

People of the Word: St Mary Magdalene

Our journey through the Bible has already taken us to Jesus, the very centre of our faith and of human history. As we saw last week, the Lord gathered disciples around Him, led by St Peter, who would continue His work in the early Church. But He was also followed and served by a group of women, foremost of whom was **Mary Magdalene**.

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

Matthew, Mark and Luke all list the names of a group of women who followed Jesus and provided for Him, and Mary's name always appears first in the list. St Luke tells us (8:2) that Jesus had "cast out seven devils" from her, so we know that she had every reason to be grateful to Jesus for His healing ministry.



Mary Magdalene is particularly prominent in the accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection. All four Gospels record that she stood at the foot of the cross, and all four place her at the tomb on Easter Sunday morning. In a beautiful passage, St John (20:11-18) tells us that Mary was the first person to see the risen Lord. At first, she does not recognise Him, and asks Him where she may find the body of her Lord. But her eyes are opened when Jesus speaks her name: "Mary". He asks her to go and tell the disciples that He will meet them in Galilee: she is sent with news of the resurrection. Therefore she is sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" – she is sent with the Good News to those who will preach the Good News to the world.

Questions for reflection:

- In what ways do I feel the healing of Jesus in my life?
- How do I allow my gratitude to the Lord to inspire me to serve Him? Am I also a witness to His resurrection for the people I know?

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 27

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel. All information and links at www.saintclares.co.uk

See back page for information on attending Mass in the church.

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Sunday 4 th	Vigil Mass	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Lena Thompson RIP
	10am		Special Int (David and Ali)
	Evening		People of the Parish
Monday	10am	Dedication of the Cathedral	Terence Devine RIP
Tuesday	10am		Thanksgiving (T.S.)
Wednesday	10am	Our Lady of the Rosary	Special Intention
Thursday	10am	St John Henry Newman	Geoff Holden RIP
Friday	10am		Eileen Woodhead RIP
Saturday	10am		For one who is retiring
Sunday 11 th	6pm (vigil)	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
	9:30am		Sr Margaret Doherty RIP
	6pm		Patrick O'Donnell RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Eileen Woodhead, Joe Noblet, Clare Mulligan** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: on request. Contact Fr Andrew to arrange.

ROSARY: Prayed after 10am Mass, Monday-Friday.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Ryan, Barbara Knowling, Frank McLaughlin, Lilian Collum, Alice Donlan, Miriam Green, Hannah Walmsley, Ellen Comer, Theresa Heaps.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

Supporting your parish financially

To avoid use of cash, it is better, if possible, to support the parish using standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for the details. If you don't use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. If you have been saving offertory envelopes, these may be pushed through the presbytery letterbox or handed in at the end of Mass, if you are able to attend at this time. Thank you for your support for our parish.

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES: From next Sunday, 11th October, the morning Mass will be celebrated at 9:30am every day. We will continue to livestream this Mass. The evening Masses, from Saturday 10th October, will revert to the old time of 6pm. It remains absolutely essential that you book a place for Sunday Masses.

ATTENDING WEEKDAY MASS: Reserving a place for the morning Mass Monday-Saturday is no longer necessary. You can just turn up. A steward will record your name and (if you don't regularly come) will ask you for contact details.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: From Monday Adoration will continue to take place in church but will not be streamed. There are many other Catholic sites on YouTube which livestream Adoration (e.g. Walsingham).

FRIDAY MASS THIS WEEK: For technical reasons we are unable to livestream Mass this Friday – this is for one day only. Apologies for the break in service!

CATHOLIC PAPERS: Copies of the Catholic papers are now available for sale in the narthex, as before the lockdown. Please do not handle a paper unless you intend to buy it. Money, as before, can be placed in the wallbox in the narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: This weekend for the harvest fast day, which supports the CAFOD Coronavirus appeal. Please use the envelopes provided for Gift Aid.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: The deadline to apply for a primary school place for September 2021 is 15th January 2021. Applications are made online at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>.

To apply for a place at St Clare's Primary School you also need a supplementary form, which must be returned to the school by 15th January 2021. These are on the school website: <https://www.st-clares.lancs.sch.uk/parents/admissions.php>

ST CLARE'S SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS: St Clare's Catholic Primary School will be holding open evenings on Monday 12th October and Wednesday 14th October 4pm-6pm. Visits are by appointment only. Call school on 01772 787037 to book.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Prayers and offers of help for women outside an abortion centre in Penwortham, running now and until 1st November. More details can be found on the website: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/preston>

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA: A Mass to mark the centenary of this work is being livestreamed today (Sunday) at 3pm, at www.stellamaris.org.uk/centenarymass

CARMELITE VOCATIONS RETREAT: An online event (9th-11th October) hosted by the sisters at Dolgellau Carmel, Wales. Talks, prayer and an opportunity to speak to the sisters and discover their life. For any woman discerning a possible vocation to Carmel. For more information or contact details, speak to Fr Andrew.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 4 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	7pm	Baptism Preparation (2)	Narthex
Tuesday	7:30pm	Fabric and Finance Committee	Narthex
Saturday	12-1pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 11 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

All events marked 'YouTube' are streamed live on our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

A prayer of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Attending Mass at St Clare's

Booking is no longer necessary for the morning Mass Monday-Saturday, but **it is essential that you request a place if you wish to come to Sunday Mass (or the Saturday evening vigil)**, as these Masses are extremely busy.

If you wish to attend a Sunday Mass, please decide on a **regular Mass** you wish to attend, then contact us to see what's possible. We will get contact you to let you know when you can come. Please only come to Sunday Mass if you have received confirmation that we have sufficient space. In this way we are able to minimise the risks and keep everyone as safe as possible.

To arrange to come to Sunday Mass: Please contact us (preferably by email – if you don't use email, please phone us) and let us know the following information:

- Your name (and, if you are not using email, a phone number)
- The day(s) when you would be able to attend. If at the weekend, please let us know morning/evening. Monday-Friday Mass will continue to be at 10am.
- How many people from your household/support bubble will attend (you will sit together at Mass, so it's vital we know how many are in your group).

There is still no obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday at this time.