



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

St Mary Magdalene's Church

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PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

28th of May 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends of our parish, we are so happy that you could join us today to celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost.

Even if some of us don't want to admit our age – we all love birthdays. On birthdays we get to feel important and then, of course, there are those gifts. It's the rare person who doesn't like to receive a gift from someone else. On this, the birthday of the Church, we are asked to become more conscious of the gifts that we already have – gifts that the Spirit has given to us. Maybe some of you grew up in homes where your parents did not encourage you to really acknowledge your gifts. You may have been told that you really couldn't do anything right, or you were not allowed to do anything on your own because no one had any confidence in you.

These kinds of attitudes can be a terrible obstacle to developing any kind of trust in your own abilities. Sometimes we carry these attitudes into our adulthood. Our gifts lay in some dark closet and we never dare to go there. Our first step towards us-

ing those gifts for the good of God's world is to be aware of the gifts we do possess. As children we often either think that we have no gifts, or that we can do everything. A young person often needs the insight of someone older to help them to see the gifts they really do possess. We sometimes make the mistake of thinking that the only gifts of the Spirit are those that are somehow, as it were, inside the Church – gifts like preaching and teaching, or healing, or administration and so forth. But all good gifts come from the Holy Spirit, and all good gifts can be used to renew the face of the earth. St Pope John Paul II describes the Holy Spirit as "Person-love, the uncreated gift, who is the eternal source of every gift that comes from God" (Dominum et Vivificantem, 50). The Holy Spirit's activity is shown in the activities of those who are temples of the Holy Spirit. We see the working of the Spirit in the concrete lives of other members of the Church. The first thing that we are asked to do with our gifts after acknowledging them, is to be thankful for them.

Thankfulness – this eliminates all jealousy towards others who have different gifts. All gifts are to be cherished and we should not put one ahead of another, even though this may seem the natural thing to do. "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another" (Galatians 5:25-26). Most of us have heard the famous expression: „All that is required for evil to triumph is for people of good will to do nothing. What a terrible indictment". We cannot allow this to be said about ourselves as followers of Christ. At this time in the history of our Church, it seems quite clear that we have to put much more emphasis on the gifts of all the members, not just the gifts of the ordained or the religiously professed members of the Church. At our Baptism we received the gift



of the Holy Spirit.

Have we allowed that Spirit to work within us, or have we been saying 'No' to the demands of that Spirit? Some of us here may be called to great things. We can't rule out that possibility. But most of us are called to use our gifts in our own local community. When we do that we allow the Holy Spirit to become more visible in our world. Today the Spirit is breathing over the universe in a new way. But God respects time and history—God works in and through our histories, and it is not yet the fullness of time for Christ to come again. This is still the Era of the Spirit. And we are still called just as the disciples were to get out of our locked rooms—to leave our fears of the future behind in the past, and to live with the boldness of the Spirit in the present. Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

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

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them
the fire of your love.

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Kerr and of 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 21st May 2023 – £745.50.

Today our Second Collection is for: Day for Life

Priest's musing

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only one a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked: „Father, my dog is dead. Could ya' be saying' a Mass for the poor creature?"

Father Patrick replied: „I'm afraid not, we cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature." Muldoon said: „I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think 5,000 euro is enough to donate to them for the service?" Father Patrick exclaimed: „Sweet Mary, Mother of Jesus! Why did ya' not tell me the dog was Catholic?"

Annual May Celebration

The Italian Association will hold their annual May celebration at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull on Sunday, 28th May. Holy Mass in Italian will be celebrated at 3pm followed by the procession in the grounds and crowning of Our Lady's Statue in the grotto. There is an open invitation to all parishioners to join us. Those unable to walk may sit in the grounds during the proces-

sion. Italian cakes, tea & coffee will be served in the refectory. Bring a flower to place at Our Lady's feet.

Norma Giulianotti

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!

Church Maintenance

– Update

As part of the routine maintenance of the church, the painting of the exterior woodwork (including the timber wall cladding at the entrance) has been completed. The cost of the work was £4380 (inclusive of VAT) – in line with the estimate received from the selected firm, Go-Access. Work on the heating system upgrade, (which is being carried out by RL Rattray Ltd), will take place on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th May.

Ivan Carnegie (Fabric Convenor)

New Social Teaching Engagement Officer Appointed

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland have announced the appointment of Anne Marie Clements as the new Catholic Social Teaching Engagement Officer for the National Justice and Peace Commission. Her remit will include; raising the profile of Justice & Peace in schools, parishes and dioceses, she took up her post at the beginning of May 2023.

Commenting on her appointment Archbishop William Nolan, President of the Justice and Peace Commission said: "I welcome Anne Marie Clements as our new Catholic Social Teaching Engagement Officer. Her enthusiasm and passion for Justice and Peace is infectious and I look forward to the good work she will do raising awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and encouraging involvement in Justice and Peace in our

schools, in our parishes and in our Dioceses." Reacting to her appointment, Anne Marie Clements said: "I couldn't be happier about my new role at Justice & Peace Scotland. I was drawn to the post of Catholic Social Teaching Engagement Officer as it will give me the opportunity to highlight the connections between the human rights and social justice issues of today and our Catholic faith.

"This is something that I place great value on personally, inspired by Jesus' Gospel message of love."

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.

SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

THIS WEEK

Monday 29th May

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Tuesday: 30th May

8th Week of the Year

Wednesday: 31st May

Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 1st June

Memorial of St Justin, Martyr

Friday 2nd June

8th Week of the Year

Saturday 3rd June

Memorial of St Charles Lwanga and Companions

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