

Religious Education PREP Newsletter

Issue: December 2016

St. Mary Magdalen Church



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NOTE FROM DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This has been an incredibly busy fall – with regular PREP classes, two sacraments (Reconciliation and Confirmation), classes for those entering the church at Easter, Extraordinary Ministry to the Sick and more it just seems like August was only yesterday! Since the church is just beginning its new year (remember, the Church begins the year with Advent and ends with the Feast of Christ the King) I think I'm going to try and celebrate a season that doesn't get too much credit – Advent. We're so wrapped up (no, that was not an intentional pun) in Christmas that Advent seems to exist only on Sunday when we come to church. So I'm going to try and be more intentional about preparing the way for the Lord instead of just preparing the gifts and the tree and the outdoor décor and the food...and maybe, just maybe, by starting the year off right I'll come through it with a little more sanity!

I hope you all have a blessed and wonder-filled holiday!

Karen Yasik



★ Bulletin

FOR THE LATEST BULLETIN:

www.smmchurch.org/sunday-bulletins



SIGN UP TO LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE(S)

Interested in lighting the Advent candle this Christmas season? If so, sign up! You can choose to do it either by yourself, with your spouse, with family or friends. Sign up by using our SignUpGenius located on the front page of our website or by calling the parish office at 652-6800.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 1st – rehearsal for Confirmation students and sponsors at 7PM in the CHURCH HALL

December 3rd – Confirmation – students and sponsors arrive by 10:10AM, Mass begins at 11AM. Light reception to follow while you take pictures with the Bishop!

December 4th – regular classes pre-K through 8th

December 8th – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 11th – regular classes K-8

December 18th – FAMILY CATECHESIS CHRISTMAS – we'll learn some Christmas traditions and carols while our 1st and 6th graders rehearse for the grand finale! We will end by about 11:30 so if you want to go over to Mass to get your Baminelli (that's the baby Jesus from your nativity set) blessed you can do that and follow Santa down to the CHURCH HALL for the Baminelli Brunch! Watch for flyers in the church & bulletin!

December 25th – January 1st – NO CLASSES ALL GRADES

January 8th – CATHOLIC STUDENTS BRUNCH. All classes Pre-K through 8TH Meet – Mass & Brunch after! Preschool children must sit with their parents during Mass.



CATHOLIC STUDENTS BRUNCH

When we come back from Christmas break on January 8th, we will hold our annual Catholic Students Brunch for you & your families! For those who are new to our program, this gives us all a chance to go to Mass together after class, then go down to the hall for a light brunch. We provide most of the meal but if your family has a favorite or if you want to give a donation towards it, we're happy to accept – we just need to know you're coming. Please RSVP by Jan. 5th to Stephanie.casey@smmchurch.org with your family and the number who will be coming so we can be sure to have plenty of food for everyone! If you aren't able to attend, we'll be reminding you to pick your children up no later than 10:50 that Sunday so that we all have time to get to Mass.



WELCOME CATHOLIC STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES!

All religious education students and their families are invited to

Celebrate Catholic Students & Teachers Sunday, January 8th, at the 11:00 AM Mass

We will be bringing the students over to the church immediately following class that weekend, and class will dismiss a few minutes early to let everyone get to Mass on time.

If you will not be attending Mass and are picking up, be aware that you need to do that by about 10:50!

Pews will be reserved on the ambo side (where the Gospel is preached). Afterwards, all are invited to the Church Hall for a light breakfast. Donations gratefully accepted - either of a favorite treat or funds!

Please RSVP to the Office of Religious Education
at stephanie.casey@smmchurch.org with the number who will
be attending