



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

# St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Tel: 01738 643418

Monsignor Charles Hendry - Parish Priest  
Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (07851 735590) - Permanent Deacon

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, 9th September 2018

## The Messianic Secret

Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today's reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spit and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of



the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mis-

sion to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."

### For today's Mass

#### Responsorial Psalm

I will walk  
in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

#### Gospel Acclamation

I am the Way,  
the Truth and the Life,  
says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father  
except through me.

### Justice and Peace

*"Love ought to show it-  
self in deeds more than in  
words."*

**Saint Ignatius of Loyola**

## 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,

5pm (Polish) & 6.30pm

## PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose  
of the soul Anne Morgan,  
Ralph and Annetta Giulianotti  
of all those whose  
anniversaries occur  
about this time.

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

## FEASTDAYS

**Tuesday 4th September  
St John Chrysostom  
Bishop, Doctor**

**Saturday 15th September  
Exaltation of  
the Holy Cross**

**Sunday 16th September  
Our Lady of Sorrow**

## Collection

Thank you for your generosity -  
last Sunday's collection amounted to  
£354.90.

## Kerala collection

Last Sunday's collection in support  
of the flood victims in Kerala raised  
£195.65. Thank you for your generosity.

## Society of St Vincent de Paul

Through the support of our parish's  
weekly SVdP box collection, this week  
we have sent £1,000 to the Kerala Disaster  
Appeal in recognition of some of  
our parishioners' links with the area.

Our Conference is twinned with an  
SVP Conference in the Kerala area.  
We have also responded to an appeal  
following an earthquake on the island  
of Lombok in Indonesia. A similar  
amount has been sent via SVP Scotland.

This response is only possible  
through the generous weekly contributions  
of our parishioners in St John's  
and St Mary Magdalene's. Your support  
is much appreciated. Thank you.

## Open Doors

St John's Church is taking part in  
Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust's  
Open Doors event. The church will  
welcome visitors on Saturday 29th and  
Sunday 30th September, from 12-5pm.

## Italian Association

The next meeting will take place on  
Saturday 29th September, at 1pm in the  
Church Hall, followed by Holy Mass in  
Italian at 2pm in the Church.

## Italian classes

Please note that weekly Italian classes  
continue on Saturdays at 4.15pm in  
the Church Hall - all welcome - beginners  
to native speakers.

## 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

OF

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH CHOIR**

**7.30PM, SUNDAY**

**30TH SEPTEMBER**

**TICKETS £5 IN SUPPORT  
OF THE KEEP IN TOUCH GROUP  
TO AID THEIR WORK IN THE CHURCH**

**THE TICKETS WILL BE NUMBERED  
AND WILL ALSO BE A RAFFLE TICKET**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CHOIR  
MEMBERS, KIT GROUP  
OR PARISH SHOP**

## 2018 Annual Pilgrimage for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair

The 2018 Annual Pilgrimage to pray  
for the Beatification of the Venerable  
Margaret Sinclair will take place on  
Sunday 9th September from 2pm to  
6pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate,  
Edinburgh.

2pm - Opening; 3pm - Film: The  
Story of Margaret Sinclair, Servant of  
God; 4.30pm - Holy Mass.

Refreshments available. All invited.

## Young Adult Retreat

There will be a Retreat for Young  
Adults in the Diocesan Centre, Dundee  
on Saturday 29th September, from  
10am-5pm - includes Mass, Prayer,  
Adoration, Confession and Faith Initiative.  
Please contact the youth director,  
Fr Samuel Alabi youth-director@dun-  
kelddiocese.org.uk or via social media  
- if you would like to attend.

## Kerala Appeal

A box for donations in support of relief  
efforts in Kerala, following their  
recent floods, will be at the back of the  
church after Mass today. Thank you.

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