

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF  
ST. MARY MAGDALENE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2009**

The Annual Meeting of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, Coral Springs, Florida, was called to order at 9:30 AM on Sunday, January 25, 2009 in the Church proper with opening prayer led by The Reverend Mark Sims, Rector. Sixty persons were in attendance. The Chair appointed Elfreda Dawes as secretary.

Presentation of retiring vestry members. Randy Himmelheber, Stephanie Lee-Harris, Ethel Rapp, Evelyn Sibelle,

VESTRY ELECTION. Father Mark stated that this was an open meeting and introduced the nominating slate of four candidates to be elected: CHERYL ASTERN, FRED LESTER, BOB SCHAEFER, DEBBIE TEATE TO A THREE-YEAR TERM OF OFFICE. No new members were nominated from the floor and a unanimous vote of acclamation was received. .

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVE WAS PRESENTED. GERALD KLINGENBERG.

FINANCE. Presentation of the 2008 Financial Report and Proposed Budget for 2009 presented as it is with deficit.

Steve Read, Finance Committee Chair, elaborated on the financial report and the budget for 2009. He stated that the committee's purpose is to advise the vestry concerning policy and actions associated with monetary issues at St. Mary Magdalene. The Finance Committee keeps watch over our financial investments and does have the freedom to make minor decisions in accounting formats and fund locations. The vestry makes all major budgeting decisions such as formal budget approval. The recommended budget for 2009 has an additional \$60,000 shortfall. We will be challenged again in 2009. We need to get started on the church's roof. During 2008 we were able to see our vestry commence on a Roofing Campaign that produced enough dollars to replace our church's roof.

Mr. Read introduced Pat Tartaglia, Treasurer and thanked her for her work. We do have some challenges which we will get through.

STEWADSHIP 2008. The campaign to raise the operating funds for 2009 was a challenging effort at St. Mary Magdalene Church because of the economy. It was decided that the best course of action for this stewardship season was to ask our church to "Embrace our Faith." The campaign started with a letter from Father Mark. An informal brochure along with pledge cards were mailed to all parishioners. Educational presentations were conducted at all services in late October. Updates were presented on several Sundays. Raising funds during an economic crisis is not easy or fun. We are doing better than many other churches and non-profit institutions. But we must remember that only the members of Saint Mary Magdalene fund our church.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the church staff of Margie, Elfreda and Patti for their untiring help in this campaign. Steve Read and co-chair Dave Proko's reports were well received. Glaister Ayr was recognized for his work on the Stewardship Committee.

REPORTS. Reports from the various organizations were included with the Financial Reports.

RECTOR'S REPORT. Father Mark recognized Michelle Fountain and Ethel Rapp as the leaders of the Children's Ministry. That an attendance of 55 or more each Sunday with an overall attendance of 86 children registered.

Highlights of the Annual Meeting of St. Mary Magdalene Church held Sunday, January 25, 2009 (page 2)

Youth Program under the leadership of Tracey Gonzales. Attendance due to school programs. We do not have space enough to accommodate them. We need a space large enough outside. Spoke about Sherry Kross and the work she is doing as preschool director. This year they are having a fund raiser.

The Webmaster is coming up with a different web site. More information will be posted on the web site.

He thanked Margie Read, Elfreda Dawes and volunteer, Patti Blanchette in the office. He thanked Mother Cynthia for her effective ministry and that it was a pleasure to work with her and Deacon Lorna. Father Mark thanked his wife, Gail and daughter, Caroline for their love and support.

#### APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR WARDEN.

Father Mark announced his appointment of RANDY HIMMELHEBER as Senior Warden for a second term.

