

**Parish**

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Address**1253 52<sup>nd</sup> Street SE Kentwood, MI 49508**Contact Info**616-455-9310 [www.stmmagdalen.org](http://www.stmmagdalen.org)**WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME**

Welcome to the 2025-2026 Faith Formation Year! We are excited to kick off the year together with some exciting new changes and build on our already strong faith formation program. We can't wait to share the Joy of our faith and grow in our understanding together!

**BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS**

- One of our primary goals for this year is to increase our time spent in prayer together. Each Faith Formation night will start in the Family Center with a 15 minute prayer service. Parents are asked to attend the prayer services and have your children sit with you until dismissal to their classrooms. Throughout the year, the classes will plan the prayer services and lead them. This will require our families to arrive at 6:15 PM to participate fully. We will explore different prayer styles and learn to actively pray together and with your family.
- Another big goal we have is to increase our participation in Mass. We plan on doing this by more education on the Mass itself, providing age appropriate options for the Mass for children and teens and encouraging our children and youth to participate in the Liturgical roles like altar serving, greeting, and more to come!
- Our final goal is to increase opportunities for parents to build upon their faith life. Multiple programs will be available for parents to participate in. We will also be providing different material to engage you and encourage a more fruitful faith life.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION**

Middle School Faith Formation will shift to a youth ministry model instead of a classroom model. This will still take place at the normal Wednesday night time, but focus on small groups and a more activity based program to better engage our middle schoolers. 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade will all be together and will meet in the Den.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be for our littlest children. Any children in Pre-K through the 2nd grade are invited to participate. If you have received first communion, you are invited to stay in Mass. There will be age appropriate resources available weekly including Mass bags for the younger children and activity books for our youth to follow along in the Mass.

**CONFIRMATION**

8th graders will attend MS Faith Formation. Once a month the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will separate for Confirmation focused material. The 8<sup>th</sup> Graders getting Confirmed will participate in these sessions to prepare for the sacrament. We want our youth to be well rounded in their faith while still having a focus on Confirmation through these special sessions.

## IMPORTANT DATES-IMPORTANT DATES-IMPORTANT DATES

9/14/25

Children's  
Liturgy of  
the Word  
Starts @  
9 & 11 AM  
Masses

9/21/25

Catechetical  
Sunday  
(Blessings)  
@ 9 & 11 AM  
Masses

9/24/25

Faith  
Formation  
Prayer  
Service &  
Open  
House

9/28/25

High  
School  
Youth  
Group  
starts @  
6:15 PM

10/1/25

First  
Regular  
Faith  
Formation  
Class

10/15/25

Fire Drill  
at Faith  
Formation

### SPECIAL CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- Christmas Ornament Party: December 14
- Children's Christmas Pageant: December 24
- Tornado Drill at Faith Formation: February 4
- First Reconciliation & Celebration: March 11
- First Communion Retreat/Rehearsal: April 15
- First Communion Mass: April 19
- May Crowning: May 10

### SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS

- High School Antioch Retreat @ St. Jude: September 12-14
- Middle School Retreat: February 20-22
- Middle School Retreat Reunion: March 22nd
- Living Stations of the Cross: April 3rd

### ATTENDANCE/COSTS/MATERIALS

- Students in grades 1-8 are expected to participate in weekly formation classes.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade are Sacramental preparation years so there will be additional instruction and requirements for the reception of the Sacraments that will be outlined for students registered in those classes.
- Please note that there is a section on the registration form for Sacraments that have been received. If you or your child did not celebrate a Sacrament at the traditional age, please use that section to indicate that you have not celebrated a Sacrament and would like to begin the process of preparing for a Sacrament.
- The cost for each student in grades 1-12 is \$30.00. The cost helps to cover the materials needed as well as books and resources.
- Please include payment when registering your student. (Financial aid is available, see registration form.)
- There is a maximum cost per family of \$90.00.

## VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER

We are looking for additional volunteers to teach a Faith Formation class, be on the Middle School Faith Formation Adult Team, Youth Group Adult Team, and people to lead Children's Liturgy of the Word. Contact the office if you are interested in volunteering!