

# The Messenger

St. Mary Magdalene Council of Catholic Women, Newnan GA

## Origins of the Rosary

The rosary is one of the most cherished prayers of our Catholic Church. Journeying through the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries of the rosary, the individual brings to mind our Lord's incarnation, His passion and death and His resurrection from the dead. In so doing, the rosary assists us in growing in a deeper appreciation of these mysteries, in uniting our life more closely to our Lord and in imploring His graced assistance to live the faith. We also ask for the prayers of our Blessed Mother, who leads all believers to her Son.

The origins of the rosary are "sketchy" at best. The use of "prayer beads" and the repeated recitation of prayers to aid in meditation stem from the earliest days of the Church and has roots in pre-Christian times. Evidence exists from the Middle Ages that strings of beads were used to count Our Fathers and Hail Marys. Actually, these strings of beads became known as "Paternosters," the Latin for "Our Father."

The structure of the rosary gradually evolved between the 12th and 15th centuries. Eventually 50 Hail Marys were recited and linked with verses of psalms or other phrases evoking the lives of Jesus and Mary. During this time, this prayer form became known as the rosarium ("rose garden"), actually a common term to designate a collection of similar material, such as an anthology of stories on the same subject or theme. During the 16th century, the structure of the five-decade rosary based on the three sets of mysteries prevailed.

Tradition does hold that St. Dominic (d. 1221) devised the rosary as we know it. Moved by a vision of our Blessed Mother, he preached the use of the rosary in his missionary work among the Albigensians, who had denied the mystery of Christ. Some scholars take exception to St. Dominic's role in forming the rosary. The earliest accounts of his life do not mention it, the Dominican constitutions do not link him with it and contemporaneous portraits do not include it as a symbol to identify the saint. Some scholars say that St. Dominic not so much "invented" the rosary as he preached its use to convert sinners and those who had strayed from the faith. Moreover, at least a dozen popes have mentioned St. Dominic's connection with the rosary, sanctioning his role as at least a "pious belief."

The fact that our Church continues to include the Feast of the Holy Rosary on the liturgical calendar testifies to the importance and goodness of this form of prayer. -- Father William Saunders

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# CCW Calendar

## FEBRUARY

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

## MARCH

- 6 Board Meeting, 11:30 AM, SMM Room 101/102
- 7 CCW Sponsored Lenten Simple Supper & Stations of the Cross
- 7/8 Spring Plant Sale in the Narthex

# 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>



# Prayer Circles

## St. Agnes' Prayer Circle

St. Agnes Circle did not meet this month due to inclement weather.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 18th at 10 a.m. at SMM in rooms 101/102. Father Terry will be speaking. Topic To Be Determined.

## St. Margaret's Prayer Circle

St. Margaret's Circle met on Wednesday, January 15th at Monique Haskins' house. Dee Heegan hosted the circle with Monique. We had yummy Partners II Pizza and salad. Monique made some very yummy desserts. We discussed Chapters 3 and 4 from our book that we are reading entitled, "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table", by Louie Giglio. We discussed how these chapters and this book relates so perfectly to anything happening in our lives. As always, we also discussed anything that we had on our minds with everyone listening with open hearts for feedback.

Our next meeting will be earlier in February, due to the Coweta County School winter break, and we will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, February 12th at 11 a.m. at Maggie Heatherman's house. We will be discussing Chapter 5 of our book.



# SMM CCW SPRING PLANT SALE

**10" Hanging Basket Boston Ferns**

**10" Hanging Basket "Go Anywhere" Combo**

**10" Hanging Basket Geraniums**

Cost: \$20 Each



Geraniums

**12" Hanging Basket Macho Ferns**

Cost: \$35 Each



Boston  
Ferns

**14" Hanging Basket "Go Anywhere" Combo**

**14" Potted "Go Anywhere" Combo**

Cost: \$45 Each



Go Anywhere  
Combo

Orders will be taken in person in the Narthex after  
all Masses on March 7/8.

Plants can also be ordered online at  
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-mary-magdalene-cath-church-1/forms/smmccw-spring-plant-sale-2025>

All orders are due by March 12th.  
Deliveries are estimated to be between March 25th  
and April 4th.



Macho Fern

## SMM Service Opportunities

There are a few upcoming service opportunities that are being offered to all Parishioners. Minimum age is 10 years. All minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

### **Feb 8th, 9 AM - 1 PM**

One Roof, 255 Temple Avenue, Newnan, GA

Dress is casual with closed toe shoes. Parishioners and families are welcome. We will be sorting canned goods from their annual holiday can-a-thon.

Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449ADA82DA20-54755857-oneroof>

### **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. We will be indoors for this service project.

If interested in this service opportunity, please email your interest to David Keller at [dkeller@numail.org](mailto:dkeller@numail.org).

