



Drawing by John R Hume,
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St Mary Magdalene's Church

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PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

21st Sunday of the Year 27th of August 2023

Dear Parishioners and Friends of our parish, we are so happy that you could join us today to celebrate the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Today Jesus is asking very important question to everyone of us. He says, "Who am I in your life?" That's a serious question and requires a serious answer. There can be a problem with our faith. And the problem may be that our faith is not really our faith, but the faith of our parents or our teachers.

We may have been raised in a Catholic family, grown up in the Catholic Church and have been educated in Catholic schools, and now we think we're Catholic. But if you grew up in a garden, that doesn't mean you're a flower does it? Our faith in Jesus Christ has to be a personal faith. Our answer to this question should not be a catechism type answer.

The question is not who should Jesus be for you? It is: who is Jesus for you? This makes it quite a different question. Each one of us will have a different answer to this same question. When Peter told Jesus: You are the Messiah, he wasn't talking in abstract terms. He was telling Jesus that Jesus was Peter's Messiah. He was Peter's saviour.

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

Your love, O Lord, is eternal
discard not the work of your hands

Gospel Acclamation

You are Peter, and on this rock I will
build my Church
And the gates of the underworld can
never hold out against it.

Here are some questions that may help us discover who Jesus is for us. * How often do you talk to the Lord?

How often do you listen? * Do you ask the Lord to help you in all of your important decisions? * Do you often read about what Jesus has said and done? *

Are you aware of the presence of Christ in your daily life? * Would your life be completely different if Christ were not in it? We examine any relationship so that we can come to some clarity about what the relationship is in our lives, and where we can improve such a relationship. Then we will be able to take concrete steps to grow closer to that person.

Married couples need to formally or informally look at their marriage many times throughout their married life. If they don't, there is the very real danger that they will not be living the kind of marriage that they had hoped for when they first entered that sacrament. And so there is nothing unusual about asking what our present relationship to Christ really is.

In fact, it could be the most important question we ever ask. Christ is the way, the truth and the life. How closely are we connected to all that Jesus is, and all that Jesus promises he will be for us. May we come to know more and more the person of Jesus, for knowing who Jesus is, you will come to know who you are.

Have a wonderful week – stay well. Please keep me in your prayers as you all are always in mine.

Your prayers as you all are always in mine.

Fr Bogdan SDS



Thank You

We thank you for your spectacular generosity. Your generous support of our Parish and your help with the needs of our community is greatly appreciated!

Sunday Collection

20th August 2023 – £518.00.

PRAYERS

Please prayer for the repose of the souls of Lenz Ortner, John Wanat who died recently, and for Jack Simpson and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Eternal rest grant unto their souls, O Lord.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

Priest's musing

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car. Both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing it, I could have sworn we just went through a red light."

After a few more minutes they came to another intersection and the light was red again and again they went right through. This time the woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous and decided to pay very close attention to the road and to see what was going on. At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was definitely red and they went right through. She turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred! Did you know we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us!" Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, am I driving?"

The National Pilgrimage to Carfin

I write to inform that the Annual National Pilgrimage to Carfin will return this year to its traditional date on the first Sunday in September. The Pilgrimage Mass will take place at the Grotto at 3pm on Sunday 3rd September. I extend an invitation to all parishioners to participate in the pilgrimage. The Bishops have decided that we will pray for peace, particularly in the Ukraine, at our Pilgrimage. Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family in the UK will preach at the Mass, and the Choir of the Ukrainian Catholic community in Scotland will participate in the Mass along with the Motherwell Diocesan Choir. Bishop Hugh Gilbert, the President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland will be main celebrant. With my prayers and best wishes, Yours in Christ,

+ Joseph Toal

Daily Mass Goers...

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! Isaiah 2:5

I learned from attending Mass every day at my parish church that God's special people are here. Some people come to weekday Mass now and then, others come to Mass a couple of times a week, but certain ones come every day. Not that non-daily Mass goers are any less loved by God or love God any less themselves but it's those daily Mass goers that I classify as God's special people. I noticed God's special people after I started going to Mass every day, but it took me probably 1 ½ to 2 years to realize that I was one of them.

Others might see daily Mass goers as different, fanatical, people who have issues or maybe even refer to us as "a little off." But more likely people don't think one way or the other and possibly I'm projecting. When I started coming to daily Mass, I noticed God's special people every day. I thought, "I'm not like them. Not one of them." Then one day Father was away and the weekday Mass was cancelled.

I travelled to the next city for Mass. I felt compelled to go. When I arrived a couple of other's from our parish had come to Mass also. That's when I must have crossed the line. I realized that, yes indeed, I am one of God's special people. We need Jesus. We're all very needy, spiritually needy. We need to be here at Mass. We need to be with Jesus. It's become the best part of our day. We want Jesus. We don't want to pass up this beautiful gift. We understand how blessed we are to have the opportunity to be with Jesus this way, this often, this close to Jesus every day.

We believe and understand the miracle that happens on the altar. The miracle Jesus gave us at the Last Supper. Jesus hung out with the outcast, the rejected, the sick, the lonely, the poor, the lost, the people who needed him most. Jesus wants to be with us and we want to be with him. As we greet each other coming into church one or two at a time, as we turn around during the Sign of Peace and smile and wave at one another since we're so spread out or reach across aisles to shake hands, and as we celebrate the miracle of Jesus together, we become supernatural people. We believe we'll be together for eternity. (Cathy Lamb)

NORMAL MASS SCHEDULES

Monday
No public Mass

Tuesday – Saturday
9am

Friday
7pm (Polish)

Sunday
8.30am (Polish)
10am (English)
12noon (Polish)

CONFESSIONS
Saturday
9:30am (after Mass)
or call to make an appointment.

First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation

St John's R.C. Academy is the designated denominational school for St Mary Magdalene's Parish and offers the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation in the Primary school years. If your child does not attend St John's R.C. Academy then please contact Fr Bogdan to discuss alternative arrangements for the reception of these sacraments. Classes will commence on Wednesday, 30th August at 4:30pm in the church porch.

SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Monday 21st August
Memorial of St Augustine

Tuesday: 29th August
Memorial of the Passion
of St John the Baptist

Wednesday 30th August
21st Week of the Year

Thursday 31st August
21st Week of the Year
Friday 1st September
21st Week of the Year
Saturday
2nd September
21st Week of the Year

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 Fr Bogdan after Mass