

ST. MARY MAGDALEN PARISH



Parish Mission Statement

We, the Catholic parish of St. Mary Magdalen are Christian stewards who follow the example of our patron and invite all to come and see the Lord by:
Setting the table of worship together to nourish and strengthen our faith;
Welcoming others to share a life-long journey of faith by opening the doors to our spiritual home so that no one walks alone;
Creating a community of disciples and leaders who listen to and serve each other, accepting challenges as the Spirit leads us;
Demonstrating our commitment to the sacredness of life by acting as the hands and feet of Christ for others.

Rectory

145 Buckingham Street, Oakville, CT 06779
Office 860-274-9273 • Fax 860-274-2013
Mon thru Fri 10am to 2pm
www.stmmagdalen-oakville.org

Faith Formation Office

860-274-1955

St. Mary Magdalen School

140 Buckingham Street, Oakville, CT 06779
Tel 860-945-0621 • Fax 860-945-6162
www.smmsoakville.org

Daily Masses

Mon-Thurs 8am in Rectory Chapel

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4pm
Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3-3:30pm in Church

Parish Staff

Pastor - Rev. James T. Gregory
Deacon - George Pettinico
Coordinator of Faith Formation - Kelly A. Shamansky
Parish Secretary - Roberta Hardt
School Principal - Thomas E. Maynard
School Secretary - Pam Chepulis

Mass Intention

SATURDAY, March 7, 2015

Vigil Mass Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Emil P. and Mary Coviello
requested by Annette

SUNDAY, March 8, 2015 Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Cicondina Guerrera
requested by daughter & family
10:30 a.m. Concetta Cuccinallo
requested by her nieces

MONDAY, March 9, 2015 Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Parish Community

TUESDAY, March 10, 2015 Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, March 11 2015 Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, March 12, 2015 Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, March 13, 2015 Lenten Weekday

NO MORNING MASS

SATURDAY, March 14, 2015

Vigil Mass Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Gabriel & Anna Maria Rosa
requested by Sam & Maria Distasi

SUNDAY, March 15, 2015 Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Denise Dunn
requested by Norman
10:30 a.m. Cathy Smith
requested by her family

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

The Church: Idella Viltrakis Sciasia reserved by her family.



Vocations: Do we demand signs or do we hear the Lord speaking to our heart. If your heart is telling you that the Lord is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother, or sister, call Fr. Jim at the parish office, 860-274-9273. He would like to speak to you.

Stewardship of Treasure

Our parishioners need to give \$5,500 every week to our spiritual home in order to maintain it financially. The weekly stewardship offering February 28 & March 1 weekend totaled \$4214.75 and On-line giving totaled \$465.00. Totaling \$4679.75. Our goal was not met this week, **fell short by \$820.25**



Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at:

www.stmmagdalen-oakville.org

Activities & Meetings

March 8 - 14, 2015

SUNDAY

8:30a.m.
10:30a.m.

Confirmation I, Church Hall
"Wee Celebrate" Religious Ed for 3-5yrs olds, Hall

MONDAY

6:00p.m.
6:45p.m.
7:00p.m.
7:00p.m.

Lenten Confessions, Church
REACH, Youth Group, Church Hall
Ecumenical Lenten Program, HERE
C.W.O. Meeting, Rectory Meeting Rm.

TUESDAY

6:30p.m.

Cub Scouts, Church Hall

WEDNESDAY

1-3:00p.m.

Jesus Bracelet Beading Workshop, Rectory

THURSDAY

6:30p.m.

Boy Scouts, Church Hall

FRIDAY

7:00p.m.

The Way of the Cross, Church

SATURDAY

3:00- 3:30p.m. Confessions, Church



St. Mary Magdalen School

Saint Mary Magdalen School

www.smmsoakville.org

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The 2015 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures the essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward. We hope you can help meet our parish goal of \$3350.00. If you would like to make a gift, kindly mail in your pledge card. You may call the Appeal Office at 1-800-781-2550 for more information.



LENTE CONFESSIONS

Do you want to let go of patterns of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and experience a joyful conversion? Let the light of God's mercy shine on you this Lenten season by going to confession

All the churches of the Archdiocese will be open for Confessions every Monday during Lent from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. To make the Sacrament of Reconciliation go to any Catholic Church on March 9, 16, 23, and 30. For more information, visit Light4you.info.

Ecumenical Council will host Lenten Series

The Ecumenical Council of Watertown/Oakville is once again offering a Lenten Series of programs on the Monday evenings of Lent at various churches in the area at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join in these special gatherings to observe Lent unified by Christian prayer. The theme this year is, "Words at the Cross." There will be a free will offering each week for the Ecumenical Fuel Bank. Refreshments will follow. The Words and scheduled locations are as follows:
March 9 – St. Mary Magdalen Church, Rejection
March 16 – Union Congregational Church, Risk
March 23 – All Saints Episcopal Church, Resolution

The Way of The Cross

Join fellow parishioners as we pray The Way of the Cross on the Friday evenings of Lent at 7:00p.m. in the church. March 13, March 20, and March 27th. Sign-up sheets are located at the church entrances for our Simple Lenten Meal which will be held on, Friday, March 27th from 5:45p.m. to 6:45p.m. Followed by the Stations of the Cross.



