

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

## PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

The custom of requesting a priest to offer a Mass for a specific intention, even when one cannot be physically present at the Mass, is a longstanding tradition in the Church.

This is because the Church considers the Mass as the greatest possible prayer of intercession insofar as it is the perfect offering of Christ to the Father by making present the paschal mystery of his death and resurrection.

Because of the particular role of the priest as mediator between God and man, acting "in persona Christi" when offering the holy sacrifice of the Mass, it is usually considered that special graces may be obtained when he applies the Mass to a particular intention.

The faithful generally make an offering, called a stipend, to the priest [*in our diocese, the stipend goes to the parish*] in order to apply the Mass to a specific intention. By making this offering, the faithful, by parting with something that is their own, associate themselves more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the sacred Host, and obtain thereby more abundant fruits (See Pope Paul VI's letter "Firma in Traditione" of June 13, 1974).

Among the fruits hoped for is a renewed faith in the Mass as intercession and a consequent return in the faithful to the practice of asking for the celebration of Mass for specific intentions. Such a practice can be of such benefit to the faithful themselves and to so many other souls.

*If you are interested in having a Mass for a special intention, or in remembrance of a loved one who has passed away, please call or come in the Parish Office. We would be happy to assist you.*

## Readings for the week of January 9 through January 14, 2012:

Monday: Is 42:1-4,6-7 Ps 29:1a,2,3ac-4,3b,9b-10 Mk 1:7-11  
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1,4-8 Mk 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10,19-20 Ps 40:2-5,7-10 Mk 1:29-39  
 Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11,14-15,25-26 Mk 1:40-45  
 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12  
 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19;10:1a Ps 19:8-10,15 Mk 2:13-17

## MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, January 7, 2012

5:00 p.m. †Shirley Kelly by Bob & Edie Ferguson

## Sunday, January 8, 2012 ~ Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 a.m. †Viola Citrowske by her daughters

11:00 a.m. †Anthony "Butch" Steffes by SMM Choir

5:00 p.m. Intentions of this Parish community

## Tuesday, January 10, 2012

8:00 a.m. Intentions of this Parish community

## Wednesday, January 11, 2012

8:00 a.m. †Teresa Do Thi Tit by Hue Thi Vu

## Thursday, January 12, 2012

8:00 a.m. Intentions of this Parish community

## Friday, January 13, 2012

8:00 a.m. †Christine Schulte Ziegler by Nancy Baum

## Saturday, January 14, 2012

5:00 p.m. †Robert Blouw by Diana Blouw

## Sunday, January 15, 2012 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. Sts. Simon, Jude & Anthonoy in thanksgiving

11:00 a.m. For the intentions of the Thomas Radlinski Family

5:00 p.m. †Rose Duprey by Margaret Wagner & Family

## Scripture Readings for:

## Sunday, January 15, 2012 ~ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10,19 Ps 40:2,4,7-10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20 Jn 1:35-42

## Let us pray for one another with one mind and heart to the Lord our God

## Neighborhood 0

Bob & Donna Huebner  
 Robert Shaver

## Neighborhood 1

Tom Bahns  
 Norman Czerniak

## Neighborhood 4

Cecelia Bennetts  
 Eugene Nawrocki

## Neighborhood 5

Joan Rademacher  
 Pauline Hafke

## Neighborhood 6

Geneva Ritsema  
 Karen Ann Smith

## Neighborhood 7

## Neighborhood 8

## Neighborhood 9

Ted Cipponeri  
 Pauline Parent

## Neighborhood 13

## Neighborhood 15

Conrad Balazs  
 Joan Hawley

## Neighborhood 15

Sophia Blaser  
 Evelyn Kehoe

## Neighborhood 16

John Edelyn  
 Helen Ranta

## Neighborhood 17

Sandy VanderVoord  
 Ann Syrba

## Neighborhood 20

Sherry Gaines  
 Kevin & Kyle Friar

## Neighborhood 22

Ed Stein  
 Lisa Kane

## Neighborhood 23

## Neighborhood 24

## Neighborhood 26

Don Rexford  
 Michelle Groh  
 Jim Babcock  
 Esther Brown  
 Tom Fitzgerald  
 Joseph Najar

## Neighborhood 26

Gary Maher  
 Ronald Parini  
 Andrew Polaschik

## Neighborhood 33

Albert Kolski  
 Carolyn Sheeran

## Neighborhood 35

Sophie Anderson  
 Benny Herman

## Neighborhood 36

Michael Chatterson  
 Neighborhood 37

## Neighborhood 37

Darren White

## Others to remember:

Robert Ash  
 Angie Wilson  
 Sandy Potter  
 Baby Parker Grace  
 Robert Dean  
 April Scheen  
 Mary Drake  
 Diane Camminga  
 Daniel Ferguson  
 Lyndsey Freiburger  
 Gordan Grant  
 Bill Louwers  
 Doug Meyers  
 Jim Szyperski  
 William Redmond  
 Leocadia Jaworski

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

In our haste to get our houses back in order and return to normal living after “the holidays” we sometimes deprive ourselves of the beautiful opportunity to fully contemplate the Christmas season which officially ends on January 6<sup>th</sup>, with the observance of Epiphany. It is good to remember that our greatest truths are certainly far too rich to be observed in just one day, but are meant to be prepared for, celebrated and contemplated over a period of time. Christmas, like Easter, is not celebrated as a single day, but as a season. With this in mind we should always take the time to fully observe the mysteries of each season, feasting fully on the spiritual food before us.

