



*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

Passion Sunday, Year C, 20th March 2016

Hosanna to the Son of David

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum, three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

Luke's Gospel is the only one to report the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus' response shows that this event, and those yet to come, are part of a divine plan. We hear this echoed again in Luke's description of the Last Supper when Jesus speaks of Judas' betrayal, saying that the Son of Man "goes as has been determined."

At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.

Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

Gospel Acclamation

Christ was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all names.



Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled.

As throughout Luke's Gospel, however, the disciples show little understanding of this kingdom that Jesus often announces. Following the meal, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus takes the opportunity to distinguish the meaning of leadership in the Kingdom of God from the forms of leadership seen in the world.

Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer they will be able to face the challenges ahead.

As he prays, Jesus is tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes

the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak.

When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath.

Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom

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 Michael Mackie, Cathy McGale, Nora Boyes and Pat Delahunty and all the faithful departed.

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

Perth Catholic Youth Project



Holiday Club

Theme - An Easter Party
For ages 8-11

9.15am- 3.15pm, Monday 4th April,
in St John's Church Hall

Free admission - please bring
a packed lunch

Please sign up on the noticeboard
at the back of the church

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £283.35

SCIAF Boxes

SCIAF boxes are available in the Church porch for your Lenten Almsgiving - please return them this week at Mass on Holy Thursday.

Diamond Jubilee

Congratulations to Sister Madeleine Minogue RSCJ who celebrates the 60th Anniversary of her Profession of Vows.

Reconciliation Service

There will be a Service of Reconciliation on Monday 21st March, at 7pm, in St John's where there will be a number of priests available to hear confessions.

There will be NO STATIONS OF THE CROSS or Exposition during Holy Week.

Good Friday Walk

Stations of the Cross start in St John's approximately 10.30am, after morning prayer. Walking up to St Mary's Monastery (grounds), then over to St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie. Finish approx. 12 noon with light refreshment. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Beetle Drive

19th Perth Brownies and Rainbows are celebrating some significant birthdays this year - Brownies started in St John's 75 years ago and Rainbows started 25 years ago.

To raise funds, and to help us celebrate, we are having a Beetle drive on 22nd April 2016 from 7pm in St John's Church Hall. Cost is £3 for an adult and £1 for child.

This lets you play the game, a cup of tea / juice and some biscuits / cakes. There will be a raffle and a cake and candy stall.

Tickets are available from Brownies, Rainbows or from Miss Monaghan in St John's Academy as well as at the door.

Services in Holy Week 2016

Palm Sunday
20th March
Blessing of Palms

Monday 21st March
8am, Mass

7pm, Penitential Service
in St John's

Tuesday 22nd March
8am, Mass

Wednesday 23rd March
7am, Mass

7pm - Mass of Chrism
St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee

Maundy Thursday 24th March
(No morning Mass)
7pm, Last Supper Mass
9pm, Night prayer
at the Altar of Repose

Good Friday 25th March
3pm, The Passion of Our Lord
7pm, Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, 26th March
(No morning Mass)
8.30pm, Easter
Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday
10am, Mass

Lourdes 2016

Dunkeld Diocesan 2016 Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Bishop Stephen Robson on 8th - 15th July, by air from Edinburgh. For further information see notice at back of the Church.

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