

# Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter

## July 19, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

This past week we received the sad news that our former pastor, Fr. John McBride, had passed away at the age of 86.

Fr. McBride was born in Philadelphia and attended Most Blessed Sacrament Grade School (then the largest Catholic grade school in the world) and West Catholic High School for Boys. He entered St. Charles Seminary and was ordained by John Cardinal Krol on May 19, 1962.

His first assignment was as Assistant Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield. His other assignments included Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish in Swarthmore and St. Aloysius Parish in Pottstown. He also served on the faculty of Cardinal O'Hara High School where he was a beloved teacher and a mentor to the other priests on the faculty.

In 1986 he was appointed our pastor here at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, succeeding Fr. Charles Dombay. In 1992 Fr. McBride oversaw the expansion of the school building with the addition of the gymnasium, cafeteria, kitchen, and four classrooms. He then oversaw our parish's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 1994. In 1999 he oversaw the transformation of the old multi-purpose building into the permanent and beautiful church that we all enjoy today.

In 2002 he would give up his pastor-ship, and he became an assistant pastor at St. Gabriel's in Norwood and then a senior priest at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Glenside. After his retirement, he chose to live at St. Andrew's Parish in Newtown with his longtime friend, Msgr. Michael Picard.

Since his passing, so many of our long time parishioners have shared many fond memories of Fr. McBride and his warm character and Irish sense of humor. These long time parishioners have all said how much they enjoyed Fr. McBride's time here and how much they missed him when he left.

Fr. McBride was preceded in death by his parents, his two brothers, and his sister. He is survived by nieces and nephews.

We as a parish do owe Fr McBride a great debt of gratitude for his hard work and vision and for the beautiful legacy he has left us. And so we pray:

*O God, Thou didst raise Thy servant, Fr. John McBride, to the sacred priesthood of Jesus Christ, according to the Order of Melchisedech, giving him the sublime power to offer the eternal Sacrifice, to bring the Body and Blood of Thy Son Jesus Christ down upon the altar, and to absolve the sins of men in Thine own Holy Name. We beseech Thee to reward his faithfulness and to forget his faults, admitting him speedily into Thy Holy Presence, there to enjoy forever the recompense of his labors. This we ask through Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Lord.*

*Amen.*

May Fr. McBride Rest in Peace.

I have included in this week's newsletter this Sunday's Mass readings and a reflection on St Mary Magdalen whose Feast Day is this Wednesday. The reflection is from the "My Catholic Life" website.

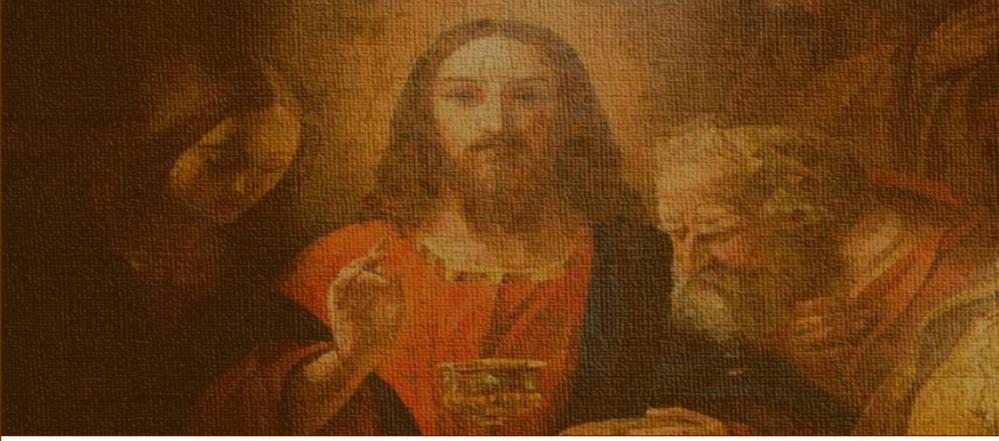
Let us continue to pray our Rosaries and our Chaplets for our first responders, for those infected by coronavirus, and for an end of the pandemic and a return to normalcy.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us

Fr. Michael J Pawelko





# Sunday Mass Readings

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary

### Reading 1: [WIS 12:13, 16-19](#)

There is no god besides you who have  
the care of all,  
that you need show you have not unjustly  
condemned.  
For your might is the source of justice;  
your mastery over all things makes you  
lenient to all.  
For you show your might when the  
perfection of your power  
is disbelieved;  
and in those who know you,  
you rebuke temerity.

But though you are master of might, you  
judge with clemency,  
and with much lenience you govern us;  
for power, whenever you will,  
attends you.  
And you taught your people,  
by these deeds,  
that those who are just must be kind;  
and you gave your children good ground  
for hope  
that you would permit repentance  
for their sins.

### Responsorial Psalm: [PS 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16](#)

R. (5a) **Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

- ▶ You, O LORD, are good and forgiving,  
abounding in kindness to all who  
call upon you.  
Hearken, O LORD, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound  
of my pleading. **R.**
- ▶ All the nations you have made  
shall come  
and worship you, O LORD,  
and glorify your name.

For you are great, and you do  
wondrous deeds;  
you alone are God. **R.**  
▶ You, O LORD, are a God merciful  
and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in  
kindness and fidelity.  
Turn toward me, and have pity on me;  
give your strength to your servant. **R.**

### Reading 2: [ROM 8:26-27](#)

Brothers and sisters: The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

### Alleluia

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower.  
All who come to him will have life forever.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**



# Sunday Mass Readings

## Gospel: [MT 13:24-43](#) OR

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ His slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, “First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

[He proposed another parable to them. “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”

He spoke to them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened.”

