St. Mary Magdalene Parish

St. Catherine, Aledo
St. Anthony, Matherville

Rev. John Thieryoung, Pastor
106 NE 4th Street
Aledo, IL 61231
(309) 582-7500
www.cpomc.org

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **August 24, 2025**

Monday	7:30 AM St. Catherine	Pauline Luepke by Jeff Frye
Tuesday	7:30 AM St. Catherine	Bill Gissel by Madeline Bartsch
Wednesday	7:30 AM St. Catherine	Lloyd Lower by Family & Friends
Thursday	**7:00 AM St. Anthony**	**HOLY HOUR**
Thursday	8:00 AM St. Anthony	Eugenia Stitzer by Donna & Bridget Randall & Ken Musgrove
Friday	8 AM St. Anthony	Charlie & Mildred Buban by Stan & Marla Miller
Saturday	**7:00 AM St. Catherine**	**HOLY HOUR**
Saturday	4:00 PM St. Anthony	Fr. Thomas Taylor
Saturday	5:30 PM St. Catherine	Frank Bockman by Barbara Traughber
Sunday	8:00 AM St. Catherine	Thompson Family (Deceased) by Neal & Antonine Thompson
Sunday	9:45 AM St. Anthony	Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/ Ps 68:4-7, 10-11 / Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a / Lk 14:1, 7-14

Weekly Collection: $1,636

Parish office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9am-12pm. Please leave a message any other time.

Confessions: Thursday and Saturday, 7am to 7:50am, during Holy Hour. Saturday at St. Anthony from 3pm to 3:50pm, and Sunday at St. Catherine from 7:10am to 7:50am.

Pray the Rosary: The rosary is prayed every **Wednesday, following the 7:30am Mass at St. Catherine's.** Everyone is invited to join us in praying for the **many intentions** in our parish and our families.

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please call the parish office at 582-7500 to register or if you have any questions about our community.

CCD – Catechism – Begins Sunday, September 7th: Look for registration forms in your email or you can pick up a form from Father following weekend Masses. The cost is $35 for one child, $60 for two. $75 for three or more. **Please make checks payable to ST. MARY MAGDALENE PARISH. Thanks.**

Parish Picnic: TODAY Sunday August 24th at **Haven Hills Campground and Resort** located south of Aledo on State Highway 94 (621 State Hwy 94, Aledo). You are invited to join us for an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship beginning at 1pm. Hot dogs, "Made Rights", chips, lemonade and water will be provided. You are invited to bring a dish to share. Some fun features: 4300 ft. Splash Pad, large bounce pads, frisbee golf, Pickle Ball court, playground, 3-hole golf, etc. Tours of the cabins will be available too.

Conversion Story and Witness Talk: Patricia Sandoval is an international pro-life speaker and chastity speaker who shares her story of her three abortions, work behind the hidden doors of planned parenthood, and nearly three years of living as a homeless drug addict. Her story testifies to the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ. This is a two-day event: **Monday Evening, August 25th** her conversion story and witness talk. **Tuesday evening August 26th** she will speak on "The Miracles of the Intercession of St. Jose Luis Sanchez del Rio". Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 800 17th St., Silvis. **Doors open at 6PM, Rosary at 6:30PM and talk at 7PM. This is a free event**, however, a free will offering will be taken up for those interested in supporting the speaker series.

"Spiritual Adoption Program" Month Three: Your baby is quite active in the womb now-although his/her mother won't feel him/her for another couple of months. If his/her mother had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow and move his/her tongue. He/she is breathing fluid which continues until birth and obtains the oxygen his/her body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce.

Market Day at St. Anthony: Next weekend, Saturday August 30th after the 4pm Mass and on Sunday, August 31st after the 9:45am Mass.

"Proclaiming Christ: Yesterday, Today, Forever" is the theme of the **2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal** which will launch throughout the Diocese by direct mailing in the coming weeks. More information the weekend of September 7th.