### **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. We will be working in warehouse with limited heating as well as loading food into vehicles outside. Sign up link will be provided next month.



## Lenten Meal & Stations of the Cross

Please join the Council of Catholic Women in hosting a Lenten meal and narration of Stations of the Cross for our parish, Friday, March 7. The attached link is provided for our meal plan.

Please be mindful of all times in the Signup.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C45A9A629A1F49-51155024-lenten>



## April Tulip Social - April 3



Join the Council of Catholic Women as we celebrate our 3rd and final social of the year. Our guest speaker will be our very own Welcome and Circle Coordinator, Teresa Barczak. Enjoy the evening listening to her very personal experience as we conclude our year of Women on a Journey. Light refreshments will be served. The CCW will also induct a few special ladies to continue serving our ministry for the next 2 years. Please let us know you'll be coming.

**Date/Time/Location: April 3rd, Thursday, 7-9 PM, SMM Parish Hall**

Please RSVP at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C45A9A629A1F49-53997971-april>



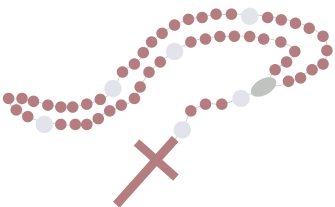
# A FEW PHOTOS FROM WOMEN'S DAY OF SERVICE

Twenty nine women attended our Women's Day of Service. We stayed incredibly busy with numerous service projects to benefit our Faith Formation candidates as well as other ministries in our Parish. We learned a few new skills, played fun games to learn more about each other, shared a luncheon, and ended our event by praying the rosary. A few folks asked for contact information on our sewing instructor. Her business is called Sew Jane Studio in Summergrove. You can find her on Facebook. Her phone number is 936-208-3470. Her email address is [sewjanestudio@gmail.com](mailto:sewjanestudio@gmail.com). She specializes in sewing classes for youth and adults.



FEBRUARY 2025

# WOMEN'S DAY OF SERVICE PHOTOS



# Lenten Ideas for the Family

These ideas can help families of all ages dive deeper into the spiritual practices of Lent while also fostering family bonding and personal growth.



## For Young Children:

### Daily Bible Story or Devotion

Each day, read a short Bible story or devotion that aligns with the themes of Lent. Make it interactive by asking questions or acting out parts of the story with simple crafts or toys.

### Sacrifice Basket

Set up a “sacrifice basket” where children can place small items that symbolize sacrifices, like a toy, a treat they would have wanted, or extra time spent helping around the house.

### 40 Acts of Kindness

Create a “40 Acts of Kindness” calendar. Every day, children are encouraged to perform an act of kindness like helping with chores, writing a note, or making a card for someone in need.

### Lenten Prayer Jar

Place small slips of paper in a jar with prayer prompts or people to pray for. Each day, a child draws one and prays for that specific thing or person, helping them focus on prayer throughout Lent.

## For Teens:

### Lenten Social Media Fast

Encourage teens to give up social media or screen time for a certain period each day. In its place, they could focus on prayer, journaling, or even spending more quality time with family.

### Volunteer Together

Spend time as a family volunteering at a local food bank, shelter, or community center. Teens can take leadership roles in organizing and coordinating the group.

### Daily Lenten Reflections

Teens can start a Lenten journal or blog, where they reflect on a Bible verse or personal experience each day. It could be a space to express thoughts about sacrifice, gratitude, and growth.

### Create a Lenten Playlist

Collaborate with your teen to curate a Lenten music playlist that reflects themes of repentance, hope, and joy. Each day, they can listen to a song that prompts reflection or worship.

### Lenten Acts of Service

Encourage teens to pick one specific area of service or charity during Lent, whether it’s collecting items for a drive, tutoring younger children, or helping elderly neighbors with chores.

## For Adults:

### Spiritual Retreat or Quiet Time

Set aside a designated time each day for prayer, meditation, or scripture reading. This could be an early morning devotion, a lunch break reflection, or a quiet time before bed.

### Fasting or Food Sacrifices

Choose to fast from certain foods (like sweets, meat, or processed snacks) or limit food intake in some way to remind oneself of Christ’s sacrifice. This could also include giving up dining out or other luxuries.

### Lenten Prayer Partner

Pair up with a friend or spouse to be prayer partners during Lent. Share daily or weekly prayer requests and pray for each other’s spiritual growth and needs during this season.

### Declutter or Simplify

Commit to decluttering and simplifying your home or life during Lent. Donate items you no longer need and simplify your daily routine to make space for prayer and reflection.

### Lenten Book or Bible Study

Engage in a Lenten Bible study or read a book that focuses on the spiritual journey of Lent. Consider discussing it in a small group or with a spouse.

