



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

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PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

2nd Sunday of Lent (A)

5th March 2023

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 2nd Sunday of Lent.

words today: “This is My Beloved Son-listen to him!” First, we might have to add “Stop” and “Look.” Stop the inner chatter, and the outer noise, just for a while.

Death, and taxes, and many things in between terrify us every day of our lives. All of us live with some degree of anxiety, fatigue, or depression. This makes trusting God very difficult-too much can go wrong!

But even those closest to Jesus weren't quick to trust. In the gospel today, Jesus frightens the apostles with quite an other-worldly experience. First, they see Jesus blindingly transformed by light. Then they see Jesus talking with two ancient prophets, who had been dead for over 1000 years! Peter was speechless, and it says “They were terrified.”

But Jesus doesn't rush to comfort or reassure them, because he knows that they don't yet see the whole picture-they are terrified only because they do not yet believe they can trust the unknown to God. The answer to all of our stress and worry lies in God's own

Look, really look with time and focus and attention, at the person talking to you, the task at hand, the cat in your lap. Now, you can Listen: Listening is a decision to receive with open hands whatever God is giving you. Jesus did not explain every detail to the apostles, because he knew that the God of all life was trustworthy-and that is enough, for them, and for us. Yes, we will have fears, because there is evil in the world. But Jesus trusted God with the deepest and most vulnerable places of his heart. If we listen, Jesus will teach us how to trust that way.

Have a great week—stay well and enjoy the gifts and blessings God has given us. May God bless you always,

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you

Gospel Acclamation

From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: “This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him

Fr Bogdan SDS

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose
of the souls of all
whose anniversaries
occur about this time.

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

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!

Collections - Sunday's 26th February - £656.00

Priest's Musing

A man dies and goes to heaven. Of course, St. Peter meets him at the pearly gates. St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in." "Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!" "Three points?" he says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service." "Terrific!" says St. Peter, "that's certainly worth a point." "One point? Golly. How about this: I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans." "Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says. "Two points!" the man cries. "At this rate the only way I get into heaven is by the grace of God!" And St. Peter replied, "Come on in!"

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!

Stations of the Cross

On Fridays during Lent there will be Station of the Cross after morning Mass at 9:30am

Dunkeld Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage

Bookings for the Dunkeld Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage (14th to 21st of July 2023) for those planning on staying in the Panorama or Louis de France Hotels can now be made online to Joe Walsh Tours at <https://joewalshstours.co.uk>. Physical booking forms should be in parishes this week.

If you, or anyone you know, would like more information about our pilgrimage, the services offered by the Dunkeld Lourdes Service (yellow t-shirts) or our medical team please contact Ruth Anne O'Neill on ruthanne@pobox.com or 07801 227443.

The following is a link to St Bernadette UK Relic Tour - A Pilgrimage Of Faith, which not only tells the story of the tour but gives insight into the life of St Bernadette and the wonder of Lourdes. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HY8iT2GioM>

Great Lent – Follow His Footsteps back to the Garden Of Eden

The story of Adam and Eve's expulsion from the Garden of Eden is a powerful reminder that peace and joy can only be found when we live in the presence of God. Since losing our privilege to live in the very presence of the living God in the Garden of Eden, everything we do, desire and dream of is a cry and attempt to find and restore the lost joy and peace of paradise. Therefore, everything we do, everything we want is a mere subconscious attempt to find our way back to the Garden of Eden. Our Lord and Saviour through His incarnation, crucifixion and death came to restore our communion with God and the rightful place in the Garden of Eden. Following His footsteps is the only sure way for us to find our way back home, to our heavenly father's comforting presence and end the desperate attempts of our souls trying to find hope, peace and joy in places where they can't be found.

Challenge - Reflect on the ways in which Christ's life and teachings offer a path back to the Garden of Eden. This could involve study-

ing scripture, meditating on Christ's example, or seeking guidance from a spiritual mentor.

Practice humility and repentance - Recognize your own limitations and weaknesses, and seek God's forgiveness for any shortcomings or mistakes you may have made. Practice compassion and love towards others. Follow Christ's example by caring for the marginalized, standing up for justice, and offering a helping hand to those in.

Take action to heal relationships and reconcile with others. Reach out to those you may have hurt, seek forgiveness, and work towards building bridges of understanding and reconciliation. Finally, as you approach Easter, reflect on the ways in which you have grown and the progress you've made towards finding your way back to the Garden of Eden. Celebrate the small steps you've taken and continue to seek God's guidance and grace in your journey.

Big "Thank you"

I would like to express my big gratitude to all of you who have been participating in our Parish Lenten Retreat. It was a great time for all of us to stop and meditate on the Word of God and we are grateful to Lord God and to Canon Tom Shields for this time of grace at the beginning of Lent, a very special time on our journey to the Easter celebrations. Thank you for all the sacraments of penance you have made and may our Merciful Lord continues to spread His blessings upon us and our Parish Community as we all preparing ourselves to meet Ressurrected Christ on Easter Sunday.

Fr Bogdan

SAINTS DAYS

Monday 6th March
2nd Week of Lent

Tuesday 7th March
2nd Week of Lent

Wednesday 8th March
2nd Week of Lent

Thursday 9th March
2nd Week of Lent

Friday 10th March
Feast of St John Ogilvie

Saturday 4th March
2nd Week of Lent

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