



The Catholic Community of the East End of Pittsburgh

ST. BEDE CHURCH
509 South Dallas Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15208

MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH
7705 Bennett Street
Pittsburgh PA 15208

ST. JAMES CHURCH
718 Franklin Avenue
Wilkinsburg PA 15221

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm St. James
Sunday 9:00 am Mother of Good Counsel
11:00 am St. Bede

Monday - Saturday 9:00 am St. Bede

Mass is also available on Facebook and YouTube.

Novenas 9:30 am St. Bede

Monday: Miraculous Medal Perpetual Novena
Wednesday: Mother of Perpetual Help Novena

Confession & Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 9:30 - 10:30 am St. Bede

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by appointment.

St. Bede Church is open daily 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Baptisms, Weddings, and Funerals
by appointment only.



Our churches are accessible.

PARISH OFFICE
509 South Dallas Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
parishoffice@stmarymagpgh.org
Phone: 412.661.7222
Fax: 412.661.9337

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 | TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



FORGIVE YOUR NEIGHBOR'S INJUSTICE;
THEN WHEN YOU PRAY, YOUR OWN SINS
WILL BE FORGIVEN.

- Sirach 28:2

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"With God All Things Are Possible!"

Website: saintmarymagdaleneppgh.org



@smppgh



St. Mary Magdalene Parish PGH

Parish Office 412.661.7222

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Thomas J. Burke, Pastor tburke@diopitt.org
Rev. David Taylor, Senior Parochial Vicar dtaylor@diopitt.org
Rev. C. Matthew Hawkins, Parochial Vicar
mhawkins@diopitt.org

In Residence

Rev. James Adeoye jamesadeoye@yahoo.com
Rev. Augustine Temu temuago@yahoo.com

Office Staff

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Gerard Rohlf 412.657.7570; grohlf@stmarymagpgh.org

Safe Environment

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Social Ministry & Community Outreach

Anne Scheuermann 412.241.1309;
ascheuermann@stmarymagpgh.org

Holy Rosary Food Bank

Veronica Synder 412.731.4195

Media & Communications

Cathy Raffaele crffaele@stmarymagpgh.org
Glennen Lloyd parishnewsletter@stmarymagpgh.org
Bulletin bulletin@stmarymagpgh.org

Housekeeping/Maintenance

Paul Denk, Ray Krivanek, Michael Natalia, Annette Shunk

Principals

Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic Academy: Ms. Stephanie Michael
412.242.3515; info@stbca.net; sistertheabowman.org
St. Bede School: Sr. Daniela Bronka 412.661.9425;
info@saintbedeschool.com; saintbedeschool.com

New Parishioners Welcome! To register, please call or email the parish office. Registration forms are also available on the welcome page of our website:
saintmarymagdaleneppgh.org

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COMPLIANCE

Anyone who volunteers in the parish or school is required by the diocese to be compliant with all Safe Environment clearances.

Please contact Melissa Viator at 412.661.7222
or mviator@stmaymagpgh.org
with questions or for assistance.

PROTECTION OF GOD'S CHILDREN

Report suspected child abuse
At the 24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline: 800.932.0313
If a child is in imminent danger, call 911

Stewardship

Because of Labor Day, the collection for September 5 will be reported next week

Contributions: August includes Faith Direct

Offertory	\$66,517.00
Campus Maintenance	\$1,316.00
Feast of the Assumption	\$522.00
PSP 2020	\$5,076.00
Social Ministries	\$4,440.00
St. Bede School	\$1,563.00
St. Vincent DePaul	\$1,848.00

The Century Club August Winners

Linda Atkins, Bill Burke, Allen Hodges, Kathy Patton

Advisory Councils

Parish Pastoral Council

Patricia Albacete
Linda Atkins
Lois Campbell
Denise Charron-Prochownik
Anne Kovalan-Santoni
Peter Lahoda
Teresa Maynor
Joan Price
Janice Reed
Dante Romito
Eric Setzler
Gloria White

Finance Council

Martin Albacete
David Aleva
Christopher Benec
Linda Burke
Michael Myers
Michael Polite
Judy Prata
Bill Rawlings
Mara Sullivan
Victor Thorpe

*Pastoral Council meets
on the 3rd Monday
of the month.*

*Finance Council meets
on the 4th Monday
of the month.*

Minutes

Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council meeting minutes are on our website.

