

## St Mary Magdalene's Church

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PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

# Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord 24th of March 2024

Welcome to Saint Mary Magdalene — we are happy to have you join us today to celebrate the Palm Sunday.

We hold palm branches in our hands today. We say, "Hosanna, a word that means, Be now our Savior" Christ's entry into Jerusalem is the sign of our hope of entry into the heavenly Jerusalem. A man with leprosy came before Jesus and was healed. But Jesus told him, "See that you say nothing to anyone about this." A deaf man came to the Lord. Jesus said, "Ephphathat, Be Opened" and the man was able to hear.

Then Jesus told him, "Say nothing about this to anyone." A blind man had his sight returned, and, similarly, Jesus said to him, "Keep this quiet –don't even enter the villages." Jesus died on the Cross, and a pagan, a Roman centurion, made the announcement, "Surely this is the Son of God." To understand who Jesus is, we have to recognize the Cross. To recognize how much God loves us, we have to realize the extent of his suffering for us. To realize what it means to be followers of Jesus, we have to join him on the Cross. A Poem for Passion Sunday: "Beneath the Cross".

## For today's Mass

#### Responsorial Psalm

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

#### Gospel Acclamation

Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.



We stand beneath the Cross. With Mary and John. The crowd is terrible. They yell insults at the Kindest One. This is what he gets, we get, for not being like everyone else. Their ridicule hurts Mary and John and Us. We stand beneath the Cross with Mary and John. The leaders, the intelligentsia, mock the Truthful One. They say, "Prove to us you are God's Son."

They laugh at those who have spiritual values. They scorn Mary and John and Us. We stand beneath the Cross with Mary and John. His closest friends have deserted the Faithful One.

Their absence screams, "We do not believe what you told us." Escaping into materialism, their silence laughs at the poverty of belonging to a Crucified King They laugh at Mary and John And Us. We stand beneath the Cross with Mary and John. His pain is unbearable. It is hard to look at the Innocent One. But he looks down from

his pulpit, and loves Mary and John, And Us. I certainly am not a poet, but in this poem I am expressing what is in my heart when I look upon the cross. Happy Passion Sunday.

Have a great week—Stay safe and well and enjoy the gifts and blessings God has given us. May God bless you always.

Fr Bogdan SDS

#### The Mass of Chrism

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Nethergate, Dundee on the Wednesday of Holy Week, 27 March at 7pm. During this Mass the Holy Oils for use in the Sacraments during the next year are blessed and the Chrism is consecrated. All are welcome to come and share in this joyful Diocesan event!

#### **PRAYERS**

We pray for our Mary Duffee who died recently and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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

#### 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!

#### Collections

Sunday collection 17th March 2024 - £931.50.

Second Collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places

### **Priest's Musing**

A fourth-grade teacher was giving her pupils a lesson in logic."Here is the situation," she said. "A man is standing up in a boat in the middle of a river, fishing. He loses his balance, falls in, and begins splashing and yelling for help. His wife hears the commotion, knows he can't swim, and runs down to the bank. Why do you think she ran to the bank?" A little girl raised her hand and asked, "To draw out all his savings?"

#### **Conversion Practices Consultation**

The Scottish Government is consulting on a proposed new law to end conversion practices in Scotland. The proposals, which could see loving mums and dads and caring clergy jailed for up to seven years, have drawn sharp and widespread criticism and been described by Aidan O'Neill KC as "ill-thought out" and "fundamentally illiberal". Please respond to the consultation before the closing date of 2nd April. You will find all that you need, including guidance on responding to the consultation, here: https://rcpolitics.org/conversion-practices/

#### Special Collection on Good Friday

The annual collection to support the work of Franciscans the Holy Land will again be taken up in all parishes worldwide on Good Friday. The annual collection – taken up this year on Good Friday, 29th March – helps the Francis-

cans who staff holy sites in the Holy Land to minister to minister to pilgrims and to provide other services to Christians living there. Christians in the Holy Land are valiantly keeping the faith that was handed on to them by the Apostles. A Christian presence has always remained in the Holy Land since the beginning of the Church. There is a great importance of Christians continuing to pray and work in the Holy Land. Our donations to the collection to our sisters and brothers have been able to do so much good, including maintain parishes, supporting grammar and high schools, rehabilitation apartments in the old city of Jerusalem, sheltering children at risk of domestic violence and preserving about 80 shrines and holy sites from the life of Jesus, the Apostles and the prophets. Since 1974, the Church has taken up a collection to aid the Church and Christian people in the Holy Land that is jointly administered by the Vatican's Congregation for the Eastern Churches and the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. The monies collected in the annual appeal support seminarians and priests in the Holy Land; offer pastoral, charitable, educational, and social assistance to Christians there; and maintain the sacred sites in the region. St Pope Paul VI established the collection "so that Catholics around the world might show solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land. (The Prefect of the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, appeals to the faithful around the world to support Christians in the Holy Land.)

# Holy Week: Hope in the Face of Death

In Holy Week, we're called to unite our sufferings with the suffering and death of Our Lord on the Cross in order to fully appreciate the glory of the Resurrection. How we see our cross all depends on whether we are able to see past fear of death to take hope in the Resurrection. We don't have to dread the end of this earthly life. We don't have to live in terror about what comes after we close our eyes for the last time. The fear so many of us feel in the face of death is, of course, natural. We weren't made for death. We were made for life. But Jesus came to release us from our fear of death. The loving obedience he offered on the Cross atoned for our sins and opened the gates to Heaven for all who follow him. We're called to hope in the God who took the single greatest evil ever perpetrated—the Crucifixion of Our Lord-and brought out of it the single greatest good the world has ever known: the redemption of humanity. If God can bring goodness and glory and beauty and life out of that kind of evil, he most certainly can bring goodness and glory and beauty and life out of the evil we presently face. Hope is what will sustain us in the days yet to come. The fears of this world cannot rob us of the hope that fills us—the hope of eternal life, which we will celebrate this Easter. During the Holy Week we have the opportunity to offer our own sorrows in union with Christ's and accept the grace of hope that Our Lord so abundantly offers us. This is a message that you and those you love need to hear this Holy Week. Be prepared to witness to hope. (Fr Bogdan)

#### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2024**

- St Mary Magdalene's Church

#### Sunday 24th March PALM SUNDAY

8:30am (Polish), 10am (English), 12pm (Polish)

Monday 25th March

9am (English)

**Tuesday 26th March** 9am (English)

Wednesday 27th March 9am (English)

#### Thursday 28th March HOLY THURSDAY

7pm, Mass of the Lord's Last Supper (English), Watching ends at 9pm.

## Friday 29th March GOOD FRIDAY

3pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Polish)

#### Saturday 30th March HOLY SATURDAY AT THE TOMB OF CHRIST

10am, Blessing of the Food (Polish) 11am, Blessing of the Food (Polish) 12am, Blessing of the Food (Polish)

7pm, Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection (English)

#### Sunday 31st March EASTER SUNDAY

7am (Polish), 10am (English), 12pm (Polish)

Monday 1st April
EASTER MONDAY

11am, Mass in Polish

## ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN HOSPITAL? DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS IN HOSPITAL?

Name Hospital Ward