



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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11 FEBRUARY 2024 - 6TH 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

The strictures announced in the first reading from the book of Leviticus were sensible for their time, for even then people realized that the skin disease they referred to as leprosy was quite contagious. If a person with symptoms ate, socialized, and lived with others, the whole community was at risk. Because the scabs and sores were both obvious and unsightly, people concluded that those with the disease were being punished by God. Therefore, they must be sinful and impure. Between contagion and impurity, they were best kept outside the community. Because they were being punished by God (or so they believed), only God could heal them.

This brings us to the leper in today's Gospel. The leper recognized Jesus for more than a healer, for a healer could only cure an illness. The leper specifically asked to be made clean. He wanted God's punishment to be removed. He wanted the barrier between him and the community to be removed. Jesus removed that barrier the moment he touched him, bridging the gap between

community and outcast, even before healing him. In touching the man, Jesus would have been considered to have made himself impure. But far from making himself less than whole, he is making the community whole by restoring the leper to it.

Jesus challenges us to do the same, to break down the barriers that keep us apart, that keep some excluded from the community. He challenges us to be unafraid of reaching out to those with whom we feel uncomfortable coming into contact. In the second reading Paul called upon the Corinthians to imitate him, as he imitates Christ. Though he was Jewish, Paul reached out to Gentiles from Jerusalem to the ends of the known world, bringing all of them into this new religion as full members. This is the inclusivity we are called to imitate in our families, our communities, our nation, and our world.

Question of the Week : Who can I reach out to in order to help make my family/community/world whole. How can I go about doing so?

Sunday 11 February

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m. in St Mary's

9 a.m. Mass in Chapel Royal (People of the Parish)

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

11.30 a.m. Mass in St. Paul's (Special intention)

1.30 p.m. Baptism in St Paul's

Readings: Lev 13:1-2.44-46; 1Cor 10:21 – 11:1; Mk 1:40-45

Monday 12 February

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday 13 February

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday 14 February – Ash Wednesday (Day of Fast and Abstinence)

Divine Mercy Devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Private Intention)

Confessions after Mass

12.30 p.m. Mass in Chapel Royal (Private Intention)

7 p.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Joel 2:12-18; 2Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-6,16-18

Thursday 15 February

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday 16 February

Day of Prayer for those who have Suffered Abuse

7.30 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 8.30 a.m.

Readings: Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday 17 February

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Sick Person)

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

Readings: Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday 18 February – 1st Sunday of Lent

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 9:8-15; 1Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

UCM: There will be NO meeting on Wednesday 21 February. Next meeting will be Wednesday 4 March.

The Chosen (Series 2) There will be no session this Wednesday, but we shall resume on Wednesday 21 February at 7 p.m. in St Paul's hall. Come along and discover fresh insights into the gospels.

First Confession and Confirmation: A Parents' meeting will take place on Tuesday 27 February at 7pm in St Paul's Church Hall.

Parish Family Party This is being held this Sunday from 2 to 4.30 p.m. in St Paul's hall. Tickets: £5.00 per family.

Lent Workshops on Old Testament will take place on the Tuesdays of Lent from 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. in the Nazareth Room, Leslie – we shall look at the context of the passage used on the previous Sunday.

Lent Retreat in Daily Life This is being offered by the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre beginning next Sunday and ending on Sunday 24 March. Participants are asked to commit to a daily 20/30 minute period of prayer and to meet weekly with a prayer guide. For more information email ejcretreats@jesuit.org.uk

The Union of Catholic Mothers invite parishioners to a Saint Patrick's afternoon with entertainment, tea and home baking in St Paul's Hall on Wednesday 20th March from 2 to 4 pm.

Scottish Laity Network is holding online sessions during Lent on the theme of synodality. This Thursday at 7 p.m. Bishop Brian Magee will speak about *Synod and Hopes for Scotland*. More details at www.scottishlaitynetwork.org.uk

Lenten calendars with suggestions for a daily activity are available at the back of our churches. **SCIAF** boxes are also available so that we can support the needy of our world. SCIAF (in conjunction with CAFOD its English equivalent) is encouraging us to walk 5km a day as a fundraising initiative. And if we walk instead of using our cars, we shall be helping the environment. If interested in taking part, take a sponsor sheet from the back of the churches.

Bishops' Conference Interreligious dialogue committee is holding a 24 hour colloquium on *The role of interreligious experience in interreligious dialogue* from Friday 23 to Saturday 24 February at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. More information at www.interreligiousdialogue.org.uk/colloquium

Youth2000 Arise Retreat is being held for young adults (18-35) at St Albert's, 24 George Square, Edinburgh on Saturday 24 February from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is £15 (includes lunch and dinner) Register at www.youth2000.org/events/Edinburgh

Sick List We pray for the sick in our parish community and family and friends who are ill. Please contact the office on 01592 756758 if you would like someone's name added or removed.

Last Sunday's Collection £614.48 Building Fund £225.99 **Special collection** next Sunday for retired clergy.