

# St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish

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

## Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:30 pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

## Daily Masses

Tues./Wed./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

*"Together we share our Faith in Jesus Christ. We live the Gospel, and we care for others."*




xDavid Lance Goines, 2002

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**Catholic Funeral Services** 510.605.4921

## Staff Contacts for Parish & School: marymagdalen.org/staff

**Baptism:** Preparation classes will resume in September. 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 5th Sunday Mass, and by appointment.

# Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A ~ November 15th, 2026

| Parish Collections through November 8th, 2026 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Sunday** | **Actual** | **Budget** | **Difference** |
| 11/8/2026 | $7,761.85 | $10,000.00 | -$2,238.15 |
| Pushpay 10/30 | $5,603.96 | | |
| Year-to-Date | $436,583.02 | $462,000.00 | -$25,416.98 |
| *We are gradually transitioning to Pushpay (see below).* | | | |

## It's Now Even Easier to Make a Financial Offering to St. Mary Magdalen Parish!

This QR code now leads leads to **Pushpay**, our new parish EFT provider — use it to initiate a recurring or **one-time offering.**

*Or click here:* **tinyurl.com/SMM-Offering**

*(Questions? Call 510.526.4811 x 111)*

## Scripture Readings for the Week

15th **Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 /
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 / Matthew 25:14-30

16th *Weekday [St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude]*
Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5 / Luke 18:35-43

17th *Memorial: St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious*
Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22 / Luke 19:1-10

18th *Weekday [Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne]*
Revelation 4:1-11 / Luke 19:11-28

19th *Weekday*
Revelation 5:1-10 / Luke 19:41-44

20th *Weekday*
Revelation 10:8-11 / Luke 19:45-48

21st *Memorial: Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
Revelation 11:4-12/Luke 20:27-40

## Mass Intentions

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday | 5:30 | Intentions of Robert Whalen and Family |
| Sunday | 8:00 | For the People of the Parish |
| | 9:30 | Griffin Hammond RIP |
| | 11:30 | Intentions of Andy Navarrete |
| Monday | 5:30 | Nicholas Espejo RIP |
| Tuesday | 8:30 | Intentions of Joseph Bernard Canoy |
| Wednesday | 5:30 | Intentions of Grace Elizabeth Wang |
| Friday | 5:30 | Bill Rauch RIP |

## Parish Calendar through November 23rd, 2026

**November 13** Friday — **Peace & Justice Monthly Meeting**
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Norton Hall

**November 13** Friday — **CONCERT: Barefoot Chamber Ensemble**
6:30 pm, Magdalen Hall. *Dowland's Lachrimae +*

**Nov. 14-15** Weekend — **Preacher at Weekend Masses: Deacon Jeff**
5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday

**November 16** Monday — **John Gray's Interview: *Mr. Prynne*** *(see p. 2)*
5:00 pm—6:00 pm, Zoom

**November 16** Monday — **Flannery O'Connor Reading Group** *(see p. 3)*
6:00 pm, Zoom or 7:15 pm, Norton Hall

**November 17** Tuesday — **Discussion of the Sunday Gospel** *Zoom link:*
2:00-3:00 pm, tinyurl.com/SMM-GospelGroup

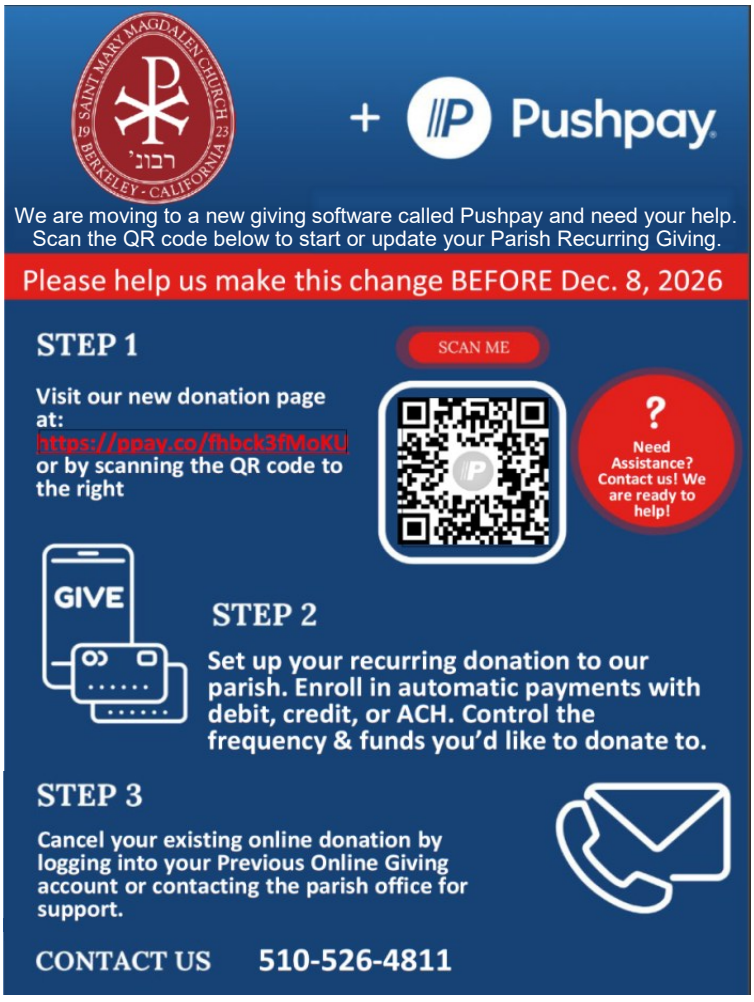
**November 19** Thursday — **Meeting of SPRED Catechism**
6:30 pm, Norton Hall

**November 20** Friday — **Discussion of the Sunday Gospel**
9:15 am - 10:15 am, Conference Room

**Nov. 21-22** Weekend — **Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Nick**
5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday

**November 22** Sunday — **Fourth Sunday Dinner for the Hungry**
Noon-4:00 pm, Magdalen Hall. *Sign-Ups:*

**November 23** Monday — **Flannery O'Connor Reading Group** *(see p. 3)*
6:00 pm, Zoom or 7:15 pm, Norton Hall



## Join the conversation about the novel *Mr. Prynne*





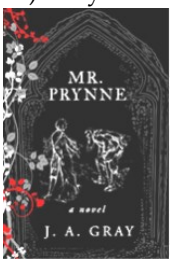

**Tomorrow**
**November 16**
**5:00 to 6:00 pm Pacific**

Join us online on Monday, **November 16, 2026,** to talk with J. A. Gray about his novel *Mr. Prynne*. Moderator Jessica Sheaff will lead the discussion, followed by audience Q&A.

Tune into the conversation with our own John Gray by reserving your spot on Eventbrite *(for a nominal fee)*: tinyurl.com/JAGray-Conversation

**Visit the website www.jagray.net for more.**

MILLIONS OF READERS of American fiction are familiar with Hester Prynne, required to wear forever the badge of a sinner and criminal: a scarlet letter **A**. But who among us has looked deeply into the man who at their wedding, back in their native England, had given Hester her married name of Prynne?




In his debut novel, longtime parishioner John (J.A.) Gray has given a voice to the hunchbacked intellectual-and-scientist who is Hester's aged husband, the man whose dreams of domestic bliss faded into sorrows and liabilities: his wife was a criminal and her lover was surely hiding somewhere in plain sight. What could he do? What were his sacred duties as a husband? *"My investigation into all these questions, and many more, developed into a rich new novel that I have called (in honor of my new friend), Mr. Prynne."*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Our parish will host a book reading of John Gray's *Mr. Prynne* on **Saturday, February 13th**, at **6:30 pm** in **Norton Hall.** We will have books available for purchase and signing, as well as copies of a new book he edited. *Details to come!*