Mr. Himmelheber graciously accepted. He stated that no one could have predicted the events of this past year; especially the economic down turn that has affected all of us in some way. It has also had its ramifications in our church. As Alonzo Mourning stated "adversity introduces a man to himself." The roof has been one of our biggest project/fund raiser to date. We hired a roofing contractor to do the roof just on the sanctuary, because we did not have enough money to do all the roofs. The roofer, who is a Christian man himself, suggested we have the roof inspected by an adjuster to see if there was storm damage that our insurance company could be liable for. There was, and we are moving slowly forward in finalizing that. We raised \$40,000, we now have a check for \$75,000 coming and our final meeting to settle is set for January 27<sup>th</sup>. Hope to get more money to finish the roofs, stucco and electrical on the sanctuary and fix up the parish hall and hopefully start up a Building Fund Account with a positive balance in it.

Would like to thank Father Mark, Mother Cynthia, Deacon Lorna, the vestry, the choir, Arthur Nobile, department heads, office staff. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew and all of the many volunteers who unselfishly work for St. M&M to be the parish it is!

Our programs for the young are growing; our spiritual leaders, are leading us to God and Christ; our music is second to none; the children's laughter puts joy in our hearts and tears in our eyes. Let's all work together this next year, and with God's help and promise, there is no mountain we can't move. "As Red Skeleton always said "Thank you and May God bless.!"

He mentioned the fundraiser at the Elks Lodge, February 21, 2009, show, meal, etc.. He thanked Fr. Mark, Mother Cynthia and Deacon Lorna, the choir under the direction of Arthur Nobile.

Father Mark appointed Cheryl Astern, vestry member, who will help with pastoral care.

A junior warden will be elected by the vestry at the next meeting of the vestry.

Father thanked Arthur Nobile for his ministry to the parish; also choir deserves their applause.

ADJOURNMENT. No further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elfreda Dawes  
Vestry Clerk

**ANNUAL REPORT  
FINANCE COMMITTEE 2009**

**ST. MARY MAGDALENE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA**

The Finance Committee holds its regular meetings on the second Monday of the month during the year. We normally review the monthly Treasurer's Report and any other pertinent financial information. Our purpose is to advise the Vestry concerning policy and actions associated with monetary issues at St. Mary Magdalene. The Finance Committee keeps watch on our financial investments and does have the freedom to make minor decisions in accounting formats and fund allocations. The Vestry makes all major budgeting decisions such as formal budget approval.

2009 was a very interesting and challenging year financially for St. Mary Magdalene Church. We started the year with a deficit budget of \$57,735. As probably could be expected our income from pledge and plate contributions also ran behind. The good news was that our expenditures in operations, personnel and programs were less than budgeted. Also about mid year we received a substantial Insurance Settlement which provided enough money to replace the entire church campus roofs and complete some long delayed deferred maintenance on our buildings and grounds. The Vestry approved using a portion of that insurance money to assist with operations funding. Bottom line was that by using funds from the insurance settlement we were able to continue to fully support the ministries of St. Mary Magdalene Church.

We had a shortfall in our income streams of \$33,983.30. We had expenses that were \$24,539.72 less than budgeted. That along with starting out with a \$57,735.20 unfunded deficit means we spent \$67,179.38 more than we took in. The insurance money basically made up the difference.

In the hard economic times many other churches are feeling more drastic situations than we do at St. Mary Magdalene. We have been blessed with things such as insurance and larger special gifts. It would be poor planning to think all these things would happen every year. It is our responsibility to financially support the operation and ministries of our church. We will face many of the same financial challenges in 2010 that we have seen in the past couple of years. We must keep faith and do all we can to support the financial health of St. Mary Magdalene Church.

As we have been doing in the past, the Finance Committee will be closely monitoring on a week to week basis how we stand financially. We enter 2010 with another deficit budget. It will be extremely important that we are faithful Stewards in 2010.

As always, we truly owe a debt of gratitude for the hard work of our Treasurer, Pat Tartaglia. Her many hours of work makes the Finance Committee's work much easier.

