



*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

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, 7th February 2016

Taking the lead

Last Sunday, we heard how Jesus was rejected in his hometown of Nazareth. In the verses that follow, Jesus travels to the town of Capernaum and begins his ministry of teaching and healing. While in Capernaum, Jesus cures a man possessed with a demon and heals Simon's mother-in-law. After spending some time there, Jesus prepares to preach in other places. The fact that Jesus had previously been in Simon's home and healed his mother-in-law suggests that this encounter is not the first between Jesus and Simon Peter. We can read today's Gospel, therefore, as a description of the developing relationship between Jesus and Simon Peter.

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches from Simon's boat. Jesus turns to Simon and instructs him about where to lower the fishing nets. Simon and others have been fishing throughout the night and have not caught anything. Simon protests, claiming that such an effort would be futile. Simon ultimately obeys Jesus and lowers his nets into the deeper water as directed. Notice here that Peter calls Jesus by the title "master." He already recognises Jesus as a person of authority. They catch so many fish that the nets

begin to tear; Jesus' presence has created abundance out of scarcity, just as it did at the wedding feast at Cana, which we heard at Mass just a few weeks ago.

Simon Peter becomes a follower of Jesus immediately. He calls Jesus "Lord"—the title given to Jesus after his Resurrection—and protests his worthiness to be in Jesus' presence. Today's Gospel, therefore, marks a turning point in the relationship between Jesus and Peter.

Two of Simon's partners are also named as witnesses to the event described in today's Gospel: Zebedee's sons, James and John. Yet Jesus' words are addressed only to Simon. Jesus gives Simon a new job, telling

him that he will become a different kind of fisherman. No longer will he catch fish; instead he will catch people. In these words, we hear the beginning of the leadership role that Peter will have within the community of disciples. Peter was chosen for this role. His task will be to bring others to Jesus. Already he is doing so; the Gospel tells us that all the fishermen with Peter also left their nets and followed Jesus.

We continue to speak of Peter's leadership and influence in the Church today when we call the pope the "successor of Peter." We participate in the mission of the Church when we bring people to Christ through the example and positive influence of our lives.



For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

Before the angels
I will bless you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

I call you friends,
says the Lord,
because I have made
known to you
everything I have learnt
from my Father.

STATION MASSES DURING
THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

*Wednesday 17th February
7pm, in St John the Baptist's, Perth*



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 Bishop Ian Murray,
Adam Martin, Marion Angus,
Margaret Neilly and
Teresa McLuskie (Ward)
and all the faithful departed.

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

FEASTDAYS

Wednesday, 10th February
Ash Wednesday

Thursday, 11th
Our Lady of Lourdes

Collection

Thank you for your generosity -
last Sunday's collection amounted to
£377.56.

Special collection

A special collection will be taken this
week in aid of the work of Catholic
Education.

World day of prayer for the Sick

In the year of the Jubilee of Mercy
Mass will be celebrated at 7pm, on the
Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Thurs-
day, 11th February in the church of the
Immaculate Conception, St Mary's
Lane, Lochee, Dundee.

A bus will leave St John's Church at
6pm - please give your name to Norma
(622661) to book a seat.

Helping in Lourdes

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage
Association are looking for helpers in
order that the sick pilgrims can go on
this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage 8-15
July. They require a Doctor to lead the
medical team of eight nurses.

We are also in need of nurses. Can
anyone in the Parish help in this appeal.
Further enquiries to Mrs. C. Van der
Boon Tel. No. 01382 815292.

Carnevale Ball

The annual Carnevale for Shrove
Tuesday will be celebrated in 9th Feb-
ruary, with a Masked Ball and Meal in
the Church Hall, at 7pm for 7.30pm.

Masks required and fancy dress op-
tional. Call 622661 to book (for cater-
ing purposes). Tickets £10.

Italian Classes

Italian classes in hall every Saturday
from 4.15-6.15pm except for the last
Saturday of the month. Open to all -
beginners and fluent speakers.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday
10th February

Masses and
distribution of ashes
at 7am, 10am and 7pm

Appeal for Catholic Teachers

At this time last year I appealed to
young people to come forward to be-
come teachers. Again this year I ask
young people to give serious consider-
ation to my appeal. I also urge parents,
grandparents and teachers to encourage
young people to pursue Teaching as a
vital career choice.

Given the current shortages of teach-
ers and Head Teachers I also want to
appeal to Catholic teachers who are not
currently working in Catholic schools.
My request is this: please seek an ap-
pointment in a Catholic school; ask
your Council employer for a trans-
fer to a Catholic school. We urgently
need committed Catholic teachers to be
working in Catholic Schools.

The Bishops and our advisers have
appealed to Scottish Government Min-
isters to ensure that sufficient teachers
are being trained to work in Catholic
schools. We are working hard with the
University of Glasgow and others to
improve the supply of teachers who
will be able to contribute to the provi-
sion of Catholic education for our chil-
dren and young people.

I must stress that this is a critical is-
sue which may have significant con-
sequences if we cannot produce more
teachers soon.

Yours devotedly in Christ,
Philip Tartaglia
Archbishop of Glasgow

ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN HOSPITAL? DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS IN HOSPITAL?

Name _____ Hospital _____ Ward _____

Please complete/ tear off and hand it to Mgr Hendry after Mass