

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1812 Lynn Avenue • Altoona, Wisconsin 54720 Vol. 44 • No. 29

FROM THE PAROCHIAL VICAR'S DESK

June 22: Memorial of St. Mary Magdalene

On July 22, the Church celebrates the Memorial of St. Mary Magdalene. As a member of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Dominic—part of the Dominican Order or *Order of Preachers*—St. Mary Magdalene has a special place in my heart, as she does in the hearts of all Dominicans. Mary Magdalene is known as the “Apostle to the Apostles” since she first brought the news of the Resurrection to the ears of the Apostles. She is thus a model for all preachers, especially those in the *Order of Preachers* like myself.

St. Mary Magdalene was from the town of *Magdala* in the present-day State of Israel. It is near Tiberius, on the Sea of Galilee, not terribly far from Capernaum. What we know for certain about Mary Magdalene comes to us from the Scriptures. However, this is a plethora of legends, apocryphal writings, and fiction out there about Mary Magdalene.

The Scriptures—which reference her twelve times (more than any other apostle)—tell us that Jesus had cast seven demons out of her. She was present at the Crucifixion and at the Resurrection, being the first to witness the Resurrection. It was perhaps St. Augustine of Hippo who gave her the title “Apostle to the Apostles” for preaching this news to them. After the Resurrection, Mary disappears from the New Testament: she is not present in the Acts of the Apostles or any of the other letters or epistles. It is possible that she is implicitly included in the first community in Jerusalem mentioned in Acts 1:14, but there is no way to know for certain. Legend has it that she died in Saint-Maximin-la-Sainte-Baume in southeastern France or possibly in Ephesus in Asia Minor.

One of the most prominent legends about St. Mary Magdalene was that she was a prostitute. Such claims or legends are unfounded. This claim may come from a merging of Mary’s life and the pardon of the sinful woman by Jesus in Luke 7:36. It’s also claimed that her name *Magdalene* is not from the town of Magdala but, according to some ancient Jewish rabbinical texts, from an expression meaning “curling women’s hair” which the texts explain as of meaning an adulteress. It also, quite possibly, could simply mean she was a hairdresser. However, the thought of Mary as a sinful woman was quite prevalent in the early Church and even the Church Fathers and popes considered her to be a repentant sinner. The “seven demons” that Jesus exorcized became the seven capital sins. What complicated the matter even further was that Mary Magdalene’s persona was merged (again) with another saint, St. Mary of Egypt, who really was a repentant prostitute.

This notion of a “composite Mary”—meaning that the understanding of who Mary Magdalene was is a “composite” of various other Marys was never accepted by the Eastern Church and by some Western religious orders, such as the Benedictine Order. St. Ambrose, one of the Western doctors of the Church went so far as to call her a virgin rather than a prostitute. In the Middle Ages, many saw Mary Magdalene as a repentant sinner who was called to by the “Apostle to the Apostles.” Even to this day there are many lingering elements of Mary Magdalene as a prostitute: (Cont. on pg. 2)

Parish Contact Information

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Rectory 715-514-5113
Prayer Chain ... generalbook@charter.net
St Mary’s School Office 715-830-2278
Regis Catholic Schools 715-830-2273

Parish Staff

Pastor,

Fr. Derek Sakowski 715-855-1294
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Parochial Vicar,

Fr. Alan Guanella 715-855-1294
Email aguanella@crossae.org

Parish Secretary/Administrative Assistant,
Sharon Stearns 715-855-1294

Director of Religious Education,
Mary Kneer 715-835-1692

Director of Sacred Music,
Josh Gallagher 262-203-3552

Maintenance, M Marcon ... 715-855-1294

Schedule of Masses

Weekend:

Saturday (vigil)	4:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am
	1:00 pm (Spanish)
<i>Mass at St. Raymond’s Sat. 6:00 pm</i>	
	<i>Sun. 8:30 am</i>

Sacramental Celebrations

Confession: St. Mary’s: Saturday from 10:00 am –12:00 pm or by appointment.
St. Raymond’s: Thursday at 7:00-9:00 pm
Baptism: Call parish office for appointment.
Marriage: At least six months advance notice. Call parish office for appointment.

MASS INTENTIONS

July 18/26

Sat. 4:00 pm † Dorothy Schmit
Sun. 11:00 am Priest’s Intention
1:00 pm Spanish Mass: Priest’s Intention
Mon. No Mass
Tue. 8:00 am Mass at St. Raymond’s
Wed. 8:00 am † Cherie & Steven Boley
Thu. 8:00 am Mass at St. Raymond’s
3:00 pm Mass at Fall Creek NH
Fri. 9:00 am † Florence & Archie Pitt
Sat. 4:00 pm † Marvin Schneider
Sun. 11:00 am † Jerry Shermo
1:00 pm Spanish Mass: St Mary’s & St Raymond’s Parishioners

PAROCHIAL VICAR'S DESK (CONT. FROM PG. 1)

in Martin Scorsese's film adaptation of Nikos Kazantzakis's novel *The Last Temptation of Christ*, in Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and in Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*, among others. Nevertheless, she is still considered the patroness of reformed prostitutes and those who suffer sexual temptation.