Yours in Christ,  
Steve Read  
Finance Committee

**ST MARY MAGDALENE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**PROPOSED BUDGET 2010**

Dec 30th 2008

<b>Income</b>	<b>Jan-Dec07</b>	<b>Jan-Dec 08</b>	<b>Jan-Dec 09</b>	<b>Jan-Dec 10</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>				
Plate	20,000.00	25,000.00	22,000.00	20,000.00
Pledge	430,000.00	456,081.20	429,968.00	411,330.00
Pre-School	3,600.00	3,600.00	500.00	1,800.00
Rental Income	4,000.00	4,700.00	4,500.00	4,000.00
Special Offerings	14,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>471,600.00</b>	<b>508,381.20</b>	<b>475,968.00</b>	<b>456,130.00</b>
<b>Operating Expense</b>				
Advertising	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
Audit	2,100.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,500.00
Maintenance	14,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	12,000.00
Office	-	-	-	-
General Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,800.00	2,100.00
Office-Other	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,500.00
Leased Office Equipment	3,944.00	4,132.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Publications	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Utilities	26,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00	27,000.00
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>58,844.00</b>	<b>63,232.00</b>	<b>64,400.00</b>	<b>58,400.00</b>
<b>Other Fixed Expense</b>				
Assessment	55,612.00	66,690.00	63,978.00	66,500.00
Building Insurance	20,500.00	22,900.00	24,036.00	26,258.00
Mortgage Expense	26,376.00	-	-	-
<b>Total Other Fixed Expense</b>	<b>102,488.00</b>	<b>89,590.00</b>	<b>88,014.00</b>	<b>92,758.00</b>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Seminary Fund	1,500.00	-	-	-
Auto Allowance	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Communication Expense	1,320.00	1,320.00	2,100.00	2,100.00
Continuing Education	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Diocese Convention	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,300.00
Housing Allowance	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	68,000.00
Medical Insurance	32,820.00	36,000.00	43,250.00	20,104.00
Payroll Expenses	12,160.00	14,109.90	14,109.90	14,200.00
Pension Plans	29,362.48	30,228.26	30,228.26	29,500.00
Organist Search	-	3,500.00	-	-
Music	26,320.08	22,500.00	50,500.00	50,500.00
Substitute Organist	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Nursery	2,860.00	2,860.00	2,860.00	2,860.00
Administrator	-	26,011.00	26,011.00	26,011.00
Secretary	-	9,939.00	9,939.00	9,939.00
Sexton	43,559.10	13,609.00	13,609.00	13,609.00
Priest	61,913.04	63,913.04	63,913.04	45,913.00
Associate Priest	55,000.00	57,000.00	57,000.00	37,000.00
Youth Minister	12,600.00	6,800.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Sunday School - Grace Links	20,000.00	8,000.00	-	-
Worker's Comp Insurance	2,519.00	2,519.00	2,519.00	1,574.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>345,733.70</b>	<b>342,109.20</b>	<b>367,839.20</b>	<b>342,610.00</b>
<b>Programs</b>				
Adult Forum	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
Acolytes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Alter Guild	-	-	-	2,000.00
EYC	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Fellowship	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Music	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Social Concerns	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Stewardship	2,100.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Sunday School	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Newcomer's Dinner	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>12,050.00</b>	<b>13,450.00</b>	<b>13,450.00</b>	<b>15,450.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>519,115.70</b>	<b>508,381.20</b>	<b>533,703.20</b>	<b>509,218.00</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>(47,515.70)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(57,735.20)</b>	<b>(53,088.00)</b>

## PRESCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2009

The Preschool continues to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, Monday through Friday from 9am to 12pm. I am happy to report that the school is blessed with incredible teachers, wonderful families and healthy children. We are licensed by the State to teach 2 year olds through 5 year olds. We currently have one class of 3's and two of 4's. The two classes of 4 year olds are VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten), which means the state pays the school the tuition. Our enrollment consists of children from our congregation as well as children from the surrounding community. Fall 2010 Registration begins Feb. 1st. We continue to maintain a safe, stimulating, learning environment, which encourages Christian values at a reasonable cost. Returning students, siblings and neighbors of alumni make up a large part of our student roster. We are very proud of our "alumni" performance in Kindergarten and Elementary School, as it is reported that our students leave here and go on to do very well.

