

# Saint Mary Magdalen



**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 18, 2021**

**2201 SOUTH OLD U.S. 23 HIGHWAY  
BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN 48114**

**Phone: 810-229-8624 • Fax: 810-229-6471**

**Preschool: 810-229-0010**

**Website: [www.saintmarymagdalen.org](http://www.saintmarymagdalen.org)**

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.

8:30am - 4:30pm

Wed. 1pm - 4:30pm



## **Weekend Liturgies**

Saturday 4:30 pm  
(also Livestreamed)

Sunday 9 & 11 am

## **Weekday Liturgies:**

Mon., Tues., Wed. 9am

**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday  
3-4pm**

## **Infant Baptism:**

Contact Erin Wolfe

[baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org](mailto:baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org)

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Please  
contact the office at least nine  
months prior to wedding date.

## FROM FR. RYAN

### Holy Hour

Our Gospel this weekend is taken from the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke (verses 35-48). We hear the disciples were startled and terrified as Jesus stood in their midst. Jesus asked his disciples, “Why are you troubled?” I think it is fair to say many, if not most of us, carry some sort of trouble in our own personal lives - whether it be fear, anxiety, anger, uncertainty, despair, unforgiveness and the list can go on and on. This is a good opportunity to remind everyone that on Wednesdays from 7:00pm – 8:00pm we are praying a holy hour in the church before the Blessed Sacrament. It is inspiring to witness a community at prayer. I invite you to come lay your troubles before the Lord.

### Re-engagement

As you are hopefully aware, Bishop Boyea’s current dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is set to expire after Sunday, May 16, 2021. If we are going to be prepared to welcome people back to Mass on Sunday, May 23rd, we need to be ready to adjust our current Covid protocols and policies. I have the wise counsel of Cary Schmidt and Jean Shebak, the Chairs of our Reopening Committee and Wellness Committee, respectively, and Diane Kubus and Deacon Devon Wolfe. We began meeting Tuesday, April 13 to begin formulating a plan of reengagement and reopening to welcome people back to Mass.

Many pastors, staffs, and parish councils have been working on such plans for weeks and months. Given the situation we find ourselves in here at St. Mary Magdalen we are, admittedly, a little behind in having a plan drafted and communicated. I appreciate all the conversations our Pastoral Council has had regarding re-engagement and reopening. In the next few weeks I hope to have a plan communicated to the parish. What that plan looks like remains to be seen as these conversations continue.

I understand, as I write this, we are seeing increases in Covid cases and Covid-related hospitalizations. I encourage everyone to get vaccinated. As vaccines become more readily available and as more people utilize them, the responsibility to take necessary precautions will shift to the individual rather than the parish. By the end of May, my prayer is that more and more of us will feel comfortable enough to gather together again for the celebration of Holy Eucharist as the Body of Christ.

Many have been existing without the Sunday Eucharist for over a year. This is no way for us to live. When safety protocols were first instituted last year, it was to flatten the curve of hospitalizations and to protect the vulnerable populations from infection. It is our responsibility to take public health recommendations seriously. That, however, must be done in light of our personal responsibility to also see to the needs of our spiritual lives which includes attending Sunday Mass.

In celebrating these days of the Lord’s resurrection I have been reminded God could have redeemed us in a myriad of ways, but he took flesh and dwelt among us. We need His real presence.

Many centuries ago (around 304 AD) a group of Tunisian Christians were questioned as to why they had defied the Roman Emperor’s orders to no longer gather for the Eucharist. One of them responded: Sine dominico non possumus (without Sunday we cannot live). Pope Benedict XVI retold this story in one of his homilies and he noted: “the Sunday precept is not, therefore, an externally imposed duty, a burden on our shoulders. On the contrary, taking part in the Celebration, being nourished by the Eucharistic Bread and experiencing the communion of their brothers and sisters in Christ is a need for Christians, it is a joy... He who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him (Jn 6:56). How is it possible not to rejoice in such a promise?”

