

- Thank you to all those who contributed gifts for Transition House. They were received with wonder, surprise and joy.
- **O'Neill Centre Nursing Home:** Our Ministry at the O'Neill Centre Nursing Home continues **THIS Tuesday, 10 January at 2.30 pm.** Please consider joining this ministry of sacrament and presence. **For more information, speak with Fr David or Fr William.**



THE CHURCH of ST. MARY MAGDALENE

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8 January 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SMM CALENDAR		
9 - 15 January 2012		
9 Monday	6.00 pm Mass	Feria
10 Tuesday	7.15 am Mass	William Laud, Abp., 1645
11 Wednesday	10.00 am Mass	Feria
12 Thursday	7.15 am Mass 10.00 am La Messa	John Horden, Bp., 1893
13 Friday	6.00 pm Mass	Hillary, Bp., and T., 367
14 Saturday	10.00 am Mass	BVM
15 Sunday	8.00 am Mass 9.30 am Sung Mass 11.00 am Solemn Mass	Epiphany II
Epiphany II Readings I Samuel 1: 3-10, I Corinthians 6: 12-20, John 1: 43-51		

Confessions are heard by appointment.

Submissions for Sunday Announcements should be sent to the church office by email (office@stmarymagdalene.ca). The deadline for submissions is Wednesday morning.

Welcome to the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

We invite you to stay following the 9.30 and 11.00 masses for refreshments in Hiscocks Hall, which is located in the basement. It can be reached by the door next to the baptismal font. There is a wheelchair accessible lift and washroom in the office area on the main floor, which can be reached by the door in the north-east corner. **Please speak to a sidesperson for assistance.**

- **Beginnings.** Today we welcome **Julie Burn and Deacon Michael Bruce** into our midst. Michael is a third-year theological student at Trinity College, and was ordained deacon just last Friday night! He will be assisting us at the 9.30 and 11.00 Sunday masses from now until Easter, after which time he will take up his ministry in the Diocese of Rupert's Land. Julie is a third-year theological student at Wycliffe College, and will be completing a part-time field placement at SMM from now until Easter. **Please introduce yourself to Julie and Michael.**
- **Prayers of the People:** Specific requests for prayers to be incorporated into the Prayers of the People at mass can be offered by writing them in the **black book on the stand at the back of the church.** The list is renewed at the beginning of every month.
- **2012 SMM Calendar:** Copies are now available downstairs after the 9.30 and 11.00 masses at a cost of \$5.
- **SMM Parish List & Communications:** You are invited to add your name to our Parish List, which is the database of all of those who consider themselves members of the parish. **Please send your names, address, phone number and email address to office@stmarymagdalene.ca, or fill in one of the pew envelopes and put it on the collection plate.** If you are already on the Parish List but would like to be added to the **SMM Email list**, in order to receive periodic news updates, **please email David Widenmaier at singbass@hotmail.com.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Our January Solemn Evensong & Benediction will be held on Sunday, January 22nd** at 4.30 pm. The music this evening will be augmented by special choral and instrumental music. **Please consider attending and bringing a guest!**
- **Hold the Date:** Our **Annual Vestry Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 12th.** There will be two masses that morning -- Said Mass at 8.00 am and **Solemn Parish Mass at 10.00 am**, followed by the meeting.
- **The Chant Club** would like to invite anyone interested in learning about chant to join in. Upcoming sessions are scheduled for: **January 8, 15, and 29** and generally **every second Sunday after that. Sessions run from 1.15 pm to 3.15 pm.** Our approach is very informal and supportive. **You need no previous singing experience -- all you need is the desire to sing chant.** This season we are learning the **Marian Anthems** and the music for **Candlemas**, where members of the Chant Club will be able to join with the Ritual Choir to sing that service. **Everyone is welcome.**

SPIRITUAL GROWTH for CHILDREN:

- **Sunday School during the 9:30 mass: We reconvene TODAY and go until the beginning of Lent on 26 February.** The program focuses on the nativity through the eyes of Joseph and includes many dreams, the birth of Jesus, the visit of the Magi, the flight into Egypt and the experience of refugees. We plan to create some gifts for the family of Iraqi refugees we are sponsoring, as well as another large frieze. **Newcomers welcome!**

SPIRITUAL GROWTH for ADULTS:

- **Wednesday Morning Discussion Group:** This group, which meets from 11.00 to noon on Wednesday mornings (following the 10.00 mass), has decided to begin a study of a book entitled *The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity*, by Episcopalian priest Cynthia Bourgeault. **We will begin the study on Wednesday, January 25th. Newcomers are always welcome** to the group. If you'd like to purchase a copy of the book (approximately \$20) **please speak with Fr. David or Ted Parkins.**

- **Lenten Opportunity:** With Christmastide concluded, our attention will soon be drawn to the season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 22nd). Lent is the traditional time for catechesis (that is, instruction in the faith), culminating in baptism and the renewal of baptismal vows at the Great Vigil of Easter. This year **I am proposing that we form a group of parishioners interested in catechesis.** This group would meet weekly on Wednesday nights for learning and spiritual conversation. Who might be interested? Anyone! This includes those interested in baptism, in exploring an emerging faith, or in deepening a well-established faith. I've asked Fr. John Hill, a retired parish priest with a great deal of experience and wisdom in catechesis, to help us discern the shape of our catechesis. Anyone interested in learning more, or having input, is invited to meet with me and Fr. John on Wednesday, January 25th from 7.00 to 9.00 pm. In the meantime, please speak with me to learn more, or to express your interest in this opportunity for faith formation during Lent. *David+*
- **Lenten Retreat:** We have booked a **return visit to St. John's Convent for the SMM Lenten retreat.** The dates for **Friday, 2 March until Sunday, 4 March, 2012.** Our leader will be **Sister Constance Joanna**, and the topic will be **how our image of God affects the way we pray – and vice versa.** Our ten spaces have now been spoken for, but if you wish to be on a waiting list, please speak with Fr David.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE:

- ***Hands Across the Sands:*** The parish will sponsor a family of four, comprised of a husband, wife and two adult children. Although we do not know when they will arrive, **it will likely be soon and it will certainly be on short notice.** To that end, we ask that you have any household goods you are able to donate packed, labelled (if contents are not apparent) and ready to be brought to our storage site. Logistical details are being finalized. **Warm clothing for the trip from the airport** (coats, boots, hats, gloves, scarves, etc. in various sizes) is the most urgent need. **Please see TODAY'S BEIGE insert** for an updated list of furniture and household items which are still needed. Speak to Richard, Wendy, Catherine, Sally-Beth or Fr. Paul. **We ask your prayers for the family's safety during this time of uncertainty, and for their journey to Canada.**
- **Community Dinner.** On Friday, 23 December we hosted a **Christmas dinner for over 100 guests** as our contribution to the weekly Community Dinner Outreach at St. Thomas'. We baked and cooked up a storm. Our guests decorated a Christmas tree and joined us in singing Christmas carols. The first annual Christmas gift raffle was greeted with great enthusiasm. And everyone left with a special gift of Christmas cookies and other goodies. (I must confess that I, who must remain anonymous, did sample the wares and can testify that they were simply delicious.) **Thanks to everyone who contributed to making it an evening of celebration.**