If you wish a paper copy of the minutes, please contact the Parish Office at 412.661.7222

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

are due no later than 9 am on Monday for next week's bulletin.

Larger announcements must be submitted a week prior to the Monday deadline.

bulletin@stmarymagpgh.org

Mass Intentions September 12 - 20

Saturday Vigil Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	4 pm	John Evans (The Evans Family)	HAWKINS
SUNDAY TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9 am	Amric G. Hodges, MD and Marcus Hodges (Allen R. Hodges, MD)	TAYLOR
First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7 Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35	11 am	William Graves (Mary Rose Gallagher)	HAWKINS
MONDAY Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	9 am	Jackie Adenka (Jackie Adenka)	ADEOYE
TUESDAY Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	9 am	Alan M. Norbut, MD (Helene Norbut, Sister)	TAYLOR
WEDNESDAY Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	9 am	Mary Shea (Mary Jean & Dave Havern)	HAWKINS
THURSDAY Weekday	9 am	Jane D. Kozimer (Karen Kenney)	TEMU
FRIDAY Weekday	9 am (SB) 9 am (SJ)	William Graves (Sr. Daniela Bronka) Faculty, Students and Staff of STBCA	HAWKINS TAYLOR
SATURDAY Weekday	9 am	Emmanuel Tingue (Alma Torres)	HAWKINS
Saturday Vigil Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	4 pm	Fr. Warren Metzler (Patty Manilla)	ADEOYE
SUNDAY TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9 am	James C. Bender, Sr. (Paul-Martin Bender)	HAWKINS
First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9 Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a	11 am	Therese Kramer (Ginny & Joe Fasano)	HAWKINS

September 12 - 20

SAT	Adoration and Confession	SB 9:30 am
SUN	CCD Faith Sharing	Zoom 9:45 am Zoom 2 pm
MON	Miraculous Medal Novena	SB 9:30 am
TUES	Tuesday Vigil	Zoom 7 pm
WED	Food Bank Pick Up Food Bank Distribution Mother of Perpetual Help Novena SMMP Social Justice & Peace Committee	Ministry Ctr 8:30 am HR Rectory 9 am SB 9:30 am Zoom 7 pm
THURS		
FRI	St. Bede School Mass STBCA School Mass	SB 9 am SJ 9 am
SAT	Adoration and Confession Food Bank Distribution	SB 9:30 am Ministry Ctr. 9 am
SUN	CCD Faith Sharing	Zoom 9:45 am Zoom 2 pm
<p>Except for CCD, Zoom meeting links are on the events page of our website: saintmarymagdalenepegg.org/events</p>		

As a Faith Community, we pray for all who request prayers.

Gail Britanik, Amy Corpuz,
Br. Kevin Dalmasse, Eva Jackson, Mary Lou Laird,
Patricia Marino, Dee Pryor, Mary Reidell,
Emily Reiling, Marion Reynoso, James & Rose Smith,
Arlene Trichtinger, McKenna Grace Turner,
and Janet Wennersten

We pray for those who request prayers for any reason. We also pray for those affected by the coronavirus, COVID-19: those who are ill; healthcare and essential workers; religious and government leaders; and everyone impacted in any way.

If you, a family member, or friend would like to be on our prayer list, please call Cathy at the parish office or email craffaele@stmarymagpgh.org.

The names are also published on the website.

Pope Francis

"We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life."

June 3, 2020

Gathering on Zoom Every Sunday at 2 pm

Join parishioners for a time of reflection, listening, and perhaps sharing your perspective.

September 13 Matthew 18:21-25

Forgive one another from your heart.

