



DECEMBER 1, 2019

JESUS SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES:  
"BE WATCHFUL! BE ALERT!  
YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN  
THE TIME WILL COME.  
WHAT I SAY TO YOU,  
I SAY TO ALL: 'WATCH!'"  
– Mk 13:33, 37

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. Cover © Liturgical Publications Inc. | Photo © 78455580, Stockbyte/Thinkstock

## Saint Mary Magdalen

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

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. .... 8:30am–4:30pm

Thursday ..... 1pm–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:** Call Erin Wolfe.

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

## LOWERY'S LINES

**Advent is here...turn on the lights!**

I still remember at a previous assignment being asked if it was ok to turn on the Christmas lights outside on the shrubs around the church. I was not quite sure what to make of the question. Why was I being asked? What was I being drawn into? Who was my decision going to make happy and who would it make mad? It was explained to me that the outside lights were not allowed to be turned on until Christmas Eve, but the lights were put in place at the beginning of Advent because chances were that the weather would be more accommodating earlier in the season than later.

The Advent season is a celebration of the Light that is and that is to come. The consolation of Christmas lights, candles, fires in the fireplace, all of these things can lift our spirits as the days grow darker and darker. They can remind us of the joy of both the Advent and Christmas seasons. We know that the physical darkness will decrease a bit each day after Christmas. The days will grow longer again. We also know that the spiritual darkness of sin and division has been vanquished by the generous love of our God incarnate, making a dwelling among us, through Jesus Christ, the morning star that never sets and whose day is eternal.

This Advent let us take some time to enjoy the Christmas lights that go on way before Christmas Eve in the neighborhoods, at the stores, maybe in our own home. They are previews of even greater things to come. As we see the lights of the season go on, let us also make a plan to reflect the Light for the ones God brings into our lives each day, and especially to the ones we welcome this weekend who are among us preparing for full Christian Initiation later this year at Easter.

*Have a blessed first week of Advent!*

*Peace,  
Fr. Shaun*

**THIS WEEK'S LITURGIES****Monday, December 2**

Is 4:2-6/Mt 8:5-11

9:00 am + Kathleen Kanzler

**Tuesday, December 3**

**Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**

Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday, December 4**

Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

7:00 pm + Gerry Bennett

**Thursday, December 5**

Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

9:00 am + Msgr. Vincent Howard

**Friday, December 6**

Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31

9:00 am + Anna Howell

**Saturday, December 7**

**Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 8**

Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

4:30 pm + Jan Jandasek & Keith Dunn

9:00 am St. Mary Magdalen Parishioners

11:00 am + Melissa Loniewski

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT****Isaiah 11: 1-10**

The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. Despite the political unrest of that period, he looks forward to a kingdom so wonderful that even nature is at peace. This perfect world would be ruled by a descendent of King David. Jesse in today's reading is the name of David's father.

**Romans 15: 4-9**

In the early days of the Church, some of the Jewish people who became Christians continued to practice their Jewish traditions. Many of them were members of the Church in Rome, along with others who were Gentiles. They sometimes found it hard to get along. As Paul nears the end of his letter to them, he encourages them to live in harmony by drawing upon the Scriptures they had in common.

**Matthew 3: 1-12**

The verses assigned in today's Gospel may have been the beginning of the whole story of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading is long with some difficult descriptions. "Repent!" "Prepare!" "Make Straight!"

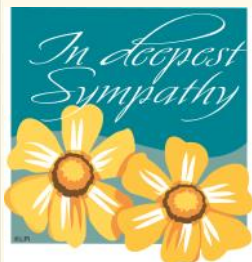
**Reflect:** In your own sphere of influence, what situations call out for justice and peace? What can you do about them this week?

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Larry Buslepp	Kelly Luck	Cindy Sultana
Cathy Buel	Gwen Maes	Paul Sultana
Ruth Ann Campbell	Pearl Mays	Paul & Erica S.
Barbara Chellis	Marlaine Micunek	Marylyn Trader
Terry Clark	Keri Miles	Don Tremel
Hugh Conahan	Amy Marie	Michelle Turner
John Davidson	Montgomery	Nichole Walker
Karoline DeRosia	Terry Moore	George White
Tom Hargrave	Stan Osdras	Stuart Willits
Victor Hibbeln	Louis Ostrowski	Patty Yeager
Sr. Joyce Hoille	Stella Paweski	Jennifer
Kathy Jagusch	Karen Polcyn	Yanick
Elaine Kay	Charlie Rinaldi	Tom Zremski
Patrick Kelly	Karie Schifko	Artie
Linda Lambert	Lisa Shibley	Jeanette
Herb Langer	Samantha	Kathleen
Jack Ling	Shibley	Mary
Ron Linhart	Richard Smith	

**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!

*Please remember in your prayers:*

Nick Faber and family, in the death of his sister, Mary Pesta.

