

# Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community



**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year - 2005-2020**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the Ordinary Course of Time**  
**July 5, 2020<sup>i</sup>**

## Introduction & Welcome

*Welcome to Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the land that the Kumeyaay people have tended for generations. In this time of pandemic, we gather online from locations all around the world and we are glad that you are joining us. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are.*

*For the best worship experience for all, we ask that those of you joining us remain muted unless you are offering a prayer intention. At the time of the prayers of the faithful, you may either unmute yourself and speak your prayer intention aloud or type your prayer intention in the chat. Despite being muted, we encourage you to sing along at home. You may wish to have bread and wine (or something similar) with you to share in our spiritual communion. After our liturgy concludes, we will have a brief break before gathering for some social time. All are welcome to join us for that time.*

*I invite you now to take a breath to center yourself in the presence of God before we begin our opening song.*

**Opening Song: *God Has Chosen Us***

*Bernadette Farrell*

God has chosen us, God has chosen us,  
to set alight a new fire.  
God has chosen us, God has chosen us  
to bring to birth a new kin-dom on earth.  
God has chosen us, chosen us:  
And to tell the world that God's kin-dom is near,  
to remove oppression and break down fear,  
yes, God's time is near, God's time is near, God's time is near.

God is calling us, God is calling us  
in all whose cry is unheard.  
God is calling us, God is calling us  
to raise up the voice with no power or choice.  
God is calling us, calling us:  
And to tell the world that God's kin-dom is near,  
to remove oppression and break down fear,  
yes, God's time is near, God's time is near, God's time is near.

**Opening Rite**

We begin our liturgy by blessing the name of our God with the sign of our faith:  
+ In the name of our one God: Speaker, Word, and Breath. **Amen.**

May the grace of Jesus the Christ, the love of God, and the fire of the Holy Spirit be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**Knowing God's Loving Kindness**

We pause to remember those times when we have not lived out our call as Christians:

Source of all being, we often fail to share our resources with others in need.  
**God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.**

Jesus the Christ, we often allow discrimination against others.  
**God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.**

Empowering Spirit, we often tolerate leaders who promote division and injustice.  
**God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.**

May God, who is Justice, Compassion, and Peace, forgive our failure to live the Gospel in our world, and strengthen us to serve others with compassion and hope. **Amen.**

## Opening Prayer<sup>ii</sup>

Come all who are weary –  
    of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division  
Come all who are heavy-laden –  
    with too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger  
Come all who have hope –  
    for liberation, for peace, for freedom, for the kin-dom

Christ calls us to come to worship:  
    To rest from the things that are troubling us  
    To learn what Christ can teach of life  
    To realize what we can offer to others  
    And so to return into the world to serve.  
So let us come and worship. Together, we pray... **Amen.**

## First Reading

1 Kings 19:19-21

A Reading from the first book of Kings:

Elijah left the cave where he was dwelling and set out to the desert of Damascus. He came upon Elisha, from the clan of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead, and Elisha was with the twelfth yoke. Elijah passed by Elisha and threw his cloak over him.

Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah, saying, "Let me kiss my father and mother good-bye, and then I will follow you." Elijah responded, "Go back then; for what have I demanded of you?"

Elisha turned away. He took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them, using the oxen's wooden yokes for fuel to cook the meat. Elisha gave the meat to the people to eat. Then setting out, and following Elijah, Elisha became Elijah's disciple.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM Psalm 50: 1-2; 9-13: 14-15, 23

Our psalm response is:  
***Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor***  
***Forever we will sing the goodness of our God.***

The Holy One, through the power of Love,  
    brought forth the world.  
Like the sun, ever rising, ever setting,  
    over the nations of the earth,  
ever radiating in cosmic beauty,  
    God shines forth. **R.**

Why should I want your sacrifices of bulls  
or so many goats from your herds?  
Every creature in the forest is mine,  
the wild animals on all the mountains.  
I know every mountain bird by name;  
the scampering field mice are my friends.  
If I were hungry, I would not tell you,  
for all creation and its bounty are mine.  
Do you think I feast on venison  
or drink draughts of goats' blood? **R.**

Spread for Me, instead, a banquet of praise.  
Serve Your God a feast of promises kept.  
Then call on Me for help when you're in trouble.  
I'll help you, and you'll honor Me.  
Those who offer a gift of thanksgiving,  
a life of praise, are those who honor Me.  
To those who are humble, I will give My freedom. **R.**

<b>Second Reading</b>	Romans 8:14-17
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A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans:

All those who are led by the Spirit are children of God. You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear! You received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father! Ima, Mother."

