

January 12th, 2025 | The Baptism of the Lord, Year C

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish



Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor. The Most Reverend Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop – Di-

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday 8:30 am
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 5:30 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday – Saturday 8:00 am
Mon./Wed./Friday 5:10 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 pm
(and by appointment)

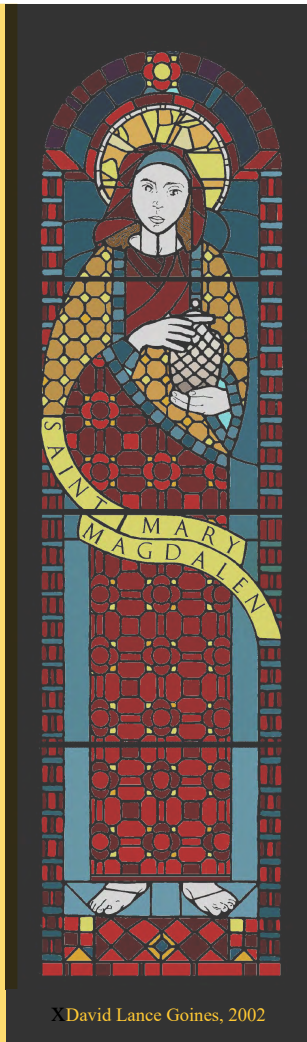
OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
9:00 am – Noon
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Phone: 510-526-4811
Fax: 510-525-3638

WEBSITE



marymagdalen.org



X David Lance Goines, 2002

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CFCS Funeral Services 510-223-2165

"Together we share our Faith in Jesus Christ."

"We live the Gospel, and we care for others."

BAPTISM:

Preparation classes take place on the first Monday of the month. Please call the parish office for more information.

CONFIRMATION:

Classes run from September through May; contact the office for more information.

MARRIAGE:

Please contact the pastor at least six months prior to the wedding.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:


The Sacrament is offered at every 12th Sunday Mass, and by appoint-

2005 Berryman Street | Berkeley, CA 94709 | 510-526-4811 | marymagdalen.org


The Baptism of the Lord, Year C ~ January 12th, 2025

Parish Collections for 2024 (including Christmas)

Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
2024 Total	\$475,178.44	\$479,000.00	-\$3,821.56
Christmas	\$44,526.25	\$32,000.00	+\$12,526.25
<i>Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!</i>			



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Scripture Readings for the Week

12th FEAST: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 /
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

13th Weekday [St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor]

Hebrews 1:1-6 / Mark 1:14-20

14th Weekday

Hebrews 2:5-12 / Mark 1:21-28

15th Weekday

Hebrews 2:14-18 / Mark 1:29-39

16th Weekday

Hebrews 3:7-14 / Mark 1:40-45

17th Memorial: St. Anthony the Great, Abbot

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11 / Mark 2:1-12

18th Weekday [Blessed Virgin Mary]

Hebrews 4:12-16 / Mark 2:13-17

Mass Intentions

Saturday	5:30	Intentions of Maria Sordilla
Sunday	8:00	Thomas Fraser RIP
	9:30	Intentions of John and William
	11:30	For the People of the Parish
Monday	5:30	Sarah Hague RIP
Tuesday	8:30	Monica Van Thiel RIP
Wednesday	8:30	Fr. Michael Hiller RIP
	5:30	Sophie Nadherny RIP
Thursday	8:30	Intentions of Vivian and Mario Zelaya
Friday	5:30	Nicholas Espejo RIP
Saturday	8:30	Teresa Hansen RIP

Parish Calendar through January 19th, 2025

January 10 Friday	Peace & Justice Monthly Meeting 4:00 pm, Norton Hall
January 10 Friday	CONCERT: Barefoot Chamber Musicians 6:30 pm, Magdalen Hall
January 11 Saturday	INAUGURAL MOVIE NIGHT  6:30 pm, Norton Hall: Gerwig's Barbie
January 11/12 Weekend	Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Nick 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
January 14 Tuesday	Reflection on the Sunday Gospel Zoom link: 2:00 - 3:00 pm, tinyurl.com / SMM-GospelGroup
January 14 Tuesday	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 7:00 pm, Conference Room. (Anyone may join.)
January 15 Wednesday	Meeting of SPRED Catechism 6:30 pm, Norton Hall
January 17 Friday	Reflection on the Sunday Gospel 9:15 am — 10:15 am, Norton Hall
January 18/19 Weekend	Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Titus 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
January 19 Sunday	FREE CONCERT: Bach Cantata Collective 5:00 pm, Church. (Including sing-along!)

cantata collective

Mache dich, mein Geist, bereit, BWV 115
Es ist das Heil uns kommen her, BWV 9

Nola Richardson, soprano

Sylvia Leith, alto

Kyle Stegall, tenor

Edmund Milly, bass

January 19

5 pm



There will be community singing!

Both of these splendid works have chorales for everyone to sing.

