



# St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish



Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor. The Most Reverend Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop – Diocese of Oakland

## WEEKEND MASSES

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

## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tues.– Thurs. + 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)

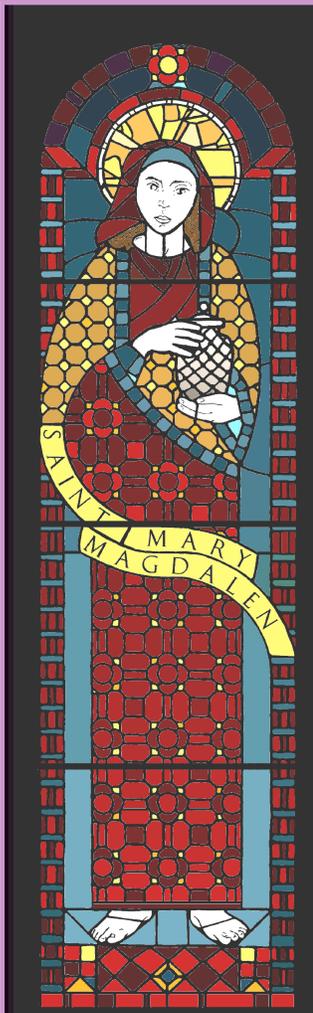
## OFFICE HOURS

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

WEBSITE



marymagdalen.org



XDavid Lance Goines, 2002

**Fr. Nicholas Glisson**, *Pastor*  
[pastor@marymagdalen.org](mailto:pastor@marymagdalen.org)  
(ext. 112)

**Norah Hippolyte**, *Pastoral Associate & Business Manager*  
[nhippolyte@marymagdalen.org](mailto:nhippolyte@marymagdalen.org)  
(ext. 111)

**Andy Canepa**, *Music Director*  
[acanepa@marymagdalen.org](mailto:acanepa@marymagdalen.org)  
**Joan Bell**, *Acting Music Director*

**Heather Skinner**  
*Director of Religious Education*  
[hskinner@themadeleine.com](mailto:hskinner@themadeleine.com)

*Deacon:*  
**Jeff Burns** (*Parish Renewal*)  
[jburns@marymagdalen.org](mailto:jburns@marymagdalen.org)

*Priests-in-Residence:*  
**Fr. Wilson Sagayaraj**, SVD  
[wsagayaraj@marymagdalen.org](mailto:wsagayaraj@marymagdalen.org)

**Fr. Sebastian Titus**  
[stitus@marymagdalen.org](mailto:stitus@marymagdalen.org)

**Cat Nielsen**, *Parish Technologist / Adult Faith Formation* (ext. 113)  
[website@marymagdalen.org](mailto:website@marymagdalen.org)

**Oscar Guillen**,  
*Facilities Supervisor*  
**Ana Guillen**, *Housekeeper*

**Gina Ramos Campbell**,  
*Convener*

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
[ppc@marymagdalen.org](mailto:ppc@marymagdalen.org)

**Georganne Perkins**, *Convener*  
**Parish Finance Council**  
[georganne.perkins@gmail.com](mailto:georganne.perkins@gmail.com)

**Laura Morland**, *Volunteer Bulletin Editor* (ext. 118)  
[bulletin@marymagdalen.org](mailto:bulletin@marymagdalen.org)

**St. Vincent de Paul** (ext. 787)  
[svdp@marymagdalen.org](mailto:svdp@marymagdalen.org)

**School of the Madeleine**  
1225 Milvia St. Berkeley 94709  
510.526.4744

**Joseph Nagel**, *Principal*  
[jnagel@themadeleine.com](mailto:jnagel@themadeleine.com)

*Vice-Principals:*  
**Jennifer Walwark**  
[jwawark@themadeleine.com](mailto:jwawark@themadeleine.com)

**Heather Skinner**  
[hskinner@themadeleine.com](mailto:hskinner@themadeleine.com)

**Paula Rice**  
[price@themadeleine.com](mailto:price@themadeleine.com)

**Mary Schweska**, *Secretary*  
[madmary@themadeleine.com](mailto:madmary@themadeleine.com)

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 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Mass, and by appointment.

## *A Message from our Music Director, Andy Canepa*

Hello All —

I am recovering from a traumatic brain injury as a cumulative result from four concussions sustained within an eight-month period. The first one happened while I was walking downstairs to my garage in November of 2024 and hit my head very hard on the ceiling. Consequently, I had to cancel a set of piano concerts at the beginning of December. The second concussion happened during a violent ski accident in mid-January. I was still experiencing concussion symptoms at the beginning of June following that January accident. It was a surprisingly long recovery.



