

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

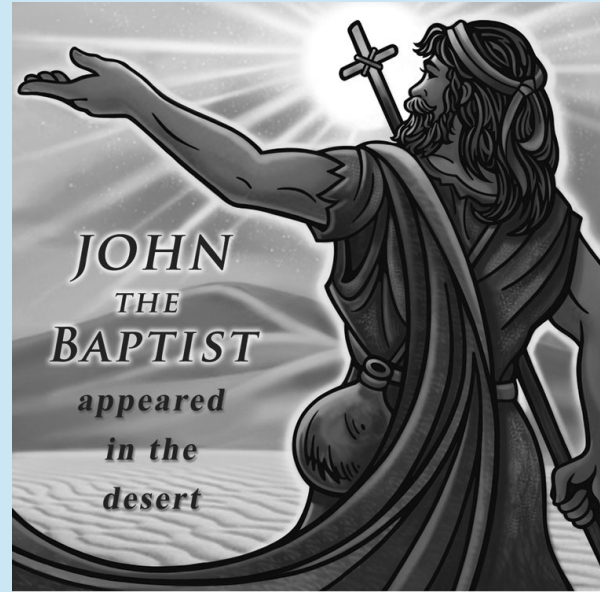
6425 West Metairie Avenue Metairie, Louisiana 70003

2nd Sunday of Advent

NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

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December 10, 2017

St. Mary Magdalen Parish Mission Statement

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church is called to foster a welcoming community, to form disciples for Jesus Christ and to joyfully evangelize. **Unifying Vision:** Walking together with Christ, igniting the Spirit within, living God's Call.

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Fax: (504) 733-0869

Parish Website:

www.stmarymagdalenchurch.com

Parish Email Address:

magdalen@smm.nocoxmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday.....9:00AM - 4:00PM

Friday.....CLOSED

After hours by appointment only

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

In CHAPEL

Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM & 8:30AM

Saturday, 8:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 PM

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4 PM

Sunday Masses - 8, 9:30 & 11AM; 6PM

EXPOSITION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Sundays, 12:15-1:15PM

1st Monday, 9:15-10:15AM (Sept-May)

In Church, be sure to visit:

RESPECT LIIFE CORNER

ADULT PARISH LENDING LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S CORNER/LIBRARY/PRAYER CENTER

SOCIAL APOSTOLATE MINISTRY

Hours: Wednesdays, 5:30PM-6:30PM

Facility Entrance on W. Metairie Ave. to right of church.....734-5833

GIFT SHOP & PRAYER GARDEN

NEW Hours: Mon. & Fri.....1:00PM-5:00PM

Saturdays.....2:00PM-5:00PM

Sundays.....8:30AM-12:15PM

Phone:.....734-5833

Call Parish Office for further information

BAPTISMS: Every 2nd Sunday before/during 11AM Mass & 3rd Sunday at 12:15PM. Pre-Registration for Baptism Seminars is now required by calling 733-8980.

Archdiocesan Policy on Infant Baptism:

www.arch-no.org/HumanResources/Policies/PolicyonInfantBaptism OR may be found on the Parish website.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION:

Must have 2 consecutive years of Catholic religious instruction prior to reception of these sacraments. Contact Parish Religious Education for further information.

WEDDINGS: Contact Parish priest at least 6 to 8 months prior to planned date of marriage. FOCCUS Survey by appointment only. Weddings Celebrated Friday evenings; Saturday mornings, early afternoons or evenings. Church Fee: \$300; Chapel Fee: \$100.

FUNERALS: You are encouraged to celebrate funerals in our Church or Chapel. Wakes & visitation also possible.

CARE OF THE SICK: Communion brought to Homebound weekly by Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Anointing of Sick available on individual basis by appointment.

PARISH WEEKLY BULLETIN
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
Metairie, Louisiana
December 10, 2017

Vol. XXXVII, No.2

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Fr. Chris DeLerno, Pastor

(504) 733-0922; cdelerno@yahoo.com

Fr. Vincent Phan, Parochial Vicar

(504) 733-0922; vinhph2003@yahoo.com

Fr. Bartholomew Chukwuma, In Residence

(504) 733-0922

Deacon Chuck LeBlanc

(504) 733-0922; cleblanc@archdiocese-no.org

Dr. Jim Heneghan, Acolyte

Barbara Croy, Parish Secretary

(504) 733-0922; bcroy@smm.nocoxmail.com

Cathleen Guidry, Parish Bookkeeper

(504) 733-0922

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE-

(504) 733-8980

Parish School of Religion (PSR) Director

Linda Earle—learle@smm.nocoxmail.com

Parish Coordinator

Susie Sullivan—ssullivan@smm.nocoxmail.com

SMM SCHOOL

Valerie Rodriguez, Principal

(504) 733-1433; vrodriguez@smmcougars.org

Melanie Gaumont, Religion Coordinator

(504) 733-1433; mgaumont@smmcougars.org

Dianne Hughes/Caren Favaloro, Secretaries

(504) 733-1433; stmarymag@archdiocese-no.org

BEFORE/AFTER-CARE—(504) 733-4768

Shari Mader & Caren Favaloro, Co-Directors

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 11

6:30 AM Ronco Family

8:30 AM Fr. Michael Joseph Nguyen

Tuesday, December 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30 AM David Beach, Sr.

