

Saint Mary Magdalen

Witnessing to the Resurrection

AUGUST 25, 2019

**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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 8:30am–4:30pm

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday: 4:30pm † Sunday: 9 & 11am

Weekday Liturgies:

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9am, Wed. 7pm

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday: 11:30am–12noon

Infant Baptism: Contact Erin Wolfe.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Please contact the office
at least nine months prior to wedding date.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES

August 26, Monday

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22
9:00 am + Thomas Garity

August 27, Tuesday, Saint Monica

1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26
9:00 am Communion Service

**August 28, Wednesday, St. Augustine, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church**

1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32
7:00 pm + Ruth Howell
Mass of Anointing

August 29, Thursday, The Passion of St. John the Baptist

1 Thes 3:7-13/Mk 6:17-29
9:00 am Linda Lou Williams

August 30, Friday

1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13
9:00 am + Geraldine Clark

August 31, Saturday

1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 25:14-30

September 1, Twenty-Second Sunday

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
4:30 pm Vigil + Olga Adams
9:00 am + Catherine and Louis Monk
11:00 am St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29 The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. Sirach ran a school for young people in Jerusalem. In today's section, he gives his students a string of wise sayings that will guide them in their conduct.

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24 In today's reading from the letter to the Hebrews, the author contrasts two covenants. He begins with the covenant of Mount Sinai, which was ratified amid fire and darkness. Then he speaks of the new covenant established by Jesus at Mount Zion (which is another name for Jerusalem). The author then looks ahead to a glorious future in the heavenly Jerusalem.

Luke 14:1, 7-14 Once again, Luke finds Jesus at table, but not with social outcasts this time. Here he dines with religious leaders and takes this opportunity to teach some important qualities of discipleship and holiness. Even more, he teaches about the nature of God.

Reflect: How do I invite the poor into my home?



MASS OF ANOINTING

will be celebrated **Wednesday, August 28, at 7:00 pm**. All who have a serious or chronic illness, or are facing surgery are encouraged to attend.



**Would you like to find out more
about Catholicism?**

****If you have never been baptized or were baptized in another Christian faith.**
**** If you were baptized Catholic but did not receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation.**

WELLNESS QUOTE

**The secret to living well and longer is:
eat half, walk double, laugh triple
and love without measure.**

—Tibetan Proverb

Please contact Erin Wolfe in the Parish Office at (810)229-8624. No commitments or obligations, just the opportunity to find out more.

We will begin weekly Inquiry sessions on
Monday, September 9, from 7-8:30 pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Diane Agius	John Davidson	Sr. Joyce Hoile	Roy Mantay	Ray Ruszczynski	Jake Willet
Sally Bixler	Karoline DeRosia	Bill Hussey	Kathy Marshall	Janine St. Pierre	Doug Wozniak
Judy Bradley-Parsons	Donald Felic	Kathy Jagusch	Jeri Neiman	Bonnie Thompson	Jennifer Yanick
Marylyn Brink	Richard Gillis	Bonnie Kussmaul	John Nychypor	Roger Touchette	Tom Zremski
Larry Buslepp	Kristopher Golbiw	Herb Langer	Stan Osdras	Marylyn Trader	Ellen
Duane Clover	Pearl Golbiw	Aimee List	Stella Paweski	Donald Tremel	Jeanette
Hank Cornille	Karen Hammang	Jean Lizak	Dick Price	Michelle Turner	Margie
	Tom Hargrave	Gwen Maes	Kathy Runstadler	Geraldine White	Sara

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 a name, re-list a name, or remove a name, please call the parish office at 810-229-8624. Many people have recuperated so we appreciate updates, in order to be current. Thank You!

LOWERY'S LINES

Two weeks ago I shared in my article that I had spoken, and would be speaking to, the parish staff (8/8/19), the finance council (8/14/19), and the pastoral council (8/21/19) about our financial position. I would like to explain in this bulletin article the situation we currently face. On August 15 and 16 – with the directive and unanimous consent of the finance council – I reduced the number of people employed on our parish staff as part of the cost cutting that our parish needs to do to regain its solvency. I share the following information optimistically and see it as an opportunity for us to continue to do what we started twenty-six years ago when our parish was founded: working together, blending our talents, and sustaining something very good for the glory of God, and the spiritual growth of all who wish to join us.

When I arrived at the parish I reviewed our operating budget. Our budget year begins July 1 and ends June 30. I noted our income and expenses and that the budget was balanced. Everything looked very good.

The difficulty I discovered is our budget lists both our *Securing Our Future* building fund, and our *Witness to Hope* returns as day-to-day operating income (income for paying our utilities, our staff, staff insurance/benefits, etc.). The problem with this is that both *Securing Our Future* and *Witness to Hope* are restricted funds: *Securing Our Future* is a building fund and *Witness to Hope* returns are earmarked to help pay our mortgage. We cannot take money that is donated for a specific purpose, and spend it to pay our day-to-day expenses; but that is what our budget says we are going to do this year. This amounts to approximately \$236,000.

