

Seeking out the Lost Sheep

*Engaging Your Parishioners and
Growing Your Parish through the
Pillars of Hospitality and Service*

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Part I of Presentation slides.

**Research Studies
Indicate: Engagement
and Spiritual
Commitment to the
faith are declining**



Decline in Church Participation

According to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)

- U.S. Mass attendance rate peaked in 1958 and fell 58.1% by 2010.
- The rate of adult females attending Mass fell 40.4% from 1987-2011.

Decline in Church Participation

General Social Survey & Pew Research Center

- Only 27% of US Catholics considered themselves to be “strong” Church members as of 2012 – the lowest level in 38 years and a 36% decline since the mid-1980s.
- Even Mass attendance by strong Catholics has fallen from 85% in 1974 to 53% in 2012.

Why is this Occurring?

Bishops of Vatican II:

Although a major theme of Vatican II was the Church's call to transform the culture...

The secular culture appears to be transforming our members more profoundly than the other way around.

Why is this Occurring?

U.S. Bishops Pastoral Letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*:

Although religious faith is a strong force in the lives of many Americans, our country's dominant secular culture often contradicts the values of the Judeo-Christian tradition...

There is a strong tendency to privatize faith, to push it to the margins of society, confining it to people's hearts or, at best, their homes.

Why is this Occurring?

Seductive power of various destructive forces within our "country's dominant secular culture" effectively competes for people's minds and hearts by utilizing far greater secular resources than parishes generally have to fight back.

Divine Mission of Parishes

Draw people into an ever-deepening relationship with God.

What is Stewardship?

What are the Pillars
of Stewardship?

Stewardship is everything we do after we say we believe. **(John Westerhoff)**

Stewardship is receiving God's gifts gratefully, cherishing and tending them in a responsible and accountable manner, sharing them in justice and love with others, and returning them with increase to the Lord. **(Stewardship: A Disciple's Response)**

Pillars of Stewardship

- **Hospitality**
- **Formation**
- **Prayer**
- **Service**

Pillars of Stewardship

Hospitality



*He who practices hospitality
entertains God himself.*

Genesis 18:1-8

Hebrews 13:2

**Do not neglect hospitality,
for through it
some have unknowingly
entertained angels.**



Luke 7:36-50

A Pharisee invited him to dine with him, and he entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table...

...there was a sinful woman in the city... she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bathe his feet with her tears.

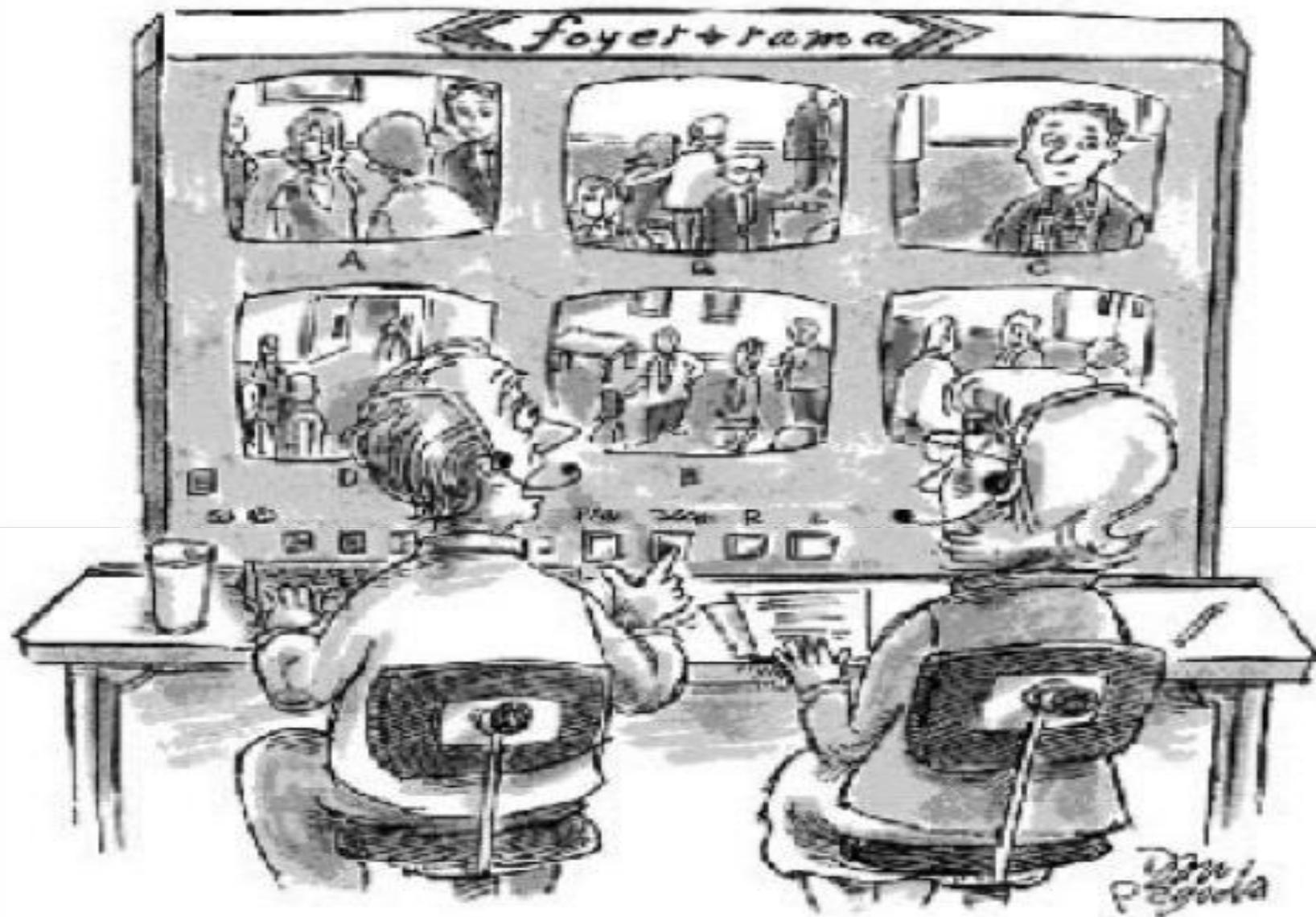
Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment...

