

Religious Education PREP Newsletter

Issue: May-June 2022 St. Mary Magdalen Church



Running On Empty

Back when I was in high school, there was (and to my knowledge still is!) a musician named Jackson Browne. He had a few popular hits, but one that has been going through my head a lot this past month has been *Running on Empty*, particularly the refrain. If I can indulge:

Running on empty, running blind

Running into the sun, but I'm running behind

This spring has been a real whirlwind! On Holy Thursday (and remember I am the cantor at the Cathedral for our Bishop, so I was scheduled for Holy Thursday, good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday) my 90-year-old mom stepped wrong off our back step and strained the ligaments in her ankle along with her Achilles tendon. We didn't know that at the time – we just thought it was sore – so we were helping her everywhere, and since we had a Tuesday appointment at the chiropractor I had him take a look. He said she had jammed her talus bone (connecting the lower leg bones to the ankle joint) and said it was so tight it practically exploded in his hand. Even after he adjusted it, it got worse, so a few days later we went to Delaware Orthopaedic where Dr. Mesa said that nothing was broken, and he felt it was the before-mentioned strain – but that even if it was a fracture the treatment would be wearing a boot. He wanted her to walk with the boot and a walker with 2 people, one front, one back, only twice a day – so for the last month I have been running home every morning by 10 (many thanks to Father Kirk!) and working from home so I am there for her and all her needs. This while running First Communion at every mass, every weekend and having a Confirmation Sponsor virtual gathering too! And now – on to VBS! So when I came in ready to send this last week, only to find that the power outage had completely annihilated it - ! I hope all of you are having a great May and you're ready to sign up for next year LOL!

Karen Yasik

The parish app gives you easy access to info on classes, sacraments, the worship aid for mass and more! Go to <https://www.parihsolutionsco.com/magdalde.html>



*We now have an
app for that!*



May-June Calendar

We finished First Communion yesterday, and the Sponsor Gathering for Confirmation – so here's what's coming up!

May 26 – Feast of the Ascension (transferred in this diocese to Sunday May 29th)

May 31st – Feast of the Visitation of Mary

June 5th – Pentecost Sunday (the end of the Easter season, when the Holy Spirit comes to the Apostles)

June 12th – Feast of the Holy Trinity

**June 13 – 17 – Vacation Bible School at SMM!
See the block next page!**

June 19th – Corpus Christi, the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 21st and June 23rd – two of the three choices for Confirmation retreats, see block next page!

June 29th – Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul



ONLINE REGISTRATION

PREP Registration 2022-23

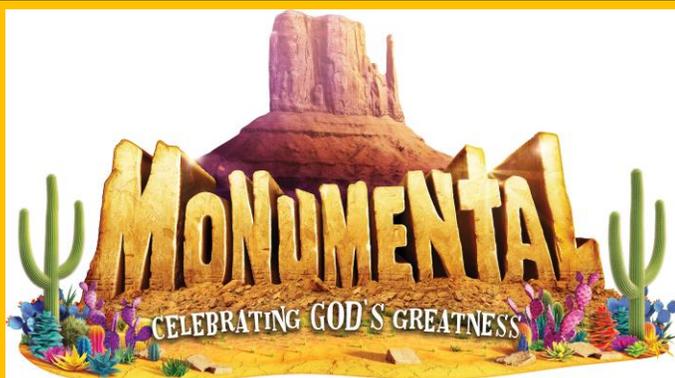
is open!

Just go [HERE](#) and enter your child(ren)'s information – and don't forget the diocesan form A, which has to be printed separately (all children can go on one form). We'll be starting September 11th so register now and avoid the late fee!

DID YOU KNOW?

INTERESTING THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT OUR FAITH

Taken from various newsletters, sometimes abridged!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 13th -17th

9:15AM-12:15PM

Children learn more about their faith through Bible Adventures, Imagination Station experiments, music, games and more! Be sure to ask about the Saint of the Day!

\$50 per child for parishioners

Register online or print volunteer form [HERE](#)

\$60 for non-parishioners

FREE for 5-day adult volunteers!

Confirmation Retreat Info

Retreats begin 8:15AM with daily Mass and end at 1PM. Parent or sponsor should arrive by 12:30PM for prayer and pickup. Lunch will be provided. Students should bring water bottles and pens, and be prepared to participate! Parents and/or sponsors should turn in letters to their child 2 weeks prior to the retreat in the office. Register [HERE](#) at the bottom of the page! Three date choices, as they fill the date will not open!



Mary and the Month of MAY

The Blessed Mother is associated with two months, May and October. October because it's the month of the Rosary, but May happened because during the late 18th century, a Jesuit priest in Rome was so offended by the behavior of some of his students that he began the practice as a way to straighten them out!

The practice caught on with other universities and then with the popes!

Our devotion to Mary causes many other faiths to think that we "worship" Mary, but that is not the case! We honor her as Theotokos – literally, the Mother of God. Some will split hairs and say she is technically the Mother of Jesus, but we know that Jesus and the Father are One – so she is the Mother! We rightly honor her for being willing to take on the role of God-bearer, and all that role entailed. We don't worship her; that is reserved for God only. We are devoted to her, and ask her to intercede for us before God.

Mary has appeared to us many times and in many faces. She often takes on the aspect of the country in which she appears; Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared as a dark-skinned woman who spoke the native language. She always points us to her Son. One of her most famous apparitions, at Fatima in Portugal, just passed on May 13th. One of the children of Fatima, Sr.

Lucia, told one of the Cardinals that in one of her visions she had been told that one of the great battles between the Kingdom of Christ and Satan would be over marriage and the family – but "not to worry, because Mary had already crushed his head." This is why you often see statues of Mary showing a serpent beneath her feet! Mary continues to fight for us, and to intercede for us with the Father. Doesn't any good mother?