

CHURCH OF THE MAGDALENE



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Father John Vigilanti, Pastor
 Father Joseph Reynolds, W/E Assistant

Dorothy Meehan, Dir. Of Religious Education
 Jeanne LiMarzi, Secretary
 Anne Holland, Director of Music, Organist
 Marianne Scott, Receptionist

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00PM Confessions: Saturdays 4:30PM
 Sunday Masses 9:00AM & 11:00AM Monday - Friday 8:00AM Mass

ANNOUNCED MASSES: Oct. 3 – Oct. 11

REQUESTED BY:

Saturday	5:00 PM	Theresa Wright	Brian & Denise Perrigino
Sunday	9:00 AM	Theresa Hornby	Jim & Linda Hornby
	11:00 AM	Kenneth Hanniford	Diane Stone
Monday	8:00 AM	Rev. Joseph Dietz	Jeannine Rippa
Tuesday	8:00 AM	Brendan Moyna	Dorothy & Dennis Meehan
Wednesday	8:00 AM	Edith Carey	Fr. John
Thursday	8:00 AM	Marie Siciliano	Scaglione Family
Friday	8:00 AM	Fr. Joseph Dietz	Jeannine Rippa
Saturday	5:00 PM	Nancy Fragiacomio	Richard & Cathy Chulla
Sunday	9:00 AM	Joanne Coza	Family
	11:00 AM	Nick Cacciola	Joe & Luisa Mortelliti

***Sanctuary Candle is in Memory of Fr. Joe Dietz
 By Jeannine Rippa***

Next Weekend Celebrants 10/10 – 10/11

5:00 p.m. Sat. Fr. Vigilanti
 9:00 a.m. Sun. Fr. Vigilanti
 11:00 a.m. Sun Fr. Vigilanti

Pray for the sick: Liam Wolfe, Paul Wallace, Nancy Letizia, Jasmine Meyer, Anthony Tobacco, Elias Samarasto, Joyce Carroll, Lorraine Savagno, Joseph & Madeline Carbone, Howard Phillips, Rita Sena, John Ryan, Joseph & Laurel Tyson, Michael Kessman, Liam Ahern, Giavanna McVeigh, George Rose, Betsy Zeino, Moriah Jordan, Kevin Doherty, Carol Many, Senny Josephs, Bob & Wanda Praisner, Tom Loemker, Ann & Tom Cahill, Marcella Thorne, Matthew March, Nijole Raskys, Lorraine & Peter Simone, Jim Defemia, Humberto Gonzalez, Bill Monroe, Joseph Robert Carbone, Kathryn Feakins, Linda Klimaszenki, John Masteller, Paul & Donna Sabatos, Christopher Bellantoni, Geraldine Forster, and Roberto Uribe.

THE GIFT OF THE REIGN OF GOD: Matthew's Gospel today expands on Isaiah's ballad considerably. A comparison with the same story in Mark's Gospel clearly shows us that here the author is busy teaching this community of Jewish Christians: "This is a story about Israel a long time ago; this is also a story about Jesus and the skeptical leaders." Jesus as much as told these Jewish leaders that they were the tenants who first stoned their own prophets. And he told the leaders they were the tenants who would soon even dispose of him - Jesus - and, in doing so would forfeit their privileged place of presenting to the world the promised Messiah. "And this," says Matthew's Gospel, "is a story about you, the inheritors of what was first offered to Israel." The reign of God was first opened to Israel and is now given to the whole world, but it must be received as a gift. The first Christians are the new tenants in the vineyard. The deeper reality of the reign or kingdom of God is that it is available to everyone on the face of the earth – Israel included.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH: October is Respect Life Month. As Catholics we are called to cherish, defend, and protect the most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. The five keys: Reflect, Pray, Share, Learn more, and Stay Connected can be found at <http://www.respectlife.org/celebrate>. "Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!" - St. John Paul II

40-DAYS FOR LIFE: Your prayers are needed. Prayerful presence outside of abortion clinics is truly essential. Your prayers offer hope to women in crisis and save lives of the vulnerable unborn. 40 Days for life is a life-saving prayer campaign that will take place throughout our Archdioceses until November 1. It is a peaceful initiative consisting of 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil at abortion facilities, and educational outreach with the goal of protecting mothers and their children from abortion. More than 17,000 unborn children have been saved. To learn more, visit www.40daysforlife.com.