What is Hospitality?

Henri Nouwen:

- Church must create a free, friendly space where one can experience the presence of GOD
 - a space of acceptance, warmth and trust
 - less talking and more listening

Hospitality with a Vigilance



"We've got a newcomer in Sector C. Blue blazer, plaid shirt. Falcon, that's your greeting area. Where are you?"

Pope Francis and 2013 World Youth Day, Brazil

And it is important to be able to make people welcome...

When we are generous in welcoming people and sharing something with them – some food, a place in our homes, our time – not only do we no longer remain poor: we are enriched.

Visitors are
not
Inconveniences!



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

WELCOMING

Show that
the Parish cares!

To Whom do We offer Hospitality?



Visitors
"Just passing through"

Potential Parishioners
"checking us out"

4 groups to be mindful of:

Engaged Parishioners
"You want to go where everyone knows your name."

**Fallen Away Catholics/
Un-Churched**
"I'll give it a try (again)"

WELCOMING

PART I: HOW NOT TO.

HOSPITALITY

Is Your Parish
Inviting?

**CAN YOU TELL THIS IS
A CATHOLIC CHURCH?**



OR THIS ONE?





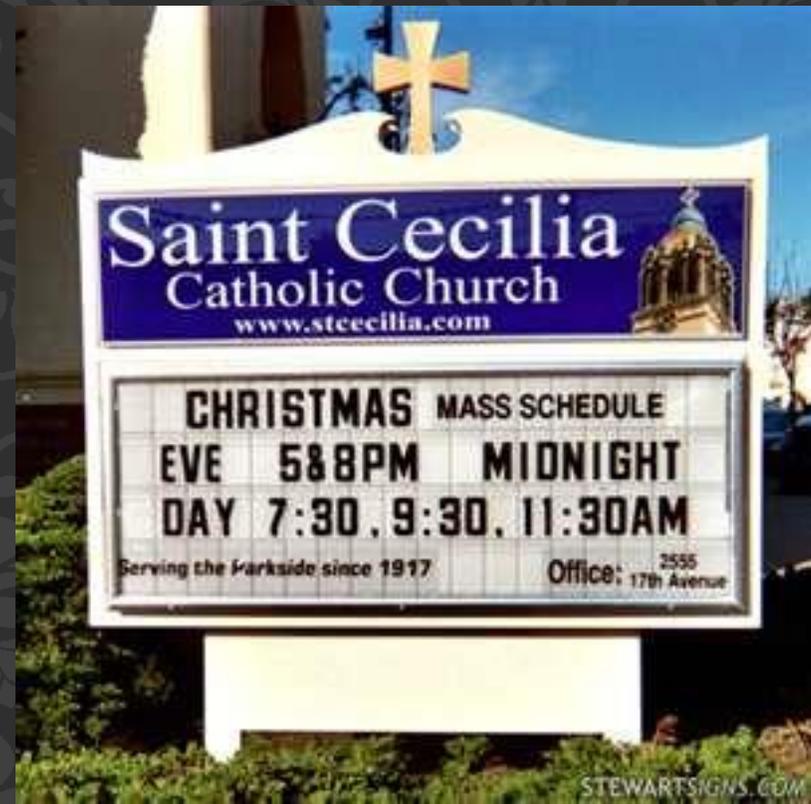
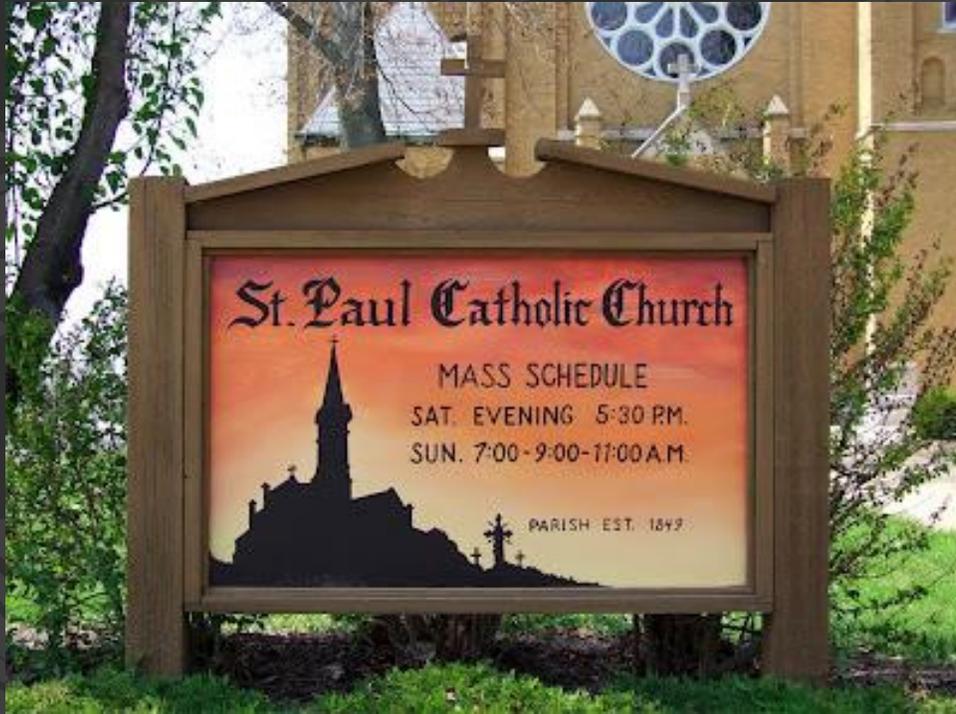
AMERICAN MARTYRS CHURCH

Bingo

TOTAL PRIZES \$3,000

EVERY TUESDAY 7:30PM-10:15PM

EARLY BIRD 7:15PM



A black and white photograph of a tree trunk with a black rectangular overlay containing white text. The tree trunk is on the left side of the image, showing vertical bark texture. The text is written in a white, cursive font on a black background.

Make
Church
Matter



HELPING
THE
LOST
FIND
THEIR
WAY
HOME ...



Grow disciples through the experience of the **Sunday Mass** by appealing to **The Lost**. Give them the sense that the parish and **The Faithful** are waiting to welcome them home as family.



