

CHURCH OF THE MAGDALENE



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Father John Vigilanti, Pastor

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: Feb. 20 – Feb. 21

REQUESTED BY:

Saturday	5:00 PM	For Our Parishioners	
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sean Tierney	Duignan Family
	11:00 AM	Barbara Woltmann	Scaglione Family
Monday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Tuesday	8:00 AM	Rita Poux	Pierre Poux
Wednesday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Thursday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Friday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Saturday	5:00 PM	Paul Bebick	Duignan Family
Sunday	9:00 AM	Randy Morrow	Morrow Family
	11:00 AM	Arthur K. McCormack	Kevin & Mary Anne McCormack

Next Weekend Celebrants Feb. 27-28

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, 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, Bob & Wanda Praisner, Ann & Tom Cahill, Marcella Thorne, Matthew March, Nijole Raskys, Jim Defemia, Humberto Gonzalez, Bill Monroe, Joseph Robert Carbone, Kathryn Feakins, Linda Klimaszenki, John Masteller, Paul & Donna Sabatos, Christopher Bellantoni, Geraldine Forster, Alice Pacella and Louis Rodriguez.

FEAST OF FAITH: Seasonal Changes for the Liturgies of Lent

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season of preparation for Easter, our churches look stark and simple—no flowers at the altar, no festive banners or decorations. And our liturgies feel different, too. The organ is quiet except to accompany the singing of the assembly. The Gloria, our Sunday song of rejoicing, is not heard except on solemnities, and we will not sing the Alleluia, our joyful acclamation of praise, until the Easter Vigil. “Alleluia cannot always / Be our song while here below,” says an eleventh-century hymn. “Alleluia our transgressions / Make us for a while forego; / For the solemn time is coming / When our tears for sins must flow” (*Alleluia dulce carmen*, J. M. Neale, trans.).

These changes in the liturgy will catch our attention, and make us eager for the festive outpouring of joy that will return with Easter. This year, may the stripped-away liturgies of Lent remind us to strip away what is not essential in our lives to make space for the crucified and risen One, and thus to be ready to sing “Alleluia” once again when Easter returns.

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE: During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of faith and abstinence.

FASTING requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day. There is no eating between meals. Fasting obliges to all those 18-59.

ABSTINENCE prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges to all those 14 and continues throughout their lives.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE is a life-saving prayer campaign that will take place throughout the Archdiocese starting February 17- March 28. 40 Days for Life 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 mother and their children from abortion. More than 18,000 unborn children have been saved from abortion during 40 Days for Life campaign. To learn more about this campaign, visit: www.40daysforlife.com.

CARDINAL’S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021 has begun. This year’s theme is “**All things are Possible.**” Some of you have already received a letter from the Cardinal asking for your support. In the past three years we have exceeded the goal set by the Archdiocese. Please be as generous as your financial means will allow. **As of February 12, we have 23 participants who have pledged \$10,775.** To donate online click: [Donate](#)

BEAUTY IN FORGIVENESS

Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another.

—Jean P. F. Richter

February 16, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

Last Wednesday I participated in a Zoom conference focused on the retirement benefits offered to priests, since my eligibility for retirement approaches on July 1st. I conveyed to the Office of Priest Personnel my intention to remain at the Magdalene, with diocesan approval, until July 1, 2022, at which time I will re-evaluate my ministry. There is too much to accomplish here in the coming year regarding the backlog of weddings, baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, memorial masses for those who died during the height of the virus, etc. In addition, since I do believe (hopefully I am wrong) that this virus will consume our attention for all of 2021, my desire to travel during my retirement would be impossible because of the risks involved, leaving me to do little or nothing during my first year of retirement. On another issue, as of today, I have received no response from the diocese concerning its future plans for the Magdalene. As I have stated before, when I hear, you will hear. Stay tuned.

1. Tomorrow is Ash Wednesday. Mass at 8am, services at 12 noon and 7pm. Ashes will be distributed in small cellophane packets blessed during the services. There will be no imposition of ashes on the forehead out of an abundance of caution due to the virus.
2. On Feb 18th I am scheduled to receive my second Moderna vaccine shot at the Westchester County Public Health Clinic in White Plains. I am praying for moderate temperatures and NO SNOW. But the weather forecast seems to suggest otherwise.
3. Last Tuesday I met our diocesan representative for the Cardinal's Appeal. He is new to the Appeal. We will have an in-pew appeal on the weekend of March 6-7. I will keep you apprised of the parish totals on a weekly

basis as I receive them from the diocese. Please consider what you are financially able to donate. If you have not received a communication from the diocese, Appeal envelopes will be available in the back of the church. Remember, not only are we servicing the needs of the diocese through the Appeal, but we also help secure our place in the diocese. Presently, 24 parishioners have pledged \$10,775. The goal is \$54,000. Remember, there is a hidden treasure in matchings gifts from your employer. Many companies will match the charitable gifts of their employees and RETIREES! When I was president of the Academy of Mt St. Ursula, an alumna gifted the school \$250,000. Her company matched it!!! I will assist in completing any paperwork your company may require. Each company has its own protocol. Simply contact the HR department of your company.

4. We have chosen a vendor to modify the side door of the church and the front door of the school with panic bars and hydraulic door closers. The doors were modified on Monday, the 15th. In regard to the side door of the church, it will mean that you can exit, but not use it as an entrance. This will be a change. For disabled individuals the door can be simply opened from inside to allow entry. Since both the side door of the church and the front door of the school are in an isolated area of the property, we must ensure that they close securely. During the past year we have had some security concerns/intrusions in that area. Nothing has been taken or damaged, but we are not, proverbially, going to close the barn door when it is too late!
5. Our live stream audience remains constant, and the requests for live streaming funerals is on the rise. I have no doubt that the same will be true for weddings. With live streaming, we have the ability to showcase our parish to people around the country---and the world. The funeral of Rocco Buschetto last Saturday had 39 households watching live, 40

households watching later. This past weekend attendance: 5pm, 57; 9am, 18; 11am, 55(?). Live stream: 111 households watched live, 70 households watched later (this number usually increases during the week).

6. On February 10th the parish was granted a \$28,400 PPP second loan from the Federal government. Since we fulfilled all the federal requirements for the first loan, the first loan was forgiven and the money (\$27,590) was deposited into our operating account on February 1st. Once we fulfill the requirements for the second loan, we expect the loan to be forgiven sometime in 2021.
7. On Saturday evening, the 13th, the pastor of St Teresa in Briarcliff, Fr. Joe Bisignano, died from Covid. May he rest in peace. The death of an active priest (3 in the past two weeks) brings into sharp focus the pressure the diocese is facing in staffing our parishes. How this might affect us is not known at this time, but I am prepared for any surprise.