



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

# St Mary Magdalene's Church

7, Glenearn Road, Perth, PH2 0BD

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'**

## Second Sunday of Advent A, 4th December 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.



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

Throughout the Scriptures we find a large emphasis on practicing hospitality. There are many instances where people, when they are welcoming to strangers, find themselves in the presence of the Divine. In the Gospel of Matthew we read, "I was a stranger and you made me welcome." (Matt. 25:35). Jean Vanier, founder of the L'Arche communities, writes that "Welcome is one of the signs that a community is alive.

To invite others to live with us is a sign that we aren't afraid, that we have a treasure of truth and of peace to share." He also offers an important warning: "A community which refuses to welcome-whether through fear, weariness, insecurity, a desire to cling to comfort, or just because it is fed up with visitors-is dying spiritually." Becoming deeply welcoming is a sign that we as a community are alive.

It starts with each of us praying for the willingness to allow others into our lives. So many people need to receive our gift-

newcomers to our parish, people who are handicapped in any way, those suffering from a recent death in their families, the frail elderly-and so many others. But be aware that often there is a high cost to being deeply welcoming, and that is the reason so many of us stay locked in our own small worlds.

Allowing others into our lives can cost us time, energy, even money. It can challenge our thinking and way of life. It can disturb us when the one whom we welcome is in deep pain and intense suffering. We need always to keep our eyes on Jesus, crucified but risen, if we wish to live lives that embrace the stranger and the outsider.

Deep hospitality is not so much something we do as the way we live. It calls us out of ourselves and our precious security, and plunges us into the human community of all of God's daughters and sons.

Go in peace to love and serve our God!

God bless you all!

**Fr Bogdan SDS**

### For today's Mass

#### Responsorial Psalm

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Prepare a way for the Lord, make  
his paths straight,  
and all mankind shall  
see the salvation of God.

## PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose  
of the soul of  
John Traynor  
who died recently  
and Nicholas Carnegie and John Small  
and all whose anniversaries occur  
about this time  
**Eternal rest grant  
unto their souls, O Lord.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.**

## Priest's Musing

A mother and son were doing dishes while the father and daughter were watching in the living room. Suddenly there was a loud crash of breaking plates, then complete silence. The daughter looked at her father and said, "Mommy did it!" The father asked, "How do you know?" His daughter replied, "She didn't say anything."

## Toy Appeal

Each Christmas SSVP has collected toys for distribution to needy families in Perth. For the past 2 years, COVID lockdowns have prevented this happening, but this Advent we plan to restart and are inviting parishioners to help. We are looking for new toys which should be left unwrapped. Donations should be handed to Fr Bogdan or placed in the foodbank box no later than Sunday 11 th December. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

## Sacrament of Confirmation - Congratulations

The Sacrament of Confirmation for the students from St Mary Magdalene's Parish was held on Thursday 1st December and was a great celebration led by Bishop Robson. Congratulations to our young candidates: Sofia Boyle, Elżbieta Broz, Wiktorcia Ciesielska, Olivia Dworak, Erin Garvie, Szymon Hogiel, Natalia Jachacy, Monika Janicka, Igor kruszynski, Adam Kruszynski, Kaya Mikołowska Julia Szafran, Oliver Szlama and Tanvi Tirumal-Reddy. May the Gifts of the Holy Spirit they have received will grow in their hearts.

## 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!

**Last Sunday's Collection:  
27th November – £749.75.**

**The Second Collection  
for the Poor Mission Fund - £218.02.**

The Financial Office of our Diocese in Dundee has made a bank transfer to St. Mary Magdalene's Parish of £2,445.76 for the Gift Aid claim for the period of 6th April to 31st October. Some good news! Keep the Gift Aid collections up.

## Preparing The Way Advent Reconciliation Service

There will be a Service of Reconciliation on Tuesday 20th December 2022, at 6pm in St Mary Magdalene's Church. Please plan a time to attend this important part of the preparation before the Christmas. Several priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Penance. As we begin the new liturgical year in the Church we invite all to begin anew with souls nourished from gift of the divine mercy and forgiveness God has for everyone. „There are people who are afraid to go to confession, forgetting that they will not encounter a severe judge there, but the immensely merciful Father” (Pope Francis).

## PACT Carol Service

PACT (Perth Action for Churches Together) will be holding its annual Christmas Carol Service in St Leonard's in the Fields Church, Marshall Place on Friday 23rd December at 7pm. Collection in aid of local charities. All are very welcome!



## 8th December The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*“The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.”*

In 1854, Pope Pius IX's solemn declaration, "Ineffabilis Deus," clarified with finality the long-held belief of the Church that Mary was conceived free from original sin. Mary was granted this extraordinary privilege because of Her unique role in history as the Mother of God. That is, she received the gift of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception.

Even though Mary is unique in all humanity for being born without sin, she is held up by the Church as a model for all humanity in Her holiness and Her purity in her willingness to accept the Plan of God for her. Every person is called to recognize and respond to God's call to their own vocation in order to carry out God's plan for their life and fulfill the mission prepared for them since before the beginning of time.

Mary's "Let it be done to me according to Thy Word," in response of the Angel Gabriel's greeting, is the response required of all Christians to God's Plan. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a time to celebrate the great joy of God's gift to humanity in Mary, and to recognize with greater clarity, the truth that each and every human being has been created by God to fulfill a particular mission that he and only he can fulfill.

**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