



Drawing by John R Hume,
courtesy of Scotland's Churches Trust

St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Tel: 01738 643418

Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest

12th Sunday of Year B, 21st June 2015

Jesus Calms the Storm

As we continue in Ordinary Time, our reading today is taken from the Gospel of Mark, the primary Gospel reading in Lectionary Cycle B. Mark's Gospel presents a vivid portrait of Jesus, whose words and deeds show that he is the Son of God. Today's Gospel describes the end of a day of teaching in Jesus' ministry. Jesus taught the crowd in parables and then offered explanations of these parables to his disciples. Jesus then led his disciples away from the crowds and into the boats that they will use to cross the Sea of Galilee. The sea and its surrounding area are the settings for Jesus' teachings and miracles in this part of Mark's Gospel. Today's reading describes how Jesus calmed a storm at sea. It is the first of four miracles that are presented in sequence at this point in Mark's Gospel.

As is typical in Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are frightened by the sudden storm; they do little to inspire confidence in the reader. Mark notes the contrast between the disciples' terror and Jesus' peace. Jesus is sleeping, untroubled by what is going on around him.



The disciples' words to Jesus are telling. They are familiar enough with Jesus to dare to wake him. Their words to him are words of reproach, questioning his care for them. A careful reader might wonder what the disciples expected Jesus to do. Are they more troubled by the storm or by Jesus' inattentiveness to their needs? How many of us have chided a family member or friend for not agreeing with our assessment of the severity of a situation?

Today's Gospel offers evidence of Jesus' power and authority as he calms the storm. In his day, power over nature was believed to be a sign of divinity—only God calms storms. Jesus' rebuke of the storm also echoes the rebuke he uses when he talks to and expels demons. In each situation, Jesus' power and authority is a sign of his divinity. Indeed, the disciples are left wondering about Jesus' identity at the conclusion of today's Gospel. They see before them a human being who acts with the authority and power of God. The disciples' uncertainty about Jesus' identity is a recurring theme in Mark's Gospel.

This Gospel is a metaphor for our lives. We are in the boat, the storms of life are raging around us, and like the disciples, we may believe that Jesus is unconcerned, or "sleeping." We hope that we will be as familiar with Jesus as his disciples. If we feel that Jesus is sleeping, are we comfortable enough to wake Jesus and present him with our needs? Jesus does not chide his disciples for waking him. Instead he chides them for their lack of faith, for their lack of perspective. When we bring our worries to God in prayer, we might just begin to learn to see things from God's perspective.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

O give thanks to the Lord,
for his love endures for ever.

Gospel Acclamation

May the Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see
what hope his call holds for us.

*There will be a special collection
next Sunday in aid of*

Peter's Pence

*Let's help the Holy Father
to help others!*

*Your contribution, however
small, is important.*

AROUND PERTH

**Sunday Mass in
St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie**

10am
8am - Weekdays
(except Wednesday)

7am - Wednesday

**Sunday Mass in
Our Lady of Lourdes, Letham**

12 noon

**Sunday Mass in
St Mary's, Kinnoull**

10am

Sunday Mass in St John's
6.30pm (vigil); 9am; 11am & 6.30pm

PRAYERS

Please pray for
the repose of
the souls of
James and Joyce Ward
and Stan Fairfield and
all the faithful departed.

**Eternal rest grant
unto their souls, O Lord.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.**

FEASTDAYS

Monday 22nd
St Paulinus of Nola
St John Fisher
& St Thomas More

Wednesday 24th
Nativity of St John the Baptist

Thursday 25th
St Luan (Alyth)

Saturday 27th
St Cyril of Alexandria

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £268.70 - special collection for Life £93.20.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Sr Mary O'Halloran who celebrates the 60th Anniversary of her Religious Profession as a Marist Sister.

Holiday Club

P3-P7

**Friday 3rd July
9.15-3.30pm
in St John's Church Hall**

A great way for children to grow their faith and make new friends while spending a day full of fun and games

Holiday Clubs are organised by the Perth Catholic Youth Project, working in all three Perth Parishes.

Our Youth Workers maintain a strong link with Perth Catholic Schools, St John's Academy, and Our Lady's Primary School.

Some refreshments provided - but please bring a packed lunch

To Book a place speak to Justyna after Mass today or call her and leave a message
01738 635074

Diamond Jubilee

Mgr Hendry will celebrate the 60th anniversary of his ordination on Friday 3rd July with Mass at 7pm in St Mary Magdalene's followed by a reception in the Glenearn Community Campus.

There is a notice at the back of the church for the names of those who wish to attend (for catering purposes). Thank you.

Thanks

Sister Mary would like to thank everyone who worked so hard in helping, supporting and donating to her Bingo Tea for the missions in East Africa.

A wonderful sum of £845 was made. This will be divided between the Primary school in Kibera, the Primary school in Nakibizzi and the home for the physically and mentally challenged in Chekalini. Sincere thanks to all involved.

Italian Classes

Classes for those wishing to learn or improve their Italian continue on Saturdays at 4.15pm, in St John's Church Hall. Classes will take a break for the months of July and August.

Lectorate

Kris Jablonski will receive his acolytate from the Bishop on Sunday 28th June at the 6pm Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral Dundee.

St John Ogilvie pilgrimage

The 400th anniversary of the martyrdom of St John Ogilvie will be marked in Keith on Saturday 4 July. This will be the National Pilgrimage for the Church in Scotland for 2015.

A showcase event starts at 12noon and Mass with the Bishops of Scotland will be celebrated at 3pm.

House Blessings

If you would like Mgr Hendry to bless your home he would be pleased to visit. Please add your name to the list in the Church Porch.