The excellence of our school is due in large part to the dedicated teachers who give love, instruction and guidance to the children in their care. We are blessed to have the same teachers, year after year. They are: Mrs. Barbara Masters (13 years), Mrs. Susan Lorber (12 years), Mrs. Jean-Marie (4 years) and myself (5 years). We have been fortunate to added two new staff members this year, Mrs. Kandy Griffith and Ms. Jackie Master.

We continue to be blessed to have Philippa Sunnergren, a member of our congregation, as our volunteer treasurer/ accountant for a second year. Philippa very efficiently keeps track of our income, expenditure, taxes and takes care of our payroll. She also sits on the Board of Directors along with Rev. Mark H. Sims, Mrs. Margie Read and myself.

St. Mary Magdalene Preschool is pleased to be the recipient of the Gold Seal Award given by the State to schools deemed worthy of recognition for their superior inspection reports throughout the year. The reports include all aspects of a school's operation, including the activities of the children.

The children and families take part in an outreach program that helps other children. This year they will participate in a Trike-A-Thon and will raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The children help others in need by riding their bikes and trikes around a course in the back parking area while parents and friends support their efforts by pledging a certain amount of money for each lap. They learn about helping others and about bicycle safety at the same time. We are very proud of our families for their loving and generous support of the outreach programs we have chosen.

Thank you to Father Mark and Mother Cynthia who celebrate chapel with us each week. We were delighted to have Mother Cynthia narrate for the sixth time at our Annual Christmas Pageant. Ethel and Richard Rapp were so kind and accommodating

## **Annual Report- Youth 2009/2010 School Year**

### **Erin Read Proko, Youth Director**

It has truly been such an honor for me to be welcomed back as your Youth Director @ St. Mary Magdalene. In the two years we spent away from ministry concentrated on our young family (Aidan, 7 and Kenton 3), I missed working with the Youth here so very much because they are a huge part of our family as well. Although I do miss working with my handsome husband David, our new Assistant Youth Director, Ms. Emilie Adams has been a welcome and needed addition to our program. Emilie has grown up in this church and graduated out of our Youth Program and has a keen understanding of what our young adults in this church face in the world today, I am blessed to have her and don't know what I would do without her!

This year our program has grown to over 50 participants that are consistently involved in activities and meetings. The most impressive thing I have seen this year is the amount of non-church members that have begun attending Youth Group on Sunday Nights. This means to me that we are doing something right and our youth are inviting friends and growing the community of Christ! The thing that is always on the forefront of my mind in planning the curriculum is how to bring that Jesus message EVERY week. Our Youth are special, they are responsible, they are kind, and most importantly they are armed with the knowledge that God is in control and He will lead them and sustain them.

Below I have listed just a few of the fantastic accomplishments of your Youth here @ St. M&M for the past 6 months. To grow and sustain a church the Youth play a pivotal and vital role!

- ❑ Collected and Donated over 250 books to Homeless Senior High students Children here in Broward County
- ❑ Donated money and baby food/formula to the families of the Head Start Program in Pompano Beach and to St. Vincent De Paul Charities
- ❑ Volunteered day after Thanksgiving to fill boxes for needy families @ St. Laurence Chapel as well as organized their food pantry.
- ❑ Donated Blankets and clothing to Broward Outreach
- ❑ Wrote letters to US Soldiers with out families.
- ❑ Designed and created T-shirts that are an example of our Mission and Outreach
- ❑ Wear hand made "Conviction" jewelry that represent our struggle to always try to be like Jesus and do the right thing
- ❑ Sold Christmas trees and raised over \$1800.00 for our Ministry
- ❑ Served as acolytes, lay readers, choir members, instrumental support, web design, nursery duty, and Sunday school teachers

These Young Adults are inspiring, they make me want to do better and shine brighter every time I am in their presence. Join me and celebrating their accomplishments and support them in their passions. This is the time in their lives when they are finding their authentic selves. Give them wings and help them fly, as they will come home to us strong, independent, confident adults who glorify God!