We will do our best to ensure the safety of everyone through reasonable precautions, but like those Tunisian Christians of old, without the real presence of Sunday Mass, we cannot live.

## FROM FR. RYAN

### **Diocesan Services Appeal**

Let me say a few words about the Diocesan Services Appeal (DSA). Thank you to everyone who has already made pledges or donations. Thank you for your generosity! I know that, given where we are as a parish right now, there are probably hurt feelings, distrust, and maybe even anger. We have been through a lot! Let's acknowledge those feelings and bring them before the Lord and, as I said on Palm Sunday, let's keep our eyes on the Cross.

Let me also say that without your generous support I wouldn't be here as your priest nor would our deacons have gone through their formation programs. Without your generous support the Diocese of Lansing would not be able to provide the myriad of lay formation programs for our staff, support for our parishes, or all the corporal and spiritual works of mercy through our various Catholic Charity agencies. So, I beg you, please pray regarding what you might be able to give to our current DSA campaign.

I worked six years in public accounting before entering seminary. I believe numbers tell a story. If we hit 100% of our DSA goal (a goal we have not hit in the last few years) I truly believe it would show that our story is one of Christian hope – hope in the mercy and generosity of Christ proven through His resurrection.

### **Fr. Paul Erickson**

As I announced last weekend, Bishop Boyea has assigned Fr. Paul Erickson as Administrator of St. Mary Magdalen effective July 1, 2021. He is a great priest and a personal friend. I know him to be kind, caring, gentle, funny, and someone who likes to laugh and laugh big. He will be a great fit for this community.

I have read through some of the emails that have come to the parish expressing anger, disappointment, and frustration given the latest announcement. Again, let me say we need to let this process play itself out. The first temptation these feelings can lead us into is to start blaming people. I don't see that as fruitful or healthy. Rather, I see this as an opportunity for all of us to lean into the Lord all the more and to practice the virtues of faith, hope, and love. Let us hold up Fr. Shaun, Bishop Boyea, Fr. Erickson, and our St. Mary Magdalen parish up in prayer. And, please pray for me!

The second temptation these feelings can lead us into is to stay away from Mass and the Church. The Evil One is a divider. In these times of uncertainty, we need to be the Body of Christ all the more. If you feel as though you want to stay away given our situation, I pray that you resist that temptation. St. Mary Magdalen parish will never be who she is called to be without all of us gathered together in prayer. So, I will end where I began. Let us be a community of prayer and please consider praying with us on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:00pm.

Stay Awesome and Be Loved!

Fr. Ryan

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Acts 4:8-12** Early in the Acts of the Apostles, Peter and John healed a lame man who used to sit begging each day at the gate of the temple. This miracle led to their arrest, and they were brought before the Sanhedrin. In today's passage, we hear Peter speaking boldly about Jesus to these Jewish leaders. In these few sentences, Peter presents the very heart of the Christian message.

**1 John 3:1-2** During this Easter season, we are reading from the letter of John. Today's reading reminds us about something both John and Paul emphasized: Jesus has made it possible for us to be God's sons and daughters, not just in some future life, but here and now.

**John 10:11-18** Of all the images of Jesus throughout the ages, none shows His tenderness and compassion more than the Good Shepherd. The dramatic and startling degree of love and concern is so great that the shepherd is willing to die rather than abandon His flock. If there are sheep outside the fold (even sheep excluded by the fold itself) the good shepherd must go to them so there will be one flock under one shepherd. The motivation is love.

**Reflect:** What qualities of God does the image of the Good Shepherd bring to your mind?

## MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

### Monday, April 19

Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29

9:00 am +Gwen Maes

### Tuesday, April 20

Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35

9:00 am St. Mary Magdalen First Communicants

### Wednesday, April 21

Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40

9:00 am **Mass of Remembering**

### Thursday, April 22

Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51

### Friday, April 23

Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59

### Saturday, April 24

Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69

### Sunday, April 25, FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

4:30 pm +Nancy Choate

9:00 am The People of St. Mary Magdalen

11:00 am +Gwen Maes

## IN MEMORIAM

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

Kevin Blanck and family in the death of his mother, Joyce.