September 20 Matthew 20:1-16a

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The link to the Zoom gathering is sent by email and is in the events page of our website:

saintmarymagdalenepgh.org/events

Our Parish Pantries have requested large cans of soup and packages of dried soup mix during September. Please bring donations to one of the churches. If you bring them to the Parish Office, 509 S. Dallas Avenue in Point Breeze, it is preferred that they be brought between 10 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday. If not, they can be left on the front or back porch.

It is suggested (but not necessary at this time) that donations no longer be put in plastic bags but recyclable bags which will then be used at the pantries.

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Mary Magdalene Social Justice & Peace Committee is meeting to plan for Respect Life Month, monthly letter writing, anti-racism and solidarity with other social justice efforts locally. All are welcome.

The meeting is on Wednesday, September 16, at 7 pm on Zoom. The link is on the Events page of our website: saintmarymagdalenepgh.org/events

St. Mary Magdalene Global Solidarity Committee is a new committee at our parish. It will be a part of our Social Ministries and Community Outreach Committee, similar to our Health Ministries and Social Justice and Peace Committees.

The first meeting was delayed by a power outage and the second by technical difficulties.

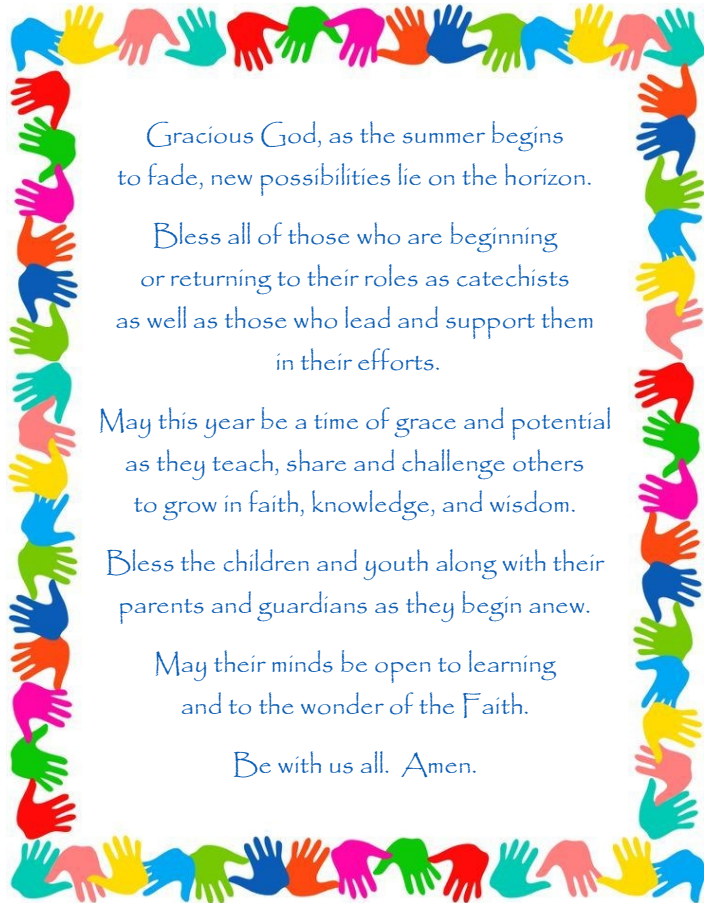
The meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 22, at 7:30 pm on Zoom. The link is on the events page of our website. All are welcome.

saintmarymagdalenepgh.org/events

If you are interested in learning more about it, please call Denise Charron-Prochownik at 412.352.0627 or Joyce Rothermel at 412.780.5118.

The St. James School All Class Reunion scheduled for September 26 and 27 is postponed due to Covid-19. More details to follow.

CCD begins on September 13. Please pray for our children, catechists and staff.



Gracious God, as the summer begins to fade, new possibilities lie on the horizon.

Bless all of those who are beginning or returning to their roles as catechists as well as those who lead and support them in their efforts.

May this year be a time of grace and potential as they teach, share and challenge others to grow in faith, knowledge, and wisdom.