to be our wonderful Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Thank you to the Social Action Committee who has generously donated to our back to school supply drive and the new classroom rug. We were also so thankful that the Men's Club shared their kitchen with us so we could have a bake sale during their October Fest! Thanks to all the parishioners for their support for our Poinsettia fundraiser. Thank you to Randy \_\_\_\_\_ for helping us to keep up to code with the additional fence and gate by the playground and the addition of a really cool water fountain. Many thanks to the wonderful youth at our church who volunteer to help during our Summer Camp. And a very special thank you to Vee Sunnergren who helps with whatever crazy idea we come up with! It really does take a village to raise a child these days. Last but not least, I don't know what we would do without all the help and support from Margie, Elfreda, and Phyllis and Patti in the office. We could not have done everything we do without all of your continued support. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Sherry Kross,  
Preschool Director

# ANNUAL REPORT SENIOR SAINTS - 2009

## ST. MARY MAGDALENE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA

St. Mary Magdalene Senior Saints extend greetings and thanks once again for all the help and support extended to us over the past year. We welcome all St. Mary Magdalene Church members age 55 and older to join our group. We meet October to May, on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Parish Hall at noon, unless otherwise noted in the church bulletin. Our activities vary each month but the aim is to engage our seniors in a fun filled time.

Special thanks to Father Mark, Mother Cynthia, and Deacon Lorna who spoke at some of our meetings. Thanks also to Ethel Rapp for spearheading our inclusion in feeding the homeless at St. Laurence Chapel. This service is rewarding and I am thankful that we are able to participate in it.

Thanks to Pat Griffin our Communication Chairperson for doing the wonderful task of sending Sunshine Cards to the members of our church.

Also thanks to Madeline Martin for her contribution to Senior Saints, as her appreciation for our help at Seafarers Tea Party.

Some of our activities included :

A small group of fourteen members had an informative and enjoyable trip to the Fruit and Spice Park.

A trip to the Stage Door Theatre, all proceeds from this trip went to St. M&M.

Feeding of the Homeless at St. Laurence Chapel twice during the year

### Contributions

Seafarers Shoe Boxes,

Kids in distress fund.

October was our Eucharist and Installation of New Officers for the year 2009-2010. 42 people attended. Mother Cynthia led the service; Arthur Nobile, Jr. played the piano for the group. We shared a nice lunch and had our first business meeting.

November we had a guest speaker from Dignity Memorial and lunch was provided. It was very enlightening and informative.

December was our fun 2-day cruise to Freeport thanks to the very great effort of Gloria Gordon. All had a good time and we again extend our heartfelt thanks to Gloria. A special thanks to Esther Hunte for all her help to the new Board.

We donated \$200.00 to Children in Distress for Christmas Gifts. Thanks to Jack & Virginia Warner for taking our gift. We also gave \$200.00 to St. Laurence Chapel for bus passes. We will be helping Deacon Lorna with the feeding at St Laurence Chapel on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010. We are planning a movie, day, and some other interesting things.

We have enjoyed a new interest in our group and we wish to thank all who have worked hard to make our new year successful and rewarding.

Yours in Christ,

Esther Hunte, Past President

Pat Tartaglia, & Ina Knight CO Chair Persons

## **NAVAJOLAND MISSION REPORT - 2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

There are several nations within our nation - Native American reservations. For the past 7 years St. Mary Magdalene, and other churches have been going to the Navajo Nation in Ft. DeFiance, AZ and Coal Mine, NM. The Navajo are the largest Indian tribe in North America with well over 200,000 members. The reservation takes in part of three states: New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. It encompasses over 24,000 square miles (roughly the size of West Virginia). The Navajo Nation is covered in desert or dry land, which is difficult to farm. Most children travel long distances to attend school and the dropout rate is high. Businesses have proven harder to attract, as they are deterred by inadequately paved roads, lack of electricity, water and telecommunication services and limited police and fire protection. High levels of unemployment persist. Most Navajo housing units have two rooms or less. Only 50% of the homes in the Navajo Nation have electricity and only 39% have telephones. While alcohol is not allowed on the reservation, alcoholism is a big problem.

