



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

St Mary Magdalene's Church

7, Glenearn Road, Perth, PH2 0BD

Tel: 01738 643418

Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest

24th Sunday of Year B, 13th September 2015

A prayer of praise to God for his salvation

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word Christ is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.



We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The

path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.



For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

I will walk
in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

I am the Way,
the Truth and the Life,
says the Lord;
no one can come to the Father
except through me.

Pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi and Sorrento

Holy Year of Mercy, Diocese of Dunkeld - 2016 Pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi and Sorrento – 11 nights/10 days on 8-18 September, 2016. Cost around £910 (B & B) or £1060 (Half Board).

Further information and Booking Form through Bishop Stephen's Secretary: bishops-secretary@dunkelldiocese.org.uk or Bishop Stephen Robson, Diocesan Office, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee DD3 6XY or Anne Marie Cairns, Alba Tours, 40 Chestnut Grove, Motherwell ML1 3JF.

AROUND PERTH

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

10am

No Weekday Masses
(7-24th September)

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

12noon

(5.30pm Vigil; Sunday 11am from 28/29 Sept)

**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
Anna McDonald, Moya Dew,
Mgr Michael Regan and
David McDonald
and the souls
all the faithful departed.

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

FEASTDAYS

Monday 15th
The Exaltation of
the Holy Cross

Tuesday 16th
Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesday 17th
Ss Cornelius and Cyprian

Thursday 18th
St Robert Bellarmine

Saturday 19th
St Januarius

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £256.52.

Priest contact

Mgr Hendry will be on holiday from 7-24th September. In an emergency please contact Canon Drysdale (01764 653269).

CARITAS meeting

Leaders of parish ministries and Caritas Award supervisors are invited to come to St John's Academy at 1.30pm on Monday 14th September. You will have the opportunity to meet the Caritas participants and they will have the chance to ask you some questions about your ministry. The hope is that this will help the parish and the young people to discuss and agree suitable service for the benefit of all. If you can't make it, we would appreciate it if you would elect a representative to attend.

Italian Association

The September meeting of the Italian Association will be later than usual - it will be held on Saturday 3rd October, at 1pm in the Church Hall.

No weekday Mass

Please note that there is no weekday Mass from 7-24th September.

Brownie Birthday

Thanks to all who supported the Brownie Sponsored Walk and Barbecue on Friday and to D G Lindsay | Lindsay Butchers for supplying the burgers and sausages. All profits, together with the proceeds of the brownie sponsored walk from St Johns RC Church to Quarrymill Park will go to the Ndiini School Food Programme Charity

Invitation to Meet

For the widowed (M&F), mature singles and anyone who would like some company.

Wednesday 16th Sept - Improbable Fiction 2pm at Pitlochry Festival Theatre (for those who have booked - please call Perth 628039 to request/offer transport.)

Thursday 8th Oct - The Importance of being Earnest (7.15pm). A satellite production from The National Theatre showing in Perth Playhouse. Concession £10 adult £12.50

For further information or to book for The Importance of Being Earnest - book early as these productions are very popular - contact Jenny Dawson 01738 562145

Italian classes

Please note that weekly Italian classes resumes on Saturday 10th October.

Justice and Peace

Thus, far from thinking that works produced by human talent and energy are in opposition to God's power, and that the rational creature exists as a kind of rival to the Creator, Christians are convinced that the triumphs of the human race are a sign of God's grace and the flowering of His own mysterious design. For the greater human power becomes, the farther individual and community responsibility extends. Hence it is clear that people are not deterred by the Christian message from building up the world, or impelled to neglect the welfare of their fellows, but that they are rather more stringently bound to do these very things.

Gaudium et Spes, n34