

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

St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest
Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (01738 636589) - Permanent Deacon

29th Sunday of Year A, 22nd October 2017

Keeping things in proper perspective

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying



to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawful-

ness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

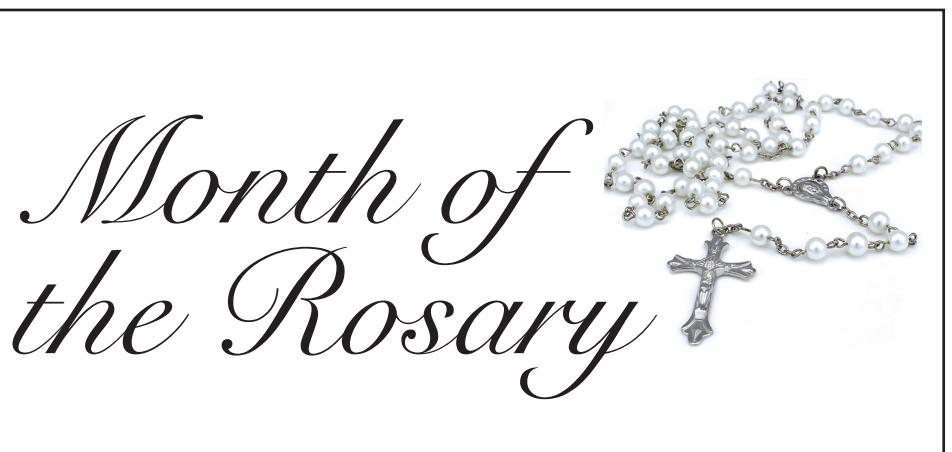
For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

Give the Lord
glory and power.

Gospel Acclamation

You will shine in the world
like bright stars
because you are offering it
the word of life.



AROUND PERTH

Mass in

St Mary Magdalene's, Craigie

10am - Sunday

8am - Weekdays

(except Wednesday and Saturday)

7am - Wednesday; 10am - Saturday

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 soul

of Charles Hendry

and all those whose

anniversaries occur about this time

Eternal rest grant

unto their souls, O Lord.

May they rest in peace. Amen

FEASTDAYS

Monday 23rd

St John Capistrano

Tuesday 24th

St Anthony Mary Claret

Saturday 18th

St Luke

November lists

Time to prepare your November lists, names of those members of your families and those dear to you who have died and for whom Mass will be offered throughout November - the month of the Holy Souls Envelopes are available at the back of the church - please fill one in and hand it to Mgr Hendry.

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £452.20.

Mission Sunday

There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of the Church's missionary work.

Fatima Masses

Mass will be celebrated in St Mary Magdalene's, at 6pm, on the 13th of each month, from June to November, in honour of this 100th anniversary year of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.

Italian Association

Rosary is recited in Italian on Sundays at 2pm in St John's, during October.

Italian Classes have recommenced on Saturdays at 4.15pm - all welcome.

Mass for the Dead will be celebrated in Italian at St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow on Thursday 2nd November. A bus will leave St John's at 3.30pm. 622661 to book. October's meeting of the Italian Association will take place on Saturday 4th October - at 1pm, followed by Holy Mass in Italian at 2pm.

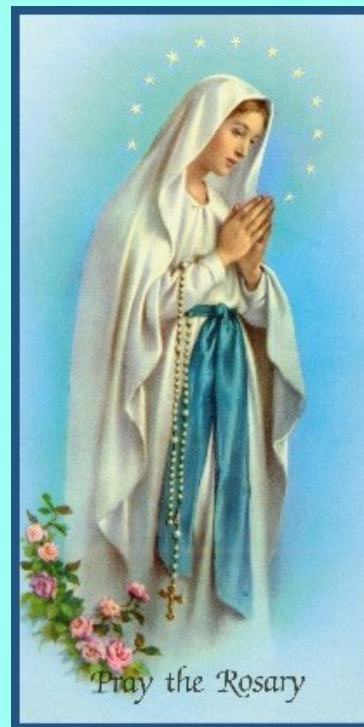
Justice and Peace

Among our tasks as witnesses to the love of Christ is that of giving a voice to the cry of the poor, so that they are not abandoned to the laws of an economy that seems at times to treat people as mere consumers.

Pope Francis,

Address to Archbishop Justin Welby

A candlelit Rosary dedicated to Our Lady of Queen of Peace



**St Mary Magdalene's
Church**

**7pm, Monday
30th October**

**Come along to this
short service and pray
to Our Lady for peace
in our troubled world**

Silent Vigil

On Thursday 26th October, from 6-8pm, the Dundee Branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children are holding their 14th Annual Vigil in Dundee City Square. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the passing of Abortion Act (1967). If you are able to show your support, even for just a part of the 2 hours, please go along and join in.

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