Ann Scharf & Antoinette Peterson and families in the death of their father, Salvatore Cosentino.

Frederick Garchow and family in the death of his mother, Doris.

## Prayer REQUESTS

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF:

Marilyn Bitterle, Luke Bowman, Terrence Brown, Joe Carney, Lucas Cauley, Kathy Clark, Keith Craffey, John Davidson, Karoline DeRosia, Cienna Ditri, Marie Edwards, Mary Lea Gehring, Judy Gentner, Anna Gilders, Sharon Hammang, Sr. Joyce Hoile, Kathy Jagusch, Ayla Jednacz, Mary Keating, Jan Keough, Maria Kottke, Susan Kuhns, Herb Langer, John & Marcy Luibrand, David Martin, Kristen Marsh, James Montgomery, Stella Paweski, Lauren Pennington, Carolyn Phillips, Christine Reinhard, Nolan Rexhaj, Kathy & Tony Riccardi, Donna Rushak, Linda Santioni, Marino Sarti, Johnny Saylor, Dave & Judy Scharf, Leslee Smith, Marny & Gene Stuart, Cindy Sultana, Fr. Mathias Thelen, Marylyn Trader, Michelle Turner, Dan Tuthill, Claudette Wilkinson, Augustin Zaragoza, Tom Zremski, Gayl, Kyle, Patrick, Richard K. and William

*May they be fully restored to good health and comforted at this time.*

### Important Note About our Prayer List

The names of the sick will run in this column for 6 weeks, at which time they will be removed. To add, re-list, or remove a name, please call the parish office at 810-229-8624. Many people have recuperated so we appreciate updates to be current. Thank You!

## MASS OF REMEMBERING



The monthly Mass of Remembering will take place this Wednesday, **April 21 at 9am**. This Liturgy is offered for deceased parishioners and relatives, especially: Hazel Hastie-Carey, James Wojda, Dan Worthington, Hudson DeWeese, Diane Morrison, Emilia Grace Huddas, Thom Rademacher, and Tracey Howard.

## MINISTERS OF PRAYER

**April 18—April 24**

Sunday	Jerry Dolkowski
Monday	Volunteer
Tuesday	Michele Sixbery
Wednesday	Gale and Pat Harris
Thursday	Volunteer
Friday	Lynn Pfaff
Saturday	Ted Eisenhut



## HOLY HOUR

We will be having a holy hour in our worship space *every Wednesday evening from 7:00pm to 8:00pm*. This began on April 7 and will continue for the foreseeable future. It is good to have some time to come together and pray as a community – to pray for our parish, for Fr. Shaun, for Bishop Boyea, for all those involved, and for whatever else might be on our hearts. This will be a simple holy hour with the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar. At 8:00pm either Fr. Ryan or one of the deacons will repose the Blessed Sacrament after a brief prayer and benediction. Please come and sit with the Lord!

What is a Holy Hour?

A Holy Hour is spending some time in silence with the Lord. Just as Mary, Martha's sister, sat at the feet of Jesus listening to him, a Holy Hour is time set aside so that we too can sit with Jesus. Please join us as we pray for our parish and our world.

See the Adult Formation page on our website to find out more information about some ideas for how to spend that time.