The next problem we face is that in our checking account we had listed a lot of “exchange money accounts.” These are lines in our checking account for money that – for example – the youth group would turn in to the parish after having a car wash. We had multiple exchange money accounts totaling about \$90,000 listed in our checking account. But the problem is we spent that money to pay our bills, yet we continued to list that \$90,000 in the account. We had that money on paper, but not in reality. We also have nearly depleted our savings account, most recently for an emergency roof repair that took place last year, and on the recent sealing and striping of the back of the parking lot.

Why is this happening? Simply put, we are spending too much money on everything. Our expenses (many of which we can control) exceed our Sunday collection income. *Our collections have not declined. Each household that contributes money to the parish does so generously.*

Our finance council is advising us as a parish, to reduce our current operating budget by up to \$400,000 so we may stabilize our solvency. If we do not do this, we will continue to have to decide what we pay each month: the payroll and benefits for our staff, or the mortgage, or the utilities. We are not a business. We are a parish family. And, like any family, when things are tight one month or one year then the family needs to make economies. This is the task that lies before us. We will continue to cut expenses by lowering budgeted amounts for supplies, staff expenses and professional development, major equipment purchases, and non-critical building maintenance.

I have a sign in my office a woman who was dying of cancer gave to me. It reads, “It is what it is, but it will become what we make of it.” Let’s work together, communicate clearly and honestly, support one another, stay positive, and entrust ourselves to the prayers of St. Mary Magdalen as we restructure our finances so we may continue to support our youth, our religious formation of children and adults, our outreach to the poor, and our welcoming of all who come to us - all for the sake of witnessing to the Resurrection.

Peace, Fr. Shaun

RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS

Have you registered your children for fall Religious Formation classes yet?

We are only a few weeks away from beginning our fall Religious Formation classes. We are now registering for Fall 2019-2020 in the parish office. Please come in Monday—Friday from 9 am—4 pm to register. Our class schedule is as follows: Wednesday: 5:00 pm—6:30 pm and Thursday: 5:30 pm—7:00 pm. Our Family Program is at capacity. We do not have our registration forms online. We ask that you please register regardless of your ability to pay for tuition at the time of registration.

Parents with Children in First Grade

If you have a child who will be in first grade in the fall, please make sure you register them for Religious Formation. Preparation for First Eucharist takes place in first and second grade with children making their First Eucharist in the spring of second grade.

More Adults Are Needed for Liturgy of the Word for Children

The role we need for Liturgy of the Word for Children is to be a second adult for our leaders. Every time we gather children we must have two adults present. This is a ministry program for children that takes place during the 9 am and 11 am Liturgies. It is for all our younger youth grades K-4. (These are the children we bless at the beginning of Liturgy). We are in need of more adults to assist. Please pray about helping and sign-up at the Faith Formation counter in the Gathering Area.

Head Start on 9th Grade Service Hours!

Our incoming 9th grade Confirmation candidates will be asked to be of service in the community this year and to log their hours. **Our September 8 picnic** is still in need of volunteers to take a block of time to run the games. We are also in need of picnic clean-up help. If your son/daughter is interested and would like to be added to the volunteer schedule, please email Karen MacDonald in the church office ASAP at sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org.

Parish Picnic Sunday, Sept. 8th

**11:00 OUTDOOR LITURGY
PICNIC IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING**



**PLEASE!! SIGN UP TO HELP AND BRING A DISH TO
PASS! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Fr. Shaun Lowery
pastor@saintmarymagdalen.org

Deacon H. David Scharf
deacon1@saintmarymagdalen.org

Deacon James Chevalier
deacon2@saintmarymagdalen.org

Deacon Gary Prise
deacon3@saintmarymagdalen.org

Deacon Devon Wolfe
deacon4@saintmarymagdalen.org

Pastoral Minister Sr. Maryetta Churches. OP
pastmin2@saintmarymagdalen.org

R.C.I.A. & Infant Baptism Erin Wolfe
baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org

Liturgist/IT Specialist Diane Kubus
liturgist@saintmarymagdalen.org

Pastoral Musician Steven H. Schulte
steve@colleengleason.com

Director of Preschool Amanda Faiola
preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org

Bookkeeper Jeri Gawlowski
bookkeeper@saintmarymagdalen.org

Rel. Form. Admin Asst. Karen MacDonald
sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org

Administrative Asst. Gayle Zawisa
sect3@saintmarymagdalen.org

Administrative Asst. Sandi Phillips
sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org

Facilities & Maintenance Dan Tuthill
maint1@saintmarymagdalen.org

MINISTERS OF PRAYER

Sun. Aug. 25 Volunteer

Mon. Aug. 26 Pete Kelly, Barb Dolkowski

Tues. Aug. 27 Sophia Freni, Renee Shinska

Wed. Aug. 28 Carolyn Crabbe

Thurs. Aug. 29 Jim Hynes, Kathy Riccardi

Fri. Aug. 30 Tara Freni

Sat. Aug. 31 Volunteer

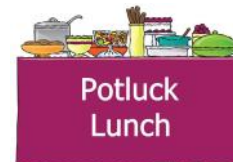
CHARITY & JUSTICE

Livingston County Transit Master Plan

Parishioners living within Livingston County are encouraged to review the Livingston County Master Transportation Plan at <https://www.livgov.com/lets/Pages/plan.aspx> and contact your County Commissioner to voice your opinion regarding the plan. Contact information for the Commissioners is available at <https://www.livgov.com/boc/Pages/commissioners.aspx>.

