



*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'**

## 29th Sunday of the Year 22nd of October 2023

**Dear Parishioners and Friends of our parish, we are so happy that you could join us today to celebrate the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

The phrase "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God," has deeper implications. First of all, "give back to Caesar what belong to Caesar." We have a responsibility to be good citizens of our country and to take an active role in our government. If we, as Catholics, want the laws of our country to be based on principals of Catholic morality and social justice, we have to take part in the government, not be bystanders. Yes, we need to vote, but more than vote, we need to be actively engaged in the working of our government.

This is how we can lead our country to develop and expand our democracy. Our Catholic voice needs to be heard. We also need to support our government by each of us paying our fair share in taxes. All of us who pay taxes, from local to federal, are invested in our government, and are proud of our government. Those are just some points flowing from "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar." Infinitely more important is the second dictate of the Lord, "Give to God what belongs to God." Our citizenship is in heaven, St. Paul reminds us in Phillipians 3:20. The main goal of each of our lives must be to spread the Kingdom of God. We must spread the Good News, the Gospel, that Jesus Christ has reunited us to our Heavenly Father. When we live his life in our own

lives, he gives beauty and purpose and meaning to our lives. Both the old Catechism and the New Catechism of the Catholic Church put this succinctly.

Many of us remember the answer to "Why did God make me." It was: God made me to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him for ever in the next. That truth has not faded with time. To Know Him. The New Catechism of the Catholic Church expands on this. It says, "The world was made for the glory of God. Creation testifies to that glory. Man is the pinnacle of God's creation. In coming to know Him through His creation and through Revelation, we can better testify to His glory. His perfection is made manifest "through the benefits which he bestows on creatures." And man, collectively and individually, is chief among those creatures.

To put this simply, we look at all of creation and say, "How great is our God." We look at ourselves and at other people and say, "How wonderful is our God." To know God is to experience Him in the trillions and trillions of ways that creatures reflect His Presence. This is why some of the greatest scientists are people of profound faith. The more they learn about creation the greater they respect the Creator.

To love Him. God made me, and you, and every man or woman who has ever lived or ever will live, to love Him. I love other people because I can see God's presence in them. I love you because I can see God in you. Even if we struggle to understand what love really means, God understands it perfectly. Not only is He perfect love; but His perfect love lies at the very heart of the Trinity. When we say that God made us to love Him, we mean that He made us to share in the love that the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity have for one another. Love enriches us.



The beauties of material creation are meant to lead us closer to God, not away from Him. St. Augustine realized this. Before He turned to God, he let the very things that God had created stand in the way of God's Presence. We were not created for the material world. We were created for love. To serve Him. In serving Him, we serve ourselves as well, in the sense that each of us becomes that unique person that God wishes us to be.

We are meant to live for God. When God made me and you and everyone else, He intended for us to be drawn into the very life of the Trinity and to enjoy eternal happiness. But He gave us the freedom to make that choice. This is what love is. Love is a choice. We choose to be with Him forever. We choose to reject all that is not Him. We fight against sin. Our reward is union with God. We can have a glimpse of this union in our life while we are in the physical world.

There are times, sometimes just fleeting moments, when we feel completely at peace with ourselves and with God. How wonderful life will be when we are completely united to God. That is heaven. We belong to Him. When we care for others, particularly those who reach out to us in their need, we care for his Presence within them. "As often as you do this for the least of my people, you do it for me," we all know so well from Matthew 25.

Fr Bogdan SDS

### For today's Mass

#### Responsorial Psalm

Give the Lord glory and power.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Your word is truth, O Lord,  
consecrate us in the truth.

## PRAYERS

Please prayer for the repose of the souls of Ralph and Aneta Giulianotti and 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 collection

15th October 2023 – £661.86.

**This Sunday our second collection is for the Mission.**

## Priest's musing

*A very successful businessman had a meeting with his new son-in-law. "I love my daughter, and now I welcome you into the family," said the man. "To show you how much we care for you, I'm making you a 50-50 partner in my business. All you have to do is go to the factory every day and learn the operations." The son-in-law interrupted.*

*"I hate factories. I can't stand the noise." "I see," replied the father-in-law. "Well then you'll work in the office and take charge of some of the operations." "I hate office work," said the son-in-law. "I can't stand being stuck behind a desk all day." "Wait a minute," said the father-in-law. "I just made you half-owner of a moneymaking organization, but you don't like factories and won't work in a office. What am I going to do with you?" "Easy," said the young man. "Buy me out."*

## Perform in Perth

Perform in Perth will commemorate a century of music, culture, and community at their upcoming 100th festival Exhibition. The event pays homage to the remarkable individuals whose dedication and vision paved the way for one of Perthshire's most cherished traditions.

When the Perform in Perth 100th festival Exhibition opens on Sunday 29th October it will not only celebrate these early pioneers and their rich musical legacy – it also brings a dazzling array of guest artists, including Perth High School, Dollar Academy, Morrison's Academy, Crieff, and members of the Perth Symphony Orchestra, Perth's Singing Angels - Śpiewających Aniołki, Perth Rock Choir, the Julie Young Singers and Dancers, Grazyna Mylnarczyk's music students, the Encore Choir, Perth Amateur Operatic Society, Aberfeldy Gaelic Choir, the 4 Cellos, the Steele Vocal Quartet, and the Jambouree Choir.

In a week-long celebration, these local orchestras, choirs and music groups will be giving short concerts at 12noon, 5pm or 7pm on most days. (Check [www.perthshire-music-festival.org.uk](http://www.perthshire-music-festival.org.uk) for the programme).

The Exhibition opens its doors in St Matthew's Church, Tay Street, Perth, at 4pm on Sunday, 29th October, and continues from 10am to 2pm and 4pm to 8pm, Monday to Friday. A grand finale takes place on Saturday, November 4th, when a musical marathon begins at 10am and continues through to 4pm.

**Admission to everything throughout the week is absolutely FREE!**

Everyone is invited come along and join in celebrating a century of music, culture, and community at the Perform in Perth 100th festival Exhibition. It's an event that promises to be a symphony of nostalgia and a testament to the enduring power of music to bring the community together. Don't miss out on this celebration of Perth's rich musical heritage!

## November the Month of the Holy Souls

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. If you would like to submit a Name or List of Names for the November Altar List of the Holy Souls, please complete a list which are in the back of the church (porch) and submit it. The Holy Mass will be offered throughout the month of November for all our beloved dead, family and friends. Please put your November list, along with your Mass offering, into an envelope and return it by 1st November to the Church or Presbytery or directly to Fr Bogdan. Thank you!

## 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 23rd October**  
29th Week of the Year

**Tuesday 24th October**  
29th Week of the Year

**Wednesday 25th October**  
29th Week of the Year

**Thursday 26th October**  
29th Week of the Year

**Friday 27th October**  
29th Week of the Year

**Saturday 28th October**  
Feast of St Simon  
and St Jude, apostles

**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