



## 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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## 17 AUGUST 2025 – 20<sup>TH</sup> 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

Jeremiah lived in a very difficult time for the kingdom of Judah. The kingdom was growing weaker and weaker. Eventually it would fall to the Babylonian army during the reign of King Zedekiah. Before that point Jeremiah saw the nation collapsing and identified two major evils: idolatry and injustice. He condemned the people for their unfaithfulness to the LORD, who saved them, and warned them of God's justice, which would lead to their nation's destruction. Naturally, the king and other leaders did not appreciate his negativity, going so far as to say that he was demoralizing the soldiers and therefore acting treasonously.

Interestingly, it is a foreigner who saves Jeremiah's life. Ebed-melech, a native of Ethiopia pressed into the service of the king, cannot stand to see this prophet starved to death. He speaks up courageously, not knowing if the king would accept the objections of a slave to something he allowed to happen. Here is an example

of the power of one voice speaking out for justice and mercy.

Weeks ago, we heard Jesus send the disciples out two by two to heal the sick, drive out demons, and attract disciples in his name. The disciples did so and returned to the Lord rejoicing. Jesus could be pleased that they had taken those lessons to heart so well. But on the other hand, they could not come to terms with his warning that he, the Messiah, would suffer greatly, be killed, and be raised on the third day. Today we hear Jesus challenge his disciples, sounding like he would wish it would happen already so that they might finally understand. He had, after all, been born into this world in order to suffer and die for it. The baptism he describes is his death, necessary for his resurrection, necessary for our redemption. Until this is all accomplished, his mission is incomplete, no matter how many are healed, comforted, or transformed.

**Question of the Week** When has something I've said or done in accordance with my faith divided family or friends? How have I handled this? Could I have handled it better?

### **Sunday 17 August**

**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**

Readings: Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 12:49-53

### **Monday 18 August**

**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's**

Readings: Judg 2:11-19; Mt 19:16-22

### **Tuesday 19 August**

**10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's**

Readings: Judg 6:11-24; Mt 19:23-30

**Wednesday 20 August** – *Memorial of St Bernard (1090-1153), born near Dijon, he entered the newly founded Cistercian monastery of Cîteaux, and inspired many to share in the monastic life*

Divine Mercy devotions at 9.30 a.m.

**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's**

Confessions after Mass

Readings: Judg 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16

**Thursday 21 August** – *Memorial of St Pius X (1835-1914), pope from 1903, who helped to promote a deeper appreciation of the liturgy*

**10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's**

Readings: Judg 11:29-39; Mt 22:1-14

**Friday 22 August** *Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's**

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

Readings: Ruth 1:1,3-8, 14-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40

**Saturday 23 August**

**10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's**

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

Readings: Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Mt 23:1-12

**Sunday 24 August** – *21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in 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**

3 p.m. Prayers in Leslie Cemetery

Readings: Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

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

**Fife Pilgrim Way** We shall be walking this in stages on the 6 Saturdays between 30 August and 4 October beginning each stage at 11 a.m. and reaching the destination between 2.30 & 3.30 p.m. An information sheet is available in the church porches. If interested in taking part, please put your name on the sheet in the church porch – this might enable people to travel together to the starting point. Fife Pilgrim Way Trust has issued a walk passport which can be stamped at various points – visit [www.fifecoastandcountrysidetrust.co.uk](http://www.fifecoastandcountrysidetrust.co.uk)

**Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic?** There will be an information meeting about what this involves on Tuesday 9 September at 7p.m. in Romero House, 35 North Street, Leslie. Fr Philip will be happy to have a chat with anyone about this.

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

**Children's Liturgy leaders** meet this Sunday at 12.30 p.m. at St Paul's

**Cemetery Sunday** This year we shall have prayers in all 3 main cemeteries within our parish as follows: 24 August at Leslie, 31 August at St Drostan's, Markinch, 7 September at Falkland. All services will begin at 3 p.m. where we shall pray for all buried in these cemeteries.

**Edinburgh Festival Fringe** Stephen Callaghan of the Archdiocese of Glasgow Arts project is performing *Pilgrim of Hope* each evening this week from Monday until next Sunday at 7.30 p.m. at Lauriston Halls, 28 Lauriston Street.

**Across Group** is holding a Charity Indian Night Meal in the Yak & Yeti, Kennoway on Tuesday 2 September from 7 to 9 p.m. (£17). Contact any member of the group.

**National Pilgrimage to Carfin** takes place on Sunday 7 September. A bus will leave St Paul's at 12.30 p.m. (£10). If interested, put your name on sheet in the porch.

**Assisted Suicide** This will be discussed in the House of Lords beginning on 12 September. For details on how to contact peers, please see information on the parish website.

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

**Last Sunday's Collection** £553.78; Building Fund £206.02 (£2929 is being received monthly through standing orders for the Sunday collection and £694 for the Building Fund.) **Special collection** this Sunday for African Missions and Holy Places

**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. £4420 has been raised so far.