8:30 AM Chuck deBlois

Wednesday, December 13

6:30 AM Doris Radosti

8:30 AM Rosalie Couch

Thursday, December 14

6:30 AM Mary “Mimi” Cerise

8:30 AM Donald Gilmore

Friday, December 15

6:30 AM Sr. Therese Fletchinger, SSND

8:30 AM Christian DeLerno, Sr.

Saturday, December 16

8:00 AM Maria Mercedes Lopez

Saturday, December 16

3rd Sunday of Advent Vigil

4:00 PM Jack & Rosalie Couch, Aimee Marus,
Vetter Amadeo Taylor, Dean D’Arcangelo,
Kevin Reynolds, Anna Mae Haggerty,
Shirley Heigle-Perfetti, Ellen Bell,
Joe Paci, Eloise Abadie

Sunday, December 17

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Jud Mitchell & Lacinak Family

9:30 AM SMM Parishioners

11:00 AM St. Jude Society Prayer List, Cindy
Spence, Trinidad Mares, Mark Dyer,
Renee` Mangin Rangel

6:00 PM Richard Ducote, Sr.



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PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Mark Lucich, Willie Arnouville, Sherry Gaffney, Ray Talbot, Norvin Schexnaildre, Paul Powers, Joyce Chiusano, Richard LeBlanc, Marsha Robert, Rose Keller, Leah Conlin, Abigail Robertson, Patrick Mulhern, Marilyn Reynolds, Carole Corona, George "Mickey" Krause, Tommy Keller, Julie Periou, Brenda Simon, Jena Serigne, Deborah Woodward, Kevin Pineo, Rosemarie Entringer, Teresa Lacour, Mary Ann Meaux, Gayle Songy, Jerry Fender, Jonathan Robertson, Judy Massa, Kevin & Kenneth Teen, Gracelynn Chaplain, Celine Wild, Carol P. Ramos

VOCATIONS

LET'S PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

In order to support vocations in our diocese, you are asked to add a special prayer for seminarians to your daily prayers. The best way to encourage and support our seminarians is to pray for them.

Prayer for Vocations

Loving God, How awesome are your ways! Through your abundant love, you bless us with gifts that can make our world holy and just. Dwell deep in our hearts that we may know how to share these gifts. Inspire many to respond generously to your call to service in the Church. May the fire of your love direct us on our journey that we may act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with you. We give you the praise and honor now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER LIST FOR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

We pray for those in our parish who are fighting overseas for our country and against terrorism.
Sp. Serv., Brian Calvo, US Army; PFC Scott Hale, USMC

CHANGES RE: BULLETIN PRAYER LISTS

In an effort to improve the parish bulletin, the current Prayer Lists have been purged. If you would like to have a name put back on, please email info to ssullivan@smm.nocoxmail.com OR call 733-8980. If you have to leave a message please say & spell name clearly. Thanks!

FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP

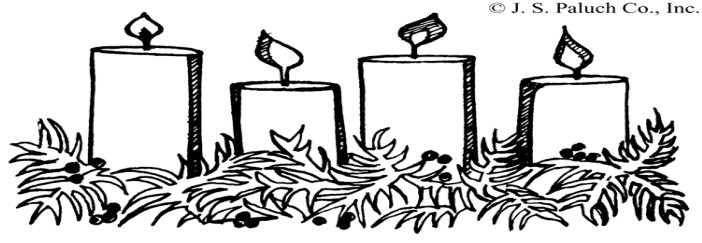
In gratitude for God's gifts we gratefully appreciate:

Envelopes (11/26)	\$ 5738.00
Loose Collection	\$ 1738.11
Total	\$ 7476.11

Thank you for your generosity!



Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths. — *Mark 1:3*



Readings for Sunday, December 17:

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11). **Psalm** — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54). **Second Reading** — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24). **Gospel** — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

2018 DONATION ENVELOPE BOXES AVAILABLE IN CHURCH

Donation envelope box sets are available for pickup by those parishioners who requested them. The envelope boxes may be found in church on tables near Mary's Alcove. All boxes will have a label with each parishioner's name, address & current account number - please make sure to take your own! This box will include your regular weekly/monthly offering envelopes, feast day envelopes and all special collection envelopes. You are asked to make an effort to pick up your envelope box as soon as possible.

SACRISTY DOOR TO REMAIN CLOSED

Please help us to maintain the spirit of reverence & quiet meditation before Mass and refrain from visiting in the Sacristy. Celebrants, Deacons, Acolyte & Altar Servers should be the only people to enter and remain there. Commentators ONLY should enter to check on Celebrants & Deacons assigned to Mass & then leave immediately. EMC/Lector Sign-In, Homebound Ministry Communion cards & Usher Collection baskets/bags may now be found on a table OUTSIDE Sacristy. Thank you for your cooperation.

