



PARISH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Gather to Worship, Sent to Serve

**St Paul's Glenrothes, St Mary's Leslie, & Chapel Royal Falkland
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20 JULY 2025 – 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mission Statement: The parish of St. Mary Magdalene is a Catholic community of Christian faith with three churches – Saint Paul's in Glenrothes, Saint Mary's in Leslie and the Chapel Royal in Falkland. We are centred on the Word of God and the Eucharist.

Our mission is to live the Gospel and share it with those we meet. We are a welcoming and inclusive community of prayerful disciples, using our gifts for the glory of God and in service to one another and our neighbours. We are committed to do this now and in the future through:

- Worship and prayer
- Service to others
- Continuous faith formation, striving to engage all parishioners
- Stewardship, seeking to build a better world - our common home- for future generations
- Building our faith community

Hospitality to travellers was of paramount importance in ancient times. Roadside diners and service stations did not exist, let alone air-conditioned cars. So Abraham immediately provides water, food, and cool shade to these three strangers. To have failed to do so would have meant that these folks could have become ill or even died before they reached their destination. However, for Abraham and Sarah, treating these travelling strangers as guests to be served is also an act of faith in God's presence in others. They discover that God is manifested when one reaches out in kindness, in mercy, in hospitality to strangers in need. We may not discover God's presence in such a clear-cut way, but we may find God manifested in subtle ways when we welcome the stranger.

Mary has every right to be overwhelmed when her sister welcomes Jesus into their home. Here is the Messiah himself, sitting at their table. She is transfixed by his every word, probably not even noticing that Martha is

doing all the work. Poor Martha! She is the conscientious one, doing all the serving and cleaning up and anything else that needed to be done for their guest. Tired and overworked, she can't help but complain and now Jesus seems to be siding with her lazy sister. But Jesus is aware of Mary's need right there right now to give him her undivided attention, not unlike his closest disciples. Long after all the dishes are washed and put away, and long after all of Martha's worries and anxieties are past, Mary's experience of sitting at the Lord's feet and glorying in his presence will stay with her. Truly she has chosen the better part, for she has chosen with her heart.

But don't give up on Martha! The next time we encounter Mary and Martha, when their beloved brother Lazarus had just died, it is Martha who makes one of the most powerful proclamations in the entire Gospels when Jesus asks her if she believes that he is the resurrection: "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world" (Jn 11:27). Somehow in between all her cooking and serving and cleaning, Martha absorbed what Jesus said and who he is and is able to confess her faith at one of the most traumatic points of her life. Sometimes we don't realize the faith we've internalized until much later.

Question of the Week: How am I hospitable to others in need of food or rest, or just some companionship? How can I see the Lord in such hospitality?

Sunday 20 July

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m. in St Mary's (Sr Mary Lewis DW – anniversary)

9 a.m. Mass in Chapel Royal

10.40 a.m. Rosary at St. Paul's

11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Paul's (People of the Parish)

Readings: Gen 18:1-10; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42

Monday 21 July

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Ex 14:5-18; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday 22 July - *Feast of St Mary Magdalene, patron of our parish*

7 p.m. Mass in St Mary's followed by refreshments at Romero House.

Readings: Song 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Wednesday 23 July – *Feast of St Bridget of Sweden (1303-73), wife and mother of 8, who on widowhood dedicated her life to the care of the poor and hospitality*

Divine Mercy devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass

Readings: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Mt 13:1-9

Thursday 24 July

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

6 p.m. Reception at St Paul's

Readings: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20; Mt 13:10-17

Friday 25 July – *Feast of St James, apostle*

12.30 p.m. Funeral Mass in St Paul's followed by burial in St Drostan's Cemetery.

Readings: 2Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

Saturday 26 July – *Memorial of St Joachim and St Anne, parents of Our Lady*

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass and at 5.30 p.m. in St Mary's

Readings: Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30

Sunday 27 July – *17th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m. in St Mary's (People of the Parish)

9 a.m. Mass in Chapel Royal (Private Intention)

10.40 a.m. Rosary at St. Paul's

11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Paul's

Readings: Gen 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

Deanery Holy Year Events: On the last Sunday of every month there will be a special hour of prayer held at the Carmelite Convent, Hot Pot Wynd, Dysart from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m.

We have postponed walking the Fife Pilgrim Way in stages until the 6 Saturdays between 30 August and 4 October.

Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic? After the summer holidays we hope to begin again group meetings to explore the Catholic faith. Fr Philip will be happy to have a chat with anyone about this.

Across Group Bingo Tea takes place on Saturday 26 July in St Paul's hall between 2 and 4 p.m. All welcome!

Coffee morning fundraiser: Saturday 2 August between 10.30am & 12.30pm in Romero House. Tickets, which include refreshments are £2 pp or £5 per family. See posters in churches for further details.

Youth Ministry We plan to begin a group for our young people (P7+) – we shall have an initial gathering for a barbecue on Thursday 7 August at 7 p.m. at St Paul's. Leaders will meet this Thursday at 7 p.m. in the church house.

Summer School this will take place on Monday & Tuesday 11 & 12 August. More details later.

Glenrothes Community Fire Station A public meeting to discuss future plans is being held this Monday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Studio 8, Church Street. Register at SFRS.PublicInvolvement@firescotland.gov.uk; tel 07747827283

World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly A national Mass is being celebrated next Sunday at 3 p.m. in St Francis Xavier's, Carfin.

Peace Vigil against nuclear weapons led by Scottish church leaders is being held at Faslane on Saturday 2 August at 10.30 a.m.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage This takes place with flights from Glasgow between 24 September and 1 October costing £780 (£150 single room supplement) including breakfast and dinner. More information on notice in church porches or email roger.fostersenior@gmail.com

Sick List We pray for the sick in our parish community and family and friends who are ill.

Last Sunday's Collection £648.32; Building Fund £198.02 (£2929 is being received monthly through standing orders for the Sunday collection and £694 for the Building Fund.) **Special collection** next Sunday for Retired Clergy of the archdiocese.

Buy a Brick – St Paul's perimeter wall If you have not so far obtained a form, they are available at the back of our churches. There has been a great response so far. The total raised so far is **£3340.00**. Well done!