MASS OFFERINGS:

The 2021 mass book is now open. A number of our parishioners have used the opportunity to book masses for deceased relatives and friends. Please call the rectory first to ensure that someone will be available to assist you. There are also masses available for 2020. Mass offering is \$15.00.

FORDHAM PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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ASK FOR HELP: Ask Our Lady to help you. Ask her to entreat her Son to let you know what you should do. —*Bl Marie Rose Durocher*

September 29, 2020

Dear Parishioners:

This past week we received a nice donation from the mother of one of our parishioners who lives in Florida, but watches our live streaming mass on Sunday. She was very kind in her words of appreciation. She most especially appreciates the fact that my homilies are not 30 minutes long as in her home parish. That parish will remain unnamed! By the way, any priest who preaches for 30 minutes needs to be sentenced to 30 minutes of exposure to gas powered leaf blowers.

1. Speaking of the live streaming. If you tried to contact the rectory by email last Thursday and over the weekend, we had no internet access. Verizon was reconfiguring our internet service to add a new IP address for the live streaming camera. Representatives of LocalLive.Tv, the streaming company, were at the church today to survey the environment to ensure the best service. We hope to have the permanent installation up and running for First Communion and Confirmation. Of course, what we did not contemplate was that Verizon will be charging us an extra fee per month for the new IP address. As Gomer Pyle would say: “Surprise, Surprise, Surprise!”
2. If any parents or grandparents in our parish have children or grandchildren in one of our Catholic high schools **within the archdiocese** (diocesan or private), please let me know.
3. During the past week two couples, who were scheduled to be married here last summer, and have rescheduled for next year, asked if a civil marriage now would jeopardize a future church wedding? The simple answer is “No.” While the church does not recognize a civil marriage between two Catholics as a valid marriage, the fact is that for legal reasons during this pandemic, couples want to settle certain legal issues **now**: wills, insurance, leases, deeds, bank accounts, etc. **as married partners**. Understandable. Preparing for marriage is difficult enough to begin with.

Preparing for marriage during a pandemic adds an extra level of complexity.

4. Many of our parishes in the archdiocese are under tremendous pressure (in finances and staffing) due to the pandemic and accumulated issues. In the past week alone two pastors took leaves of absence. I feel extremely fortunate to be here at the Magdalene. My sincere thanks to all our parishioners and our staff.
5. Last weekend's attendance: 5pm, 42; 9am, 52; 11am, 43. The 9am was our highest attendance since the beginning of the pandemic. This weekend attendance was 39% of our normal pre-pandemic attendance.
6. Another reminder: if you receive an email or text message allegedly from me, be skeptical. If you have doubts, call the rectory.
7. Yesterday's New York Times had a profile of students taking their SATs at Sleepy Hollow HS last Saturday. I thought the last line of the article was a perfect commentary on our times: "Proud parents greeted their children with hugs in the parking lot, brandishing doughnuts and Clorox wipes."
8. I understand that the diocese has sent out postcards for the Increased Offertory Campaign. They didn't waste any time! My gut tells me that the next few months will be a challenge for all of us. Do the best you can. Remember, family comes first.
9. The family of Fr. Dietz would like to share the following message to our parishioners:

"The family of Fr. Joe Dietz would like to thank everyone who sent a card, said a prayer, stopped by the viewing, or attended the funeral mass for our beloved brother and uncle. The outpouring of support that we received, and the stories you have shared with us about our uncle Joe, validated what we as a family already knew. He was wonderful, kind, generous man who always put others before self. He was our wounded healer, our patriarch and the rock of our family. We are happy to know that he was all of that, and more, to so many of you. He showed us how to

live with humility and to die with dignity, and for that we will always be grateful. His one song request for his funeral was “Only This I want.” The lyrics of that song sum up the last few weeks of his life as he battled cancer. ‘Only this I want: but to know the Lord, and to bear his cross so to wear the crown he wore. I will run the race, I will fight the good fight, so to win the prize of the kingdom of my Lord.’ He is home. May he rest in eternal peace.”