



*Drawing by John R Hume,
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St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Tel: 01738 336141

Rev. Bogdan Palka S.D.S. - Parish Administrator

Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (07851 735590) - Permanent Deacon

Parish Motto - 'The best is yet to come'

30th Sunday of Year C - 23rd October 2022

MASS SCHEDULES

Monday
No public Mass

Tuesday – Saturday
9am

Friday
7pm (Polish)

Sunday
10am (English)
12noon (Polish)

CONFESSIONS

Saturday
9:30am (after Mass)
or call to make an appointment.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

This poor man called
the Lord herd him.

Gospel Acclamation

Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the
kingdom
to mere children.

**Dear Parishioners and Friends
of our parish, we are so happy
that you could join us today to
celebrate the Thirtieth Sunday in
Ordinary time.**

What is the problem for Jesus in today's Gospel? In a nutshell: the Pharisee's blind self-righteousness. Instead of trusting himself to God's mercy, the Pharisee places his trust in his own perfection and uprightness. Maybe we prefer things to be black or white: that Pharisees were always arrogant and tax collectors were all lovable scoundrels. But no. Jesus says it is all about their different attitudes toward God.

One was self-assured that he could do no wrong; the other was so ashamed of his wrongdoing, he couldn't raise his head, but he hoped for and relied on God's mercy. The truth is that we desperately need God, and that everything we have comes from God as a pure gift of love.

Arrogance causes us to be ignorant of this truth. Instead of seeing the reality of the sinner we really are, we look down upon those who are not as correct, as polite, as smart, or as "good" as we think we are. Frankly, I wonder how God can stand us when we are being that way! "Self-righteousness is the worse kind of sin because it blinds one to the fact that everything is gift..." (E. Ferlita, SJ)

There is one way to cure our blindness, and that is to allow ourselves to become one in being with God and God's creation. To be aware of God in this way is



called contemplation. Contemplation is both a way to pray and a way of life.

The Trappist monk Thomas Merton said that his prayer was very simple: it was centered entirely on the presence of God, God's will, and God's love. True contemplation allows us to get rid of our false self, and begin to experience ourselves as belonging to God at the deepest level-along with all the rest of the creation. It is a humbling and exhilarating reality, far removed from any false arrogance.

**God bless you all!
Fr Bogdan SDS**

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Adam Palka who died this week and for Ralph and Annetta Giulianotti and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Eternal rest grant unto their souls, O Lord.

Important Memorials

Memorials can be dedicated in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special occasion—birthdays, anniversaries, living and dead etc... or for your own special intention by ordering a Holy Mass. Offering a stipend for a Mass intention is a way of contributing to the upkeep of your priest. It is a donation. Thank you for all your orders!

Priest's Musing

A woman visited a computer dating website and said she didn't care about looks, income, or background. All she wanted was a man of upright character.

The same day, a man logged on and said the only thing he was seeking in a woman was intelligence. The service matched them together at once because they had one thing in common—they were both pathological liars.

Thank you

We thank you for your spectacular generosity. Your generous support of our Parish and your help with the needs of our community is greatly appreciated!

Sunday's Collection 16th October

- £809.63;

Last week's second Collection: (for Parish Expenses) - raised £3,908.43

The second Collection today is for the Missions.

November the Month of the Holy Souls

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Catholic Church's teaching about Purgatory (Catechism of the Catholic Church), says that all sin, unfortunately, has a life of its own and may have bad effects even after the sinner repents. Sincere repentance includes a desire to repair the damage done by one's sins. That may or may not be complete before the person dies. The idea is that the souls in purgatory died in the mercy of God, which is why they are called Holy Souls. However, because they still had attachment to sin at the time of their death, they must undergo a spiritual purification of their souls before they are able to fully love God with their whole heart, mind, and soul for all eternity. Therefore purgatory is probably best understood as a process by which we are cleansed (purged) of our residual selfishness, so that we can really become one with God, who is totally oriented to others.

The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise. The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament prayers and alms were offered for the souls of the dead by those who thought "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven. The Catholic, therefore, is jealous to expiate and suffer for the "poor souls," especially by offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice, wherein Christ's infinite expiation on the Cross is sacramentally represented, and stimulating and joining itself with the expiatory works of the faithful, passes to the Church Suffering according to the measure determined by God's wisdom and mercy.

It is appropriate that the Catholic Church sets aside November which begins with All Saints Day and All Souls Day, as the Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory - those who

SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Monday 24th October
30th Week of the Year

Tuesday 18th October
30th Week of the Year

Wednesday 19th October
30th Week of the Year

Thursday 20th October
30th Week of the Year

Friday 21st October
Feast of the St Simon and St Jude, apostles

Saturday 22nd October
30th Week of the Year

died in grace but who failed in this life to make satisfaction for all their sins. The Roman Catholic teaching on purgatory reflects its understanding of the communion of saints.

We are connected to the saints in heaven, the saints-in-waiting in purgatory and other believers here on earth. In November we are encouraged to pray for those who have gone before us, family and friends, which is natural enough. However it does not end there for we are asked also to pray for those who may have no one to pray for them. In this way we are joined to others in the Christian family and reminded that we are a wide community united in our belief in Jesus and his Resurrection. Those in purgatory cannot pray for themselves but one day they may be able to pray for us when we are in the same position. Perhaps this is why Pope St John XXIII wrote the following words "The devotion to the memory of the dead is one of the most beautiful expressions of the Catholic spirit."

If you would like to submit a Name or List of Names for the November Altar List of Holy Souls, please complete a list which are in the back of the church (porch) and submit it. The Holy Mass will be offered throughout the month of November for all our beloved dead, family and friends.

Please put your November list, along with your Mass offering, into an envelope and return it as soon as possible to the Church or Presbytery.

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 Fr Bogdan after Mass