

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: April 3 – April 11

REQUESTED BY:

Saturday	8:00 PM	Hugh O'Lunney	Ken Tierney
Sunday	9:00 AM	Thomas Hales	Wildermann-Scott Families
	11:00 AM	Alfred DiDomizio	Brian & Denise Perrigino
Monday	8:00 AM	No 8:00 a.m. Mass	
Tuesday	8:00 AM	Elaine Casadel	Carol & Al Olivieri
Wednesday	8:00 AM	Bernard Sheridan	Kringas Family
Thursday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Friday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Saturday	5:00 PM	Patty Chepiga	Barstow Family
Sunday	9:00 AM	Joanne Coza	Her Family
	11:00 AM	Rocco Buscetto	Peggy Slavin

Next Weekend Celebrants April 10-11

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

Pray for the sick: Liam Wolfe, 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.

EASTER PEOPLE

We are Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

—St. Augustine

PARISH CALENDAR

April 6 (Tues)	4:00 p.m.	2 nd Graders prepare for Communion through May 4
	7:00 p.m.	8 th Graders prepare for Confirmation through May 4
April 24 (Sat.)	11:00 a.m.	First Communion (2020 Class) – Live Stream
May 8 (Sat.)	11:00 a.m.	First Communion (2021 Class) – Live Stream
May 9 (Sun.)		Mother's Day- Crowning of Blessed Mother
May 9 (Sun.)	2:00 p.m.	Confirmation (2020 Class) - Live Stream
	4:00 p.m.	Confirmation (2021 Class) - Live Stream

REJOICE AND BE GLAD

During the first three or four centuries of Christianity, if you asked a Christian to name the feast days of the church, your answer would have been a puzzled stare, for there was only one feast: the Resurrection of the Lord. Every Sunday was a feast celebrating the one great feast. Even though our calendar now has many beautiful and holy feasts, we must continually be called back to the fact that all these other feasts exist because of the feast of Christ's Passover from death to life. The psalm today proclaims this message well: "This is the day." It is not one of many days, but it is the day of all days, the one that gives all the others their origin, purpose, meaning, and destiny. Listen carefully to Peter's speech in Acts with its recollection of the Passion, to the words of the apostle Paul, and to the account of Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter finding the empty tomb, and you will hear the many wonderful works that God has done for us through Christ. Rejoice and be glad!

FLOCKNOTE: Our most direct way of communicating with parishioners, other than Sunday mass, is through email and FlockNotes. Our website is updated once a week. **If we do not have your email and cell phone, please consider providing it to the rectory.** We send out our FlockNote only once a week, usually on Tuesday evening. It allows all of us to be on the same page regarding the status of our parish and its services.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS: On Tuesdays, April 6-May 4 at 4:00 p.m. our 2nd graders will be back to school to prepare for First Communion, which is on **May 8 at 11:00 a.m.** We will meet in the church hall. Many thanks to Victoria Shields who will be teaching this class.

Also, on Tuesdays, April 6-May 4 from 7-8:15 p.m. our 8th graders will be back at school to prepare for Confirmation, which is on **May 9 at 4:00 p.m.** We are very grateful to Stephanie Fuller and Cathy Chulla who will teach these classes. Any questions please call Dotty Meehan.

CARDINAL'S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021:

Few organizations were as well-equipped to respond to the needs of the community at the peak of the pandemic as the Catholic Church, but the work is far from over. We serve not only the faithful from Staten Island to Sullivan county, but all who approach our church doors in their time of need with spiritual, physical, and medical support. **As of March 26, we have 80 participants who have pledged \$42,809.**

Fr. John & Staff would like to wish you all a Blessed Easter!

March 30, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

Between late April and next December this year I have 10 weddings on my schedule both here at the Magdalene and elsewhere. Bookings for 2022 have started. Two months ago I wrote the diocese seeking guidance on how to proceed with requests for 2022, since my intention, **as of now**, is to retire upon my 50th anniversary in June of next year. Complicating the issue is that, since I have been here, the diocese had presented three courses of action regarding the future of the Magdalene, and eventually aborted all three. Last week I received an email from the Vicar General that the topic of our future will be discussed on March 22nd at the diocesan level. There is little doubt, in my mind, that our neighboring parishes will be part of the discussion. Keep in mind that Pocantico, Hawthorne, Valhalla, and Briarcliff have either administrators or temporary administrators, not pastors. What is the difference? Pastors have a defined six year term, to foster parish stability. Administrators, on the other hand, can be removed with a simple phone call or letter from the cardinal. In government this would be analogous to an **acting** Secretary of Defense, rather than a permanent, confirmed Secretary of Defense. Two months ago I offered a proposal that would allow the parish to continue as an independent operating entity but with reduced services. At this moment I have no way of knowing when the diocese will reach a decision or what factors will go into that decision. My main concern is to ensure that our parishioners, who have been extremely loyal and generous to the Magdalene (**and the diocese**), are not left hanging with a *fait accompli* in which they had no input.

There are many critically important decisions on the horizon about all our diocesan institutions. In fact, there is a credible rumor that all priests (active and retired) presently residing in our high schools will be asked to move into parishes over the summer. It remains to be seen how this will be executed.

Expect the beginnings of a major reorganization, step by step. It is, unfortunately, unavoidable. If and when I hear something, I will let you know.

1. I have been asked if the occupancy rate for churches during this pandemic has been revised by the state. As of this writing (30th), the answer is no. We are restricted to 50% of our normal occupancy (200). The result is that our Holy Week services will safely accommodate 100 individuals at each service. I am sure many will be disappointed, but following protocols is necessary. The same will hold true, as of now, for our upcoming First Communions and Confirmations, which will be live streamed.
2. As of last Friday (26th), 80 parishioners donated \$42,809 to the Cardinal's Appeal. The goal remains \$54,000. The average gift was \$535. Thank you for your participation in this diocesan-wide drive. A reminder: Please make checks out to the **Cardinal's Appeal**. You may then mail it to us. If you make the check out to us, we need to cut a check in your name to the Appeal. We would rather simplify the bookkeeping mechanics.
3. My thanks to Jeanne, Marianne, and Peg who helped decorate the church for Holy Week and Easter. A wonderful job, as usual.
4. Attendance for Palm Sunday weekend: 5pm, 61; 9am, 72; 11am, 72. This is 59% of our normal weekend attendance and 32% of our registered families. This was the largest in person attendance since the pandemic began. Our live stream: 104 households watched live, 77 households watched later. We had just enough palm to meet the needs of those who attended, with a few strands left over on the altar. Just so you know, we have compiled a new parish list of our parish households. We presently have 632 registered households. When I arrived at the Magdalene in 2015 we listed 520. At least we are moving in the right direction.

5. Reminder: I will never email or text you looking for money or a favor. No, I do not need someone to buy me an Apple itunes gift card ASAP! Really??? Be alert. Verify!!! The scammers have come out of their winter hibernation.
6. As we complete one full year of living through a pandemic, the parish remembers those who have lost loved ones. May our celebration of the Risen Christ help raise their spirits and reaffirm their faith.

**HAPPY EASTER TO ALL
FROM THE PARISH STAFF**