

# *The Messenger*

*St. Mary Magdalene Council of Catholic Women, Newnan GA*

## **Feast of the Holy Family**

On the Feast of the Holy Family, we reflect on the gift of family—a vital cornerstone of both society and the Church. In our fast-paced world, it's easy to lose sight of what truly matters, focusing so much on work and obligations that we neglect the family we're working to provide for.

I am reminded of a story a friend of mine once shared about his daughter, a lawyer living far away. When he asked her to visit, she gave excuses: her busy schedule, clients, and work commitments. He responded, "When I die, will you come to my funeral?" She was shocked at the question. "Dad, why would you ask me that? Of course I will." His reply was simple but powerful: "Forget the funeral. Come now. I need you more now than I will then."

St. Paul offers a blueprint for family life, recognizing that family can be difficult. He emphasizes forgiveness as the glue that keeps relationships strong through rough times. He tells us that if we treat those closest to us with love and patience, we are more likely to do the same with others.

The message of Christmas is that Jesus, our Savior, was born into a family. Families are holy communities, and we are called to build holy families, as this is where the Gospel begins.

As we enter the New Year, let St. Paul's words guide us: "Clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." Most importantly, put love above all. Remember the song: "We'll get together then." Don't wait for "then." Make the call, take the visit, show love now. Because, my friends, we may never get another chance.

-- Father Bob Warren

## IN THIS ISSUE

**New Year's Message**

**CCW Calendar**

**CCW Super Bowl Bake Sale**

**Save The Date - Tulip Tea Social**

**CCW Women's Day of Service**

**Nominations for Woman of the Year**

**SMM Service Opportunities**

**Prayer Circles**



## New Year's Message from Your President

By Suzette Binek

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025 🎉 Now that we have approached our halfway point of the year, I have taken a moment to look back. In just this short period, we celebrated SMM 25th Anniversary with many gatherings and several service projects. One of which was our first parish-wide Box of Joy, Pack-a-thon. That was a smashing success! Now, I am joyfully anticipating the next few months' activities. Soon we will have another first, our Women's Day of Service, being held Saturday, January 25. More details are located in this newsletter. Also, it's that time again, our Nominating Committee will be busy scouting for our next team to serve the CCW Board for two (2) years. All Executive branch positions, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are open. If you have a desire to learn more, please do not hesitate to ask any of us. We need YOU to prayerfully consider this opportunity to ensure the Council of Catholic Women continue to serve the women of our parish and serve our community.

I have truly been blessed to have met so many wonderful women since moving here in 2013. Being an active board member for the last 10 years has enriched my life immeasurably. However, with an active travel schedule and a new job, my cup has begun to overflow. So, with a heavy heart, I have made the decision to retire at the end of this year, but look forward to inducting a new group of ladies to the Board at our April Tulip Social.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered countless hours toward our organization. Your dedication means more to me than you may ever know!



## CCW Calendar

### JANUARY

- 2 Board Meeting, Canceled  
25 Women's Day of Service, 10AM - 3 PM, SMM

### FEBRUARY

- 6 Board Meeting, 11:30 AM, SMM Room 101/102  
8-9 CCW Super Bowl Bake Sale  
19 Midwest Food Bank Service Opportunity

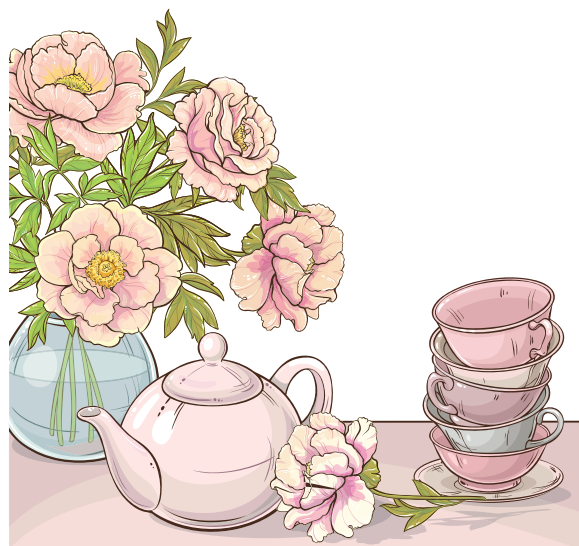
## CCW Super Bowl Bake Sale

Who's ready to BAKE! Yes, we are having our bake sale again. This scrumptious service project is scheduled for Super Bowl weekend, February 8 - 9. Please use the attached link to showcase your goodies and help the CCW raise funds for St. Mary Magdalene ministries.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C45A9A629A1F49-51154550-ccwbake>



## Save The Date - Tulip Tea Social



Please mark your calendars to attend our April Tulip Social on April 3rd at 7 PM. More details will be in our February newsletter.



