



St Mary Magdalene's Church

"The best is yet to come"

Parish Newsletter 1st March 2026

Second Sunday of Lent (A)



Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday the Gospel takes us up the mountain of the Transfiguration. For a brief moment the disciples see who Jesus truly is: the Beloved Son, radiant with the glory of God. And then—almost immediately—they must walk back down into ordinary life, where questions, struggles, and the road to the Cross await.

That is often how Lent feels. God gives us light not to escape reality, but to strengthen us for it. When prayer is clear and consoling, we say: "It is good to be here." When prayer becomes dry, we learn faithfulness. The Father's command is simple: **"Listen to Him."**

This week, take one practical step of listening: open the Gospel for five minutes each day, read a few lines slowly, and ask: *Lord, what do You want to change in my heart?* **Mary, who always points us to Jesus, will help us to keep walking—down the mountain, and forward toward Easter.**

St Mary Magdalene's

Roman Catholic Church

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Including Lent services

Sunday – 9.30am Stations of the Cross and 10.00am Holy Mass
12.30pm Holy Mass (*English with Liturgy of the Word in Polish*)

Monday – 9.30am

Tuesday – 9.30am

Wednesday – 9.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Holy Mass

Thursday – 9.30am

Friday – 9.30am;

6.15pm Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass (*English with Liturgy of the Word in Polish*)

Saturday – 9.30am

INFORMATION FROM FATHER LESZEK:

I am visiting my family in Poland from Monday 2nd March, returning Monday 9th March. *If you need a priest during this time, please contact directly Fr Abraham (Tel. 0777 623 5335).*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



First reading — *Genesis 12:1-4a*

“The call of Abram, the father of the People of God.”

Responsorial Psalm — *Ps 33(32):*

“May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD”.

Second reading — *2 Timothy 1:8b-10*

“God calls and enlightens us.”

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father

From a bright cloud, the Father’s voice was heard:

‘This is my beloved Son, listen to him’.

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father

Gospel — *Matthew 17:1-9*

“His face shone like the sun.”

LAST MONTH COLLECTIONS:

01/02 — £744.70

08/02 — £551.30

15/02 — £594.75

22/02 — £744.01

2ND COLLECTION

FOR ECCLESIASTICAL STUDENTS FUND: £254.05

CANDLES OFFERING

FROM 26/10/2025 — 22/02/2026

£354.56

SCIAF Wee Boxes are available during Lent.

Please take one home and use it for your Lenten almsgiving. Through your small sacrifices and generous support, you can help SCIAF bring hope and practical help to people in need.

Thank you for your generosity.

HOSPITAL VISITS BY A PRIEST:

If you know someone in hospital who would like a visit from a priest for prayer, spiritual support, Holy Communion (Viaticum: communion for dying), Confession, or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Priest on call, at 07842 538056 ASAP.

ST FRANCIS’ OF ASSISI JUBILEE



On the mountain of the Transfiguration, the disciples see the glory of Jesus and hear the Father’s voice: *“Listen to Him.”* In this Jubilee of St Francis of Assisi, we ask for the grace to listen with the humble and open heart of St Francis, who desired above all to follow Christ.



SCOTTISH CATHOLIC
EDUCATION SERVICE

The Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) and the Scottish Catholic Parliamentary Office (SCPO) have helped secure important protections for Catholic education in Scotland, including Religious Education, Religious Observance, and the religious character of Catholic schools.



They also remain concerned about proposals that could weaken parental involvement in religious observance and about policies that threaten denominational schools. SCES and SCPO will continue to work with the Scottish Government to protect Catholic schools. The Bishops have thanked SCES and SCPO for their considerable work on this issue.

On 8 March, the Second Collection will be taken up for **Papal and Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF)**. Thank you for your generosity and support for the charitable work of the Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

THEME: THE REAL PRESENCE OF THE LORD IN HOLY COMMUNION

Opening Prayer:



Lord Jesus, truly present in the Most Holy Eucharist, we walk with You on the way of the Cross. Open our eyes to recognise You: in Your suffering, in Your love, and in Holy Communion.

