



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 APRIL 2024 - 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

Listening to the first reading this Sunday one would have no idea how difficult it was to be a Christian in the first century. Christians were persecuted by the state, making it dangerous to publicly witness to one's faith. And yet, Saint Luke, the author of Acts, writes as if the early church was a sort of utopia, everyone sharing what they had and holding everything in common so that no one was in need. Perhaps the danger from outside led them to rely on each other all the more. Perhaps they attached less value to anything beyond the bare necessities because they were so concerned with staying alive. Or perhaps material goods did not hold much value because they expected the second coming was right around the corner. No matter the reason, they did more than share a common faith. They shared a common life.

In the gospel we hear that the disciples locked the doors of the upper room "for fear of the Jews" (Jn 20:19), but it may well be that they were afraid of more than the

religious authorities who had turned Jesus over to Pilate. After all, hadn't they all pretty much abandoned him at the end when he was in danger? No one was there to oppose the mob who chanted for his crucifixion. Peter had even denied him three times. An unfortunate Cyrenian had to help carry his cross. Perhaps what the disciples really feared was God's judgment. Mark admits that they were afraid after seeing the empty tomb. John says they didn't yet understand what "rising from the dead" meant. Perhaps when they began to understand, they feared that he would return disappointed in them or angry at them. But Jesus disarms them when he greets them, "Peace be with you" (20:19), repeating it as their fear turns to joy.

With these four words, Jesus forgives them, offering the divine mercy we celebrate today, as on every Sunday. When we say these four words to someone, be they close family or a casual acquaintance, we share that divine mercy with them, assuring them that in the risen Lord our hearts are at peace. They may have hurt us, we may have fought with them, we may have made it a point to avoid them, but with these four simple words we reconcile with them, extending the mercy that forgives past wrongs, realizing that God's mercy is showered on us all.

Question of the Week: In what way do I notice the gift of God's mercy today? To whom do I need to extend mercy?

Sunday 7 April

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

Divine Mercy Devotions at 3 p.m. in St Paul's

Readings: Acts 4:32-35; 1Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Monday 8 April – Solemnity of the Annunciation of our Lord

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday 9 April

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:1-15

Wednesday 10 April

Divine Mercy Devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass

12.30 p.m. Wedding Mass at Chapel Royal

Readings: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday 11 April – Memorial of St Stanislaus (1030-79), bishop of Cracow, killed by king Boleslaw whom he had reproved for immorality

10.30 a.m. Funeral Mass in St Mary's followed by cremation in Kirkcaldy.

Readings: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

Friday 12 April

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

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

Readings: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday 13 April

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Canon Andrew Monaghan RIP)

12.30 p.m. Wedding at St Paul's

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

Readings: Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday 14 April – 3rd Sunday of Easter

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

1.30 p.m. Baptism at St Paul's

Readings: Acts 3:13-15,17-19; 1Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48

RCIA: We shall resume weekly meetings at 7 p.m. this Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Romero House.

Pastoral Council meets on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the church house.

Confirmations The archbishop will be celebrating this sacrament on Friday 19 April at 7 p.m. in St Paul's.

Fundraising: The total raised for the Irish Night was £210.00. The total raised for the Passover Meal which will be donated to SCIAF was £164.00

200 Club: This year, from the profits, we will be donating £500 to the Church and £500 to the Across Group. Further information on the 200 Club will be available as a print out to collect from church in the next few weeks.

First Communion Catechesis for children not at St Paul's primary will begin on Sunday 21 April at 10.30 a.m. in St Paul's meeting room.

Chant as the Music of Faith Sir James McMillan will speak on this topic in St Mary's Cathedral on Tuesday 23 April at 7.30 p.m. Register at <https://bit.ly?StMarysM>

Across Group is running a Thrift Shop from Saturday 20 April to Friday 26 April between 10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. in Wellesley Road, Buckhaven.

Deeply Devoted A workshop on the rich history of Catholic devotions is taking place on Saturday 27 April at Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register at <https://bit.ly/deeplydevoted>

Assisted Suicide Please sign the online petition at www.carenotkilling.scot You can also watch on the archdiocesan YouTube channel "Euthanasia: A Warning from Canada"

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 £839.58 Building Fund £314.47