The first thing that you notice is the obvious material poverty of the Navajo. Poverty to the Navajo, however, is not a lack of material possessions, but to be without family or to not be part of a group. Belonging (to family and Clans) is wealth to the Navajo. Mission is not just a matter of doing things for people, it is first of all being with people, listening to and sharing with them! Mission trips are about seeing and listening and hearing in ways that we are not easily able to do at home. We develop a greater bonding with people of other cultures and faiths as we see the commonalities of Faith, Belief and Spirituality.

In the past five years thirteen people from St. Mary Magdalene have traveled. If you are unable to go, but want to help, there are ways for you to serve. We need prayers, emotional and spiritual support and ideas the team can share with the Navajo. We conduct a Vacation Bible School for all ages: infants through elders. Your suggestions would be greatly appreciated. Any craft ideas: Make a sample and write out directions. All supplies are purchased and shipped ahead of the team. We will be fundraising to help finance the trip, suggestions are welcome. If you are a great packer, we can use your help when preparing to ship our supplies.

The funds do not come from St. Mary Magdalene. Each team member is responsible for raising their own funds for the trip.

Your prayerful consideration is appreciated.

Patti Blanchette  
Treasurer and Non-traveling member

# Church School

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2009

Every Sunday, Church School is attended, anywhere from 20 – 45 children. We presently have 79 registered. The program is geared towards children 2 1/2 to 12 year olds but all children are most welcome. The teenagers have become wonderful helpers and have made it an intergenerational experience. We have many talented musicians who share their gifts with us on most Sundays.

The Church School is lead by Ethel Rapp, Linda LoBiondo, Vee Sunnergren and Michelle Fountain. Twice per month Dr. Stephanie Lee Harris teaches the 3-5 year olds a lesson. We are always grateful for the help of Audrey Ware and all the youth who assist. Maureen Abbott continues to care for the children in the nursery along with some wonderful teenage volunteers.

We continue to use 'The Sunday Paper Junior' which is a children's version of the 'Gospel' you hear in church. Thanks to Patti Blanchette there are extra copies of the children's program in the folders in the back of the church.

**OPEN HOUSE** and Registration were held after Labor Day with a selection of healthier snacks of yogurt, fruit and smoothies. In order to help the Church go green, we serve drinks in reusable cups when possible and we have a recycle bin.

This year the children had a special visit and lesson from 'St. Nicholas' on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The children placed one of their shoes at the 'font' upon arrival into the church and when they exited; they discovered chocolate coins in their shoe! Thank you Arthur Noble, Jr.

Sherry Kross was so kind as to volunteer to lead our Christmas Pageant along with Cindy Amireh, Philippa Sunnergren, Vee Sunnergren, Julie Holden and many helpful parents. Sherry also enlisted our wonderful youth to share their musical talents with flute, trumpet, French horn, tuba, piano, violin and the saxophone.

We wish to thank and welcome all those who wish to contribute or participate their time and/or gifts with our children.

Respectfully,  
Michelle Fountain  
Church School Director

## **ACOYLTE REPORT - 2009**

The Acolyte Ministry continues to grow as our enthusiastic youth continue to express an interest in becoming acolytes. This coming year we plan that all the members of the Youth Group will be trained as acolytes.

This year we again had a large contingency of Acolytes representing St. Mary Magdalene at the Acolyte Festival held at St. Gregory's in Boca Raton in April.

In September, we had an Acolyte meeting where the hope was again expressed that we could work towards attending the Acolyte Festival in Washington D.C. in the near future. In attempt to see this to fruition a planning committee will be convened to work on the details.

Thank you to all our Acolytes for your continued service to the Church. We appreciate that many of you have often stepped up to the plate when called on to serve at the last minute. May God bless you all in your Ministry.