For Married Couples: Natural Family Planning (NFP) classes are available online. NFP is a safe & effective, morally acceptable method of family planning that doesn't have the side-effects of artificial or hormonal methods. Register at www.ccli.org/ Contact Al & Beth Budelier at 563-324-7040 or elizabethimel@yahoo.com with any questions.

90th Birthday Celebration: Janet Harris will be celebrating her 90th birthday on September 4th. A reception will be held Sunday, Sept. 7th at St. Anthony Church after the 9:45 am Mass until 1pm. No gifts please, just your presence.

FROM THE UNITED STATES BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Americans should not be forced to pay for the killing of preborn children or fund the clinics that kill them. The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer to stop taxpayer funding of the abortion industry. In particular, we will invoke the intercession of St. Joseph, Defender of Life with this prayer:

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

We ask Catholics to offer this prayer daily, from now until October 1, the beginning of Respect Life Month. St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

St. Monica (331 – 387 AD)

St. Monica (331 – 387 AD) is recognized as the patron saint of mothers. Her tireless prayer and dedication to motherhood played a pivotal role in the spiritual formation of one of the most brilliant philosophers and well-known saints of all time – St. Augustine. We celebrate her memorial on **August 27**. Here are **five facts about her life:**

1. She grew up in North Africa: Her hometown of Tagaste was also the place where St. Augustine would be born and where he would eventually found a religious order decades later.

2. She was a single mother: For much of her life, Monica faced difficult circumstances outside her control. After her parents married her off to an unbeliever named Patricius, she had no choice but to live with him and his abrasive mother, who was also an unbeliever. Despite his poor temper and worldly habits, Patricius held Monica in high regard, and with prayer and perseverance, she won him and his mother over to Christianity. However, just a year following his conversion, Patricius passed away, leaving Monica with three children to care for.

3. She is the mother of St. Augustine: As a single mother, Monica persevered in the face of many difficulties, motivated by a desire for her children to follow Christ. Most notable among her children was St. Augustine, a seminal thinker whose impact on Christian theology and Western philosophy is unparalleled. By some accounts, his Confessions is considered the first autobiography of the West and is perhaps the "most widely read book of Christian antiquity."

4. She prayed for years for Augustine's salvation before he committed his life to the Lord: Although later in life he was known as a fervent man of God, Augustine did not easily come to see God's truth. As a child, he proved to be quite difficult, causing Monica much grief, and as a young adult he remained worldly and uninterested in Christianity. But St. Monica never stopped praying for his eternal soul. On one occasion when she was discussing the matter with a priest, he urged her to remain steadfast in her prayers, stating that it was "not possible that the son of so many tears should perish." Augustine later called her "the source of his Christianity."

5. She passed away shortly after Augustine's baptism: After Augustine turned 29, he wanted to teach rhetoric in Rome, but he didn't want his mother following him there. When he went to the docks to set sail, he pretended it was only to send off a friend, and instead departed himself. Desperate to find her son, Monica later found passage to Rome, but Augustine had already moved on to Milan.

It was in Milan that Monica finally discovered her son amidst better influences, under the spiritual care of St. Ambrose, who was pivotal in helping lead him to Christ. In 387, St. Ambrose baptized Augustine, and less than a year later, Monica passed away. Shortly before her death, she told her son St. Augustine, *"My son, speaking of myself, nothing earthly delights me any longer. I do not know why I am still here or why I should remain here. I have no further earthly desires. There had been one thing for which I had wanted to remain a little while in this world - to see you a Christian and a Catholic before I died. God has granted my wish fully, since I now see that you are His servant, one who despises all earthly goods. Why, then, do I remain on earth?"*

PRAYER: Great St. Monica, patroness of fathers and mothers, please take our children, especially those who have turned from the ways of God and His Church, under your protection. Help them always remain faithful to their baptismal vows. Give them strength to walk always in the ways of the Lord, despite the temptations and false values they find in the world today. Grant that they may share with you in the joys of eternal life in God. Amen.