



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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7 DECEMBER 2025 – 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

In the story of creation, God created animals of all kinds: birds of the sky, fish in the waters, wild and tame animals on land. God looked at it all and pronounced it good. No mention is made of wild animals preying on smaller animals or any two animals attacking each other. The garden of Eden was a paradise. In order to portray the effect of a Messiah coming to Judah, Isaiah recalls the harmonious interactions of animals in Eden. This is God's plan of coexistence among the myriad species of beasts. This is God's peaceable kingdom. This is a model of the kind of kingdom Isaiah prophesies, John proclaims, and Jesus presents.

Let us now reimagine the animals as people. We think of the different natures, behaviours, and instincts of animals, and the same can be true of people. People have many various faults, traits, habits, and personalities. How can we reconcile them all in such a way that all eight billion of us can live together in peace? This continues to be a challenge, but Jesus has given us

a road map. Turn the other cheek, forgive each other, love your neighbour, care for the least of your brothers and sisters. If we can see Jesus in the faces of those in need, we can see the kingdom when we serve them.

The harmony among the animals portrayed by Isaiah is recalled when Paul speaks to the Romans, asking that God may "grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus" (Rom 15:5). It can be a great challenge to think in harmony with others, even with just other members of our families. But if all are truly thinking in harmony with the Lord, agreement can be found. Importantly, it requires honesty, humility, and guidance from the Holy Spirit. May we take the time and make the effort to increase the harmony of the world.

Question of the Week How can my family live together more harmoniously? What can I do to help make this happen?

Sunday 7 December

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

Readings: Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday 8 December – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Gen 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday 9 December

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with guided Advent prayer in St Paul's from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.

Readings: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday 10 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass

Readings: Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday 11 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday 12 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 11 a.m.

Readings: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday 13 December - Memorial of St Lucy (283-304), martyred in Sicily

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

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

Readings: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9, 10-13

Sunday 14 December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

9 a.m. Mass in Chapel Royal (Sick Person)

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

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

Readings: Is 35:1-6, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Advent, the beginning of a new Christian year, is an opportunity to renew how we live our faith. This year let us try to develop a spirit of prayer before Mass by refraining from unnecessary conversation. Let us also refrain from the selling of raffle tickets etc. until Mass ends.

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

Toy Sunday The Salvation Army will collect donations of toys on Monday 15 December. If you would like to donate something, please bring it along to Mass next weekend.

Youth Group (P7+) meets on Thursday from 7 to 8.30 p.m. in St Paul's hall.

Advent Study Group This continues on Tuesday at 10.30 a.m. in St Paul's hall, when we shall watch and share on some themes from Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series *Catholicism*.

Glenrothes Churches Together Carol Singing takes place on Saturday from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the Kingdom Centre outside Rothes Hall.

Across Group Bingo Tea takes place on Saturday in St Paul's Church Hall at 2 p.m. All welcome!

Christian Initiation of Children The next preparation rite for children preparing for First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation will be next Sunday at 11.30 a.m. Mass. Please bring along your child's baptismal candle.

East Fife Ladies Choir will be performing at St Paul's Church Hall next Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets (£3 pp) will be on sale after Mass.

Leslie Baptist Church invite us to join them next Sunday at 5 p.m. for a carol service.

Parish Christmas cards: This year we will again give parishioners the opportunity to send one card to our whole parish congregation instead of handing out individual cards. Again there will be a box for donations to The Food Bank in St. Paul's and Chapel Royal, and Peace'n'Jam in St. Mary's. Boards and donation boxes will be available from the weekend of 6th/7th December.

Advent Carol Service will be held in Chapel Royal on Wednesday 17 December at 7 p.m. when we will be joined by members of the local church of Scotland parish.

Advent Penitential Service will be held on Thursday 18 December at 7 p.m. in St Mary's. Fr Gabriel Emeasoba from St Agatha's and Fr Simon Hughes from Dysart will join us to assist with confessions. This Tuesday at 6 p.m. there is a penitential service at St Agatha's, Methil.

Christmas Masses Mass of Christmas Night in St Mary's at 9 p.m. on Wednesday 24 December; Christmas Dawn Mass at 9 a.m. in Chapel Royal; Christmas Day Mass at 11 a.m. in St Paul's

Archdiocesan Directory for 2026 is available at the back of our churches (£3)

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

Last Sunday's Collection £589.45; Building Fund £211.09 (£2929 is being received monthly through standing orders for the Sunday collection and £694 for the Building Fund.)

Buy a Brick – St Paul's perimeter wall If you have not so far obtained a donation form, they are available at the back of our churches. Alternatively, if you have a smartphone and would like to make a donation please scan the QR code in the church foyers or on our website **Over £10,000.00** has been raised so far. **THANK YOU.**