FOR THE CHILDREN



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PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Loving God, that was such wonderful news John came to tell the people in the wilderness! "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Thank you for your Son, who came to free us of our sins. And thank you for my own baptism and for the Spirit who lives in my heart and keeps my soul free from the stain of sin. Amen

CELEBRATING CATHOLIC FAMILIES

Living the Word

2nd Sunday of Advent

During Advent, we try to prepare our hearts in prayer in order to celebrate the Christ Child's birth on Christmas. To help families during the Advent season, in the Children's Corner activities will be available to help us prepare our hearts in prayer. Activities will include:

Advent candle color sheet & Prayer Card for every week of advent: can be used as our personal advent wreath.

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet Card to be given as a gift to a loved one.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

DECEMBER: Month of *Advent & Christmas* Prayer Center Theme is: *I am getting ready to celebrate Jesus' birthday by...* Put written intentions in gift box; they will be offered up at all Sunday Masses once a month.



SMM SCHOOL & PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAMS December

SMM school will be celebrating Advent with the theme "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also". Matthew 6:21. The students will read from the New Testament and complete activities that will help them to discern the "treasure" of Christ in their lives.

SMM SCHOOL—COUGAR NEWS

Please keep our Second Grade class in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation this Tuesday evening.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistry, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three natiivities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John's birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke's Gospel of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist's birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ's birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12

Patroness of the Americas and the Unborn Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



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MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

PARISH FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE

Our Parish Family Christmas Tree will be placed inside the main entrance to the Church for the 3rd Sunday of Advent. Families are encouraged to decorate this tree with home-made ornaments on **Dec. 16/17**.



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THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 11

Parish School of Religion Classes, 6:45PM-8:00 PM

Tuesday, December 12

Marian Servants® of Our Father's Love in Convent Bldg, 9:30AM-12Noon

1st Reconciliation in Church 7:00 PM

Come, Lord Jesus in Convent Bldg 7:00 PM

KC Meeting in Massett Hall 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 13

Advent "Prayer" Series in Convent Bldg 9:45 AM

Social Services Building open from 5:30PM-6:30PM

Advent "Prayer" Series in Convent Bldg 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 14

Come, Lord Jesus in Convent Bldg 7:00 PM

Friday, December 15

Saturday, December 16

Altar Server Christmas Party in Massett Hall 11:30 AM

Confessions in Church, 2:30-3:30 PM

Sunday, December 17

Family Mass 9:30 AM

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 12:15-1:15 PM

Baptisms in Church 12:15 PM

SOCIAL JUSTICE

"Gifts from the Angels"

CHRISTMAS GIVING PROJECT

A special project to help the Christmas Season be a little brighter for those less fortunate.

Please return the "Angel" tag & envelope with your contribution enclosed in the collection basket on **Dec. 9 & 10**. The certificates will be distributed to needy families at a later date in December. Please consider bringing a little Christmas cheer to others by participating in this special project.

EVANGELIZATION

To evangelize is to convert or seek to convert someone to Christianity; to preach the Gospel. We are all called to evangelize!!!

SPECIAL PARISH EVENTS

SANTA PICTURES & BREAKFAST

Ho Ho Ho! Come on over to Massett Hall on **Sunday, December 10** for a visit with Santa and to have your picture taken. Cost: 5x7 - \$4 each or 3 for \$10. Email is also an option: (2) 5x7 with pictures emailed to you. Thanks to the KC Knights, a "free" continental breakfast will be served. Please stop by for fellowship and meet a fellow parishioner.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC PRESENTATIONS SMM SCHOOL BAND/CHORUS CONCERT

On **Monday, December 18**, from 7:00-8:00PM in the church, all are invited to a **FREE** Christmas Concert.



CANTORS IN CONCERT

On **Wednesday, December 20** from 7:00-8:00PM in the church, all are invited to a **FREE** Christmas Concert of traditional Christmas music provided by our parish cantors & organist. After the concert all are invited to the Prayer Garden for refreshments.

ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION & RECONCILIATION

All are invited to a special evening of reflection & reconciliation **Tuesday, December 19** from 7:00-8:00 PM in the Chapel followed by individual confessions.



CONFESSION SCHEDULE RECONCILIATION SERVICE & CONFESSIONS

Tuesday before Christmas—December 19

7:00 PM in Chapel & Church

Saturday before Christmas—December 23

EXTENDED CONFESSION HOURS

1:30 to 3:30 PM

NO CONFESSIONS ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Mass Schedule

Vigil Masses on December 24: 4:00PM & 6:00PM

Midnight Mass: (Music begins ½ hour before Mass)

Feast Day Masses on December 25:

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Feast of the Solemnity of Mary

(NOT a Holy Day of Obligation)

January 1, 2018

8:30AM ONLY