



**ST. MARY MAGDALEN PARISH**  
7 SHARPLEY ROAD  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19803

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July 22, 2021

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Today is the Feast of our Patroness Saint Mary Magdalen. For us however it is a Solemnity, which we will properly observe and celebrate next year when hopefully Covid and all of its restrictions will be lifted, and I will be back to full health.

Saint Mary Magdalen was one of the family “whom Jesus so loved” that He raised her brother Lazarus from the dead. Once again, on the eve of His Passion, she brought the precious ointment, and, now purified and beloved, poured it on His head, and the whole house of God is still filled with the fragrance of her anointing. She stood with the Blessed Virgin and Saint John at the foot of the cross. To her first, after His blessed Mother, and through her to His apostles, our Lord gave the certainty of His resurrection; and to her first He made Himself known, calling her by her name, because she was His. According to tradition, when the faithful were scattered by persecution the family of Bethany found refuge in Provence. The cave in which Saint Mary lived for thirty years is still seen, and the chapel on the mountaintop, in which she was caught up daily, like Saint Paul, to “visions and revelations of the Lord.” When her end drew near, she was borne to a spot still marked by a “sacred pillar,” where the holy Bishop Maximin awaited her; and when she had received her Lord, she peacefully fell asleep in death.

She was a disciple - known as the Apostle to the Apostles for her role in revealing the resurrection. To “the Eleven,” Mary Magdalen enjoys an important and, in some ways, enviable closeness to the Lord.

As I pray on this special day, I remember you all especially and ask that God may bless you and grant you a closeness to our Lord.

Blessing you and your loved ones!  
Father Kirk

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*Know Christ. Be Christ for Others.*