



THE MAGDALENE

St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

Rev. Fr. Neil Edlin, Rector

From the Desk of Fr. Neil...



Soli Deo Gloria

"I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols."
(Isaiah 42:8 ESV)

Soli Deo Gloria is a Latin phrase which, when translated, means: "To God Alone Be All Glory". It was a central theme at the time of the Reformation. Interestingly, Johann Sebastian Bach inscribed on all his compositions, S.D.G., and carved Soli Deo Gloria into the organ at Leipzig.

I believe glorifying God has been of some importance to Christians in every age, but it was especially emphasized in the 16th century and beyond. Today it has fallen into disuse. Thankfully we are inheritors of this great emphasis in Christian theology, and we should work to bring this important truth back into our lives in every aspect. God's glory is the highest good and therefore is the purpose for which we were created. We were created to glorify God and to reflect His glory by proclaiming it to all of creation. See Isaiah 43:6-7. Romans chapter one teaches that the basic human sin we commit is the refusal to honor God and be thankful for all that He has done for us and given to us. Instead of glorifying God in all that we do, we suppress the knowledge of Him and at the same time fashion gods of other things instead. When we attribute anything that we do or point to our own

efforts in any way we rob God of His full glory.

The first question in the Westminster Shorter Catechism is: What is the chief end of man? The answer is: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever. This seemingly simple answer has many implications if we look deeper into it. As creatures of God, created in His image, we owe our very existence to Him. Because He created us, we in turn must live grateful lives in obedience to our creator. Everything that we do should be for God's glory...to the exclusion of our own self-glorification. We should be inspired each day to seek to bring glory to God and not to ourselves.

We live in very self centered times. This is not anything new. Man has always, since the Fall, been prideful and turned in on himself. But the mandate God gave man in the Garden of Eden was to mirror God's nature in such a way that he would tend to the creation, just as God would tend to the needs of man. This relationship was broken when the Fall happened. Adam and his wife were subsequently banished from the Garden, forfeiting the intimate relationship they had briefly shared with God. They were not destroyed, but life became much more difficult from that time forward. God did not leave them totally helpless. He did promise that He would redeem them from the damage they had done. It just wouldn't be immediate in the way that it unfolded. In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son to be that Redeemer as promised, and through Jesus Christ the damaged relationship has been repaired. The satisfactory and atoning death of Christ on

the cross propitiated God's wrath, healed the breach, and restored us to a right relationship with God.

Now if we reflect on what has transpired since the creation of mankind, right on up to the day we found salvation in Christ and were brought into the Church, we have not contributed anything except disobedience, selfishness, resistance and pride to name just a few. We rebelled against God in the beginning, and we have continued to rebel ever since. Even on our best days and in our best our actions bear the stain of sin and are tainted to a certain degree. And yet at every turn, God has done the work of overseeing how and when we would be saved from all of this.

Paul writes this in his letter to the Romans in the 5th chapter:

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall

we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation."(Romans 5:1-11 ESV)

I hope you read those verses slowly and understood what Paul was saying. That is the Gospel in 232 words. While we were dead in sin, and unable to carry ourselves back into God's 'good graces', God took the initiative to reconcile us to Himself...at the cost of the death of His only begotten Son. So what does this do for us? What benefit is there in all of this? "...we rejoice in hope of the glory of God." We have been in a predicament in which we could not get ourselves out...and God didn't have to get us out. Therefore, we should be very grateful for what God has done. Because in this rescue from eternal separation from God, we gain access to Him, and we will finally enjoy His Glory for all of eternity.

To God alone be the glory is exactly right! We cannot take any credit or receive any glory for what has been done. God has saved us and for that we give the glory to Him....and Him alone.



PARISH NEWS

VESTRY MEETING

The date for the August vestry meeting has been changed. It will be held on August 7th, the first Wednesday night.

Vestry meetings are open to the congregation and held at 7:15pm.