The second two concussions happened in Italy. I had raised money through many extra gigs and piano concerts to attend an 18-day piano festival in June in the incredible Dolomites of Italy, ironically as a recompense to myself from my ski accident. (So many people were incredibly generous in supporting me in this endeavor, thank you!) On the fourth day of the festival, after a magnificent hike in the mountains, I was exiting my seat on a bus and didn't see a bar that I was supposed to duck under because I was wearing a large-brimmed hiking hat to protect me from the sun. I hit my head so hard that it knocked me back into my seat. The following day, all my prior concussion symptoms returned, and continued to worsen throughout the course of the festival, eventually completely limiting me from any sort of participation in the festival.

Finally, in Venice on the last day of my trip, I started feeling very dizzy and needed to rest. I sat down on a stone bench in the Piazza San Marco, and collapsed backwards, not realizing that there was a stone ledge behind my head.

After that fourth concussion, my symptoms became much worse than those I had experienced following the ski accident in January. I lost a lot of my hearing in both ears a few days later (on my birthday!). Fortunately, my hearing returned after a very long and high dose of prednisone. I experienced a long list of other symptoms from this brain injury that incapacitated me. I went on short-term disability and found myself in the full-time job of recovery.

In September, I finally was able to get into the UCSF neural recovery clinic and began receiving state-of-the-art care for traumatic brain injuries - they are rated No. 2 in the country! I have a team composed of a speech therapist, an occupational therapist, and a physical/vestibular therapist who work together, guided by a neurologist. My recovery has been extremely slow, very complicated, and yet fascinating at the same time.

The good news is that I'm expected to make a full recovery! My therapists are confident that I will be strong enough to resume my job at St. Mary Magdalen at the beginning of February. I started teaching one-on-one piano lessons a while ago, which has been very rewarding and just the right amount of cognitive work, without overwhelming my brain. I am working on my comeback solo piano recital program (Beethoven and Rachmaninoff!) — stay tuned! After months of severe depression, my natural optimism and loving nature are returning. I am very eager to get back to feeling normal again. Though I am still not there yet, I feel that it is within my reach.

I have been very fortunate to have an amazing partner, Harry, who has been with me on every step of this journey, which has been extremely stressful for him. He has taken on a huge extra load, driving me to countless doctor and therapy appointments, doing all of the shopping, and everything else. I couldn't have done this without him. I'm extremely grateful to so many friends who have sent me get-well cards and emails, as well as some very special friends who have dropped in for short visits, all of which served to lift me up as well as to challenge my brain in a positive way. We have spent a lot of time at the farm with my parents, who are incredibly supportive and nurturing. Thank you for the prayers that I have received from my friends and supporters in the Mary Magdalen community.

I have learned so much from this experience. I believe that these lessons will enrich my life as I continue to improve, and after my complete recovery. Now, if I can only stop hitting my head!!!

Much Love,

*Andy*



## Notes from Fr. Nick

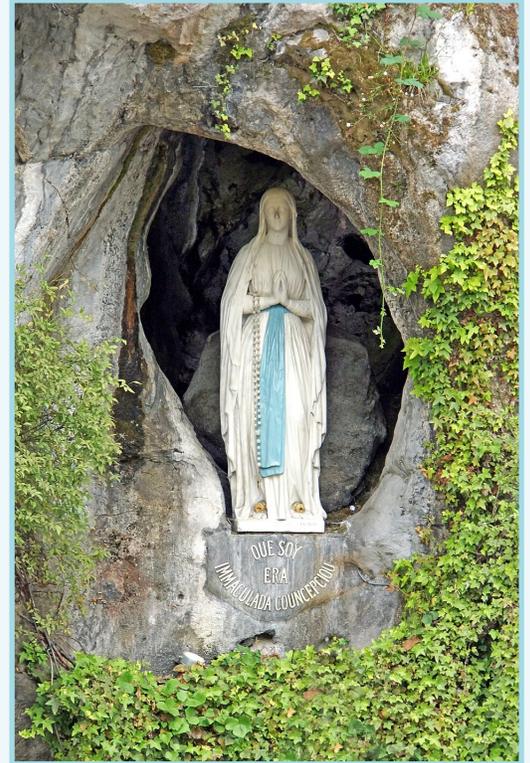
# The Immaculate Conception

Nothing in the Scriptures directly supports the theology of the Immaculate Conception. Although a passage of the Old Testament Book of Isaiah predicts that “a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,” the Hebrew word used for “virgin” is ambiguous, and could also mean “young woman.”

So, what is the rationale for this teaching of the Church? Mostly, the idea of the Immaculate Conception comes from medieval theological musings. Scholars questioned how the perfect Son of God, Jesus, could be born through a human being laboring under the burden of Original Sin. They reasoned that Mary had to be a special case; Mary must have entered the world without Original Sin in order to prepare the perfect environment for the Son of God to enter the world.