# Annual Sunday Dinners All-Volunteer Meeting in Norton Hall



*Jim Pawlak, Core Team Leader, led the meeting.*



*Treasurer Kathryn Snowden reported on finances.*



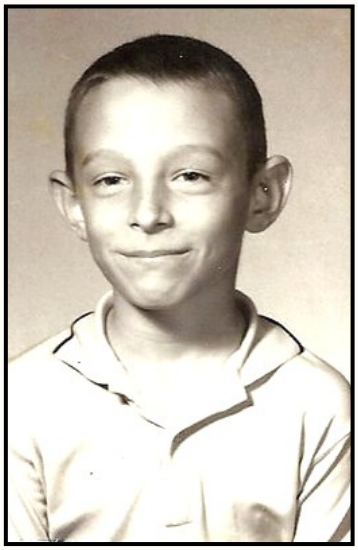
*Photos by Carine Serageldine*



*Core Team Member Iwona Ostapiak provided delicious canapés.*

**Notes from Fr. Nick**

# Perfectionism

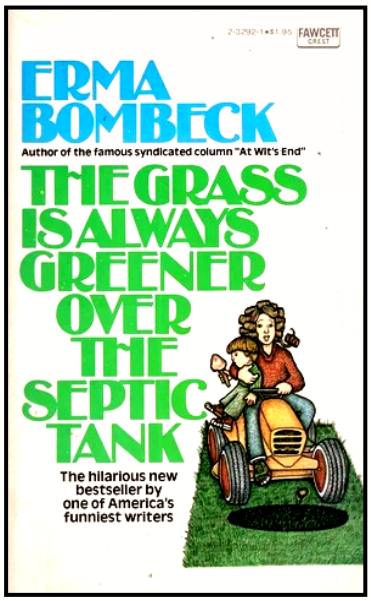


As an eighth-grader, I learned that my entry at the Science Fair was going to fail because it did not conform to local electrical codes. I was devastated because I had worked hard, and wiring safety had never occurred to me. Fortunately, my science teacher allowed me to submit another experiment, and I was able to pass. But this experience created in me a lifelong fear that I could do everything right and still fail. I was well on the road to becoming a perfectionist.

I struggled with dyslexia and attention deficit disorder for much of my life. The ability to follow instructions correctly, organize my living space, spelling, and algebra eluded me, and kept my grades down. Only as an adult did I achieve the proficiency most kids take for granted. The result was and is that I want to be certain everything is absolutely correct. I will obsess over things other people never notice. I'll worry about a spot on my clothes, an incorrect tense in something I wrote, that I could have taken a more efficient route home, and on and on. As I have grown older, I've become tolerant of my foibles, but self-criticism can still overwhelm me when I'm tired or stressed.

My spiritual director, Fr. Chris Renz, O.P., finally labeled my obsession as perfectionism. I was surprised when he used the term, because I always thought it a virtue I couldn't attain. I thought perfectionists habitually keep things neat, clean and orderly. In fact, perfectionists spend their lives judging themselves by what they don't get right. That's my personality in spades: I'll cook a dish and be disappointed because it's not quite properly seasoned. Writing is often frustrating because I can't get the wording perfect. I'll mull over the impression I made on a visitor; was I loquacious or too silent? In judging someone, was I too kind or too honest?

The trouble with perfectionism is that one never feels they are good enough. Within the general category of excellence, there is always room for failure! Learning to accept "good enough" as the norm is fraught with fear that it won't be. I replayed the science fair project over and over in my head in a thousand different ways. Breaking this habit isn't something one can easily do on their own. It requires affirmation by others who give honest appraisals of one's work, but also recognize that its creator is a valuable person.