## CURRENT PARISH GUIDELINES

- ◆ Indoor weekend Liturgy celebrated in the main worship space. Masks must be worn. No assisting liturgical ministers, socially distant seating, socially distant reception of Holy Communion.
- ◆ Indoor weekday Liturgy in the main worship space celebrated minimally (i.e., no singing, no assisting liturgical ministers, socially distant seating, socially distant reception of Holy Communion). Masks must be worn.
- ◆ Drive up reception of Holy Communion, at the main entrance under the portico, will be available Saturdays 5:45—6:15 pm and Sundays 12:15—12:45 pm.
- ◆ The parish staff has normal work schedules. The parish office remains closed to visitors.
- ◆ Gatherings and meetings are held online.
- ◆ Outdoor gatherings of 10 and no more than 50 people permitted with strict social distancing.

***If you have any condition that will compromise your immune system (or if you care for someone with such a condition) PLEASE STAY HOME! There is no obligation to attend Mass and there is no obligation to receive Holy Communion through May 16, 2021.***

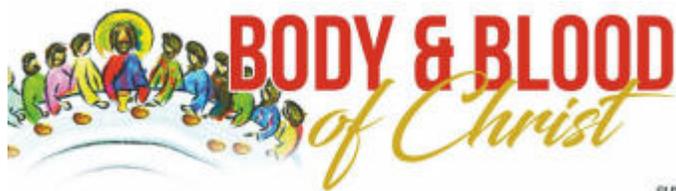
## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

### First Eucharist Updates

This Saturday, we hosted our First Eucharist retreat entitled “The Eucharist Story.” Thank you to our catechists: Mary Serio; Kim Griffen; Cathy Zremski; and Dcn. Devon; as well as our 9th Grade volunteers: Bobby Burant; Julianne Finn; and Grace Urban. I would also be remiss if I did not give a very special thank you to Stasia Eisenhut and Karen MacDonald! Their help has been so valuable as we worked together to plan and design this new First Eucharist retreat.

The retreat immersed the children and their parents into the story of the how God has come to be with us in the Eucharist. Our parish became a time machine of sorts, as the children explored the Passover, the Last Supper, and the Eucharist at Mass. They were able to engage the story of how God has always sought after his people, forgiven them their sins, and made them his family. If any adults in the parish would like to explore a more “grown up” version of this retreat, I highly recommend reading Brant Pitre’s book, “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist.”

First Eucharists are being handled a little differently this year. Rather than having all of the first communicants together at one liturgy, we will be having one or two children making their first holy Communion at each Mass between April 24th and June 19th. Please continue to pray for the children and their families as they draw nearer to this happy occasion!



## YOUTH MINISTRY



**The next youth group event will be on April 24th from 4:30—7:30 PM. We will be helping the maintenance staff of the parish with a Spring grounds cleanup and having a bonfire to celebrate all the hard work. All students in grades 6-12 are invited to attend!**

If anyone would like to donate yard rakes to the youth group, please contact Joshua Kenny. Your gift would greatly aid in future service projects. For example, this Fall, I am hoping to host a Youth Group Rake and Run. Anyone who donates will get a spot at the top our list to have their yard raked! Gently used donations are fine.



### Summer Fun!

I would love to take advantage of the nice weather that seems to be on the horizon, and gather the parish youth together for some summer fun! We were not able to gather as often as we would have liked this past year on account of Covid-19 restrictions, so I would love to host several outdoor gatherings in the coming months, where our middle and high school students can gather safely. **Which of the following do you feel would be most interesting to your child? (Grades 6-12):**

1. A day-away/overnight at a local Catholic summer camp?
2. A day spent exploring Kensington Metropark?
3. Sporting events held at the field behind our parish?

**Please email Joshua Kenny with your feedback!**

## WELLNESS

### TEEN AND YOUNG ADULT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS *Monday, May 10 at 7 pm*

We all know a teen who is struggling with negative feelings or behaviors.

Join us for a free seminar on May 10 as Kirsti Reeve, licensed professional counselor, discusses young adult and teen mental health.

**Topics covered include: anxiety, depression, suicide awareness and more.**

**Adults, parents, teens, teachers and other interested parties are welcome to attend from 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

We will facilitate this meeting using Zoom. Meeting link will be provided via email upon registration.