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God; and, if we are God's children, then we are heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with the Christ. We must only suffer with the Christ so that we may be glorified with the Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Mass of a Joyful Heart - Angrisano
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**Al-le-lu-ia, alleluia, alleluia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.** (repeat)

<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 11:25-30
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Our God is with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew. **Glory to You, O God.**

Jesus prayed: "I thank you, Loving God of all Creation. Although You have hidden things from the learned and the wise, You have revealed them to those who are childlike, for it is pleasing to you. All things have been handed over to me by my loving God, who is like a father, a mother, a loving parent. No one knows a child the way a parent does; and no one knows a parent like their child and those with whom the child shares their family."

"Come to me, all you who labor and are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy and My burden, light."

The Gospel of God.

***Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.***

<b>Homily</b>
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Kori Pacyniak, Pastor
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<b>Profession of Faith: Pledge for Racial Justice<sup>iii</sup></b>
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As a community, as the Body of Christ, we join with people of faith and no faith, throughout the world, in committing itself to racial justice. And so we pledge together:

***WE SUPPORT justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.***

***WE AFFIRM that white privilege is unfair and harmful  
to those who have it and to those who do not.***

***WE AFFIRM that white privilege and the culture of white supremacy  
in which our nation and our church were founded and developed must be dismantled.***

***WE SUPPORT racial equity, justice, and liberation for every person.***

***WE AFFIRM the inherent worth and dignity of every person.***

***Therefore, from this day forward . . .***

***WE WILL strive daily to understand white privilege and white supremacy  
and how their existence benefits us.***

***WE COMMIT to help transform our church culture to one that is actively engaged  
in seeking racial justice and equity for everyone.***

***WE WILL make a greater effort to treat all people with the same respect we expect to receive.***

***WE COMMIT to developing the courage to live our beliefs and values of racial justice and  
equality.***

***WE WILL strive daily to eliminate racial prejudice from our thoughts and actions so that we can  
better promote the racial justice efforts of our church.***

***WE WILL renew and honor this pledge daily, knowing that our church, our community, our  
nation, and our world will be better places because of our efforts.***

***Amen.***

## Prayers of the Faithful

“The Spirit itself bears witness ... that we are children of God ... and joint heirs with the Christ.”  
That we might rise to the call of the Spirit in our own times, let us pray!

***Our response: Resurrection Spirit, call us and live within us.***

That we, like Elisha following Elijah, hear and follow our call to work for equality, justice and freedom ... we pray ... ***(Response)***

That, even in the face of dramatic health and economic challenges, we spread for God a banquet of praise, and serve God with a feast of promises kept ... we pray ... ***(Response)***

We marvel at creation ablaze with Divinity; in each other we encounter the Risen and Living One; we feel the Fiery Spirit moving within ... and we pray ... ***(Response)***

In thanksgiving for the lavish splendor of the universe, and for the God who ever radiates cosmic beauty, whose Presence shines forth throughout the cosmos ... we pray ... ***(Response)***

For those who do not hear the Spirit’s call, and for the times we have failed to embrace the call and respond ... we pray as Jesus said we should ... ***(Response)***

Now it is time to bring to God the personal prayers and intentions of our Spirit-inspired community of Alleluia and sorrow. We remember as well the universal needs of all people, especially those who have been touched by the pandemic and by the injustices of our time.

All those who wish to share a prayer, please unmute your microphone and speak your prayer briefly and clearly.

Let us now take a moment to remember all the prayers and intentions here today that have remained unspoken, deep in the silence of our hearts . . .

For these intentions and for all the prayers written in today’s chat box and in our community prayer book . . . we pray ... ***(Response)***

### **Closing Prayer of the Faithful:<sup>iv</sup>**

Hear, O America, the cries of 400 years asking, “How Long?” O God, guide our steps. Transform our hands, our hearts, our tongues in the ways of justice and peace. Let not a word slip from our lips that would denigrate any of your beloved children. Kindle in us anger at structures and systems that hold your people down. Make us bold to commit our whole lives to the liberation and healing of all. Reconcile us to one another, and to You. Heal us, O Great Physician, from the racism of our systems and structures. Banish the viruses that seek to destroy. Equip us for the work that must be done. Strengthen us for the days ahead. Jesus, guard and guide us. Do not let us go until we are done. We pray... ***Amen.***

We place upon your table, a festive cloth tonight,  
the weaving of our stories, the fabric of our lives;  
the dreams of those before us, the ancient hopeful cries,  
the promise of our future: our needing and our nurture  
lie here before our eyes.

We come to your feast, we come to your feast:  
the young and the old, the frightened, the bold,  
the greatest and the least.  
We come to your feast, we come to your feast  
with the fruit of our lands and the work of our hands,  
we come to your feast.