**Next Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, August 7th**



BIBLE STUDY

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study is looking at the Letter of St. Paul to Titus.



The Bible Study meets in the Parish Hall on Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. **(The Bible Study will not be held on vestry meeting night – August 7th.)**

GUEST SPEAKER



On Sunday, July 7th, Susan Brown, PhD Musicology and member of our congregation inspired us all with her talk about her book, “Singing and the Imagination of Devotion.” She spoke on the concerns and importance of singing in the devotional thought of

Anglican and Puritan divines during the seventeenth-century. Susan gave her thoughts on the theological controversies surrounding the use and type of music in prayer services and the issues church leaders were up against in making decisions about the singing in worship and family and private devotional life.” Our special thanks to Susan for a great presentation.

NEW2YOU SALE

St. Martha’s Guild has announced their next NEW2YOU sale. They are planning the event for **Saturday, September 21st** from **8am until 2pm**. The focus of this sale will be clothing and household goods.



So... clean out those closets and cupboards and see what you can donate

to this wonderful cause. St. Martha’s Guild labors year round to earn money for St. Mary Magdalene’s outreach projects. You, too, can help them. Remember, we are looking for good quality items to sell.

Volunteers are needed the night before the sale to sort and bring down boxes and tables. More volunteers are needed (7:00am) the day of the sale to help put everything out, collect the money, and to help with clean-up (2:00pm). Please let Elizabeth Sneddon know if you will be able to help.

Remember, these Guild sponsored sales are how we raise money to support our Missions outside the US and Mary’s Kitchen. How will you help?

OUTREACH DINNER

On Friday, September 13th at 7:00pm, St. Martha’s Guild will be hosting an Outreach Dinner at the Edlin’s home. We are planning a wonderful night of dinner and entertainment. Seating is limited so you must reserve your seat in advance. The ticket price is \$20.00. All proceeds go to our Outreach Charities.

Watch for flyers in the narthex!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

During the summer, St. Martha's Guild is collecting items for Mary's Kitchen, a local all volunteer organization helping the needy and homeless in our area.



Toiletries and new or gently used towels are being collected for the homeless men, women and children who depend on Mary's Kitchen for help. Examples of needed toiletries are: shampoo, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, disposable razors, shaving cream, lotion etc.



Please drop off your contributions in the narthex. Bins are provided for your donations.

If you have any questions, please ask Eve or Violet. Thank you for your support for this wonderful outreach opportunity.



CRAFTY KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

Our Crafty Knitters group has expanded to include crocheting, and any other sewing project you might want to share. Gather your knitting needles, crochet hooks and join us for an afternoon of great fun and lots of chatter. This is a great group to join if you want to learn how to knit/crochete.



Mark your calendar and attend our next gathering on **Sunday, August 18th** following the 10:00am Mass and each 3rd Sunday after that. Bring a sack lunch and join us as we learn to knit and crochet.

If you have any questions, please give Robin Morsk a call.

PATRONAL BBQ

If you were not able to attend our annual Patronal BBQ held on July 21st, you missed a fantastic, fun-filled afternoon!!



Thank you to all who showed up on Saturday evening to set-up the shade tents in our parking lot.

Thank you to those who helped after the 8:00am mass setting out tables and chairs, and starting the BBQs.

Thank you to everyone who organized the activities for the children and the wonderful musical entertainment for the adults.

Thank you to the men who slaved over the hot BBQs, and to all who cooked up a storm preparing the wonderful food to eat.

And, thank you to the hearty souls who stuck around after the day's events to put everything away.

The congregation truly came together as we celebrated our patron saint, Saint Mary Magdalene.

PATRIOTIC ANTHEM

One Sunday, July 6th during Communion, our choir sang a beautiful rendition of America the Beautiful. It was a wonderful way to end the Fourth of July festivities celebrating the 237th birthday of our country.