**SMM COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

# Made with Love

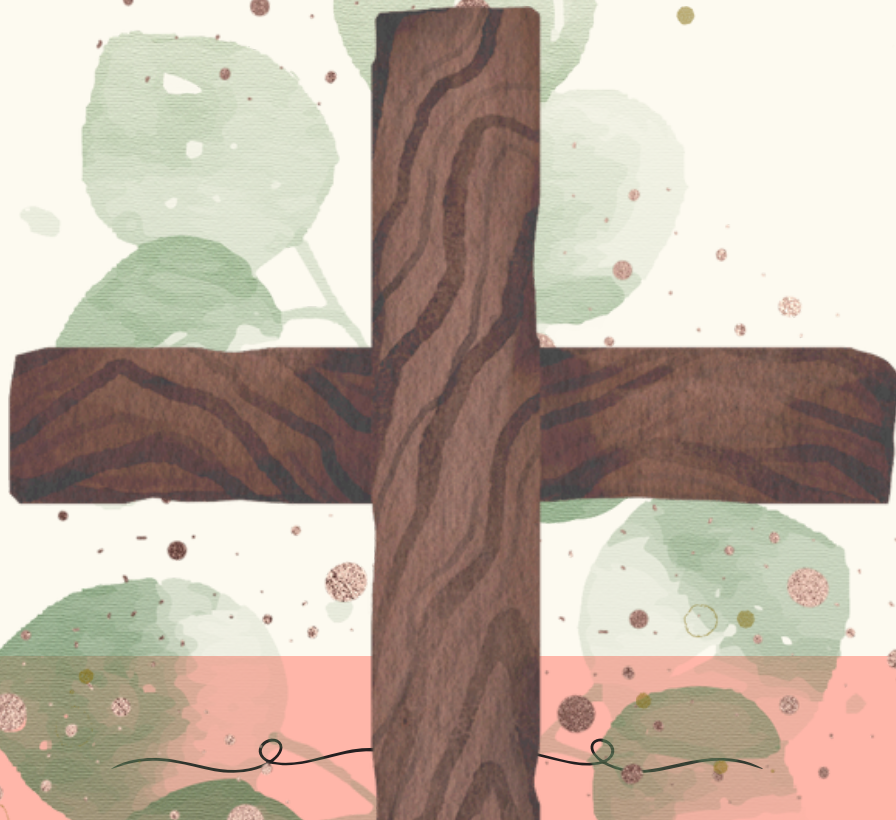
**Women's Day of Service  
January 25, 2025, 10 AM - 3PM  
SMM Parish Hall**

Please join us for a women's day of service as we handcraft thoughtful gifts for the First Communicants, RCIA students, Confirmation students, and our homebound parishioners.

Lunch will be provided.

Cost is \$15 per participant. Please register using the link or QR code below. Registration closes on January 21, 2025.

<https://www.osvhub.com/st-mary-magdalene-cath-church-1/forms/ccw-day-of-service-2025>





## Nominations for “Woman of the Year 2025”

The Atlanta Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women invites each parish to select one OUTSTANDING woman to be recognized for their work in the parish and community.

During the months of December and January we are asking our members to submit their nomination(s) to the Council. This person should possess the qualities of dedication and commitment throughout their time registered at St. Mary Magdalene.



Could you be St. Mary Magdalene’s next Woman of the Year? This special woman will be honored at the AACCW Annual Recognition Day Mass in the spring. Find out in February if it is you!

Please submit your nominations to [suzettebinek@gmail.com](mailto:suzettebinek@gmail.com) before January 31, 2025.

## SMM Service Opportunities

There are a few upcoming service opportunities planned by the Knights of Columbus that are being offered to all Parishioners. If your New Year’s resolutions include putting your faith into action, please save the dates for these great hands-on service opportunities. Signup links will be provided in the next newsletter.

### **Feb 19th, 6-8 PM**

Midwest Food Bank. 220 Parkade Court, Peachtree City, GA

Dress is casual work attire with closed toe shoes. We undertake many tasks involving the repackaging of food into pallets for bulk distribution. Minimum age is 10 years old. All children will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. We will be indoors for this service project.

### **March 15th, 8 AM - 11 AM**

Bridging the Gap, 19 1st Ave, Newnan, GA 30263

Dress is casual work attire with closed toe shoes. We will be packaging and distributing food to approximately 130 families. Minimum age is 10 years old. All children will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. We will be working in warehouse with limited heating as well as loading food into vehicles outside.



## Prayer Circles

### St. Agnes' Prayer Circle

St. Agnes Circle met on Monday, December 2nd at 11 a.m. at Crosstown Grille in Peachtree City for a luncheon outing. 12 of us were in attendance. We enjoyed fellowship and Judy Burton read the December 1st monthly devotional reading from the book, "Mornings with Jesus". It was a nice outing.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 10 a.m. at SMM in rooms 101/102. Deacon Steve Swope will be speaking on a topic of his choice. If you have any questions, please contact Dee Heegan at 678-662-0071.

### St. Margaret's Prayer Circle

St. Margaret's circle met this month at Jamie Bowne's home for holiday brunch, fellowship and discussion towards our current book, Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table. The group offered prayers for several extended family members receiving medical care and well wishes for Christmas celebrations.

The group will meet again in January on the 15th at Monique's home hosted by Dee.