Sister Helen Prejean on President Biden's Act of Advent Mercy

When the call from the White House came on December 19th, I was so excited I couldn't sit down. I kept walking around, saying: "Thank you, God. Thank you."

Along with scores of other faith leaders and justice advocates, I had pleaded with President Biden to use the power of his office to show mercy to the condemned on federal death row. Now, here was the heads-up telephone call, assuring me that the President would soon announce the greatest tidings of mercy that people condemned to die ever hope to hear.

On December 23rd, the president announced that he was commuting the sentences of 37 of the 40 prisoners on federal death row, converting their punishment from the death penalty to life in prison. While stating his solidarity for the victims and their families who suffered at the hands of those whose sentences were commuted, Mr. Biden said that

"guided by my conscience and my experience as a public defender, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, vice president, and now president, I am more convinced than ever that we must stop the use of the death penalty at the federal level."

My letter to the president had been urgent and anxious. I have accompanied eight human beings to death at the hands of the state, witnessing up close their agonizing wait for death and their trembling last walk to the killing chamber. I also personally knew a few of the 13 persons the former president summarily sent to their deaths in his last few weeks of office in 2020. And, given his harsh rhetoric during and after his presidential campaign, I had no doubt Mr. Trump would line up people to die during his second term if given half a chance.

"With every fiber of my Catholic soul," I pleaded with President Biden:

Use your presidential power (some call it "the last vestige of the 'divine right' of kings") to commute the sentence of every federal death row prisoner. Even the few so-called "worst-of-the-worst" terrorists deserve mercy. If you decide not to spare everyone, you will be committing the same error of judgment that prosecutors make; that it is moral to support the death penalty for the "worst of the worst" and that we have the wisdom to distinguish that group from the rest.

As a fellow Catholic, I reminded the president of our church's moral evolution on the death penalty, which Pope Francis crystallized in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in August 2018: No matter how grievous the crime, we may never entrust to frail, human authorities the God-like power to take life. I recounted to the pope my dialogue with Pope John Paul II in 1997 when I asked him if the church respected the "inviolable dignity" *only* of the innocent. What about the inherent dignity of all humans, even of those guilty of crimes?

I am heartened to hear that President Biden will visit with Pope Francis in January before he leaves office. What a team! During the noontime prayer of the Angelus in Rome recently, the Pope prayed that all death sentences would be commuted to life.

"Even the most heinous of our sins does not mar our identity in God's eyes," the pope wrote earlier this year in a preface to a book on prison chaplaincy. "We remain His children, loved by Him, protected by Him and considered precious." My parting words to the president were these: "Now, in your final legacy, I urge you to enact what may be the most Christlike act you will ever render: reaching out to save the lives of those condemned to die. I am praying mightily for you."

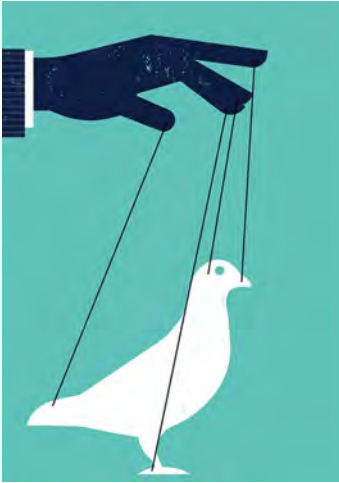
May every United States governor who continues to exact a "life for a life" in their killing chambers follow the president's historic example.

~ Sr. Helen Prejean, C.S.J., author of *Dead Man Walking*

Many thanks to all the St. Mary Magdalen parishioners who signed the petitions to President Biden!



Just War?



What about the morality of war? Jesus preaches a gospel of radical peace, and yet popes have led armies into battle. Pacifists like Dietrich Bonhoeffer have plotted to kill tyrants like Hitler. Apparently, the Church's teaching on the morality of war is complicated. I am against war; it is intrinsically evil! But I support self-defense.

Saint Augustine defined what came to be called the *Just War Ethic* when he taught that one has the right to defend one's self and come to the aid of the defenseless. Over the centuries, criteria for a "Just War" developed from his teaching:

- ◆ It must be a just cause.
- ◆ The threat must be real and lasting.
- ◆ Certain damage has been inflicted by the aggressor.
- ◆ All other peaceful means have been exhausted.
- ◆ War must be declared by a legitimate authority.

The trouble is, these categories are pretty slippery. Some examples: it's easy for the defendant to retaliate with overwhelming and disproportionate force. What looks like a just cause to one side is unbridled aggression to the other. Being prepared to defend oneself or one's neighbor can easily slip into taking advantage of others.

At this time in our country's history, I think we might reflect and have thoughtful discussions about the role of the military in our country. On one hand, it's essential to defend ourselves. As a superpower, like it or not, we also have obligations to peoples less able to defend themselves. We need thoughtful military leaders who know how to defend us and our neighbors, but also know when it's time to back off. Being a pacifist may be an appropriate moral stance for an individual, but it might also be irresponsible for a larger society.