We place upon your table a humble loaf of bread:  
the gift of field and hillside, the grain by which we're fed;  
we come to taste the presence of him on whom we feed,  
to strengthen and connect us, to challenge and correct us,  
to love in word and deed.

We come to your feast, we come to your feast:  
the young and the old, the frightened, the bold,  
the greatest and the least.  
We come to your feast, we come to your feast  
with the fruit of our lands and the work of our hands,  
we come to your feast.

**Our Eucharist**

Blessed are You, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

***Blessed be God forever.***

Blessed are You, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

***Blessed be God forever.***

Friends, pray that this bread of life and spiritual drink will deepen our commitment to live the Gospel.

***Loving God, strengthen us to witness Your inclusive love.***

### Prayer with our Gifts

Loving God, You have gathered us together from wherever we may be around this table of praise. We come weary and burdened, in the hope of the rest that only You can give. Let the thanks we give over bread and wine unite our lives to yours. We pray in Jesus' name... **Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer<sup>v</sup>

God dwells in you.

**And also in you.**

Let us give thanks to the life-giving Spirit of God.

**With hearts burning with love, we give God thanks and praise.**

God of All, You bless us with abundance and know our every need. You call us to work for justice, to share our table with all creation, to feed the needy at our door, to see nobody left in need. For the blessing of Your gifts, and the challenge of Your call to us, we join with prophets and saints and all your people throughout the ages as we sing:

### Sanctus

Angrisano

**Holy, Holy, Holy, O God of Life**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed are all who come in the name of our God, in the name of our God.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are You, O God of all, who calls us to gather at tables of love and liberation, to be nourished by a taste of what You desire to do among us. Though separated by distance, still we gather in Your name as You call us from institutional halls of power, from shelters and the streets; from classrooms and pulpits, from gay bars and prison cells. You call us to be in solidarity with Christ, who lives and loves on the margins, and to align ourselves with the causes of those who are marginalized, oppressed, outcast, and isolated.

In your love for us, you took on flesh in Jesus. Believing it could transform the world, Jesus proclaimed the Good News: calling for captives to be set free, the lowly to be lifted up, the redistribution of wealth and the eradication of injustice and oppression. His commitment to practicing love knew no bounds - not even the bounds of death.

*[Please extend your hand, palm up, toward the bread and wine.]*

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts, O God. May this bread and wine become for us the body and blood of Jesus, awakening us anew in our pursuit of a world where everyone can flourish and lead lives full of justice, love, and truth. We remember that...

**All: ...on the night before Jesus died, while at supper with his friends, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them saying: “Take this, all of you and eat. This is my body. Do this in memory of me.”**

*[Pause]*

**After the meal, Jesus took the cup filled with wine, said the blessing, gave the cup to his friends and said: “Take this, all of you and drink. This is my blood, the cup of the new and ever-lasting covenant. Do this in memory of me.”**

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

*[spoken]*

***Christ was birthed among us.***

***Christ was killed among us.***

***Christ rises again among us.***

We celebrate the memory of Jesus’ death and resurrection. We embrace the possibility of reconciliation, justice and peace. Take away all that divides us. Open our hearts to be loving and affirming of people of all genders and sexualities. Through Your Spirit make us a sign of unity, a model of equality and justice, and instruments of Your peace.

Let Your Spirit also come upon all leaders, secular and religious. Catch all of them by surprise. Fill their hearts with a longing for equality and justice. Imbue them with the joy of divine diversity. Bestow on them the wealth of humble service to others. Make them faithful servants of the body of Christ.

Be with those who are sick and those who suffer, especially in this time of pandemic. Be with all who have died and gone before us into the fullness of union with You. Be with us in our struggling attempts live out your example of love. With the help of Jesus, strengthen us to live lives that bring You honor and glory:

***In the name of God, Source of Faith,***

***In the name of Jesus, Source of Service,***

***In the name of the Spirit, Source of Justice,***

***We offer our prayer of praise, this day and forever.***

*[sung]*

*Mass of a Joyful Heart – Angrisano*

***Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.***

**Prayer of Jesus<sup>vi</sup>**

*Kosits*

Throughout the centuries, the prayer of Jesus, often known as the “Our Father,” has been translated and rendered in many different ways. At this time, we invite you to join us in praying in the language and words most comfortable to you. We offer this sung contemporary version:

*Loving God in whom is heaven;  
May your name be honored everywhere.  
May your kin-dom come, may your hearts desire  
Be done in us, by us, and through us.  
Give us the bread we need for each day;  
Forgive us, enable us to forgive others.  
And keep us from all anxiety and fear  
For you reign in the pow'r of love which is your glory  
Forever and ever amen.*

<b>Sign of Peace</b>
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May the peace of the Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us offer one another – and the whole world – God's peace.

