

**Parish**

ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address1253 52nd Street SE Kentwood, MI 49508**Contact Info**

616-455-9310 www.stmmagdalen.org

WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME-WELCOME

Welcome to the 2026-2027 Faith Formation Year! We are excited to kick off the year together with some exciting new changes and build on our already strong faith formation program. We can't wait to share the Joy of our faith and grow in our understanding together! Click the [link](#) to register for faith formation.

BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS-BIG GOALS

- Last year we set three big goals: increase our prayer life, our participation in Mass and provide more opportunities for parents to build upon their faith life. We leveled up our prayer lives with our prayer services, we provided more guided activities for young people at Mass with our Mass bags and our play stations.
- We didn't quite hit the mark with our third goal. In order to really provide room for our parents to grow in their personal relationship with Christ, I am offering a challenge for this school year. The Challenge: Do just one more thing. Only one. Think about it, pray about it, and implement it. This could be making sure you go to Mass every single Sunday. This could be making sure you show up to Mass five minutes earlier than usual so you can spend time in prayer. This could be participating in one of our Adult Fall Faith Studies (Rescue Project Monday mornings, or Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible during Faith Formation). My hope is that all of our parents can feel an active increase in their faith life this year and grow in relationship with Christ so that we can nurture our selves, serve God, and also be an example for our young people.
- We will continue our weekly prayer services this year at the beginning of each session. This year we hope to increase participation of both children and their parents as well as begin to have our students lead prayer services!

MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

This year we will continue with our transition out of a classroom model into a relational ministry model for 6 & 7th graders. Our new Youth Minister (Katherine Chalmers) will lead this group weekly during the normal Wednesday night time, but focus on small groups and a more activity based program to better engage our middle schoolers.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be for our littlest children. Any children in Pre-K through the 2nd grade are invited to participate during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9 & 11 AM Masses. If you have received first communion, you are invited to stay in Mass. Our Mass Bags are available to use weekly for all ages, as well as bulletin inserts, and visiting our 2 play stations.

SACRAMENTAL YEARS

2nd & 8th graders will attend a class with general info as well as sacramental focused material. We want our youth to be well rounded in their faith while still having a focus on the sacraments they will receive through these special sessions. More information specific to the sacramental requirements will be provided in person!

IMPORTANT DATES-IMPORTANT DATES-IMPORTANT DATES

9/20/26

Catechetical
Sunday
(Blessings)
@ 9 & 11 AM
Masses

9/27/26

Children's
Liturgy of
the Word
Starts @
9 & 11 AM
Masses

9/27/26

High
School
Youth
Group
starts @
6:15 PM

9/30/26

Faith
Formation
Open
House

10/7/26

First
Regular
Faith
Formation
Class

10/21/26

Fire Drill
at Faith
Formation

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- Christmas Ornament Party: December 13
- Children's Christmas Pageant: December 24
- Tornado Drill at Faith Formation: January 20
- First Reconciliation & Celebration: March 3
- First Communion Retreat/Rehearsal: April 14
- First Communion Mass: April 18
- May Crowning: May 9

SPECIAL YOUTH EVENTS

- High School Retreat November 14-15
- Middle School Retreat: February 26-28
- Living Stations of the Cross: March 26
- Steubenville Conference: TBA

ATTENDANCE/COSTS/MATERIALS

- Students in grades 1-8 are expected to participate in weekly formation classes.
- 2nd & 8th Grade are Sacramental preparation years so there will be additional instruction and requirements for the reception of the Sacraments that will be outlined for students registered in those classes.
- Please note that there is a section on the registration form for Sacraments that have been received. If you or your child did not celebrate a Sacrament at the traditional age, please use that section to indicate that you have not celebrated a Sacrament and would like to begin the process of preparing for a Sacrament.
- The cost for each student in grades 1-12 is \$30.00. The cost helps to cover the materials needed as well as books and resources.
- Please include payment when registering your student. (Financial aid is available, for anyone who is in need).
- There is a maximum cost per family of \$90.00.

VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER-VOLUNTEER

We are looking for additional volunteers to substitute teach a Faith Formation class, be on the Middle School Faith Formation Adult Team, Youth Group Adult Team, and people to lead Children's Liturgy of the Word. Contact the office if you are interested in volunteering!