Here are some military leaders who deserve our prayers: Admiral Linda Fagan (Commandant, United States Coast Guard), Admiral Alvin Holsey (Commander, U.S. Southern Command), General Jacqueline Van Ovost (Commander, U.S. Transportation Command), and Admiral Lisa Franchetti (Chief of Naval Operations) all

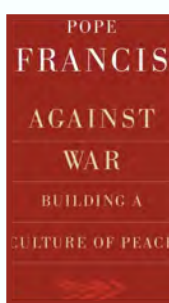
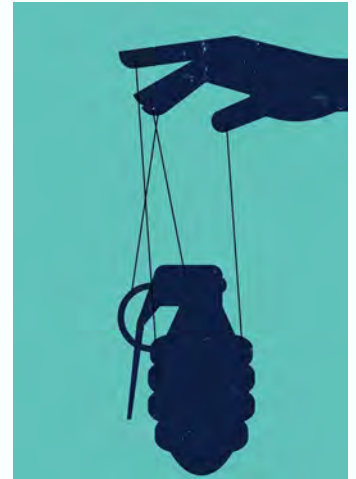
serve our country at the very highest ranks in the military. They deserve our support because they and the Joint Chiefs of Staff — along with the president — decide when the Just War Ethic is to be applied. They must know how to do their jobs, but also know how to moderate aggression from our advisors and within ourselves.

"War can easily be chosen by invoking all sorts of allegedly humanitarian, defensive or precautionary excuses, and even resorting to the manipulation of information.

In recent decades, every single war has been ostensibly 'justified.' The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the possibility of legitimate defense by means of military force, which involves demonstrating that certain 'rigorous conditions of moral legitimacy' have been met.

Yet it is easy to fall into an overly broad interpretation of this potential right. In this way, some would also wrongly justify even 'preventive' attacks or acts of war that can hardly avoid entailing evils and disorders graver than the evil to be eliminated"

- Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 258



"War is not the solution, war is madness, war is a monster, war is a cancer that feeds off itself, engulfing everything! More so, war is a sacrilege that wreaks havoc on what is most precious on our earth, human life, the innocence of the little ones, the beauty of creation. Yes, war is a sacrilege!"

- Pope Francis, Against War

YOU HAVE A SECOND CHANCE...

... to get your photo in the new Parish Directory!

Dates: Monday & Tuesday, February 24th & 25th, from 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Register: tinyurl.com/SMM-UCD.

Church code: ca136 Password: photos



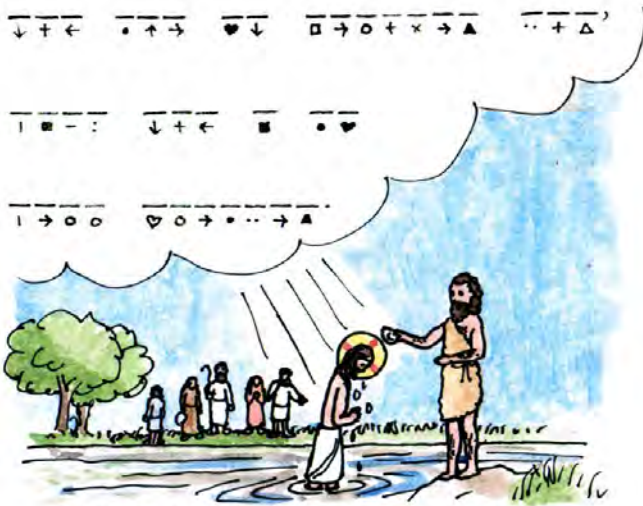
OUR SATURDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES KICKS OFF IN NORTON HALL! THIS SATURDAY: BARBIE



SATURDAY, JANUARY 11TH
6:45 PM

The Kids' Bulletin

The Baptism of the Lord
January 12th, 2025



Luke 3.15-16, 21-22

After Jesus was baptized, a voice came from the clouds and said something to Jesus. What did it say?

Use the code to find out!

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A B D E H I L M N O P R S T U V W Y

Isaiah 42 Word Puzzle

Use the words at the bottom to fill in the blanks!

Here is my _____ whom I uphold,
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put my _____;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,
not crying out, not _____,
not making his _____ heard in the street.
A bruised reed he shall not _____,
and a _____ wick
he will not quench,
until he establishes justice on the earth;
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.



I, the Lord, have called you
for the victory of justice,
I have grasped you by the hand;
I formed you, and set you
as a covenant of the people,
a _____ for the nations,
to open the _____ of the blind,
to bring out _____
from confinement,
and from the dungeon,
those who live in darkness.



PRISONERS	VOICE	EYES
SMOLDERING	SERVANT	LIGHT
SHOUTING	SPIRIT	BREAK

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WHEN IT'S TIME TO
REMEMBER



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