MEN'S RETREAT

The men of St. Mary Magdalen are invited to attend a weekend retreat **October 11-13**. The retreat is entitled **"Who do YOU say I AM"** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat and Conference Center. For more information, contact parishioner Pete Kelly at pckelly1@comcast.net or 248.842.7704. You can register for the retreat online at stpaulretreat.org or by calling 313.535.9563.

50+ POTLUCK LUNCH
WITH FATHER SHAUN

Friday, September 13
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

St. Mary Magdalen Community Room

Sloppy Joes and beverages provided. Please bring a dish to pass!

Please RSVP by calling the office
810-229-8624 by September 11

Need a ride? Please call 810-772-3236
for arrangements

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WEEK OF 8/18/19

Approximately 1071 people participated	
Env/Cash	\$10,873
Debt Reduction	\$ 575
EFT/Online	\$14,664
TOTAL	\$26,112
Children's Collection	\$28.38



Protecting God's Children Awareness Sessions

If you are working or ministering with children, you are required to attend a **Protecting God's Children Awareness Session**. This program is a nation-wide opportunity to raise our level of awareness and ways to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse. **Another session is being offered at St. Mary Magdalen on September 19.** There are also other sessions offered across the diocese. Please register online at www.virtus.org.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Beginning Monday, September 9, 7 pm
At St. Mary Magdalen

Grief can be loss of a family member, loss of a job, new beginnings and letting go of the past. In the group we will deal with the stages of grief, sharing our stories, prayer and community bonding.

We will meet Monday evenings, Sept. 9 - Nov. 2, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

If you would like to be a part of this group or have questions, please call Sister Maryetta at 810-229-8624.



To Eric Preiss and **PREISS COMPANIES** for donating 40 yards of cedar mulch for the playground area.

Please consider using them for your next landscaping project! **810-632-3020**

The Steve Schulte VINYL LIONEL Modern Old-Fashioned Benefit Variety Show!

Tuesday, August 27, 7:30pm
Brighton Coffeehouse and Theatre
Visit Brightoncoffeehouse.com for tickets.

Tickets are \$35

**All profits to benefit the
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**



MASS OF THE LITTLE ANGELS



On **Wednesday, September 11**, we will celebrate a very special Liturgy. We will pray for all mothers and fathers who have known the profound pain of losing a child; whether the loss is a result of a miscarriage or any other circumstance at any stage of their child's life.

The **MASS OF THE LITTLE ANGELS** will be at 7 pm in the chapel. If you cannot join us, please keep them in your prayer.

Make the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises is a pilgrimage of a spiritual search for the fulfillment of a desire for holiness. The exercise experience is about praying, searching, exploring and discovering; it is a journey with God. Christ Jesus is your companion as you learn to walk the life journey path as Jesus. Jesus asks: ***“What are you looking for?”*** (Jn 1:38) and ***“Come and see.”*** (Jn 1:39). Those who engage in the Spiritual Exercises discover a response to ***“What is God asking of me?”*** The Exercise experience is good for increasing openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit strengthening and supporting you in the effort to **respond ever more faithfully to the love of God.**

The full Spiritual Exercises may be done in the midst of ordinary daily life at home. It involves a daily commitment of 45-60 minutes in prayer and reflection centered on the themes of the Exercises and a weekly meeting with Linda Chevalier, Spiritual Director for approximately eight or nine months. Linda will meet with you on a weekly basis at her home which allows for reflective conversation and confidentiality. The cost for the Spiritual Exercises is to offer a stipend, payable over the course of the retreat; precise details being discussed during your first conversation.

If you feel drawn to make the Ignatian Exercises in Daily Life first pray about it and if you still feel drawn toward making the Exercises **call Linda Chevalier (810.229.9734) or chevalierlinda@att.net**

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, August 26

- 9:45 am Yoga
- 6:00 pm Magdalen's Kitchen
- 7:00 pm Preschool Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 27

- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, August 28

- 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 7:00 pm Mass of Anointing
- 7:30 pm Time and Talent

Thursday, August 29

- 9:45 am Exercise & Balance
- 7:30 pm Music Ministry

Friday, August 30

- 9:45 am Yoga

Saturday, August 31

Sunday, September 1

- 10:10 am New Parishioner Meeting
- 12:45 pm Baptism

Service Ministry Fair 8/31 & 9/1