



*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'**

## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus 25th December 2022

### NORMAL 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 Nativity of Our Lord Jesus.**

As we think about Christmas the image that we are most familiar with is the picture of the infant Jesus asleep in Mary's arms. It is still the choice of Christmas card makers who wish to keep the spirituality of Christmas alive. Gazing on that image of the sleeping baby in its mother's arms, the descriptive word that most easily comes to our lips is tenderness. Tenderness-even the word itself is full of softness and warmth. With tenderness we have affection, love, fondness, warmth.

Tenderness implies a deep sense of the other person as wholly valuable. When we feel tenderness towards another we feel a certain protective affection. We deeply crave the safety and goodness of the one we love God has all of these wonderful feelings for us. Jesus not only reveals the face of God to us. Jesus also reveals the heart of God.

As we picture the infant asleep in his mother's arms, we should allow ourselves to experience the tenderness we find there.

God is total and impenetrable mystery. No human person will ever understand the deepest mystery that we call God. But God allows us glimpses into God's own self. Jesus is the most direct way we have into understanding the heart of God.

And today we see Jesus as a new-born baby. We are not afraid of babies, although we may be afraid of tenderness. At times, we don't know what to do with it and so we avoid it.

Accepting God's tenderness could very well be our salvation, especially for those of us who are too hard on ourselves, unforgiving, demanding, putting up a brave front, afraid. We need the tenderness of God as shown through the infant Christ. And even though Jesus is no longer a baby, he is still showing us the tender heart of a loving God.

**Best Wishes for a peaceful and joy-filled Christmas,**

### For today's Mass

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.  
Come, you nations, worship the Lord,  
for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

**Fr Bogdan SDS**

## PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose  
of the souls of  
Roddy McDonald  
who died recently  
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

It was the day after Christmas at a church in San Francisco. The pastor of the church was looking over the cradle when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing from among the figures. Immediately he turned and went outside and saw a little boy with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus.

So he walked up to the boy and said, "Well, where did you get Him, my fine friend?" The little boy replied, "I got Him from the church." "And why did you take Him?" The boy said, "Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to the little Lord Jesus and I told Him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas I would give Him a ride around the block in it."

### 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: 18th December —  
£612.58.

### Perth & Kinross Foodbank

December 2022 – Most Needed Items:  
Small laundry powder/gel, toilet rolls,  
tinned potatoes/instant mash, tinned fruit,  
jam, tinned tomatoes, sweets and crisps,  
longlife juice. Thank you!

## SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Monday 26th December  
**The Feast of St Stephen, Martyr**

Tuesday 27th December  
**The Feast of St John, Apostle**

Wednesday 28th December  
**Feast of the Holy Innocents**

Thursday 29th December  
**Christmas Octave**

Friday 30th December  
**The Feast of the Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Saturday 31st December  
**Christmas Octave**

## Christmas Masses St Mary Magdalene, Perth

**Christmas Eve (Saturday 24th)**  
9pm – English  
11pm – Polish

**Christmas Day (Sunday 25th)**  
Nativity of the Lord,  
Holy Day of Obligation  
10am – English  
12pm – Polish

**Feast of St Stephen (Monday 26th)**  
9am – English  
11am – Polish

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph – (Friday 30th)**  
9am – English 7pm – Polish

**New Year 2023  
Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of God**  
10am – English  
12pm – Polish

**The Epiphany of the Lord  
8th January (Sunday)**  
10am – English  
12pm – Polish

*Weekday Masses as usual 9am*

## CHRISTMAS...

*We think of him as safe  
beneath the steeple,  
Or cosy in a crib beside the font,*

*But he is with a million displaced people  
On the long road of weariness and want.*

*For even as we sing our final carol  
His family is up and on that road,  
Fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,  
Glancing behind  
and shouldering their load.*

*Whilst Herod rages still  
from his dark tower  
Christ clings to Mary,  
fingers tightly curled.*

*The lambs are slaughtered  
by the men of power,  
And death squads spread  
their curse across the world.*

*But every Herod dies,  
and comes alone  
To stand before the Lamb  
upon the throne.*

**Matthew Guite 'Refugee'**



Father Bogdan and  
Deacon Krzysztof Jabłoński  
wish you all a Happy and  
Holy Christmas  
and a Good New Year  
2023

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

SSVP Toy Appeal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

Ward \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete/ tear off and hand it to Fr Bogdan after Mass*