The theology of the Immaculate Conception was the source of much speculation among theologians until the middle of the nineteenth century, when Pope Pius IX declared in 1854 that it be the doctrine of the Church. Four years later, a young girl, Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes, began having visions of the Virgin Mary that confirmed the doctrine’s authenticity.

For most of us, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception tells us that God’s plan of salvation is present even when it is unseen. Like Mary, God is working through us in ways that we may not even know. It is up to us to cooperate with God’s grace by prayer and discernment.



*This statue of Mary is installed on the very spot of the grotto at Lourdes where she spoke to Bernadette in her native Occitan language: **Que Soy Era Immaculada Councepciou***

## A Relic of Bernadette Soubirous Visited Our Cathedral Last Sunday



*Pilgrims waited patiently (above) in line for the privilege of touching the reliquary containing a piece of St. Bernadette’s body.*

# Second Sunday of Advent, Year A ~ November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Weekly Collections through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
11/30/2025	\$6,693.75	\$10,000.00	-\$3,306.25
Year-to-Date	\$434,575.47	\$492,000.00	-\$57,424.53

*This was not such a good week.*



*Eucharistic Adoration will take place at ~ 6:00 pm on all the Fridays of Advent. Come join us for an Hour with the Lord.*

## Scripture Readings for the Week

- 7<sup>th</sup> **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Isaiah 11:1-10 / Romans 15:4-9 / Matthew 3:1-12
- 8<sup>th</sup> **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
Genesis 3:9-15, 20 / Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 / Luke 1:26-38
- 9<sup>th</sup> *Advent Weekday [St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin]*  
Isaiah 40:1-11 / Matthew 18:12-14
- 10<sup>th</sup> *Advent Weekday [Our Lady of Loreto]*  
Isaiah 40:25-31 / Matthew 11:28-30
- 11<sup>th</sup> *Advent [Saint Damasus I, Pope]*  
Isaiah 41:13-20 / Matthew 11:11-15
- 12<sup>th</sup> **FEAST: OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
Zechariah 2:14-17 / Luke 1:26-38
- 13<sup>th</sup> *Memorial: St. Lucy, Martyr*  
Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 / Matthew 17:9, 10-13

## Mass Intentions



- Saturday 5:30 Intentions of Carolyn Tune
- Sunday 8:00 José Guerrero RIP
- 9:30 Thomas Daniel McDonald RIP
- 11:30 For the People of the Parish
- Monday 5:30 Intentions of Norah Hippolyte
- Tuesday 8:30 Intentions of Jeanette Givens
- Wednesday 5:30 Edward Ryan RIP
- Friday 5:30 Claire McWalters RIP

## Parish Calendar through December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

- December 6-7 Weekend Preacher: Deacon Chris Nguyen SJ**  
Weekend 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
- December 7 First Sunday Dinner for the Hungry**  
Sunday Noon-4:00 pm, Magdalen Hall. *Volunteers needed!*
- December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception**  
Monday 10:30 am & 5:30 pm. *Holy Day of Obligation*
- December 8 "Faith and Immigration Justice" Wrap-Up**  
Monday 4:00-5:00 pm, Norton Hall
- December 9 Discussion of the Sunday Gospel** *Zoom link:*  
Tuesday 2:00-3:00 pm, [tinyurl.com/SMM-GospelGroup](https://tinyurl.com/SMM-GospelGroup)
- December 10 Meeting of SPRED Catechism**  
Wednesday 6:30 pm, Norton Hall
- December 12 Discussion of the Sunday Gospel**  
Friday 9:15 - 10:15 am, Norton Hall
- December 12 Peace & Justice Monthly Meeting**  
Friday 4:00 pm, Norton Hall
- December 12 Eucharistic Adoration (Holy Hour)**  
Friday 6:00 pm, Church (*On Every Friday in Advent*)
- December 13-14 Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Nick**  
Weekend 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
- December 14 Christmas Concert & Sing-a-Long Carols**  
Sunday 2:00 pm, Church

## Holiday Outreach Giving Tree



This is the **last week** during which we will be collecting donations for *St. Mary's Center, Mercy Center Brown Bag Program for Seniors, Elizabeth House, Catholic Charities*, and our own parish conference of *St. Vincent de Paul*. The **Giving Tree** with ornaments for **\$30 Target gift cards** and monetary requests is still in the church, and **your generous donations are very welcome! Both Gift Cards and monetary donations can be dropped off at the Parish rectory or in the collection basket up to Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**, when the Holiday Outreach team will be in Norton Hall from **9:00 to 11:00**

## Christmas Mass Schedule

- December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve**
- 5:00 pm — Family Mass
- 9:30 pm — Christmas Concert
- 10:00 pm — Mass in the Night
- December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day**
- 9:00 am — Christmas Day Mass
- 11:00 am — Christmas Day Mass

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