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:

*I will open my mouth in parables,  
I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation of the world.*

Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” He said in reply, “He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear.”]

## OR

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# Saint Mary Magdalene

First Century



July 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Feast Day

Liturgical Color: White

Patron saint of perfumers, converts, and hairdressers

Taken for My Catholic Life: <https://mycatholic.life/>

## *An Apostle to the Apostles first spreads the Good News*

“Cherchez la femme “ is a French phrase meaning “Look for the woman.” It is used as a convenient shortcut in movie or literary criticism to discover what is driving a plot, especially in a detective story. Why did the man risk his life? Cherchez la femme? Who had a motive to lie? Cherchez la femme? Where is the treasure buried? Cherchez la femme? It’s a cliché, of course, but clichés often convey some truth. Look for the women in the Gospels, and you will not be disappointed. Search for one woman in particular, Mary Magdalene, and you will find yourself present at all the most important Gospel events: the passion, the crucifixion, the burial, and in a garden for the resurrection, just moments after a huge stone is rolled away from a tomb, allowing the Lord to step forth into a new world. Saint Mary Magdalene is present at key moments, says key things, and is a key witness. She opens the door to Gospel scenes that would otherwise remain hidden from view.

Saint Mary Magdalene was among that troop of women who congregated on the outer edge of the twelve Apostles. These were probably women of means, who “provided for” Jesus and the Apostles “out of their resources” (Lk 8:3). When these women are named, Mary Magdalene is always named first, similar to Saint Peter’s position in the listing of the Apostles. Mary Magdalene is named many more times in the Gospels than most of the Apostles themselves, signaling her importance. The Gospel of Luke relates that seven demons were driven from her (Lk. 8: 2). But there is debate over whether Mary Magdalene is also the sinful woman who anoints Christ’s feet and if she is also Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. Building on the presumption that the sinful woman was Mary Magdalene, medieval traditions wrongly described her as a repentant prostitute. Artistic depictions almost universally show her as sultry, forlorn, and repentant. Despite the dubious connection between Mary Magdalene and prostitution, this association continues today and will likely take centuries to purify.

# Saint Mary Magdalene

First Century



A “combined Mary” understanding rolls all three of the above Marys—the woman from whom demons were expelled, the repentant sinner, the sister of Lazarus—into the one person of Mary Magdalene. Mary was an extremely common Jewish name. It requires, then, careful attention to the text to sift which Mary is doing what in the New Testament. Magdala was a town on the Sea of Galilee. So when Mary from Magdala is referenced, the reader can trust that her town is adjoined to her name on purpose to distinguish her from other Marys.

An old Christian tradition justly refers to Mary Magdalene as the “Apostle to the Apostles.” The resurrected Christ appeared to her first, before all others. She is the proto-witness. Mary and other women go to the tomb of Jesus to anoint His body. They see the stone rolled away and enter. The body is not there. An angel tells them to not be afraid, “But go, tell his disciples and Peter” (Mk 16:7 & Jn 20:1-2), so Mary dutifully fulfills his angelic orders. It is a woman, then, who tells the men, who spreads the news of all news to everyone else. The men come running and verify her account. The tomb is empty. As usual, Mary respectfully remains on the fringe of the Apostles. She weeps outside the tomb while Peter and John are inside. Time passes as they try to absorb what this all means until, finally, the “disciples returned to their homes” (Jn 20:10). But Mary does not go home.

And then it happens. Mary is alone again, crying. She just can’t believe it. She has to take another look. So she bends her body in half to peer into the low empty tomb once again. When she straightens up, she notices a man standing just behind her. She thinks he is a gardener. A short, awkward conversation follows and then abruptly concludes: “Mary!” “Rabbi!” (Jn 20: 16). Her name is in the mouth of God! A name is enunciated and a new life begins!

At Baptism. At Confirmation. At religious vows. At our wedding. May we all hear the voice of the risen Christ speak our name, directly to us, just as Mary Magdalene did, when we hopefully walk for the first time in the garden of paradise: “Ashley!” ”Susan!” “Tom!” “Marty!” “Quinn!” “Juliette!”...and on and on and on until the end of time.

## Let us pray:

Saint Mary Magdalene, assist all who seek your intercession to be humble followers of Christ, doing, from the margins, what is necessary to carry forward the ministry of Christ’s Church, quietly accomplishing God’s will without recognition except for its eternal reward.



# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR DONATION CURBSIDE DROP-OFF

**July 25 & 26, 2020**

Garage behind the Chapel ~ Before & After Mass

We ask you to wear a Mask as the Volunteers will too.



There are a few changes this year in what we are looking for. Due to space constraints, please adhere to the list below.

- Books: in good condition
- Gems and Jewelry: in good condition
- Santa's Attic: **Holiday Décor, Toys, Games, Puzzles**

**Please NO HOUSEHOLD GOODS!**

We are also in great need of donations for the raffle baskets. If you have any NEW items or gift cards (new or partially used) we would happily accept those. Please consider purchasing an item that would work in a raffle basket and donating it to the bazaar. Due to COVID-19, we anticipate that donations from local businesses will be down.

Questions please email: [olshbazaarhilltown@gmail.com](mailto:olshbazaarhilltown@gmail.com)