



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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4 FEBRUARY 2024 – 5TH 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

In the first reading this weekend we hear an excerpt from the book of Job whose life has become a drudgery, restless nights followed by forgettable days. Every evening he ends his day without hope. He has no confidence that his life will change. A couple of weeks ago we heard Jesus call Andrew and Simon. They abandoned their nets of drudgery and followed Jesus to a brand-new life. Today we see Jesus enter Simon's mother-in-law's house, where she lay in bed ill. His healing touch leads to her a new life, a life of ministry to her fellow disciples. Often we feel as Job did, stuck in a rut and despairing of our misfortune. May we instead find hope in Christ, as his first disciples did, allowing him to guide us to a life of service, a life with purpose, a life for the kingdom.

Interestingly, the Greek word *egeiro*, which Mark uses to describe how Jesus raised Simon's mother-in-law out of bed, is used in a slightly different form by the angel who greets the women at the tomb when they come to anoint Jesus' body. Recall that Mark wrote his Gospel long after Jesus' death and resurrection. It would appear that Mark intentionally used the same word the angel did to describe

what Jesus did here. Jesus is truly raising her to a new life, a life of ministry to and for others. Often we just have to learn things by ourselves. Sometimes it is because we're unsure if we can trust the person who is teaching us. Sometimes it is because what we are told seems unbelievable. But often it is simply because we learn better when we figure it out on our own. In today's Gospel, Mark says that Jesus did not permit the demons he drove out to speak "because they knew who he was" (1:34). Later we will hear again and again that despite following him for a long period of time, the disciples still misunderstood who Jesus was. They only learn little by little over time. Perhaps Jesus realized he had to wait patiently for his disciples to gradually learn who he was. What the demons could have revealed would not have enabled true learning.

Question of the Week: How do I best learn more deeply about Jesus?

Sunday 4 February

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 (Private Intention)

Readings: Job 7:1-4,6-7; 1Cor 9:16-19,22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Monday 5 February – Memorial of St Agatha (231-251), martyred in Sicily

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

Readings: 1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday 6 February – Memorial of St Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs in Japan at the end of 16th century

10 a.m. Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion in St Mary's

Readings: 1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday 7 February

Divine Mercy Devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion in St Paul's

Readings: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday 8 February

10 a.m. Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion in St Mary's

Readings: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30

Friday 9 February

10 a.m. Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion in St Paul's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11 a.m.

Readings: 1 Kgs 11:29-32;12:19; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday 10 February – Memorial of St Scholastica (480-543), sister of St Benedict

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

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

Readings: 1Kgs 12:26-32;13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10

Sunday 11 February – 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

The Chosen (Series 2) We continue watching this on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in St Paul's hall – same format as before. 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 will be held next Sunday from 2 to 4.30 p.m. in St Paul's hall. Sign up on sheets in church porches. Tickets: £5.00 per family.

Monday Community group begins again this Monday at 2pm in Romero House. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy some company, tea, coffee - and always cake!

Justice & Peace Scotland seeks to appoint a Campaigns, Communications and Events Co-ordinator working 24 hours a week. More information from jill.kent@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk Deadline for applications is Monday at 5 p.m.

Union of Catholic Mothers: There will be no meeting this Wednesday.

Lenten calendars with suggestions for a daily activity are available at the back of our churches. **SCIAF** boxes are also available.

200 Club Envelopes: Since April 2021 we have processed the 200 Club in line with the tax year from April to March. Envelopes for the tax year 2024/2025 will be available at the back of the church from March onwards with the first payments due in April. Parishioners who pay by monthly envelope should still have envelopes for February and March of this tax year. Those who pay by yearly standing order each January should continue to do so.

Ash Wednesday Mass 10 a.m. (St Paul's), 12.30 p.m. (Chapel Royal), 7 p.m. (St Mary's)

Valentine's Retreat This archdiocesan event for married/engaged couples is being held at St Kentigern's, Parkgrove Avenue, Edinburgh this Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. A crèche is available for primary school children. Register at bit.ly/valretreat

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

Last Sunday's Collection £570.31 Building Fund £219.69