



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

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Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest

Epiphany of Our Lord, 3rd January 2015

Gifts for the Saviour of the World

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the

meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.



For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

All nations shall fall
prostrate
before you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

We saw his star as it rose
and have come
to do the Lord homage.

*Thank you for your generosity
to me at this time.*

*A Good and Peaceful
New Year
to all parishioners*

Monsignor Hendry

AROUND PERTH

**Sunday Mass in
St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie**
10am - Sunday
8am - Weekdays
(except Wednesday)
7am - Wednesday

**Sunday Mass in
Our Lady of Lourdes, Letham**
5.30pm (vigil); 11am

**Sunday Mass in
St Mary's, Kinnoull**
10am

Sunday Mass in St John's
6.30pm (vigil); 9am; 11am & 6.30pm

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose of
the souls of Jim Doogan and
Marie Melloy and all
the faithful departed.

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

**NEXT SUNDAY
WE CELEBRATE
THE JUBILEE FOR
FAMILIES AND
CHILDREN**

**Feast of the
Baptism of
Our Lord**

10th January 2016

Collection

Thank you for your generosity
throughout the year - last Sunday's
collection amounted to £356.19 - and
the Christmas collection amounted to
£780.

CAROL CONCERT

All parishioners and the entire
Polish community are invited
to a performance by children of
the Perth Polish Saturday School

in St John the Baptist's Church
4.30pm, Sunday 17th January

immediately before the Polish Mass



Dunkeld News

The latest edition of Dunkeld News,
the newsletter of the Bishop of Dun-
keld, has arrived in Perth.

Keep in touch with events planned in
our diocese for the coming Holy Year.

Please pick up a copy from the
church porch - or view it online [www.
dunkelldioocese.co.uk](http://www.dunkelldioocese.co.uk)

Prayers

Please prayer for Fr Alistair McKay
CssR (Virginia) - originally from Perth
- who is ill at this time.

Youth group

The next meeting of the youth group
will be in the Church Hall on Wednes-
day 6th January; 6pm-8.30pm. New
members welcome.



Pope Francis message for World Day of Prayer for Peace (1/1/2016)

Every day, we hear of issues such as
war, poverty, or persecution that af-
fect our brothers and sisters around the
world.

The problems can seem so large,
complex, and remote that they can
leave us paralysed, overwhelmed, or
even numb. We may wonder, "What
can I possibly do?"

In his Message for the 49th World
Day of Peace, to be celebrated on Jan.
1, 2016, Pope Francis urges us to over-
come such challenges by replacing
isolation with community, and indiffer-
ence with solidarity.

In our families, schools, and institu-
tions, we must foster awareness about
problems such as intolerance, religious
persecution, slavery, war, and the plight
of refugees. We must encounter our
neighbours, engage in civil dialogue,
cooperate, and build skills to together
address these problems in meaningful
ways.

Working together, we can creatively
overcome inaction and indifference
and work to ward peace and respect for
the lives and dignity of all people.

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 Mgr Hendry after Mass