This weekend we celebrate Epiphany— Epiphany, which means to “make known” or to “reveal”. Epiphany marks the visit of the three Kings who represent the recognition of the child, Jesus, as the Messiah, one to be worshiped by and made known to, not only the Jews but all nations.

Just as Christmas is a celebration of God’s gift to us in the incarnation, the coming of the Messiah, Epiphany is the celebration of our right response-- to come, to behold, to adore and to go out to the world to share the good news. It is a reminder to us of the mission of the church, of our mission as Christ’s church. As we put away our decorations and our lights, clean the leftovers from our refrigerators, and try to shed the holiday pounds, may we be mindful of the great gift that continues to be ours, of God among us...that Christmas is only the beginning; and that as we enter ordinary time we are called to live nothing less than extraordinary lives.

### HIGH SCHOOL

**All High School students interested in assisting with the Middle School Retreat**, February 24-26, please attend our first High School Leader meeting in the BAC on January 22 from 12:30pm-3:30pm. Subsequent meetings will be held at the same time on Sundays, Jan 29, Feb 5, 12, 19. If you wish, please call Mary Evett for more information.

**Mission Trip: Deadline of Feb 1, to register** for the July 8 -13, 2012 trip is fast approaching. We are offering an information meeting on January 18 at 5:30pm in the BAC. This will be especially helpful for first time students and parents who would like more information prior to registration. If you are interested but unable to make this meeting please contact Mary Evett.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Join us for **Faith and Fun night** this coming Thursday, Jan 12th from 6pm-8pm in the BAC. Friends welcome!

Mark your calendars watch for details! **Middle School Retreat** is coming up! Feb. 24-26!

## FAITH FORMATION

Hello Everyone,

As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, that is the celebration of the Magi’s recognition of the Christ child as the Messiah and their call to bring his light to the world, I pray that Christ’s light will shine in your homes and in your hearts.

God’s Blessings,  
Molly Wisdom

### *Epiphany Blessing Of A Home*

**Head of Household:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Head of Household:** Peace be to this house and to all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

**Reader:** In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3.14)

*Using chalk, write on the outside of your house, above or next to an entrance:*

### **20+C+M+B+12**

*C M & B stand for Christus mansionem benedicat which means: “May Christ bless this house.”*

**All:** Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Reconciliation/First Eucharist Sacramental Prep**  
Sunday, January 15 from 12 Noon to 2 p.m. in the Family Center.

### **Annual Men’s Retreat at St. Lazare Retreat House- February 10th through the 12th**

Attention men of St. Mary Magdalen! It is time to make your reservation to spend a quiet, restful and holy weekend at St. Lazare Retreat House in Spring Lake. The theme of the retreat this year is, “Living an Authentic Christian Life”. Each person is assigned a private room and meals are provided and the cost of the weekend is \$80. Please call Molly Wisdom at 455-9310 ext. 12 to reserve your room. If you would like to check out the retreat house and weekend schedule, you can visit [www.stlazareretreat.org](http://www.stlazareretreat.org). Space is limited so please don’t delay in reserving your spot for a rejuvenating weekend!

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Matthew 25: 34-40 *Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous\* will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'*

**Thank You!** We received a Christmas card from a single mother of 4 thanking us for all the support we have given her through the Holiday Baskets. You have seen the stranger and clothed them and brought food to the hungry. Thank you all for seeing the face of God in others and for your generosity.

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**Calling all chili lovers.** The annual St Mary Magdalen Chili Cook-off will be Saturday, January 21, following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. We are looking for all types of chilies, hot, mild, chicken, with bean, or without bean. Please contact Ruth Bush at the office if you would like to enter your famous chili. Everyone is invited to come and have a great time.

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**Catholic Charities West Michigan's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Soup's On for All!**, a fundraiser for God's Kitchen food and pantry programs, will be celebrated at the B.O.B. in downtown Grand Rapids from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm Monday, January 23, 2012. For information about tickets and event details please call Mary Ruth Scholz at 551-5659 or visit the Soup's On web site at [www.soupsonforall.org](http://www.soupsonforall.org).

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**St. Jude Unemployment Support Group** Are you unemployed or looking to change careers? We can assist you with a resume that sells you and your skills. Listen to speakers on interviewing, networking, your personal and professional image, personal finance, healthcare, spiritual growth and more. **Wednesdays 9:30-11am at the St. Jude Brophy Center, 1120 4 Mile Rd. NE.** For information, contact: **Dan Makowski at [danmakowski@comcast.net](mailto:danmakowski@comcast.net) or Mary Tomaszewski at [mmtomaszewski@comcast.net](mailto:mmtomaszewski@comcast.net)** (Please visit [www.stjudes.net](http://www.stjudes.net) for upcoming topics and any schedule changes.)

