



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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8 MARCH 2026 – 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

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 God we encounter in the Torah does not hesitate to punish those who disobey or break the commandments. When the Chosen People complain to Moses, accusing him of bringing them to the desert to die of thirst, and Moses complains to God, God could have made them pay for their insolence. But instead God quenches their thirst by taking a rock as hard as their hearts appear to be and imbuing it with flowing water. Similarly, Jesus does not shame the woman for her many marriages or her current lifestyle, but offers her living water, water that within her will well up to eternal life. Paul points out that Jesus went on to die for us on the cross while we were still sinners, saving us rather than condemning us. May we realize that the life-giving water we receive in baptism is a gift most undeserved.

When one takes the time to engage someone else in conversation beyond idle chit-chat or cocktail party banter, both parties invariably end up revealing something about themselves that neither saw coming.

Witness the dialogue between Jesus and the woman in today's Gospel. This happens to be the lengthiest conversation Jesus has with an individual in the Gospels. When they first address each other, the woman just wants to fill her jar with water and Jesus just wants a drink. But by the end, the woman has confirmed that Jesus told her everything she had done and Jesus has revealed himself as the source of living water and the Messiah. When she leaves the well, Jesus knows her as well as she knows herself and she knows who he is even more than his own disciples seemingly do at this point.

Little by little Jesus uncovers the woman's character. She is a Samaritan of strong faith, worshipping on the mountain where Jacob dug the well they have used for centuries. She has had a chequered married life, with five husbands in the past and now living with a man who is not her husband. She recognizes Jesus first as a prophet and then as the Messiah whom they have all been awaiting anxiously. May we recognize the springs of water that we have within us that give us whatever we need to satisfy our spiritual thirst.

Question of the Week: How can the life-giving water I received in baptism flow through me to quench the thirst of others in need?

Sunday 8 March

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: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

Monday 9 March

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Stations of the Cross after Mass

Readings: 2Kgs 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday 10 March – *Feast of St John Ogilvie (1580-1615), Jesuit priest martyred in Glasgow*

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

7 p.m. Guided prayer at St Paul's until 8 p.m. – drop by for as long as you want

Readings: Is 50:5-9 Jn 12:24-26

Wednesday 11 March

Divine Mercy Devotions at 9.30 a.m.

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

Confessions after Mass

Stations of the Cross in St Mary's at 7 p.m. (reflecting on the pictures from El Salvador)

Readings: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday 12 March

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

Friday 13 March

7.30 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Special Intention)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 8.30.am.

Readings: Hos 14:1-9; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday 14 March

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with prayers for families and healing after Mass

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

Readings: Hos 6:1-6 Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 15 March - 4th 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

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

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

Readings: 1Sam 16:1, 6-7.10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Coptic Church Visit takes place this Sunday at 2 p.m.

Meet at the church in Inks Street, Kirkcaldy.

Lent Study – Bishop Barron's *Catholicism*: We shall continue watching this in Romero House on Tuesdays after Mass – this week's topic is *Mary, Mother of God*

Youth Group (P7+) is taking a break for Lent and will resume on Thursday 23 April at 7 p.m. in St Paul's hall.

Children's Liturgy We are looking for new members to join the team. If you are interested, please speak to Jennifer Ripley or contact the office.

Summer School: (3rd & 4th August – St Paul's Hall.)

We are looking for volunteers to help at this year's Summer School on one or both days. If you are able to help, please speak to Jennifer Ripley or Lisa Bray or contact the office.

Parents Confirmation meeting takes place in St Paul's hall on Tuesday 10 March at 7 p.m.

Passover Meal will take place on Friday 20 March at 7 p.m. in Romero House. Tickets (£12 per adult, children free, inc wine/soft drinks) will be available this weekend.

Penitential Service with individual confession and absolution will take place in St Paul's on Thursday 26 March at 7 p.m. Some of our children will be celebrating this sacrament for the first time at this service.

Lent Retreat Evening: This will be held in St Paul's on Friday 27 March from 5 to 8.30 p.m. led by Fr Shyju Naduvathaniyil from Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries.

Tabletop sale of clothes, knitting and home baking will take place in St Paul's hall on Saturday 21 March from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feel free to drop in after Mass.

Glenrothes Food Bank thanks all Parishioners who are making regular donations to their organisation. This is making a huge difference to what can be offered in the community.

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

Last Sunday's Collection £632.21; Building Fund £149.61. (£2929 is being received monthly through standing orders for the Sunday collection and £694 for the Building Fund.) **Special Collection** next Sunday for Papal & Episcopal Charities. (75% to SCIAF)

Gift Aid Envelopes: Please pick up your new Offertory & Building Fund envelopes which are now available to collect from your Church foyer.

200 Club: This year's report will be issued next weekend. Please pick up a copy from your Church foyer.

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. **£17,774.09** has been raised so far. **THANK YOU.**