SUPPER CLUB

*You're
Invited*

Each month, a parishioner is invited to plan a "night out on the town" for their fellow churchgoers. This is a great way to get to know your church family in a casual atmosphere.

The Supper Club host or hostess plans an excursion to a restaurant or an evening in their own home. You then set out a sign-up sheet in the narthex and make reservations if needed. Remember to bring your wallet because the evenings are "Dutch Treat."

Barbara Taylor is the new coordinator of our Supper Club. If you have any questions or want help in planning an outing, please give her a call.

On Tuesday, August 13th at 7:00pm, Lou and Karen Carlson are hosting a dinner at Fitness Pizza & Grill at 18246 Imperial Hwy, Yorba Linda.

Thank you to Mary Jo Osborn for planning our evening at the Green Parrot in July.

Come and bring your friends and family and enjoy a night out on the town!

WEDNESDAY MASS & HEALING SERVICE

Father Neil celebrates a Mass and Healing Service each week on Wednesday morning at 9:00am. This is a wonderful mid-week Mass to add to your schedule. The Healing Service takes place at the end of the Mass, with those wanting to participate approaching the altar rail for the Anointing of the Sick.

Anointing of the Sick

THINGS GOD WON'T ASK ON THAT DAY



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Kindly sent in by Reverend Lewis

- God won't ask what kind of car you drove. He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- God won't ask the square footage of your house. He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet. He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
- God won't ask what your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
- God won't ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- God won't ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
- God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived. He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
- God won't ask about the color of your skin. He'll ask about the content of your character.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

Many Christians make use of the sign of the Cross in both public and private devotions. They *cross* or 'bless' themselves, in common parlance. This action is done by touching with the tips of the fingers of the right hand the forehead, chest center, and left and right shoulders to form a cross. It is not to be done with a flourish or ostentatiously, but with reverence.



This act is indeed primarily an act of reverence. It has several meanings or purposes, perhaps varying somewhat with the particular moment at which it is used. It is an outward and public confession that one is a Christian. It signifies one's commitment to the faith. It invokes God's blessing on the worshipper. Again, it may have a very incidental use as a way of keeping one's mind on the service as it progresses!

Individual practices vary and there is no absolute rule or standard. In general, the sign of the Cross is made at the final words of the Apostles' or Nicene Creeds, at the final words of the *Gloria in excelsis*, at the word, 'pardon,' in the declaration of absolution by the priest, whenever the Trinity is invoked, when kneeling down to pray upon entering a church (because the worshipper usually opens his private devotions with the words, 'In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost'), at the invocation of the Trinity at the benediction, when concluding one's private prayers at the end of the service, at Grace before meals, and at various other times as customary or desired.

Making the sign of the Cross is in no way

commanded or required by the Anglican Church. It is strictly an act of personal devotion, done solely by choice of the individual. It is an ancient sign, in use from earliest times. Its use is not the possession of any particular Christian body. Many Christians find it personally helpful and see it as a proud, if quiet, acknowledgment of their Faith.

ALL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP



Join the men of St. Mary Magdalene Parish in the narthex. Each **2nd Sunday is a business meeting. The 3rd Sunday is a Book Discussion.** Both Sundays begin at 11:30am. Currently, we are reading R.C. Sproul's book "The Holiness of God."

Our special thanks to the men who continue to support the Group by joining their activities.

FOURTH SUNDAY BRUNCH

Every Fourth Sunday, our church family has brunch together at 11:45am. This is a great way to get to know other church members. Everyone always has a wonderful time visiting with each other and of course

partaking of the delicious food!



July's brunch was held at Café Lucca's Restaurant in Old Towne Orange. Twenty-two of us piled into the patio area and ate delicious marscapone stuffed French toast, panini's and other wonderful dishes.

Watch the Sunday bulletins for information about upcoming brunches. If you have any questions about our brunches or suggestions for future outings, please give Elizabeth Sneddon a call.

**ST. MARTHA'S
WOMEN'S GUILD**

St. Martha's Women's Guild meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month after the 10:00am Mass. All women of the parish are members and are encouraged to attend.