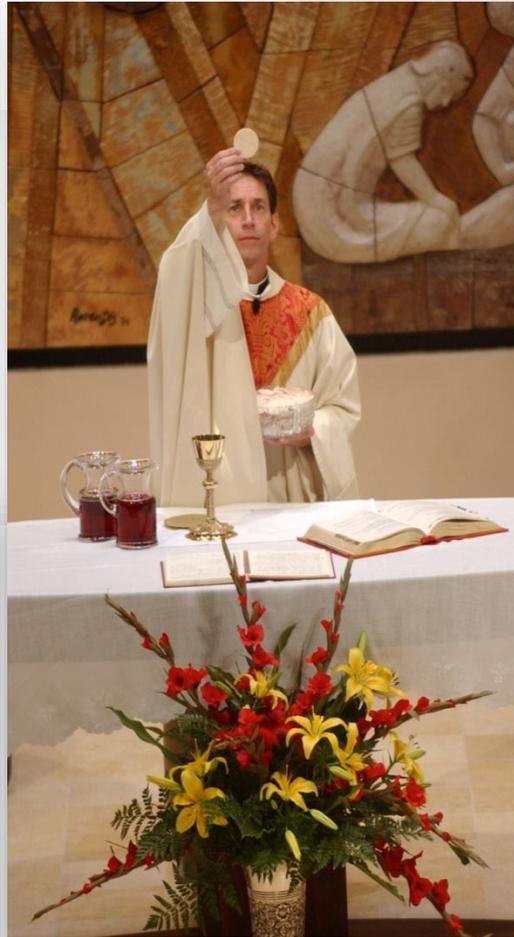


EVERY FIRST
ENCOUNTER
MATTERS

WHERE WE TAKE PEOPLE
MATTERS



WHAT MATTERS ON
SUNDAY...
EVERYTHING!



WHO
WELCOMES
MATTERS

HOW WE MINISTER TO
OTHERS MATTERS



MAKE
Church
MATTER

SUNDAY MASS
EXPERIENCE
AS FOCAL POINT



The
Welcome

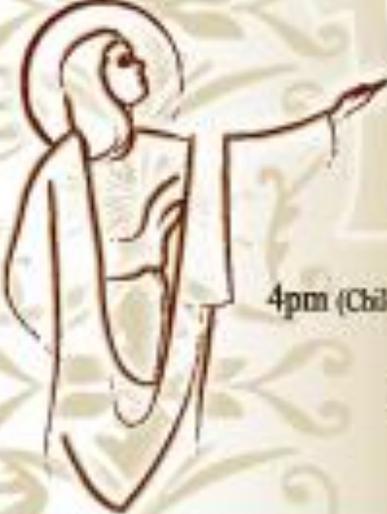
Music

Liturgy

The
Message

Eucharist

BRINGING PEOPLE ONTO YOUR CAMPUS/OUTREACH



Christmas Eve
4pm (Children) • 6pm • 7:30pm • 9pm (en Español)

Midnight Mass
Concert of Carols begins at 11:15

Christmas Day
8am • 10am • noon

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish

861 Maitland Avenue, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701

Ph: 407.831.1212 + Fax: 407.831.1560

E-mail: Office@StMaryMagdalen.org + Website: StMaryMagdalen.org

On the Road to the Cross

LENT

An Invitation to 40 Days
of Reflection & Renewal

@ St. Mary Magdalen Parish

Starting Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017

JOIN US FOR LENT

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish

*"While we cross the Lenten 'desert', we keep our gaze fixed upon Easter, which is the definitive victory of Jesus against the Evil One, against sin and against death."
- Pope Francis*

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1 @ 7am, 8:30am, 12noon and 7pm (English)
in the Church. In Spanish at 7pm in Parish Life Center

WEEKEND MESSAGE SERIES

Begins February 25 at all the Weekend Masses

BIBLE STUDY

Revelation, Thursdays starting March 2,
and Sundays starting March 5

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

Tuesday, March 7 @ 10am & 7pm
in the Church (with individual confessions)

CLOTHING THE NAKED: WORK OF MERCY
Clothing Donation Drive, Weekends March 4-5 and
March 11-12 after all Masses in the Parking Lot

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic
Saturday, April 1 • 9am to 1pm in the Parish Life Center

ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Mary Magdalen Church, 861 Maitland Ave., Altamonte
Springs, FL 32701 • 407.831.1212 • www.StMaryMagdalen.org

SPECIAL FAITH EVENT

Together in Holiness: Marriage-Enrichment
Saturday, March 11 • 8:00am to 2:30pm
in the Parish Life Center • Child care available.

