



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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30 NOVEMBER 2025 – 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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 Chosen People must have wondered how "chosen" they really were, considering how much they had suffered in the generations since God promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars. Centuries of enslavement in Egypt, a perilous trek through the desert, multiple wars and battles defending their promised land, the fall to Babylon, and then fifty years in exile must have broken the faith of many. Not Isaiah's. He proclaims that "in days to come," God will reclaim the highest mountain in Judah, all peoples will lay down their arms and follow God's commands, and the Chosen People will once more "walk in the light of the LORD" (Is 2:2,5). This jubilee year we are reminded that we are pilgrims of hope. May we emulate Isaiah whose hope in God's eventual triumph over evil and strife never dimmed.

God could hardly be blamed for feeling similarly. These "chosen" people had turned away from God every time they faced difficulties, choosing sin instead. Again and again, Moses and the prophets had to remind the people of God's faithfulness and wrath. It was up to God to reconcile with this disobedient people repeatedly. But all this changes

when God chooses to send the Son to us. Jesus sacrifices himself to atone for our sinfulness for all time and offer the path to salvation. As Paul writes, "our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed" (Rom 13:11).

Jesus, who is our salvation, warns his disciples to be prepared always. Advent is our annual reminder to prepare for the day when he comes again, not just at the end of time, but at any time into our hearts and lives. As some will sing at Christmas: "let every heart prepare him room." May our hearts grow over the next four weeks in order to allow more and more of Jesus' love to enter in so that it may then overflow to all those we meet.

Question of the Week How can I prepare my heart this Advent to receive Jesus whenever he comes?

Sunday 30 November

Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m. in St Mary's (Private Intention)

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 (People of the Parish)

Readings: Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Monday 1 December – Solemnity of St Andrew, apostle, patron of Scotland

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Readings: Wis 3:1-9; Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday 2 December

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

Readings: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday 3 December – Memorial of St Francis Xavier (1506-52), one of the first Jesuits who spent the last 10 years of his life in the far east as a missionary

Divine Mercy devotions at 9.30 a.m.

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

Confessions after Mass

Readings: Is 25:6-10; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday 4 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Mary's

Readings: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21,24-27

Friday 5 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's

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

Readings: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday 6 December

10 a.m. Mass in St Paul's (Fr John Kinsler RIP)

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

Readings: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 – 10:1, 5-8

Sunday 7 December –2nd Sunday of Advent

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: Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Advent, the beginning of a new Christian year, is an opportunity to renew how we live our faith. This year let us try to develop a spirit of prayer before Mass by refraining from unnecessary conversation. Let us also refrain from the selling of raffle tickets etc until Mass ends.

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 is eternal life.

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

Advent Online Rosary to pray for unborn children and their mothers takes place this Monday at 7.45 p.m. Register at bit.ly/rosary25

Advent Study Group This begins on Tuesday at 10.30 a.m. in the Nazareth Room at St Mary's, when we shall watch and share on some themes from Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series *Catholicism*.

Advent walking retreat This takes place on Saturday 6 December beginning at 11.30 a.m. from Culross west car park ending at St Margaret's, Dunfermline. There will be reflection on the scripture readings for the second Sunday of Advent and an opportunity for the sacrament of Reconciliation/Penance ending with Eucharistic Adoration at St Margaret's.

St Luke's invites us to their Christmas Fair this coming Saturday from 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Glenrothes Churches Together Carol Singing takes place on Saturday 13 December from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the Kingdom Centre outside Rothes Hall.

Across Group Bingo Tea takes place on Saturday 13 December in St Paul's Church Hall at 2 p.m. All welcome!

Christian Initiation of Children The next preparation rite for children preparing for First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation will be on Sunday 14 December at 11.30 a.m. Mass. Please bring along your child's baptismal candle.

East Fife Ladies Choir will be performing at St Paul's Church Hall on Sunday 14 December at 2pm. Tickets will be on sale next weekend priced at £3.00.

Advent Carol Service will be held in Chapel Royal on Wednesday 17 December at 7 p.m. when we will be joined by members of the local church of Scotland parish.

Advent Penitential Service will be held on Thursday 18 December at 7 p.m. in St Mary's. Fr Gabriel Emeasoba from St Agatha's and Fr Simon Hughes from Dysart will join us to assist with confessions.

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

BIG Christmas Clean: Pam and Glenys are looking for anyone who could help with this year's clean of St Paul's church. If you could spare ANY time at all, please speak to either of them.

Last Sunday's Collection £516.83; Catholic Education Services £357.33 (£2929 is being received monthly through standing orders for the Sunday collection and £694 for the Building Fund.)

200 Club Winners: November 1st prize Kathleen Battles 2nd prize Peter Dera. **December** 1st prize Lisa Bray 2nd prize Helen Cassidy.

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. Alternatively, if you have a smartphone and would like to make a donation please scan the QR code in the church foyers or on our website **£9054.59** has been raised so far. **THANK YOU.**