Grant that each station may deepen our faith,

strengthen our hope, and inflame our charity. Amen.

I. JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Pilate declares You guilty—yet You remain silent Love. In the Eucharist You still “accept the sentence” of being misunderstood, ignored, treated as ordinary bread. Lord, teach me to believe even when I do not feel. **Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...**

II. JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

You embrace the Cross freely—love chooses to stay. In Holy Communion You come to me with the same freedom, the same humility. Make my heart ready to receive You, not casually, but reverently.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

III. JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Your body collapses under the weight—yet Your love does not collapse. In my weakness, in my sins, You still remain present and faithful in the Sacrament. Jesus, lift me—so I do not flee from You, but return to You.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

IV. JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Mary’s gaze meets Yours: silent faith, perfect trust. She teaches us how to adore: to hold You within, to treasure You, to follow You. Mother of the Eucharist, teach me to receive Your Son with purity.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

V. SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Simon carries the Cross with You, not instead of You. In Communion You carry my burdens with me: not magic, but Presence—strength within. Lord, make me a Simon for others after I have received You.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

VI. VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Veronica dares to come close; love becomes courageous. In the Eucharist You allow me to come close to Your Heart—so near it can change me. Jesus, imprint Your face on my soul through Holy Communion.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

VII. JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Again You fall—because love persists. How often I fall back into old habits... yet You remain, waiting for me in the tabernacle. Give me the grace of confession and the courage to begin again.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

VIII. JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

We adore You, O Christ and we bless you, — because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

You call them to conversion: “Do not weep for Me—weep for yourselves.” In Communion You do not only comfort; You purify and transform. Lord, let Your Real Presence lead me to real repentance.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

IX. JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

This fall is near the end—nothing left but surrender. In the Host You surrender Yourself completely: “This is My Body, given up for you.” Teach me to surrender my pride and receive You with a poor heart.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

X. JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

You are left with nothing—no protection, no dignity in the eyes of the crowd. In the Eucharist You are “stripped” again: hidden, silent, defenceless in our hands. Lord, teach me to honour You in the smallest, simplest signs.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

XI. JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

The nails fix You in place—love becomes immovable. In every Mass You remain: the same Jesus, truly present, offering Yourself to the Father. Let Holy Communion fasten my heart to Your will.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

XII. JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

You breathe Your last—yet love is not ended; it is poured out. In the Eucharist Your sacrifice is made present: not repeated,

but offered to us. Jesus, let me receive Communion as the price of Your Cross.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

XIII. JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

Your Body is placed in Mary’s arms—tender, wounded, real. In Holy Communion I receive that same Body: risen, glorious, yet truly the Body once pierced. Mary, help me to hold Jesus with reverence after Communion.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

XIV. JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

The tomb seems like silence—but it is the doorway to resurrection. The tabernacle can seem silent too—yet You are there, alive, waiting. Lord, keep me faithful in adoration, until faith becomes sight.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

**We adore You, O Christ and we bless you,
— because by Your holy Cross You have
redeemed the world.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, truly present in the Most Holy Eucharist, You have loved us to the end. As we leave this Way of the Cross, remain with us in Holy Communion, heal what is wounded, strengthen what is weak, and make our lives a living thanksgiving. Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, pray for us. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

JOIN US FOR A LENTEN RETREAT EXPERIENCE

“Will he come to the festival or not?” Approaching Easter with the Gospel of Saint John

Saturday 14 March at 10.15am until 2.15pm

at the Pastoral Centre, St Mary’s, Forebank Church Hall, Forebank Road, Dundee DD1 2PD

10.15am Morning Prayer and Praise

10.45am Tea and coffee

11.00am Talk: “Come to the Festival!”

11.40am Small group sharing or quiet time

12.30pm Lunch break (Please bring a packed lunch)

1.15pm Preparation for Mass

1.30pm Celebration of Mass after which we depart.

A Lenten day of mercy and grace - All are welcome.