



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

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

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PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER,

23rd of April 2023

NORMAL MASS SCHEDULES

Monday
No public Mass

Tuesday – Saturday
9am

Friday
7pm (Polish)

Sunday
8.30am (Polish)
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 3rd Sunday of Easter.

There are some questions in life that we have to ask over and over again. I don't mean questions like, "How come you didn't put out the garbage?" Or "Are you ever going to fix that squeaky door?", although you also might have to ask those questions over and over again. The kind of questions I'm talking about are on a deeper and more personal level. These are the kinds of questions that can't just be answered once. One of those questions, which we always need to ask as followers of Jesus, is this: how is my life of worship connected to the rest of my life? Isn't this the same question in which unbelievers are also interested?

When those who don't believe or who are weak in their faith see how we live our lives, they wonder how our life of worship and prayer is connected to our daily lives. In fact, at times, their question is crucial to their own lives. They might be searching for a different way to live their own lives. They might be on the edge of coming to a belief in God or in Jesus, or in once again coming back to full participation in the Christian community. But they need the concrete witness of those who believe in Jesus.

They need to see that the way we live our lives is consistent with what we believe and with how we worship. Today we are given that surprising and remarkable story of Jesus appearing to the two disciples as they make their journey home. At first he is just a stranger, but they come to recognize him as he breaks bread with him. And then they remark that their hearts were burning as he opened the Scripture to them. Jesus shared the Sacred Word and the Sacred Bread with them. It was clearly a story of the Eucharist -- the breaking and sharing of the Word and the Bread. The Eucharist is not merely an expression of communion in the Church's life; it is also a project of

solidarity for all of humanity. In the celebration of the Eucharist the Church constantly renews her awareness of being a 'sign and instrument' not only of intimate union with God but also of the unity of the whole human race.

The Christian who takes part in the Eucharist learns to become a promoter of communion, peace and solidarity in every situation. More than ever, our troubled world, which began the new Millennium with the spectre of terrorism and the tragedy of war, demands that Christians learn to experience the Eucharist as a great school of peace.

There's still a strong tendency in many of us to think of the Eucharist as something more or less private, a personal communion between Jesus and ourselves, an experience away from the troubles and sufferings and anxiety of our daily lives. But the Eucharist is a divine mystery which moves us to union and solidarity with all of humanity. The more deeply we enter into this celebration, the more we should be committed to bringing peace and justice to all the earth. And so we come back to our original question. How is our worship connected to our daily lives?

Is our life orientated towards community and sharing with those in need, or is it directed rather towards consuming and looking out only for ourselves? We need to answer this question in order to know if we are properly and genuinely celebrating the Eucharist. We cannot delude ourselves: by our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need we will be recognized as true followers of Christ. This will be the criterion by which the authenticity of our Eucharistic celebrations is judged." I pray that our breaking of the bread of life here, will lead us to share our lives and bread with those who need us to be there for them.

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

Fr Bogdan SDS

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

Show us, Lord,
the path of life.

Gospel Acclamation

Lord Jesus,
explain the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us
as you talk to us.

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose the souls of John Masson and Kathleen Noone who died recently and for Jimmy Gallagher on his birthday and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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

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 16th April 2023 – £736.00.

Next Sunday 30th April 2023 our Second Collection is for The Apostolate of Communication.

Priest's musing

A young lady visited a dating service to look for a husband. The matchmaker asked what kind of man she was looking for. She replied, "Well, let me see. Needs to be good looking, polite, humorous, sporty, knowledgeable, good at singing and dancing.

Willing to stay home with me if I don't want to go out. Be able to tell me interesting stories when I need a companion for conversation and be silent when I want to rest." The matchmaker entered the information into the computer and, in a matter of moments, handed a printout to the woman. The results read, "Buy a television."

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 inten-

tion 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!

Mgr Charles Hendry "3rd Anniversary in Heaven"

It's hard to believe that it's been three years since our beloved Parish Priest Monsignor Charles Hendry passed away on 30th April 2020. The Holy Mass for Mgr Hendry will be offered on Sunday 30th April 2023. May He Rest in Peace! We love you Monsignor Charlie, and you are in our prayers!

PPC and Fabric Committee

The Parish Pastoral Council is an independent advisory body whose members are appointed by the Parish Priest to support him in his decision making concerning the day to day running of the Parish. This includes Social and Spiritual planning, also church building maintenance and development.

Our Parish Pastoral Council and the Fabric Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 25th April 2023 at the back of the church. Please 'welcome' our new team members of PPC and Fabric Committee: Ivan Carnegie (chairman), Fiona O'Brien, Danny Byrne, Remigiusz Dubany, Zbigniew Wąsik and Fr Bogdan Palka SDS. Great thanks to all of our members for being a part of this group and for helping me to make the best decisions for our Parish Community. Much appreciated!

Fr Bogdan SDS

Finding God in Our Past

At what point in your life did you feel most strongly the presence of God? Have you ever felt God actively guiding you, the events and direction of your life? Have you ever wondered what your true and divine calling is in life? There are times in life when we can clearly feel and see God's presence in our lives. But there are also times when facing a tragedy, chaos or a major decision, we turn to God and search for his guidance and presence, but can't find him, can't hear his voice and feel his presence. What do we do in such moments and how can we discern his voice and guidance in our lives? As human beings, we carry within ourselves the image and like-

ness of God. Our souls covet and thirst for his presence and rely on his healing and restoring touch like the air we breathe and water we drink. Without him in our lives, our souls, joy and peace wither and fade.

The Church encourages us to revive and nurture the divine presence in our lives through a life of daily prayer, reading of the Holy Bible, acts of faith and love, participation in the liturgical life of our church, fasting, confession, communing to his life-giving Body and Blood, learning and reflection. Sometimes it is also very helpful to look for God, his guidance and voice in our past. When life does not make sense, look back for meaning and insight. When you can't hear his voice and find the answer to your prayers, look for them in your past. When you can't feel the guidance of the Lord in the events of your present life, look for it in your past. More often than we realize and see, God answers our prayers before we ask him and He shows us the way before we are lost. He heals us before we are wounded, carries us before we fall.

SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Monday 24th April
Third Week in Eastertide

Tuesday 25th April
Feast of St Mark,
Evangelist

Wednesday 26th April
Third Week in Eastertide

Thursday 27th April
Third Week in Eastertide

Friday 28th April
Thrd Week in Eastertide

Saturday 29th April
Feast of St Cathrine of Siena,
Patron of Europe

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