



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

St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest
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13th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 1st July 2018

Messianic secret

For today's Gospel, we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Last Sunday we heard about Jesus calming the storm, the first of four miracles that Jesus performs in the vicinity of the Sea of Galilee. Each of these four miracle stories offers us a glimpse at Jesus' power. This week we hear about the third and fourth miracles, skipping the second miracle, the healing of a man from Gerasene who was possessed by a demon.

Today's Gospel reports two stories of healing. One story tells us about a father's great love for his dying daughter. The other story tells us about a desperate woman who risks much as she seeks healing from Jesus. In each story, the request for healing is itself a courageous act of faith, and yet very different circumstances are represented by the lives of each suffering person.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

I will praise you,
Lord, you have rescued me.

Gospel Acclamation

Your words are spirit,
Lord and they are life:
you have message
of eternal life.

Jairus is described as a synagogue official, a man of considerable standing in the Jewish community. Distraught over his daughter's poor health, he approaches Jesus and asks him to heal her. Although Mark doesn't provide many details, we can imagine that his daughter has been ill for some time and that her condition is deteriorating.

As Jesus leaves with Jairus, Mark describes a second person who seeks healing from Jesus, a woman with a hemorrhage. This woman secretly touches Jesus from behind and is immediately cured. In response, Jesus turns and asks who touched him. Jesus' disciples, always a little clueless in Mark's Gospel, help us envision the scene. The crowds are pushing in on Jesus, and yet he, knowing that power has gone out of him, asks who touched him.

The woman could have remained anonymous, yet at Jesus' question she steps forward and acknowledges what she has done. Jesus responds by acknowledging her as a model of faith and sends her away in peace.

At this point, we can imagine Jairus's impatience with Jesus; his daughter is dying and Jesus hasn't helped him yet. As if to build a sense of urgency, messengers suddenly arrive and confirm Jairus's worst fear: his daughter has died. Jesus curiously ignores their message and reassures Jairus. When they arrive at Jairus's home, they find fam-

ily and friends mourning the girl's death. Jesus enters the room of the dead girl, takes her by the hand, and instructs her to arise. Jairus's faith in Jesus has not been in vain; his daughter is restored to life.

The contrasts between Jairus and the woman with the hemorrhage are stark and revealing. One is a man, the other is a woman. One is a public official, an important person in the community. The other is a woman who has lost everything to find a cure to a condition that separated her from the community. One approaches Jesus publicly. The other approaches Jesus secretly. Yet in each case, faith leads them to seek out Jesus in their time of need.

The Gospel concludes with Jesus' instructions to remain silent about this miracle. This is typical of Mark's Gospel and is sometimes referred to as the messianic secret. Repeatedly, those who witness Jesus' power and authority are instructed to not speak of what they have witnessed.

These instructions appear impossible to obey, and it is difficult to understand the purpose of these instructions. But in each case, they seem to emphasize the fact that each individual, including the reader of Mark's Gospel, must, in the end, make his or her own judgment about Jesus' identity. Each individual must make his or her own act of faith in affirming Jesus as God's Son.

AROUND PERTH

Mass in

St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie

10am - Sunday

8am - Weekdays

(except Wednesday and Saturday)

7am - Wednesday; 10am - Saturday

Sunday Mass in

Our Lady of Lourdes, Letham

5.30pm (vigil); 11am

Sunday Mass in

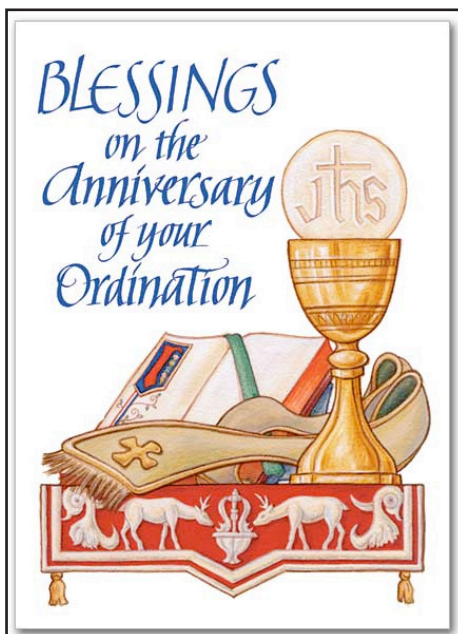
St Mary's, Kinnoull

10am

Sunday Mass in St John's

6.30pm (vigil); 9am; 11am,

5pm (Polish) & 6.30pm



PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose
of the souls of

Andrew Morrison, Mary Chivers,
Bill Hickey (Derry) and May Calder
and of all those whose
anniversaries occur
about this time.

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

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mgr Hendry who
celebrates the 65th Anniversary of
his Ordination to the Priesthood this
week.

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - col-
lection amounted to £290.64. Collec-
tion Envelopes are available for the
new financial year - and if you use Gift
Aid this is even better! Thank you to
all who use the scheme already.

Ordination

Congratulations to Fr Andrew Mar-
shall who was ordained to the priest-
hood on Thursday 29th June. Please
keep him in your prayers.

Holidays

We wish our teachers and pupils a
happy holiday - well deserved! Re-
members - to stay safe!

FEASTDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 2nd July
8am

Tuesday - Thursday
NO MASSES

Friday 6th July
Ss Maria Goretti
FIRST FRIDAY MASS
6pm - ONLY

There will be a
second collection
this week
- for Peter's
Pence

Catholic Papers

The Scottish Catholic Observer,
Catholic Herald, Catholic Times etc are
available in the church porch - please
take copies and share them with the
wider community.



*"Not all of us can prevent a
war; but most of us can help
ease sufferings — of the body
and the soul."*

**Dr Ruth Pfau,
Sister of the Immaculate
Heart of Mary**

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