<b>Lamb of God</b>
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Angrisano

*Lamb of God, you call us to the gospel of Hope. O, Lamb of God.  
Lamb of God, you call us to the gospel of Love. O, Lamb of God.  
Lamb of God, you call us to the gospel of Peace. Grant us peace.*

We are God's body, made one in the Spirit.  
**We are blessed to share in this communion.**

We believe that Christ is present with us whenever and wherever we are. So, the table you are using right now is no longer your table alone. It is part of Christ's table, and you are part of Christ's church. May all who share with us in this spiritual communion be united with us in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. **Amen.**

<b>Communion Song: One Bread, One Body</b>
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*John Michael Talbot*

One bread, one body, one God of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one God.

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the God of all.  
One bread, one body, one God of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one God.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.  
One bread, one body, one God of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one God.

### **Prayer After Communion**

*written by the Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, United Church of Canada*

In this time of COVID-19, we pray:

When we aren't sure, God, help us be calm;

when information comes from all sides, correct and not, help us to discern;

when fear makes it hard to breathe, and anxiety seems to be the order of the day,

slow us down, God;

help us to reach out with our hearts, when we can't touch with our hands;

help us to be socially connected, when we have to be socially distant;

help us to love as perfectly as we can knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."

For the doctors, we pray, for the nurses, we pray,

for the technicians and the janitors and the aides and the caregivers, we pray,

for the researchers and theorists, the epidemiologists and investigators,

for those who are sick, and those who are grieving, we pray,

for all who are affected, all around the world...

we pray for safety, for health, for wholeness.

May we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty,

clothe the naked and house those without homes;

may we walk with those who feel they are alone,

and may we do all that we can to heal the sick—

in spite of the epidemic, in spite of the fear.

Help us, O God, that we might help each other.

In the love of the Creator,

in the name of the Healer,

in the life of the Holy Spirit that is in all and with all, we pray. **Amen.**

### **Closing Blessing<sup>vii</sup>**

Holy one, You have created all the peoples of the earth in your image. Bless us with a zeal for justice, that we may use our liberties to work for the liberty of all. Unshackle us from bonds of prejudice and fear so that we show forth Your reconciling love and true freedom, which you revealed through Your Chosen One, Jesus the Christ. Let the Church say... **Amen.**

### **Sending Forth**

Our mass has ended, our service continues.

**Thanks be to God.**

This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine;  
this is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

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*We are grateful that you have joined us for worship tonight.*

*At Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community, we have embraced the dream of a transformed Roman Catholic Church. Financial support is essential to breathe life into this dream and to keep it alive for future generations. To underscore our commitment, we support a full-time paid priest (ordained by the Roman Catholic WomanPriest movement) and a variety of social justice activities, giving a percentage of our Sunday offering back into the community. To support our community, please visit <http://www.mmacc.org/donate>.*

*Music used with permission OneLicense #A-71188*

*Some song lyrics have been adapted to align with our commitment to inclusive language.  
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<sup>i</sup> Image: "My Yoke is Easy" by Maria Lang, <https://www.etsy.com/listing/519998823/my-yoke-is-easy>

<sup>ii</sup> Adapted from *I Am Making All Things New*, written by Rosie Venner. Posted on the WSCF Europe website. <http://wscf-europe.org/mozaik-issues/mozaik-25-the-powers-that-be/worship-i-am-making-all-things-new/> and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand. <http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/>

<sup>iii</sup> Pledge for Racial Justice is adapted from the "Racial Equity Pledge" by First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Texas and the version used by St. Francis Xavier in New York, NY in their Service of Lamentation, Rage, and Hope. <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kn-pM3biTeGB39rMOmRjlxOsKMRhW1rz>

<sup>iv</sup> "Our Siblings' Blood is Crying Out:" A Call to Listen & Action, Friday May 29, 2020, Statement from the Massachusetts Council of Churches Executive Director Rev. Laura Everett & President Rev. Jennie Barrett Siegel, <https://www.masscouncilofchurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/2020.05.29-MCC-statement-22Our-Siblings-Blood22.pdf>

<sup>v</sup> Our Eucharistic Prayer draws inspiration from many sources, including [enfleshed.com](http://enfleshed.com), past MMACC liturgies (written by Nancy Corran, Kori Pacyniak, Joe Stewart, Jane Via & MMACC's liturgy committee), and other sources.

<sup>vi</sup> The "Prayer of Jesus" or "Lord's Prayer" has been translated and rendered in many ways throughout the centuries. This version is a sung contemporary version. Words by Rus Kosits, Nancy Corran, Jane Via and MMACC. Music by Rus Kosits.

<sup>vii</sup> Adapted from "Collect for a Nation" from the *Book of Common Prayer* and the "Collect for Pauli Murray", *The Episcopal Church*.