



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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26 OCTOBER 2025 – 30TH 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

By external signs the Pharisee is a laudable person. He fasts, he gives alms, he visits the temple and prays. In other words, he practices the three traditional works of Jewish faith. But his self-righteous attitude puts him in the wrong relationship with God. He has no sense of needing God for anything. He doesn't thank God for the grace to be a good person but with disdain for people who sin. That the Pharisee "spoke this prayer to himself" could merely mean he is not speaking it aloud, but it is also the case that he's addressing himself more than God (Lk 18:11). He seems to be patting himself on the back more than thanking God with sincere gratitude. When we become too full of ourselves, too convinced that we are the reason for our own goodness, we forget our own humanity. We forget that we are flawed creatures in need of forgiveness and mercy.

Tax collectors at this time were generally regarded as collaborators and thieves. They collected taxes imposed by the Roman government and often padded their

income by extorting more than what their neighbours really owed. No wonder they were despised, especially by pious people like the Pharisee. But at least the tax collector in the parable is self-aware. He recognizes his sinfulness. He trusts that God's mercy is stronger than his sin. We are not told what he did once he returned home. Perhaps he stopped extorting his fellow citizens. Perhaps he paid back his ill-gotten gains. Perhaps he resigned his position. But Jesus tells us that just by virtue of his simple, honest plea to God, he became justified and would be exalted.

It is ironic that the Pharisee contrasted himself to "the rest of humanity" (Lk 18:11), for this is exactly whom Jesus came to save. In fact, it is for the sake of sinners that Jesus became poor, humbling himself to share in our humanity. The Pharisee's attitude leads him to place himself above God, unable to "pierce the clouds" with his prayer (Sir 35:17).

Question of the Week In what senses am I poor, in need of God's grace? Do I recognize this poverty when I pray?

Sunday 26 October

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

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

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

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

Readings: Sir 35:15-17, 20-22; 2Tim 4:6-8; 16 – 18; Lk 18:9-14

Monday 27 October

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Rom 8:12-17; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday 28 October – Feast of SS Simon and Jude, apostles

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

Readings: Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday 29 October

Divine Mercy devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass

Readings: Rom 8:26-30; Lk 13:22-30

Thursday 30 October**10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's**

Readings: Rom 8:31 – 39; Lk 13:31-35

Friday 31 October**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's**

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

Readings: Rom 9:1-5; Lk 14:1-6

Saturday 1 November**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Private Intention)**

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

Readings: Rom 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-29; Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday 2 November – Solemnity of All Saints
(transferred from 1 November)

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: Rev 7:2-4, 9-14; 1Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12

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. This Sunday the theme will be Our Lady,

All Souls Day (Commemoration of all the faithful departed) is being kept on Monday 3 November, and we shall have Mass that day at 7 p.m. in St Mary's, remembering especially all from our parish who died over this last year.

Youth Group (P7+) resumes meetings after the school holidays this Thursday from 7 to 8.30 p.m. in St Paul's hall. Leaders will meet on Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in the church house.

Pastoral Council meets on Tuesday 4 November at 7 p.m. in the church house.

Mass for the Sick This will be held on Saturday 8 November at 1 p.m. in St Paul's at which we will celebrate the sacrament of Anointing. Communion ministers should inform those they visit about this Mass and encourage them to come, if able. After Mass there will be light refreshments in the hall – for catering purposes please put names on the sheet at the back of our churches.

The Chosen We continue watching Series 5 depicting the events connected with the original Holy week on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in St Paul's hall.

Sacramental Initiation of Children On Tuesday 11 November at 7 p.m. in St Paul's hall there will be a meeting for the parents of children who want to make first confession, first communion or be confirmed in 2026.

Pilgrim of Hope This one man play written and performed by Stephen Callaghan of the Archdiocese of Glasgow arts project will be performed on Sunday 23 November at 2.30 p.m. in St Paul's hall. The play has been written for the Holy Year which has Hope as its main theme and is an opportunity for us to reflect on the meaning of hope in our lives as Christian. The play lasts an hour, and after tea/coffee will be an opportunity to share and ask questions. Tickets are on sale after Mass (£10/7/5 – pay what you can). Please support this inter-parish event for the Holy Year.

Parish Christmas Fayre is on 29 November in St Paul's hall. Raffle tickets available from the Fundraising & Social Team this week, with some fantastic prizes.

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

Last Sunday's Collection £623.40; Missio £720.10 (£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 form, they are available at the back of our churches. **£5273.00** has been raised so far.