## FINANCIAL NEWS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u>
Jan. 1, 2012	\$ 11,870	\$ 14,120	( \$ 2,250)
Year to Date	\$ 363,981	\$ 381,240	( \$ 17,259)

372 envelopes used

*Live simply, that others may simply live.* – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

## 2011 CSA UPDATE



<b>Assessment</b>	\$ 83,725		
<b>Pledged to date</b>	\$ 85,782	<b>OVER GOAL!</b>	\$ 2,057
<b>No. of Responses</b>	456	<b>(586 NON-responders!)</b>	

We continue to receive pledges to our CSA assessment. Many thanks to everyone who have made and paid off a pledge. For those who need to, please continue to pay on your pledge. We will receive back all monies paid over our assessment.

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastoral Staff:

<b>Ruth Bush:</b>	Coordinator of Christian Services, x16 <a href="mailto:rbush@stmmagdalen.org">rbush@stmmagdalen.org</a>	
<b>Mary Evett</b>	Coordinator of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, x15 <a href="mailto:mevett@stmmagdalen.org">mevett@stmmagdalen.org</a>	
<b>Jenna Fowle</b>	Director of Music Ministry, x25 <a href="mailto:music@stmmagdalen.org">music@stmmagdalen.org</a>	
<b>Molly Wisdom</b>	Coordinator of Faith Formation, x12 <a href="mailto:mollyw@stmmagdalen.org">mollyw@stmmagdalen.org</a>	

### Administrative Staff:

<b>Joe Hakeem</b>	Business Manager, <a href="mailto:jhakeem@stmmagdalen.org">jhakeem@stmmagdalen.org</a> , x14	
<b>Nancy Baum</b>	Parish Secretary, <a href="mailto:nbaum@stmmagdalen.org">nbaum@stmmagdalen.org</a> , x10	
<b>Sharon Mascarenhas:</b>	Admin. Assistant, <a href="mailto:smascarenhas@stmmagdalen.org">smascarenhas@stmmagdalen.org</a>	

**Maintenance Staff:** Bobby Jackson Jr., Supervisor & Brenda Bush

### Pastoral Support Staff:

<b>Deacons</b>	Mike Dordan & Michael Wood	
<b>Sacristans</b>	Wayne Ball, Joseph Nguyen	
<b>Music Ministry</b>	Dave Doppel	
<b>Nursery</b>	Lisa Jackson ~ <a href="mailto:boblisajackson@comcast.net">boblisajackson@comcast.net</a>	

### Pastoral Council:

Bob Dodde	Laurie Emelander	Patricia Guzzo
Pamela Kosten	Kim Levesque	Daniel Moomey
Mark O'Gorman	Luisa Ortiz	Tom Richer
Tom Roos	Ronald Stephan	Josh Theisen (Youth Rep)

### Finance Council:

Matthew Bielecki	Brent Hawkins	Lynie Huynh
Tom Nawrocki	Becky Vetter	Cathy Wells

**Stewardship:** Mike Bush      Monica Dean      Chris Loerch

**Parish Registration:** Contact the Parish Office for information, 455-9310.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Call the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office to register for Baptism Prep.

## PARISH NEWS

**YOUNG AT HEART** will meet at Bob Evans restaurant, 6565 Kalamazoo Ave SE, (just South of M6) at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 12th. Anyone 55 and older are welcome to join this group for lunch.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** We are taking down the decorations which adorned our church for the Christmas season as we move into Ordinary Time. If you can help us with this, it would be greatly appreciated. We will begin on Monday, January 9th at 10 a.m. in the church.

### **Attention Lectors:**

It is time once again to email any dates you are not available to serve for the months of February, March and April. I will also need to know who is available to lector at the Easter Vigil (9 p.m.) and/or Easter Sunday. Please call Nancy at 455-9310 or email [nbaum@stmmagdalen.org](mailto:nbaum@stmmagdalen.org). If anyone is interested in becoming a Lector here at SMM, we would love to have you. We are especially in need for the 5 p.m. Mass both Saturday and Sunday.

## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

### **Sunday, January 8, 2012**

Blood Pressure/Blood Sugar checks between 9 & 11 Masses

### **Monday, January 9, 2012**

6:00 p.m. Tacets practice in Church

### **Tuesday, January 10, 2012**

7:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting in Rectory

### **Wednesday, January 11, 2012**

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in Room 3

4 p.m. Children's Choir practice

5:15 p.m. FF Supper

6:15 p.m. Faith Formation Classes resume

### **Thursday, January 12, 2012**

3 p.m. Middle School Retreat Meeting

5:30 p.m. Bell Choir practice

6:00 p.m. Faith 'n Fun Nite for Middle School in BAC

6:30 p.m. Adult Choir practice

### **Friday, January 13, 2012**

7:00 p.m. Marriage Prep in Room 3

### **Saturday, January 14, 2012**

9:30 a.m. Language School in Family Center

8:45 am Marriage Prep Class in Room 3

### **Sunday, January 15, 2012**

Noon-2pm Reconciliation/1st Eucharist Sacramental Prep class