Bless the children and youth along with their parents and guardians as they begin anew.

May their minds be open to learning and to the wonder of the Faith.

Be with us all. Amen.

 **CATHOLIC EDUCATION PLUS** Radio Program, with Fr. Tom Burke as host, highlights elementary and secondary schools; colleges; youth ministry programs; and more, and is broadcast every other Sunday morning on KDKA-AM.

Fr. Tom's next program is on September 27.

See the homepage of our website, for the link to podcasts of the programs: saintmarymagdalenepgh.org.

Prepare for November Elections Are you registered to vote? Do you want to vote by mail? You can find out about both – registering and/or requesting an absentee/mail-in ballot by going to alleghenyvotes.com. For assistance, call 412.350.4500. Copies of both forms will also be available in the back of our churches. Act now to make sure you will be able to vote in the November 3rd elections.

PASTOR'S NOTE



Forgiven!

Growing up with two older sisters, being the youngest and the only boy in my family, my sisters Lisa and Linda and I would often get into sibling arguments. It was natural to fight when we were all squeezed in the back seat of my parents Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme; we would argue who would be the lucky one to

have to sit in the middle (usually it was me) or we would argue over food at the dinner table. This time of year we would be in Ocean City, Maryland for our annual family summer vacation arguing over seashells, a miniature golf game, or who gets the last piece of pizza or cheese fries as we walked along the boardwalk.

Anytime we would get into arguments, my parents would sit us down, tell us to take a deep breath, and remind us to say we were sorry! I can remember my parents saying to me, "Tom, what do you say?" I would respond... "I'm sorry"! This weekend we celebrate the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. All of the readings focus on forgiveness.

In the first reading from Sirach, we read how a wise teacher urges us to extend to others the forgiveness we seek from God. In the second reading from Paul to the Romans, we are reminded that we belong to Christ the Lord in life and death. We die as servants of the Risen Lord. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus proclaims the parable of the unforgiving servant. The king forgives the servants debt showing mercy and forgiveness. When the servant encounters a fellow servant who owes him a modest amount, he demands full payment immediately. Mercy and forgiveness cannot be earned, they come from the heart with no limitations.

We are called to live the commandments as the way we honor our covenant with God. Revenge and hate have no place in our relationship with God and others and treating others with mercy gives us peace. Like God, may we be kind and merciful to others, slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Forgiven!

Confirmation Retreat

Our Confirmation candidates attended a day of retreat on Saturday, August 29, at St. Bede Church. The students participated in Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, had a great lunch followed by an afternoon reflection with Fr. Matt Hawkins. Special thanks to **Teresa Maynor, Dante Romito, Mara Sullivan, Melissa Viator** and several parent volunteers for making the day special.

Confirmation will be held on two Sundays: **September 27 and October 11 at 2pm**. Just as we did with First Holy Communion, we are limiting the number of students, families and guests at each of the Masses, following all safety and social distancing guidelines. Parents also have the option to wait till next year to have their child confirmed.

Century Club

The Century Club Banquet that was originally supposed to be held next **Sunday, September 20** at the Edgewood Country Club has been cancelled due to Covid-19. All members will be credited for next year. New members are welcomed for 2020-2021. The dues are \$100.00 a year and you will be eligible for one of four \$25.00 cash prizes each month. To join contact Judy Prata at 412.731.1439.

Parish Improvements

We recently purchased six new blue chairs from Tri-State Office Furniture in McKees Rocks for St. Bede Church.

John Buch Electric updated two electrical outlets at Mother of Good Counsel Church.

Please note the Fall hours for St. Bede Church are 7 am to 3 pm - Monday through Friday and 8 am to Noon on Saturday. Mother of Good Counsel and St. James are open one hour before the weekend Mass.

Blessing of Pets

In honor of the memorial of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals, we will have a **Blessing of Pets, Sunday, October 4, at 3:00 pm on the green lawn** in front of St. Bede Rectory at the corner of South Dallas Avenue and Edgerton Avenue.