Some of the legends that are out there about her life after the Resurrection are quite interesting, though certainly not the most factual sources of information: later legends, for example, speak of a Mary who after the Ascension of Jesus lived as a hermit in a cave for thirty years, communicating with angels. This cave (or desert) where Mary retires is supposedly located near Aix-en-Provence in the south of France. According to Eastern traditions, she retired to Ephesus with the Blessed Virgin Mary and there she died. But for most of the Middle Ages, the Western Church believed that, after her period as a disciple of Jesus, Mary Magdalene had travelled to the south of France and died there. In Provence, Mary is said to have spent her last years alone in the wilderness, fasting and engaging in acts of penitential self-discipline, behavior that was rewarded with experiences of ecstatic union with the divine. One final legend says that she was shipwrecked on the island of Malta and lived and died there.

In 1988, Pope St. John Paul II wrote an apostolic letter on the dignity of women, *Mulieris Dignitatem*. In this letter he praises St. Mary Magdalene: "The Gospel of John emphasizes the special role of Mary Magdalene. She is the first to meet the Risen Christ. Hence she came to be called "the apostle of the Apostles". Mary Magdalene was the first eyewitness of the Risen Christ, and for this reason she was also the first to bear witness to him before the Apostles. This event, in a sense, crowns all that has been said previously about Christ entrusting divine truths to women as well as men."

PARISH & DIOCESAN EVENTS

Fr. Ray Diesbourg, of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, a religious society of more than 2,000 members active in 54 countries, most of them in developing countries. Please welcome him and make a generous sacrifice to join with the MSC in order to spread the Gospel in mission lands. Your contribution is a very concrete way to express your baptismal call and share in missionary work.

Witnesses for Christ Conference, August 7-8, 2015, at the La Crosse Center, 300 Harborview Plaza, La Crosse. Keynote speaker is Dr. Edward Sri, presenting "Walking with Mary-A Biblical Journey from Nazareth to the Cross." Call Ann at 608-791-2658 or email alankford@diolc.org

Retrouvaille: A Lifeline for Struggling Marriages A marriage saving weekend will be on Aug. 21-23 at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon. Register before Aug. 14 by calling 1-877-922-4673 or email cwr.community@gmail.com

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Bingo is every Tuesday evening. Begin selling at 6:00 pm. Early bird bingo starts at 7:00 pm. Regular bingo starts at approximately 7:30 pm. Bring the family and enjoy a fun evening together.

Thank you to our bingo workers for their dedication: Carol Mastej (supervisor); Carol Mastej (caller); Joyce Oates, Linda Schuh, Jackie Behounek, Jean Ryan, Kathleen Wanke, Matt Chilson, Amy Sacia, Jeff, Matthew Woestman (workers); Carol Mastej (pull tab); Knights of Columbus (concession). Thank you.



SCHOOL NEWS

How much does it cost to provide your child with a quality, faith-based education at Regis Catholic Schools? It might be less than you think!

2015/16 Tuition Rates

Elementary (K-5) \$2,935, **Middle School** (6-8) \$3,060, **High School** (9-12) \$4,770
Monthly Payments, Elementary \$244.58, Middle School \$255, High School \$397.50
Call 715-830-2273, ext. 3 or go to www.RegisCatholicSchools.com for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

July 8-23, Peru Mission Trip. Please pray for the safety of those traveling. May the lives of our youth and the orphans at Casa Hogar, be enriched with the love and compassion through the witness of Christ in each other

July 23, Young Adult Meeting 8-9:30 p.m.

July 27, ABCD's of Medicare 1-3 p.m.

July 26-31, Totus Tuus is a Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through Christian witness, catechesis, evangelization, and Eucharistic worship. And, it's a LOT OF FUN!!! Totus Tuus has two programs: a day program for 1st through 5th graders & a night program for 6th through 12th graders. **Registration forms are in the narthex and on our website.**

July 31, Bike with Fr. Sakowski, leaving St. Mary's parking lot at 6:30 p.m. and returning for a pot luck meal at 7:30 p.m. Call Janet & Bob at 715-878-4900 to RSVP. They will provide the hot dogs.

Aug 9, Social Sunday after 11 a.m. Mass in the Community Center.

Aug. 12, Adoration 8:30 a.m.—8:30 p.m. Please sign-up for an our with our Eucharistic Lord. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Adoration is on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Please check out the bulletin board for detailed information.

