



*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
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Easter Sunday, Year B, 1st April 2018

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Each of the four Gospels reports that the women who had been followers of Jesus discovered the empty tomb after his death. Today we read from the Gospel of Mark, which contains the most succinct of all the reports of Jesus' Resurrection in the Gospels.

Scholars have long noted some irregularities about the ending of Mark's Gospel. The report of the discovery of the empty tomb comes to an abrupt conclusion after verse 8. While some believe this is the original ending of Mark's Gospel, others theorize that there was a longer ending that was lost.

Some manuscripts of Mark's Gospel, written between the fourth and ninth centuries, include what scholars have

termed the Shorter Ending, which is often printed in our Bibles for reference. This ending indicates that the women told their story to Peter's companions. Scholars believe that this ending was not written by Mark, but was probably added by later copyists who sought to resolve the abrupt ending at verse 8.

Other early manuscripts include a Longer Ending, which scholars also believe was written by someone other than the evangelist Mark. Quotations from this Longer Ending are found in the writings of the early Church Fathers, however, indicating that this Longer Ending has been included as part of Mark's Gospel for some time. This Longer Ending, Mark 16:9-20, was accepted at the Council of Trent as part of the canonical Gospel. Portions of this Longer Ending are read as part of our weekday lectionary cycle and on the Feast of the Ascension in Cycle B. Without this Longer Ending, the Gospel of Mark would report no post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus.

In today's Gospel, Mark reports the names of three women who go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They are Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James. According to Mark, these are the same women who were among those watching Jesus' Crucifixion from a distance. Mark reports that these women were followers of Jesus in Galilee and that they ministered to him. Mark also reports that Mary Magdalene and Mary observed where Jesus' body was laid. After his death, these women come again to minister to Jesus.

Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James, go to the tomb

to anoint Jesus' body. It is clear from Mark's report of their conversation that they had not worked out all the necessary details. They know that a very large stone was used to seal Jesus' tomb, but they do not know how they are going to remove it. When they arrive at the tomb, they find that the stone has already been rolled back. Upon entering the tomb, they meet an angel who tells them that Jesus has been raised from the dead. The angel then recalls Jesus' promise to his disciples that he would go before them to Galilee.

Amazement would seem to be a natural reaction to the experience that the women had that morning. Yet the angel chides them for being amazed. Perhaps the reason is found in the words that follow, as the angel reminds them that Jesus himself had told his disciples that he would see them again in Galilee. If the women had listened and heeded Jesus' words, they would not have been surprised to find the tomb empty. This highlights a theme of Mark's Gospel: the disciples of Jesus are often clueless about the true identity of Jesus and confounded by his message to them.

Nonetheless, we can find some hope for the disciples, just as there is hope for us when we find ourselves unsure about Jesus. The disciples in today's Gospel were faithful followers of Jesus and remained present through Jesus' death on the cross. In fact, they came to the tomb that morning expecting to minister to Jesus once again. Instead, they were sent to minister in a different way, as apostles to Peter and the other disciples. Because we hear this Gospel proclaimed today, we know that they honored Jesus by accepting this mission.

For today's Mass

Entrance Antiphon

I have risen,
and I am with you still,
alleluia.

You have laid
your hand upon me,
alleluia.

Too wonderful for me,
this knowledge,
alleluia, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm

This day
was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ, our passover,
has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate
the feast then
in the Lord.

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
Maureen Morgan
and all those whose
anniversaries
occur about this time.

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

L'Arche Seed group meeting

Wednesday 16th May

3.15pm- 7.30pm

St Matthew's Church,
Tay Street, Perth

*If you'd like to find out more
details please speak to Mgr Hendry*

Collection

Thank you for your generosity -
last Sunday's collection amounted to
£320.90.

Stations of the Cross

Today, Stations of the Cross will take
place in St Mary Magdalene's on the
Sundays of Lent, immediately follow-
ing Sunday Mass.

Italian Association

Bingo Tea in aid of Mukuru Street
Children, Mary's Meals and club funds
Monday 9th April, eyes down at
7.30pm, St John's Church Hall. Tick-
ets £1 from members.

Italian classes continue after Easter
on Saturdays from 4.15-6.15pm.

Craft Fair

Saturday 7th April, 11am-2.30pm -
in in St John's Church Hall in aid of
Alzheimer Research (UK).

Bingo Tea

Joan and the Girls Bingo Tea, St.
John's Church Hall, Melville Street,
Perth on Monday, 16th April. Eyes
down 7.30pm. Ticket £1.00.

**Mgr Hendry
and Deacon
Krzysztof
thank all who
have taken part
in the Easter
Triduum and
wish all a
Happy Easter**

**Fathers Gerry and Ronnie
thank you all sincerely for
the warm welcome and
wonderful turn-out at the
Parish Mission - including
those from the
neighbouring parishes**

**Mgr Martin has invited us to
return for a couple of days
during Advent to prepare
for Christmas and we look
forward to seeing you then.
In the meantime we contin-
ue to pray for you and your
families.**

Please also pray for us.

HAPPY EASTER

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