



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

## 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C, 3rd February 2019

### *The message of a prophet*

This Sunday we read from the Gospel of Luke, continuing immediately from last week's Gospel. Recall that in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah and announced that this Scripture was now fulfilled. In today's Gospel, we learn that the people of Nazareth are impressed by Jesus' words, and yet they seem surprised. They still think of Jesus as merely Joseph's son. They do not expect such words from someone they believe that they know.

This Gospel is about who Jesus is and who people believe him to be. The story of Jesus' preaching and rejection at Nazareth is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels. In Luke's Gospel, this incident is told in a way that foretells Jesus' passion and death and helps explain the inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of salvation. In Luke's Gospel this incident appears at the beginning of Jesus' ministry; in Matthew and Mark, this event is placed considerably later, after Jesus has preached and taught elsewhere. Only Luke identifies the content of Jesus' teaching in any detail, telling us that Jesus read from the book of the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue. In Mark and Matthew's

Gospels, Jesus teaches in the synagogue in Nazareth, and the townspeople take offense because Jesus is only the son of a carpenter. They reject his authority to teach them. In Matthew and Mark, it is only after Jesus is rejected that he observes times when Israel has rejected prophets.

In Luke's Gospel, the people are surprised but not immediately offended by Jesus' words in the synagogue. It is the words that follow his reading from the prophet Isaiah that seem to offend them. Jesus challenges and provokes the people of Nazareth by referring to examples in which Israel rejected the prophets. He also challenges them to respond to his message, the message of a prophet, in a way that is different from their ancestors. This call for a new response leads to his rejection.

It is helpful to consider the historical context of Luke's Gospel. Luke has witnessed the acceptance of the gospel message among many Gentiles. He endeavors to explain why the Good News of Jesus has not been as well-received by his Jewish contemporaries. Luke's report interprets the cause of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth in the context of this later Christian history. Just as the people at Nazareth did not welcome the Good News that Jesus announced, so too many among the people of Israel will not accept the preaching of the gospel.



After Jesus' words of challenge, Luke reports that there was a movement to kill Jesus by throwing him over a cliff. This differs from the reports found in Mark and Matthew's Gospels, where Jesus is said to be unable to perform miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Luke says that Jesus walks away from the crowd that intended to kill him; it is not yet his time. The animosity of the people of Nazareth prefigures and prepares the reader of Luke's Gospel for the cross. Luke wants all to understand that it is through his death on the cross that Jesus offers God's salvation to all.

### For today's Mass

#### Responsorial Psalm

My lips will tell of your help.

#### Gospel Acclamation

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

### Mission Appeal

Fr W. Brandon will make an appeal for  
the work of the Society of African Missionaries  
at Mass next Sunday

## 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 souls of  
Maria Borzoni, Cath Hutchison,  
Gerry Kerrigan  
and George Dork  
and for the  
souls of all the faithful departed.

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

## Kindle the Flame

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@  
dunkelddioocese.org.uk

## Collection

Last Sunday's collection amounted to £407 - thank you for your generosity.

## Feastdays this week

**Tuesday 5th February**

**St Agatha**

**Wednesday 6th February**

**St Paul Miki  
and the Japanese Martyrs**

*In Krakow, I asked you several times: "Can we change things?" And you shouted: "Yes!" That shout came from your young and youthful hearts, which do not tolerate injustice and cannot bow to a "throw-away culture" nor give in to the globalization of indifference. Listen to the cry arising from your inner selves!*

Pope Francis, 13 January 2017,  
Presentation of the Preparatory Document  
ahead of the 2018 Synod on "Young People,  
the Faith and Vocational Discernment"

## Mercy Project - Burns Night

St John's Academy are holding their annual Burns Night in aid of their Romanian Mercy Project on 22nd February in St John's Church Hall, at 7.30pm.

Tickets £5 (pupils) and £7 adults are available from Frankie McGuire - please call 07706610543.



## Union of Catholic Mothers

Tuesday 5th February, Mini Bingo for UCM funds. Cost £3 for between one and six books. All welcome for a fun evening.

## Rite of Election

For those who are being received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil this year, the Rite of Election will be celebrated in St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee, at 3pm on Sunday 10th March, the First Sunday of Lent.

## Italian Classes

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

## St John's 'Vigil Mass'

Saturday Vigil Mass (more correctly the anticipated Mass of Sunday) change from 6.30pm to 4pm from Saturday 2nd February

## Nightfever

You are invited to St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee, on Saturday 9th February for an evening of Adoration and Outreach. The evening starts with a Vigil Mass (5.30pm) - then Adoration and Outreach at 7pm and Evening Prayer and Benediction at 10.30pm.

## 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*