Please submit information for the bulletin by Monday and inserts by Wednesday before that weekend.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Week of July 19, 2015

Sun: Jer 23:1-6/Eph 2:13-18/
Mk 6:30-34

Mon: Ex 14:5-18/Mt 12:38-42

Tue: Ex 14:21--15:1/Mt 12:46-50

Wed: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thu: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Mt 13:10-17

Fri: Ex 20:1-17/Mt 13:18-23

Sat: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt 20:20-28

Sun: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

The Weekend of July 25/26

Lectors

4:00 pm D Stearns
11:00 am J Van Hemert

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4:00 pm J Bechly
11:00 am R Wanke

Servers

4:00 pm B Lecher, T Perkins, C Windeshausen
11:00 am N Mullenberg, G LeGore

Attendant Servers

4:00 pm J Bechly
11:00 am J Mullenberg

Organists

4:00 pm S Alexander
11:00 am J Gallagher

Cantors

4:00 pm S Stearns
11:00 am L Gallagher

Ushers

4:00 pm R Meyer, M Rohn, J Hayden, B Ciske
11:00 am J Cooley, T Buck, J Bauer, R Mullenberg

Counters I Lewis, R Olson, C Mastej

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Expecting a child? Begin the baptismal preparation now. The next baptismal prep class at St. Mary's is **Mon., Aug. 10**, 6-7 p.m. and the next brunch is **Sun., Sep. 13**, 12:15-2 p.m. The next luncheon at St. Raymond's is on **Sun., Aug. 16** at 9:45-11:30 a.m., and the baptismal prep class on **Thu., Sep. 10**, at 6-7 p.m. Baptism information, forms, and documents are available online at www.stmarys-altoona.com. At least two (2) months advance notice needed. See website for details, or contact parish office now to start the process.

KNIGHTS NEWS

Regular Monthly Meeting, Mon., Aug. 4, 6 p.m. Officers meeting in the Knights room, followed by regular meeting at 7 p.m.



STEWARDSHIP

Last Week

Adults	\$6,609.00
Endowment Fund	\$0.00
Young People.....	\$1.00
Children	\$8.80
Offertory.....	\$812.30
Total	\$7,431.10
Capital Campaign (Rec'd to Date)	\$206,007.56

ELIZABETH MINISTRY



- To add a name, due date/birth date, request a meal, or to volunteer, please call Emily Thurner at 715-864-3048.
- Please pray for those who are expecting.

*Thank you for giving of your time to this ministry.
It is appreciated by those who are blessed.*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please Pray For...

Please keep Cliff Abrahamson, Pat Gerseth, Richard Lasiuk, Jim Ramsay, Betty Nelson, JoAnn Deters, N Webb, Sr. Theodore Nelson, Karen Solberg, Shelly Allen, Sheila Lehnen, Foresten Family, Lucille Welter, Mary Beth Pierce, Pat & Don Kamrowski, Lee & Darlene Henrichs, Josh Powers, Linda Gesche, Eileen Niehoff, Megan Olszewski, Roger Forcier, Jeanne Reali, Clarence Nowobielski, Julie Rohn, Arla McFadden, Duane Fanetti, Walt Nguyen, Danell Leland, Karen Wurzer, Linda Gabriel, Rose and Kevin Sigmund, Dick Sires, Sarah Marble, Bob & Betty Haas, Plets family, Erica Nerbonne, Ron Sisko, Steve & Ella May Kassa, Greg Manney, Judy Ciske, Kelly Hawker, Maureen Kollar, Ed Hofacker, Sam P, Eleanor Wildrick, Dave Rosener, Mike Moses, Carol Bridges Rothfusz, Abby Williamson, infant Elizabeth and her parents, Laurie, Lucille Plautz, Kip Schultz, Doreen Bauer, Kristin Soley, Charles P. Steuding, Dylan Snyder, Sue Arrell, Pabich intention, Arline Smeltzer, Melgard intention, Randy, and their families in your prayers.



REMINDERS & TIDBITS

The Diocesan School of Biblical Studies Series V (2015-2019) begins Aug. 18. Annual tuition is \$250. This is for regular bible readers looking for something "beyond the basics." Call or contact Fr. Mark Pierce at 715-723-7108 frmarkpierce@gmail.com

Men of the Cross Catholic Men's Conference "The Call to Fatherhood", Sat., Oct. 24, at Viterbo University Fine Arts Center, La Crosse. Cost, \$35 /person, \$40 after Oct. 10. To register go to www.menofthecross.org/

NEW Class for Diocesan Lay Formation Institute Begins in Fall of 2015. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! Register now for the next two-year cycle. Brochures and application forms can be downloaded at www.dioc.org/layformation, where you can also watch a 3-minute slideshow shot at St. Anthony's Retreat Center. If you are interested, discuss this with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at ministries@dioc.org or call (608) 791-2667.

Community Consignment is a strong supporter of Catholic Charities and the Sojourner House, is accepting donations of household items to sell with proceeds going in support of helping the homeless in our community. Contact Community Consignment at 715.829.2384 or Catholic Charities at 715.832.6644. Thank you.

Catholic Charities Annual Utility Appeal has received \$51,309 in requests for utility relief in April. Requests were from families who are facing disconnection and would not be able to turn on their stoves or take a hot showers. Please consider assisting in helping families and individuals in need. All funds raised during our Appeal go directly to help pay unpaid energy bills. You can help by visiting our website at www.cclse.org. Thank you!

\$CRIP NEWS

\$crip Volunteers for next weekend,
4:00 pm (Mary Kneer and volunteer),
11:00 am (Loann Sumner and volunteer)

Last Week

Number of Orders.....	25
Amount Sold	\$5,865.00
Profit (approximately).....	\$293.25
Monthly Profit	\$397.00

Thank You!

For additional \$crip news log onto St. Mary's website:
www.stmarys-altoona.com.

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