



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

32nd Sunday of Year A, 12th November 2017

Being prepared to receive Him

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.



In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

HOLY SOULS HYMN

They are waiting for our petitions
Silent and calm,
Their lips no prayer can utter
No suppliant psalm.
We have made them all too weary,
With long delay,
For the souls in their still agony
Good Christian pray.

*Requiescant in Pace,
Requiescant in Pace*

For the souls thou holdest dearest
Let prayers arise,
The voice of love is mighty
And will pierce the skies;
Waste not in selfish weeping
One precious day,
But speeding thy love to heaven
Good Christian pray.

*Requiescant in Pace,
Requiescant in Pace*

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

For you my soul is thirsting,
O God my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Stay awake and stand ready,
because you do not know
the hour when
the Son of Man is coming.

Justice and Peace

Lasting peace however is not just a matter of structures and mechanisms. It rests above all on the adoption of a style of human coexistence marked by mutual acceptance and a capacity to forgive from the heart. We all need to be forgiven by others, so we must all be ready to forgive. Asking and granting forgiveness is something profoundly worthy of man; sometimes it is the only way out of situations marked by age-old and violent hatred.

*Pope St John Paul II,
Message for World Day of Peace 1997*

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 souls of Jeff Poole who died recently and for Jim Walker, and the deceased Priests, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

During the month of November Masses will be offered each day for the Holy Souls.

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

FEASTDAYS

Monday 13th

St Machar

Wednesday 15th

St Albert the Great

Thursday 16th

St Margaret of Scotland

Friday 17th

St Elizabeth of Hungary

Saturday 18th

St Fergus

Catholic newspapers, the Scottish Catholic Observer, Catholic Herald, Catholic Times etc are available in the church porch - please take copies and share them with the wider community.

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £336.87.

November lists

Time to prepare your November lists, names of those members of your families and those dear to you who have died, Envelopes are available at the back of the church - please fill one in and hand it to Mgr Hendry.

Thanks

Betty Fyall sincerely thanks the clergy, parishioners and friends for the many gifts, cards and prayers received whilst in hospital and now recovering at home. She is looking forward to seeing everyone again soon.

A DIOCESAN ADVENT RETREAT DAY

SATURDAY, 2ND DECEMBER
DIOCESAN CENTRE

given by Canon Kevin Golden

'Come let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord'

in the Pastoral Centre,
Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY

Contact 01382 225453
to say you will attend

The Good News of Saint Mark

7.30pm-9pm, Wednesdays
8th and 15th November

A call to faith and hope

Two sessions for parishioners
in the Diocese of Dunkeld

Preparing for the Year of Mark's Gospel

in the Pastoral Centre,
Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY

Fatima Masses

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

Italian Association

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

A DIOCESAN ADVENT RETREAT DAY

SATURDAY, 2ND DECEMBER
DIOCESAN CENTRE

given by

Canon Kevin Golden

'Come let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord'

10am-4pm

*Please bring a packed lunch
- coffee and tea provided*

Two Advent Youth Retreats

**Friday 8th - Saturday 9th
December
12-16 years**

**Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th
December
17-25 years**

Retreats run from 5pm - 5pm

*with prayer, reflection, confession,
catechesis, games and Mass*

at the Pastoral Centre,
24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY

Download an expression of interest form at
www.dunkeldyouth.org.uk
and tell Mgr Hendry know you wish to go

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