The family of Dennis Migdal, in their loss.

The family of Geraldine White,

## FORMED

**FORMED Faith Sharing Group Signups**

In January we will be offering Faith Sharing Group experiences using the **Presence** and **Forgiven** series on **FORMED**. We will have signups for these groups. Faith Sharing Groups are for everyone! You can sign up with an existing Faith Sharing Group if you'd like, or if you aren't already in a group, we can help you to find one. So, prayerfully consider this great way to start out 2020 and sign up!

## PASTORAL STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Fr. Shaun Lowery	<a href="mailto:pastor@saintmarymagdalen.org">pastor@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	H. David Scharf	<a href="mailto:deacon1@saintmarymagdalen.org">deacon1@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	James Chevalier	<a href="mailto:deacon2@saintmarymagdalen.org">deacon2@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	Devon Wolfe	<a href="mailto:deacon4@saintmarymagdalen.org">deacon4@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Pastoral Minister</b>	Sr. Maryetta Churches. OP	<a href="mailto:pastmin2@saintmarymagdalen.org">pastmin2@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>R.C.I.A. &amp; Infant Baptism</b>	Erin Wolfe	<a href="mailto:baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org">baptisms@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Liturgist/IT Specialist</b>	Diane Kubus	<a href="mailto:liturgist@saintmarymagdalen.org">liturgist@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Pastoral Musician</b>	Steven H. Schulte	<a href="mailto:steve@colleengleason.com">steve@colleengleason.com</a>
<b>Director of Preschool</b>	Amanda Faiola	<a href="mailto:preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org">preschool1@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Jeri Gawlowski	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saintmarymagdalen.org">bookkeeper@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Rel. Form. Coordinator</b>	Karen MacDonald	<a href="mailto:sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org">sect2@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Rel. Form. Asst.</b>	Stasia Eisenhut	<a href="mailto:reledasst@saintmarymagdalen.org">reledasst@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Administrative Asst.</b>	Gayle Zawisa	<a href="mailto:sect3@saintmarymagdalen.org">sect3@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Administrative Asst.</b>	Sandi Phillips	<a href="mailto:sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org">sect4@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>
<b>Facilities &amp; Maintenance</b>	Dan Tuthill	<a href="mailto:maint1@saintmarymagdalen.org">maint1@saintmarymagdalen.org</a>

*Marriage Banns*

*III Abby Eckert & Ryan Miller*

## WELLNESS QUOTE

**If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes.**



## RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS

**First Sunday of Advent**

Today begins the season of Advent. This holy season seems to sneak up on and surprise us as it begins right after the busy Thanksgiving holiday. It is not unlike the surprise Mary received when she was given the news she was pregnant with Jesus! Although the four weeks of Advent are full of hustle and bustle leading up to Christmas, we need to remember the season of Advent is a special time for us to pause, reflect and prepare for the gift of God's love coming to us through the baby Jesus.

**Advent Traditions—The Colors of Advent**

Advent colors are worn by the priests and deacons and decorate the church. They are also represented in the candles that surround the Advent wreath. Look around the church and see where you can find the colors of Advent. Some of the colors you may see are **purple or violet** which symbolizes royalty, repentance and fasting, **pink or rose** symbolizing joy and **white** signifying light and purity.

**Advent Children's Activity**  
**Create an Advent Tree of Kindness**

Help your children or grandchildren prepare for Jesus' coming by doing good deeds for others and creating an **Advent Tree of Kindness**.

**For each child you will need:**

- \*One large sheet of red construction paper
- \*One large sheet of green construction paper
- \*Glue, scissors
- \*A sheet of star stickers
- \*List of good deeds

**Directions:**

Ask the children to brainstorm good deeds they can do for others. Write down or type up the list of good deeds and make a copy for each child

Have the children cut out a Christmas tree using the green paper. Glue the tree on the red paper. Pass out the stickers and list of good deeds. Explain that the stars are to put on their tree *after* they do a good deed for someone else. (Good deeds can come from the list or be something they want to add to their list.) Hopefully, as Advent comes to an end, your child's tree is full of stars and their heart is full of joy!