HomeFront Fundraiser Pasta Dinner

Thursday, March 19th, 5:00pm – 7:30pm

The meal includes pasta, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, and hot and cold beverages.

Drive-up and take-out service is available. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children, under 6 years free. Tickets may be obtained from Judy Begley 860-274-6472, Sue Atkins 860-274-9961, Sue Ponton 860-274-1956, Deacon George 860-274-9310, and at the parish office 860-274-9273 between 10am and 2pm, Monday through Friday. Tickets will be available at the door.

Join the HomeFront Day Team

On Saturday, May 2nd, St Mary Magdalen Parish will participate in a HomeFront Project. This year marks the 12th year that our parish has worked together to assist a homeowner in need. We invite you to join our team, all skill levels are needed, and many tasks need to be done. We guarantee you will enjoy the effort. It's a great day. Sign-up sheets will be available at the church entrances of our church next weekend. If you have questions please call Judy Begley at 860-274-6472 or Susan Atkins at 860-274-9961.

PARISH DIRECTORY

DID YOU NOT GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN?? WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN AND HAVE APPEAR IN OUR FAITH FAMILY BOOKLET??? (Parish Directory)

Well you can, on Tuesday, March 17th from 1:00p.m. till 7:30p.m. Lifetouch will be here to take photographs of parishioners and or families who didn't do so in mid-January. You do need to make an appointment! You may call the parish office. This is the very last chance to be a part of this parish event. Please call Roberta at the rectory at 860-274-9273.

Nifty Fifty Fest

Are you turning 50 or someone you know?? Are you married for 50 years?? Have been out of school for 50 years or any other reason for celebrating 50 years! Let's celebrate together! Get your friends together and join in on the fun on May 9th.

You won't want to miss it! Tickets for the Nifty Fifty Fest a fundraiser for our parish are now on sale. With good food, music, dancing and much more! The Grand Oak Villa of Oakville will host us on Saturday, May 9, 2015, which is Father Jim's 50th Birthday. All in attendance will receive a commemorative booklet. Tickets for the dinner are \$50.00 per person or \$500.00 for a table of 10. This is a CASH BAR event.

Tickets can be purchased at the parish office, Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All checks should be payable to: St. Mary Magdalen Church.

We are seeking your support. We are offering a business card size ad to appear in the Nifty-Fifty Birthday card for \$50.

Or you may want to sign Father Jim's commemorative birthday card with a patron listing for a \$15.

All ads are due with full payment by March 9, 2015. Checks are to be made out to Saint Mary Magdalen Church.

Shepherd's Desk

by Father Jim Gregory

There is in our Catholic tradition a special way of praying with sacred Scripture. This method of prayer requires the person to read slowly to oneself a passage from the Bible. Once the reading is done, one should read it slowly to oneself again, and then again.

In this prayerful repetition of slow reading, a sentence or phrase begins to get the reader's attention. As that sentence emerges, the rest of the Scripture passage is discarded and one's attention focusses on reading that sentence over and over to oneself. Likewise, during the repetition of that sentence, a word or two may emerge calling for attention. As this happens, just those few words are repeated to oneself and the prayer comes to an end. The word or two that one ends up with at the end of the prayer can be repeated to oneself during the course of the day as it occurs to the person to do so.

What happens in this type of prayer is that the word of God is planted within the person who prays. The repetitious reading of Scripture symbolically serves as turning one's will over to God allowing God to enter our mind and heart. Once welcomed and planted within, God can't help but to grow there. Over time, by constantly planting, God transforms the person more and more so that God is effortlessly revealed through the person.

Usually with this prayer, the Scripture passage changes daily. The Scripture is usually determined by the readings that appear in the Mass for that day. However, this type of prayer does not have to be that complicated because we have a Scripture passage more easily at hand in The Lord's Prayer.

Because every Catholic memorizes The Lord's Prayer at a very young age, we forget that this prayer is a part of Scripture. The words of The Lord's Prayer are introduced in Matthew by Jesus saying, "This is how you are to pray:" (Mt 6:9). Similarly in Luke, after a disciple asks Jesus to teach them how to pray, Jesus says, "When you pray, say:" (Lk 11:2). With the words of The Lord's Prayer, then, we can pray in this traditional method of praying with Scripture every day without worrying about which Scripture to use.

Consider saying the words of The Lord's Prayer slowly to oneself. The words don't have to be read because they are memorized. Then, repeat slowly the words again. Allow a phrase to become prominent. Focus just on that prominent phrase by slowly repeating it to oneself. Gradually whittle the phrase down to a word or two and repeat those words. Carry those words around all day repeating them to oneself as it comes to mind during the day.

On one day one can move from the whole prayer down to, "Give us this day our daily bread," and then down to, "Give us," or, "daily bread," which can be carried around for the day. On another day one can move down to, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," down to, "Forgive us," or, "deliver us." The prayer path can change from day to day or week to week depending on how God leads. Our job would be to allow God within by praying and to trust that God will take care of the rest. Our Catholic tradition gives us both a prayer and a method for praying that can easily go together even in a busy world. All we have to do is try.