



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 (07851 735590) - Permanent Deacon

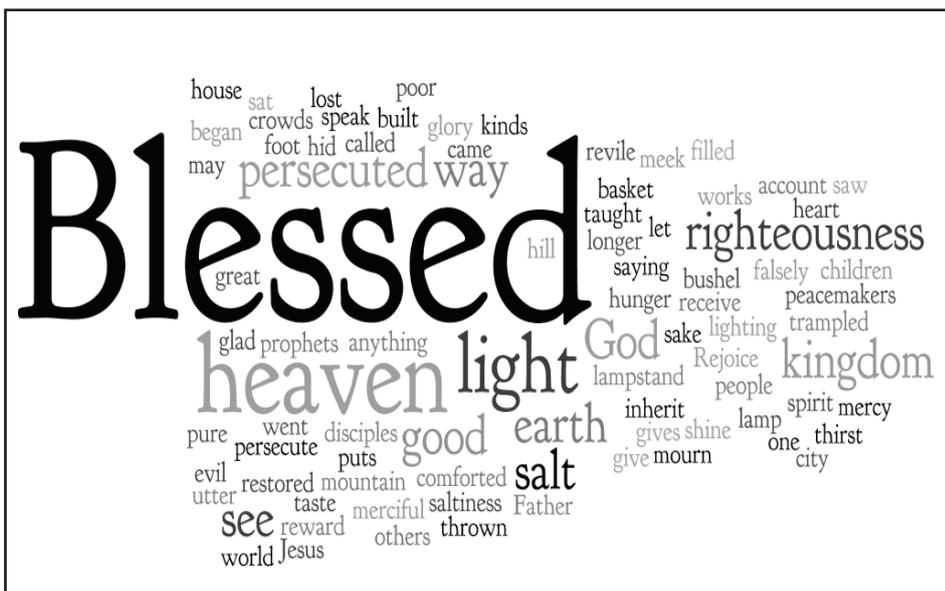
6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C, 17th February 2019

We are called to be the eyes of God in the world

Last Sunday we heard Jesus call Peter to be his disciple. Jesus then travels with Peter and the other disciples. Luke reports acts of healing (a person with leprosy and a paralytic man) and the call of Levi, the tax collector. Jesus also replies to questions from the Pharisees regarding fasting and the observance of the Sabbath. In the verses immediately before today's gospel reading, Jesus is reported to have chosen 12 men from among his disciples to be apostles. Apostle is a Greek word that means "one who is sent."

Today's gospel reading is the beginning of what is often called the Sermon on the Plain. We find a parallel to this passage in Matthew 5:1-7,11 that is often called the Sermon on the Mount. As these titles suggest, there are differences and similarities between these gospel readings.

When spoken from the mountaintop in Matthew's Gospel, we can't miss the impression that Jesus is speaking with the authority and voice of God. The mountaintop is a symbol of closeness to God. Those who ascend the mountain see God and speak for God; recall the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments. As Luke



introduces the location of Jesus' teaching, Jesus teaches on level ground, alongside the disciples and the crowd. Luke presents Jesus' authority in a different light. He is God among us.

Another distinction found in Luke's version is the audience. Luke's Sermon on the Plain is addressed to Jesus' disciples, although in the presence of the crowd; Matthew's Sermon on the Mount is addressed to the crowd. In keeping with this style, the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel sound more personal than those in Matthew's Gospel— Luke uses the article "you" whereas Matthew uses "they" or "those." There is also a difference in number: Matthew describes eight beatitudes; Luke presents just four, each of which has a parallel warning.

The form of the Beatitudes found in Luke's and Matthew's Gospel is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, such as in the Psalms and in Wisdom literature. They are a way to teach about who will find favour with God. The word blessed in this context might be

translated as "happy," "fortunate," or "favoured."

As we listen to this Gospel, the Beatitudes jar our sensibilities. Those who are poor, hungry, weeping, or persecuted are called blessed. This is, indeed, a Gospel of reversals. Those often thought to have been forgotten by God are called blessed. In the list of "woes," those whom we might ordinarily describe as blessed by God are warned about their peril. Riches, possessions, laughter, reputation . . . these are not things that we can depend upon as sources of eternal happiness. They not only fail to deliver on their promise; our misplaced trust in them will lead to our demise. The ultimate peril is in misidentifying the source of our eternal happiness.

The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. We are challenged to examine our present situation in the context of our ultimate horizon, the Kingdom of God.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

Happy the man
who has placed
his trust in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries
of the kingdom
to mere children.

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

4pm (anticipated Mass); 9am; 11am,
5pm (Polish) & 6.30pm

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose
of the soul of

Elena Lanni,

and the

souls of all the faithful departed.

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

Feastdays this week

Friday 22nd February

Chair St Peter

Saturday 23rd February

St Polycarp

Carnivale

Tickets are available today for the Italian Association's Masked Ball on Shrove Tuesday 5th March, at 7pm for 7.30pm - price £10 includes 3 course meal and music - please bring your own drink.

Please add your name to the list at the back of the church to book.

Collection

Last Sunday's collection amounted to £347.92 - thank you for your generosity.

Baby photo

A photograph of a baby found its way into last week's collection - please speak to Mgr Hendry if it was yours.

Mission Collection

Fr Brandon thanks everyone for their generous response to his appeal and he will offer Mass for our community. £413 was raised in support of his appeal on behalf of the Society of African Missionaries.

Bishop's 40th anniversary

Bishop Robson celebrates the 40th anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood with an Anniversary Mass on Friday 15th March at 7pm in the Cathedral. The parish has been allocated five tickets. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the list in the porch - names will be drawn from a hat.

There will be second collection next weekend towards a presentation to the bishop.

SPUC Afternoon for Life

Bishop Robson will host and the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children's 'Afternoon for Life' in the Pastoral Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road Dundee - on Saturday 2nd March, from 12.45pm - 4.20pm

Keynote speakers will include Clare Bremner (ARCH); Gordon MacDonald (Parliamentary Officer for CARE) and Eden Linton (SPUC)

To register - please contact Clare McGraw - mcgraw.clare@gmail.com - crèche facilities are available.

Italian Classes

Italian classes continue on Saturdays - at 4.15pm - beginners and all stages welcome.

The Gospel offers a vision of life and of the world that cannot be imposed, but only proposed, as the good news of the gratuitous love of God and of peace. The message of truth and of beauty can help people escape from the loneliness and lack of meaning to which the conditions of postmodern society often relegate them.

**Synod on The New Evangelization,
2012**

'Echoes' course

Calling all existing and aspiring catechists. Can 11 hours change your faith life? Come and see - register for Echoes delivered over 11 weekly sessions. Join us on the journey!

What inspires you - leads you to God - Kindle the Flame!

You are invited to a series of faith formation meetings with Bishop Stephen Robson, Canon Kevin Golden and Mary O'Duffin - beginning Monday 25th February, 7pm, Pastoral Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee. DD3 6XY.

Register now - bishops-secretary@dunkelddioecese.org.uk

Journey of Faith

Canon Kevin Golden's popular adult formation series, Journey of Faith, continues on Wednesdays at 7.30pm, at the Diocesan Centre, 24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee, DD3 6XY.

All are welcome - especially those who are joining the Church at Easter - indeed everyone who is searching to gain a deeper insight into scriptures and the liturgy. The talks will often draw on Scripture readings for Sunday Masses and so will be helpful to readers and cantors wishing to enrich their ministry.

Contact Canon Kevin (01382 225228) - kevinjamesgolden@hotmail.com for more details.

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