Vacation 2020

Please note that I am currently finishing up my annual vacation this weekend. I will return to the office Monday morning, September 21.

Welcome

A special welcome to **Kristen Smith, Shawn, Anisah, Landon, Lennox** and **Leland Wherry** who recently registered at St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Something to Think About...

A true friend is one who knows all about you and loves you just the same.

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
tburke@diopitt.org

Reflections

Fr. David Taylor



Forgive us our trespasses. The Lord's Prayer is one of the most compelling statements about forgiveness and reconciliation. It is an essential part of the Mass and many of our daily devotions. It also speaks of a peace of mind so necessary for our daily faith.

We live in a world that often looks for revenge and retribution. This is the root of so much unhappiness in our lives. Jesus taught that forgiveness should be a way of life.

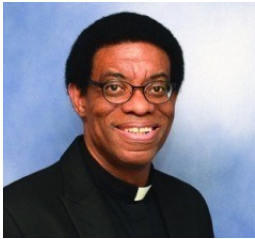
The gospel gives us a striking parable. The decision to forgive should be unconditional and in gratitude. It does

not depend upon the actions of others. If we are struggling with anger and a need for a grudge, we must take it to God in prayer. There is no other way to have peace of mind.

Many find it difficult to forgive themselves. Living in guilt can be a hurtful and painful experience. This can linger on long after others have forgiven us. This can be most challenging to our peace of mind and real happiness. We cannot undo the past but it should never hinder the quality of how we can live today.

We are living in difficult times. We must not let the past prevent all the good we can do today.

Fr. Matthew Hawkins



Over the past few weeks I have been focusing, in this space, on the three challenges facing the Catholic Church in the 21st century and beyond: (1) The church must be evangelical in the sense that it must respond to the growth of radical individualism, tribalism, materialism, secularism, and the polarization of

our society and of the world. These may be called the "signs of our times." We must have answers to the needs and the desires that drive these trends in our times. The church cannot afford to try to ignore or hide from these trends, but we also cannot enter into the public arena as political and ideological partisans. We must not add to the anger and the suspicion that characterize the current public discourse. The answer to the needs and desires of our times must not only be intellectual, it must also -- and especially -- take the form of the physical presence of the Christian in the world and in the lives of our neighbors.

(2) The second challenge is that in order for the church to respond and influence these "signs of our times" we must increasingly rely on the laity to be the leaven in the bread and the light in the darkness. As the director and editor-in-chief of the Catholic News Service, Greg Erlandson recently pointed out: "Whether we are talking about the needs of Christian education, or about the role of the laity in the Church, or about the role of the Church in the world, the mission statement of the Christian [can] be summarized as 'to rouse the sleeping ones'". We have to wake people up, and this begins with waking up ourselves. We must allow God to rouse us from our slumber and our complacency.

(3) The third challenge is that in order for the laity to evangelize our culture they must themselves be evangelized not only by the knowledge of the head, but also by the knowledge of the heart. This is true for the clergy also. We must be evangelized by encounters within the context of a community. Nobody, not even the cloistered, are evangelized on their own. We are part of a larger community of faith and we are shaped by our proximity to each other. This may seem particularly antithetical in these days of physical and social distancing, but proximity, presence, community, and person-to-person encounters are essential to what it means to be Christian.

This is also true about our relationship with Christ. As the founder of the international ecclesial lay movement "Communion and Liberation", Luigi Giussani once said: "Christianity is not an ideology; it is people who have met Christ." In Christ, we Christians are bound not to an abstraction or an ideology, but to the presence of a person who walked the streets of Galilee and Jerusalem and who lives even today beyond the constraints of space and time, whose real presence is found within the sacrament of the Eucharist, and who dwells within our hearts and in the midst of our community.

The Christian of the 21st century must be characterized by openness, friendship, intellectual engagement, and cultural fearlessness. It is only through personal encounters, the presence of other persons, and the personhood of Jesus Christ that we grow into a mature spirituality.