## YOUTH NEWS

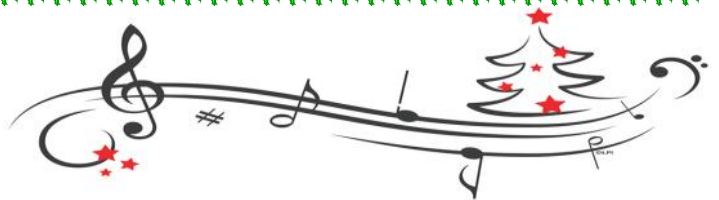
**No Youth Group tonight.**

We will meet next Sunday, December 8, 7 to 9 pm, in the Youth Room. All high school youth are invited!



**"Special Santa Delivery"**  
**to Sister Joyce**

We will be sending a special package to Sister Joyce with Christmas cards and greetings. If you would like to add your card for Sister to our Christmas delivery, please bring or send to the St. Mary Magdalen office by December 13!



**Livingston County Choirs'**  
**HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS**

**Sunday, December 8**  
**5 pm at Saint Mary Magdalen**

The Livingston County Choirs featuring Chorale, Women's Chorus, Youth Choir and other select groups will be performing. It's the perfect way to jump-start your holiday spirit as this concert features many of your very favorite Christmas songs! Tickets are available online at [www.livingstoncountychoirs.com](http://www.livingstoncountychoirs.com).

**Christmas Support**

As the holidays approach, we are looking for those who are in need of assistance this holiday season. Please contact Deacon Jim. Also, if you know of young children who would love some small toys from Santa, please let Deacon Jim hear from you.

## CHARITY &amp; JUSTICE



The **Advent Giving Tree** is in the Gathering Area. Please take a tag if you would like to help individuals from the Brown Evangelical Ministries in Detroit, St.

Anne's in Detroit, Cornerstone Senior Care in Clio, LACASA, Livingston County Catholic Charities and the Pregnancy Help Clinic. **Please return unwrapped gifts by December 15** with the tag securely taped to the gift for identification. With your generous support, we can bring a little joy to people's lives this holy season.



## GIFT WRAPPING

The N.E.W. Life Center in Flint will be wrapping Christmas gifts again this December for over 600 families in their neighborhood. Everyone is welcome to help on **Tuesday, December 3**. A carpool will leave St. Mary Magdalen's parking lot at 9:00 AM. We will wrap from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you come, please bring your own scissors, marked with your name, and a brown bag lunch. The NEW Life Center is located at 3115 Lawndale Avenue in Flint. There is a signup sheet on the Charity and Justice table in the Gathering Space.



Amazon and Kroger will donate a small portion of your purchases to our parish. The funds will go to the Alms Account to help need in the community. If you would like to participate, enter the following address on your browser:

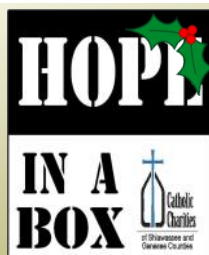
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3134459>

[Kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)

Thank You In Advance For Your Participation

## MONTH OF DECEMBER NEEDS:

Warm gloves  
Towels  
New Toys



## St Patrick's School News

This year at St. Patrick School a virtues program has been created. The program will be happening all year. Every month we will be focusing on a new virtue. The October Virtue was prudence. Prudence is all about making good choices, how you think about them, and making decisions wisely. The October prudence winners were announced on October 29th at mass. We had lots of winners who showed lovely prudence. Katie Mahon a 6th grader, said it was an honor to receive one of the two awards for 6th grade.

The November Virtue is fortitude and the whole virtue program will go until April. We are enjoying learning about the virtue program, and can't wait for the fortitude winners!



## CHRISTMAS CRAFT CLASS

Learn to make a  
**Christmas Tree and an Angel**  
from recycled church songbooks

Friday, December 6 12:30 pm

Saturday, December 7 1:30 pm

Sign-up in the gathering area  
is required by December 1.

Kids 12 yrs & up welcome if  
accompanied by an adult.