**Registration required. Please register using this QR code.**



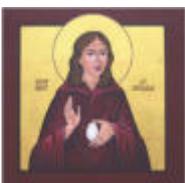
Or at:

<https://www.stjoeshealth.org/classes-and-events/teen-young-adult-mental-health-awareness-seminar>

Space is limited, please register at your earliest convenience.

For questions, please contact St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church at 810-229-8624.

*Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Brighton and St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church*



**Four registered and Confirmed members of the parish will be chosen by lot on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, to serve on our Pastoral Council.**

The Council works with the pastor and the various ministry teams to guide our parish according to our Vision Statement.

1. Council members seek to grow through their own continuing education.
2. We send members as liaisons to each of the ministry teams.
3. We create opportunities for all our parishioners and ministry teams to participate in discerning the needs of the parish and in the setting of goals and projects to fulfill these needs.

Volunteers for this ministry make a three year commitment to it. You may nominate yourself or someone else with their consent. **PLEASE SIGN UP NOMINEES IN THE GATHERING AREA THIS WEEKEND!!**



**Dedicated to four principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism**

St. Mary Magdalen Council 12295 invites men 18 years and older to join.

For information contact Ken Anderer, (810) 333-2130 or [kanderer65@gmail.com](mailto:kanderer65@gmail.com)

## FINANCE

### WEEK OF 4/11/21

ENV/CASH	\$ 10,027
DEBT REDUCTION	\$ 205
EFT/ONLINE	\$ 10,998
TOTAL	\$ 21,230

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Your parish contributions are appreciated and very important, especially during this time. Sunday contributions may be mailed to the parish office or consider online giving.

### PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE TO GIVE ONLINE

[www.saintmarymagdalen.org](http://www.saintmarymagdalen.org)

### TEXT CONTRIBUTIONS USING SMART PHONES

Simply text the amount you would like to give to support St. Mary Magdalen to 844-928-0075. You will receive a registration link. Click the link and enter your contact and payment information. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give and it will process automatically.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

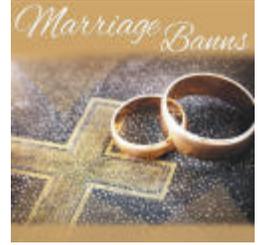
The Knights of Columbus will be selling pasties **after the masses on May 1 and 2**. Based on recipes handed down through generations of Upper Peninsula Pasty Makers, your local council is pleased to offer another 'Grab and Go' option to support funding for our charities. 'MEAT' and 'VEGGIE' pasty options will be available, each selling for \$7. The pasty will be sold frozen so stock up on these delicious Northern Delights.



### PASTY SALE - MAY 1 & 2

## MARRIAGE BANNS

*I*  
*Abigail Jewell*  
&  
*Jacob Otto*



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Monday, April 19

- 4:30 pm First Eucharist Pictures
- 6:00 pm Magdalen's Kitchen-Carryout
- 6:00 pm Properties
- 7:00 pm RCIA Mystagogia-Virtual
- 7:00 pm Women's Faith Sharing-Virtual
- 7:30 pm K of C Planning

### Tuesday, April 20

- 4:30 pm First Eucharist Pictures
- 7:00 pm Finance
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm Catholic Biblical School

### Wednesday, April 21

- 9:00 am Mass of Remembering
- 5:00 pm 9th Grade Confirmation Session
- 7:00 pm Holy Hour of Prayer
- 8:00 pm Pastoral Council

### Thursday, April 22

- 7:00 pm Men's Faith Formation-Zoom

### Friday, April 23

- 1:00 pm Worship-Virtual
- 4:30 pm High School & Middle School Youth Group Grounds Cleanup & Bonfire

### Saturday, April 24

- 8:00 am Marriage Prep Lasting Promise
- 4:30 pm Individual First Eucharist

### Sunday, April 25 Destined Final Lesson Released

- 9 & 11 am Individual First Eucharist
- 12:00 pm 9th Grade Confirmation Session
- 12:45 pm Baptism
- 2:00 pm Baptism
- 6:30 pm Catholic Social Teaching Book Discussion-Zoom

## GARDENING ANGELS

### ADOPT-A-GARDEN!



Easter brings Spring and Spring brings new life in our gardens!

