



*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

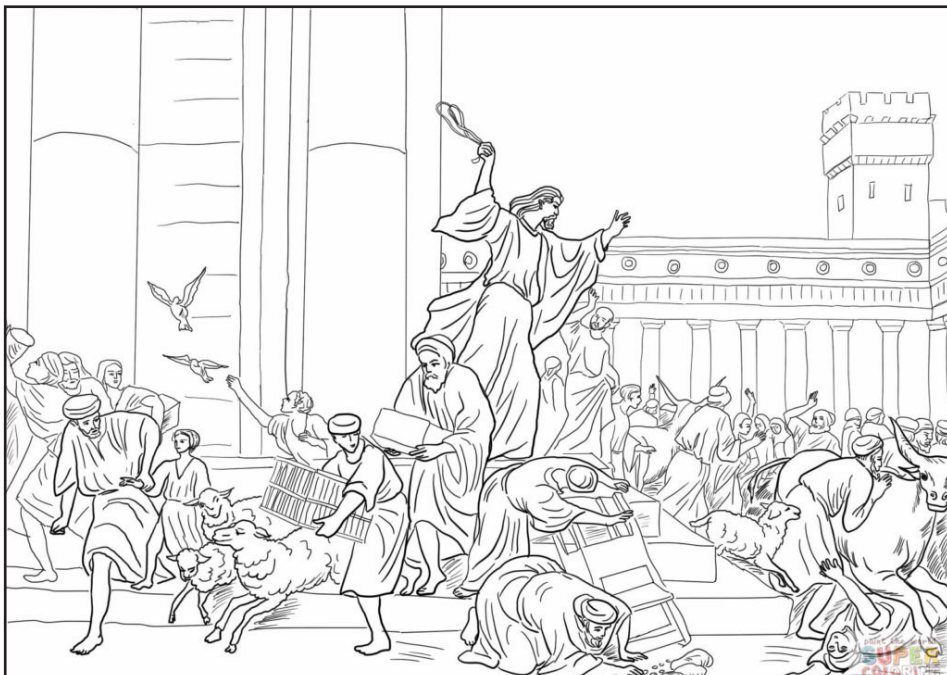
3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B, 4th March 2018

I am the Resurrection and the Life

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presenta-



tion of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

You, Lord,
have the message
of eternal life.

Gospel Acclamation

I am the resurrection
and the life,
says the Lord,
whoever believes in me
will never die.

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 Gallagher
and all those whose
anniversaries
occur about this time.

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

Candlelit Stations of the Cross



**7pm
Thursday 15th March
St John's RC Church
Melville Street, Perth**

Collection

Thank you for your generosity - last Sunday's collection amounted to £226.17.

Mission collection

Thank you for your generosity in response to Sr Ella Flynn's appeal last Sunday on behalf of work of the Salesian Sisters. £359.81 was raised.

Stations of the Cross

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

Italian Association

The next monthly meeting of the Italian Association will be on Saturday 24th March (earlier than usual due to Easter) and the meeting will begin with Mass in Italian at 1.30pm.

Italian classes have recommenced on Saturdays from 4.15-6.15pm. All welcome - from beginners to advanced.

Stations of the Cross will take place in St John's on Saturdays at 2pm, in Italian.

Concert

7pm, Thursday 8th March in Our Lady's - Michael Ellacott entertains - in aid of the Struan Road Community Hall Funds.

Quiz Night

St John's Academy Quiz Night - Friday 9th March - 7.30pm - St John's Church Hall. Entry - £5 per team of 6 (max) - tickets on sale at the school.

Justice and Peace

Be who God meant you to be
and you will set the world on
fire!

Saint Catherine of Sienna

**Special Collection next
Sunday in aid of Papal &
Episcopal Charities (including
SCIAF). This money, together
with the money saved in your
WEE BOXES, will qualify for
the UK government's Matched
Funding Scheme by which
your donations will be doubled
in their value.**

SCIAF Boxes

SCIAF's WEE BOXES are available in the church porch. Please take one home and use it for your Lenten Alms - returning it on Holy Thursday. Thank you.

Our Lady's Jubilees

This year is the Golden Jubilee of Our Lady's School and the Diamond Jubilee of Our Lady's Church, so there is to be a joint celebration. Mass on 25th October, to which all are invited. A Joint Social to be held on 26th October.

Any St Mary Magdalene's parishioners who were married at Our Lady's or have photos they could let us borrow, plus any school photos or anything of interest really; everything and anything would be very much appreciated - please contact Louise Wardlaw on 07910281401.

OUR LADY'S, LETHAM UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS DAFFODIL TEA

Parish rooms at Our Lady's

11am-1pm,

Saturday 10th March

Entrance fee is £2

Gifts for Mothers' Day,

Guess the weight of
the Simnel Cake...

in aid of

Student Priesthood Fund

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