HOURS OF PRAYER DURING LENT

March 2-April 12 from 9am-7pm in the chapel

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5pm, 7pm (Spanish)

Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 5:30pm

Kids Ministry: 10pm, 12noon Masses

Children's Liturgy of Word: 7pm, 8am, 10am, 12noon Masses

Interpreted for the Deaf: 10am Mass

Contemporary Christian Choir: 7pm, 12noon & 5:30pm Masses



StMaryMagdalen.org



St. Mary Magdalen Parish
861 Maitland Ave.
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701



Celebrate the Savior
April 16, 2017

**'HE IS NOT
here
FOR HE IS
risen'**

Matthew 28:6

JOIN US FOR
EASTER
St. Mary Magdalen
Catholic Parish

**CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK & EASTER
@ St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish**

Easter celebrates the greatest of all moments – when Christ rose from the dead – conquering death and sin for us. We have many opportunities for you to engage in the remembrance of His most powerful act of love for us as we celebrate the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. We hope you and your family will join us at St. Mary Magdalen, God Bless!

Fr. Charlie **Father Charlie Mitchell, Pastor**

Holy Thursday Mass----- Thursday, April 13

- English Mass of the Lord's Supper (Church).....7:00 PM
- Spanish Mass (Parish Life Center).....7:00 PM

Good Friday Services----- Friday, April 14

- English Good Friday Service (Church).....3:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- Spanish Good Friday Service (Parish Life Center).....7:00 PM

Holy Saturday Services----- Saturday, April 15

- Blessing of Easter Foods & Prayer Service...8:30 AM (English)

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, April 15 Easter Vigil Mass----- 8:00 PM

- Mass begins with bilingual blessing of the Easter flame on the track.

Sunday, April 16 Easter Masses

- Sunrise Mass (on the parish grounds next to Gym).....6:30 AM
- Mass (Church).....8:00 AM
- Mass (Adult Choir — Interpreted for the Deaf).....10:00 AM
- Mass (Contemporary Choir in Parish Life Center).....10:15 AM
- Mass (Contemporary Choir in the Church).....12 Noon
- Spanish Mass (Parish Life Center).....12 Noon

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**JOIN US FOR THE TENEBRAE SERVICE
7 PM on Wednesday of Holy Week (April 12)**

"Tenebrae" is Latin for "darkness" or "shadows" and we will pray in near darkness (in the Church) by remembering solemnly the Last Seven Days of Christ's Life with a 40-minute prayerful reflection with choral selections and special narrations.



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church is located at
861 Maitland Avenue, Altamonte Springs, FL.
For more information, call us at 407.831.1212
or visit us online at www.StMaryMagdalen.org.



St. Mary Magdalen Parish
861 Maitland Ave.
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

Prayer Card for victory over death

GLORY BOUND



PATH TO THE CROSS

“Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ’s victory over death.”

Pope Francis
Message for Lent 2017

St. Mary Magdalen Parish EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, April 15 - Easter Vigil

- Mass begins with bilingual blessing of Easter flame on the track.....8PM

Sunday, April 16 - Easter Masses

- Sunrise Mass (next to gym).....6:30AM
- Mass.....8AM
- Mass (Adult Choir; Interpreted for the Deaf).....10AM
- Mass (Contemporary Choir; Parish Life Center).....10:15AM
- Mass (Contemporary Choir).....12Noon
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Easter Celebration - invite others

PRAYER FOR LENT

Lord Jesus Christ,
You came down from heaven to take on human flesh, to be one with us and share in our human experience. For 40 days, you suffered in the desert, but emerged triumphant over temptation and ready to begin announcing the Gospel.

Help us to discipline our wills and avoid temptations, so that we may turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel. You turned your face toward Jerusalem to begin your journey to Calvary.

Inspire us to be resolute in our ascent toward Easter. May our Lenten observance help us to die to self and experience in our lives your resurrection.

You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

*Prayer by: Rev. David J. Scheidler, CSC
University of Notre Dame Prayer Cards*

Intentions - I am praying for ...

Your Lenten prayer intentions

**BRING PEOPLE TO YOUR
CAMPUS/OUTREACH**

Hotels

Schedule of Masses in each room

Concierge

Apartment Complexes/Welcome Wagon

Provide information for newcomers about parish services.

**BRING PEOPLE TO YOUR
CAMPUS/OUTREACH**

Ads/Banners

In Local High School Football schedule

Elementary Newsletters

Neighborhood Magazine

Local Newspaper

Cable Access

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Voice Mail

- 1 week before Christmas & Holy Week
- Constantly update with the special schedule

Video Monitors

Advertise events around parish