## THE WEEK AHEAD

**Monday, December 2**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 9:45 am Yoga
- 4:15/7:00 pm St. Patrick's Basketball
- 5:00 pm Livingston County Chorale Practice
- 6:00 pm Magdalen's Kitchen
- 6:30 pm RCIA Rite of Acceptance Retreat
- 7:30 pm KofC Business Meeting

**Tuesday, December 3**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 12:15 pm Exercise and Balance
- 4:00 pm St. Patrick's Basketball
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Committee
- 7:00 pm Catholic Biblical School of Michigan
- 7:00 pm Community Life

**Wednesday, December 4**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- MOMS Group –Evening Offsite
- 9:30 am Bible Study
- 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 5:00 pm Religious Formation
- 6:30 pm Nativity Practice
- 7:00 pm St. Patrick's Basketball
- 7:30 pm Worship Meeting

**Thursday, December 5**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 5:30 pm Religious Formation
- 7:00 pm Baptism Class
- 7:15 pm Adult Volleyball
- 7:30 pm Music Ministry

**Friday, December 6**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 9:45 am Yoga
- NOON Preschool Cookie Bake
- 12:30 pm Community Life Craft
- 1:00 pm Pain Sake
- 3:15 pm Holy Land Sewing Project

**Saturday, December 7**

- 10:00 am Practice for Rite of Acceptance
- 1:30 pm Community Life Craft
- 4:00 pm RCIA
- 4:30 pm Rite of Acceptance

**Sunday, December 8**

- 9:00 am Family Program
- NOON 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Session
- 2:00 pm St. MM Preschool Christmas Program
- 12:45 pm Baptism
- 5:00 pm Livingston County Chorale Concert
- 7:00 pm Youth Group

## STEWARDSHIP REPORTS

WEEK OF 11/12/19

Approximately 1417 people participated

Env/Cash \$ 16,219

Debt Reduction \$ 475

EFT/Online \$ 10,114

**TOTAL \$ 26,808**

*Children's Collection* \$70.78

WEEK OF 11/17/19

Approximately 1466 people participated

Env/Cash \$ 14,135

Debt Reduction \$ 1,720

EFT/Online \$ 12,531

**TOTAL \$ 28,386**

*Children's Collection* \$41.41

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**ST. MARY MAGDALEN  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**TODAY!**

**December 1**

**9:30 am - 1 pm**



**Christmas Nativity**

This year, we will be doing a Nativity re-enactment during the Christmas Gospel at the 6:15 Christmas Eve Mass. There will be 6-8 actors and about 8 angels for the "multitude." There are no speaking parts, as the deacon will read the Gospel.

Rehearsals will be on Wednesday evenings Dec. 4 and Dec. 11 from 6:30-7:00 pm. (The Dec 11<sup>th</sup> practice will be in the Chapel.) There will be a Dress Rehearsal on Wednesday, Dec. 18 from 6:30 until about 8 pm.

Children in K – 8<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome to participate. Any parents who would like to help with crowd control are also welcome! The sign-up sheet can be found in the Gathering Area.

Please call Erin Wolfe at 810-923-8494 with any questions.

### Looking for People traveling to the Holy Land



Susan Haight just returned from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Father Dave. While there, she spoke with their Christian guide about the plight of the Christian people in the West Bank. The guide is personally involved with three orphanages and a maternity hospital there. With Father Dave's help, Susan is finding people who are willing to take suitcases over for her. If anyone in the parish is planning a trip in the near future and would be willing to take a suitcase over and leave it, she would love to talk to you about this opportunity on **Friday, December 6 at 3:15 pm.**



### Looking For Sewing Help

Susan is also looking for people to help her sew clothing items, blankets or even toys or dolls to send over for kids from Newborn to age 12. Susan will have a meeting to discuss this and go over some ideas on **Friday, December 6 at 3:15 pm.**

*Following are several opportunities to prepare for the coming of Christ through the Sacrament of Penance.*

Dec 10	7pm	St. Augustine, Deerfield Tw[
Dec 11	7pm	St. Mary Magdalen, Brighton
Dec 12	7pm	St. Joseph, Howell
Dec 16	7pm	Holy Spirit, Hamburg
Dec 18	7pm	St. John, Hartland
Dec 19	7pm	St. Mary, Pinckney
Dec 21	10am	St. Patrick, Brighton

**As usual, every Saturday morning, 11:30-noon, individual penance is offered at St. Mary Magdalen.**

### MINISTERS OF PRAYER

**December 1 - December 7**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jerry Dolkowski</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Bruce Dehanke</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Michele Sixbery</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Gale/Pat Harris</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Matt Kroll</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Lynn Pfaff</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Ted Eisenhut</b>