

*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

27th Sunday of Year B, 4th October 2015

Simply Trust in God

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark's reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. Beginning with today's Gospel, Jesus returns to Judea, Jewish territory, and resumes his public ministry. The first verse of chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel tells us that crowds gathered around Jesus, and he taught them, as was his custom. Immediately, the Pharisees approach Jesus to test him.

The Pharisees question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in Deuteronomy 24:1-5. This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply,

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

May the Lord bless us
all the days of our life.

Gospel Acclamation

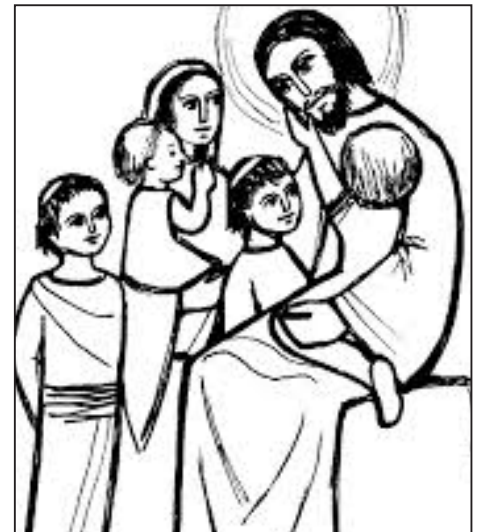
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.

Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God's original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God's original intention because of human stubbornness.

In private, Jesus' disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus' teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today's Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus' emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today's Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus' disciples show that they just don't get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these "lit-



tle ones" in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today's Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers.

Opportunities for Education

Recently the Pope prayed that opportunities for education and employment may increase for all young people.

If you can help the young people of St John's Academy with work experience or placements, or can help the school in any other way with preparing young people for the world of work then get in touch either by email to st-johnsacademy@pkc.gov.UK, tweet to [@gruffthree](https://twitter.com/gruffthree) or phone 01738 454300 and ask for Pauline Ward.

Second collection today for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund

AROUND PERTH

Sunday Mass in St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie

10am - Sunday
8am - Weekdays
(except Wednesday)
7am - Wednesday

Sunday Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Letham

5.30pm (vigil); 11am

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 Anthony Woodman,
Sarah Algie, Yvonne Spreadborough,
Frank Boyle, Olga Esposito Donald-
son and Teresa Boyle
and the souls
all the faithful departed.

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

Collections

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £317.92.

Next Sunday is Mission Sunday - there will be a second collection for the the missions.

Bingo Tea

There will be a Bingo Tea in St John's Church Hall in aid of St Bride's Pitlochry's Nigeria Project - on Monday 26th October at 7pm. Tickets £1

Feastdays this Week

Tuesday 6th October
St Bruno

Wednesday 7th October
Our Lady of the Rosary

Friday 9th October
St Denis

Methven Castle Concert

Concert next Sunday, 4th October at 2pm, at Methven Castle, in aid of Perth and Kinross Music Foundation and the Youth Musicians Parents Association who support children with their tuition fees/ music camp and instrument purchases.


The concert is at the invitation of David Murdoch and Alex Cairncross, minimum donation is £12.50 per person.

Music is being provided by Shetland Fiddler Maggie Adamson together with singers Liam Bonthron and Kenneth McIver - all of whom are award winners and recording artists. To reserve a ticket - please call Maureen Rutherford 07774 807511 or David Murdoch on 07767164095.

Justice and Peace

'Thus the family, in which the various generations come together and help one another grow wiser and harmonise personal rights with the other requirements of social life, is the foundation of society.'

Gaudium et Spes, 52.1



We are looking for people with and without learning disabilities to help us grow L'Arche in Scotland.

Would you like to be involved?

It takes a diverse group to start a Community - people with learning disabilities and their families, people who have worked in a L'Arche Community, support from local churches, volunteers, people able to give professional advice in social work, support provision, finance, housing and fundraising. Could you be one of those people?

If you would like to know more or offer your support please contact Anthony Kramers on 07979 810870 or visit our website www.larche.org.uk

Open Meeting : Could L'Arche grow in Perth ?

**All welcome on Sunday 18 October 3 - 4.30 pm at Kinnoull Church hall,
Dundee Road, Perth PH2 7EY**