office. Children between the ages of 7 & 17 who are interested in being welcomed into the Roman Catholic faith through Baptism may contact Mary Lou Beers at (440) 725-3198.

### First Communion

Children between the ages of 7 & 17 who would like to receive First Holy Communion must participate in preparation classes. For more information, contact Mary Lou Beers at [MBeers@smmwillowick.org](mailto:MBeers@smmwillowick.org) or (440) 725-3198.

### Confirmation

Youth begin direct preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Fall of their 8th grade year, but they must have been in Catholic Day School or PSR for AT LEAST one year prior. If you are interested in finding out more, you can call or email Fr. Steve Breck at [FrBreck@smmwillowick.org](mailto:FrBreck@smmwillowick.org) or (440) 854-6017.

### Marriage

The Sacrament of Marriage requires a preparation time of at least six months. Please contact Fr. Breck for information.

### Anointing of the Sick

All parishioners who are seriously ill, advanced in years, or facing serious surgery are welcome to receive the Sacrament by contacting Fr. Steve or by attending a communal anointing service, held twice per year. Children are to be anointed if they have the sufficient use of reason (age 7) to be strengthened by this Sacrament.

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