The famous Catholic newspaper columnist from the 1970's and 80's, Erma Bombeck, had a maxim: *"Anything that's worth doing is worth doing badly."* By this she meant that we should not let fear of mediocre results paralyze us from trying in the first place. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus says, *"Consider the lilies of the field, they neither toil nor spin, yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of them"* (Matthew 6: 28-29). It's easy to judge ourselves by our lack of accomplishment rather than who we are: God's crowning creation. As such, what we do pales in comparison to the fact that we are *"wonderfully made"* (Psalm 139: 14).

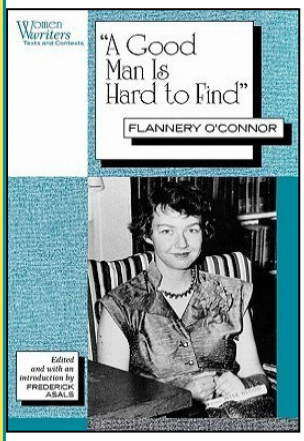
I'm aware many other people suffer from the same issue with self-esteem. More often than not, when I hear confessions, my advice is: *"Give yourself a break."* I think that most people are too hard on themselves. Where do you fall on the perfectionist scale? If you see fault in most of things you do, you're probably too hard on yourself. If you constantly make excuses for your behavior, you may be too lax. Our world is not a test to see if we are worthy of heaven. The world is our school where we learn how to be children of God.

# Flannery O'Connor Reading Group

~ with Deacon Jeff



**Tomorrow evening** will be Deacon Jeff's 2nd class on the works of the great Southern Catholic author **Flannery O'Connor.** Tomorrow and next Monday, we will read and discuss the following short stories — *anyone can join!*




11/16: ***"Parker's Back"*** and ***"Good Country People,"***
11/23: ***Everything That Rises Must Converge,"*** and ***"Revelation."***

Afterwards, we'll all choose a date to screen Ethan Hawke's 2023 film (starring his daughter, Maya) about O'Connor, ***"Wildcat."***

You may choose between two tracks:

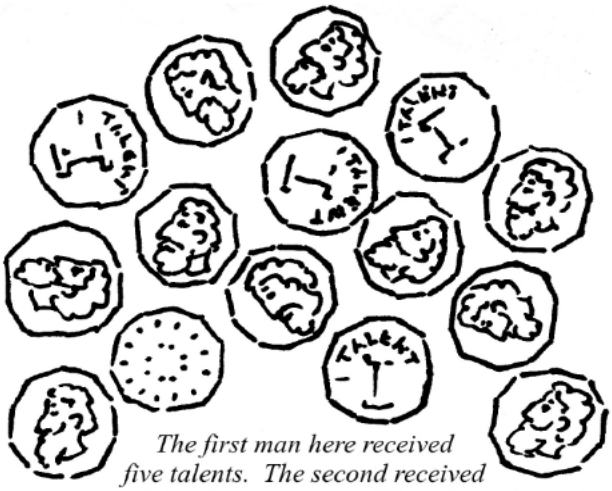
- **Zoom** from **6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**
- **In Person** (in Norton Hall) from **7:15 pm - 8:15 pm**

***"A good Catholic meddles in politics, offering the best of himself, so that those who govern can govern."***




*Several St. Mary Magdalen parishioners joined others gathered at our cathedral last week to call into question our Bishop's decision to bless the President only 12 days before the midterm elections.*

# The Kids' Bulletin




*The first man here received five talents. The second received two and the third man one. When the master returned, how many did each man have? Colour them this way to find out:*



Colour the coins with faces gold.



Colour the coins with letters silver.



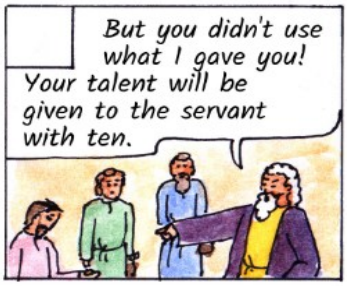
Colour the coin with dots bronze.

thekidsbulletin.com

# Using the Master's Talents

## - sort out the pictures -

*How well do you know the parable from today's Gospel? Put the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes in the correct order of the story.*

















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