If you want to get involved in the church or just know how church activities operate, come join us.

**Next Guild Meeting
August 11th**



COMMUNITY GROUPS

The following community groups meet regularly at St. Mary Magdalene.

Al-Anon

Friends and Families of Problem Drinkers
Monday evenings at 7:30pm
Saturday evenings at 7:00pm

CHADD

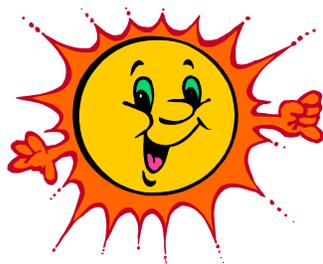
Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Third Monday evening at 7:30pm

Orange County Fictionaires

Critique Group for Professional Writers
1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Orange Fiction Writers

Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm



**BIRDS-ON-A-WIRE
LUNCH GROUP**

If you are interested in a time of fellowship and lively conversation, bring a sack lunch and join us in the Parish Hall the **first Sunday of the month** after the 10:00am mass. There is no schedule of planned topics to be discussed, nor is there a book to be studied, just plenty of spirited discussions and lots of fellowship. For more information, please see Father Neil.



Our next gathering will be on Sunday, September 1st.

MAGDALENE ADVERTISEMENTS

Each month the Magdalene is mailed to parishioners, distributed around town, and mailed to senior citizen centers and selected homes in Orange, Santa Ana and Garden Grove.

This mailing is made possible by our faithful advertisers. Without their help, we would be unable to reach the multitude of people that get to know us through this outreach effort.

St. Mary Magdalene Church invites you to promote your business with an advertisement in our monthly newsletter.

Our yearly distribution is more than 2,400 newsletters mailed to homes in Orange, Santa Ana, Huntington Beach and various surrounding cities.

To reserve your space contact:
Fr. Neil Edlin at (714) 532-2420 or
info@stmarymagdaleneacc.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Mass & Healing Service –

9:00am Wednesdays

Bible Study – Wednesdays 6:30pm

4 – Birds on a Wire Lunch Group

7 – Vestry Meeting 7:15pm (date change)

11 – St. Martha’s Guild/Men’s Group

13 – Supper Club 7:00pm

18 – Crafty Knitters / Men’s Group

25 – 4th Sunday Brunch



SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Mass & Healing Service –

9:00am Wednesdays

Bible Study – Wednesdays 6:30pm

1 – Birds on a Wire Lunch Group

8 – St. Martha’s Guild / Men’s Group

10 – Supper Club at 7:00pm (dark)

11 – Patriot’s Day (Service will be held on the 15th)

13 – Outreach Dinner at 7:00pm

15 – Crafty Knitters / Men’s Group

21 – NEW2YOU Sale

22 – Fourth Sunday Brunch

27 – Coffee Jam

COFFEE HOUR TREATS

Aug 4 - Carlson

11 – Coykendall

18 - Craig

25 – Di Filippo

Sept 1 – Dunstone

8 – Edlin

15 – Hickey

22 – Holmes / Fuller

29 – Kollin



Please plan on setting out treats at 8:30am and cleaning up after the 11:15 social time. Be sure to switch with someone else if you are unable to take your Sunday. **Don’t forget you’re in charge of cleanup as well as treats!**

ALTAR FLOWERS / SANCTUARY LIGHT

Altar Flowers Sanctuary Light

Aug 4

11

18

25 Burgess

If you are interested in “giving” one of these for a future Sunday, please sign up in the Flower and Candle binder in the narthex of the church.



Flowers of Orange has a new owner who has reduced our cost for the flowers. **We’ve lowered our suggested donation to \$30 for flowers & \$12 for the light**, but feel free to give what you are able. Mark flowers / candles on your check and place it in the offering basket during Mass.

**Visitors are
always welcome.
Join us!**