If you have a love of gardening, and you'd like to share your talent, please consider adopting a garden here at St. Mary Magdalen.

We have different gardens that require some love and attention during the spring, summer and fall. You can work in the gardens at your own time and pace. You may be sharing a garden with a couple other gardeners!

Families are welcome to sign up too.

If you'd like to be a St. Mary Magdalen Gardening Angel, please call the office and ask for Sandi or email: [sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org](mailto:sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org). Sign ups are also in the Gathering Area.

## DSA 2021



Our Diocesan Services Appeal continues this month as we look for a parish goal of \$102,772. We are about 40% to our goal with only 170 of our 1, 556 families pledging so far.

The DSA is our opportunity to put God's word into action here in our diocese.

Contributions are put to work in many different ministries, aiding families and individuals, parishes, Catholic Schools, Catholic Charities agencies and many more.

Once our DSA parish goal is reached, 50% of any contributions received over and above our parish goal will be returned to our parish.

If you haven't already, please consider making a DSA contribution today. Gift envelopes are available in church or in the St. Mary Magdalen office. Or you may submit your gift online at [www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa)

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCE

### 3RE (Restore Rekindle, Renew)

#### Tuesday Evenings, April 27-June 8

Ever thought about making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, but can't seem to find the time? The 3 RE is all the content of a weekend presented in weekly sessions over a 7-week period. This spring, grow your marriage and your faith by attending the Virtual 3RE!

Apply today at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) and put Michigan in the search bar. For questions, contact Terry & Cathy Hirsch at 888-322-9963



**The Community Life Ministry is planning many events this year so we can gather and celebrate each other!**

**OUTDOOR CONCERT  
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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

## HOPE IN A BOX



**APRIL NEEDS:**  
Deodorant  
Feminine Care Products  
Toilet Paper



Please remember Magdalen's Kitchen and Alms during this health crisis. You can donate online under "online giving" on our website.

[www.saintmarymagdalen.org](http://www.saintmarymagdalen.org)

## CHARITY NEWS

### NOTICE

St. Vincent dePaul has currently discontinued providing pods to organizations for clothing drives, therefore, we are sorry we are unable to continue our semiannual clothing drives here at St Mary Magdalen at this time.

## MAGDALEN'S PRESCHOOL

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

Magdalen's Preschool is looking to hire a qualified assistant teacher. If you are interested, have a question, or would like a detailed job description please email Amanda Faiola at [preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org](mailto:preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org)



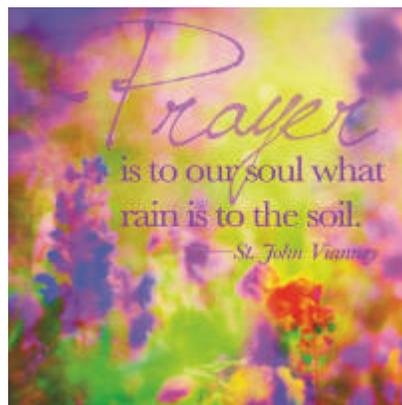
### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are also looking for volunteers who can help on a regular basis. If you are interested in becoming a preschool volunteer please call Amanda Faiola at 810-229-0010.

## AQUINAS COLLEGE VISIT DAY

Aquinas College welcomes high school students to our campus for our upcoming AQDay on **Friday, May 7**. Experience firsthand what it means to be a Saint! Events include an overview of the college and a campus tour.

See our mission in action and how small is indeed mighty! Details and registration can be found at [aquinas.edu/visit](http://aquinas.edu/visit).



## STAFF DIRECTORY

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