

Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community



"A new way to be Roman Catholic"



"Celebration" by John August Swanson, serigraph

"All my life I have loved gatherings of people where the spirit of celebration and dancing thrives. When I was young, I went to dance troupe performances when they came to Los Angeles. The music and movements, the colors and costumes, drew me in.

In time, I began to make sketches of what I saw...every dance that has given me joy. I took in dances from the Middle East, Russia, Mexico, Sweden, Africa, East Asia, India, and the sacred dances of the Native Americans... I tried to learn everything I could about them. I love the whole array of dance..."

"Everyone, everyone, everyone!"

~ Pope Francis

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 7, 2025**

Welcome and Announcements

GONG

Good Evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the land that the Kumeyaay people have tended for generations. My name is..., one of your lectors this evening. Nancy Corran is our homilist and on-line presider. Suzie Knapp is our in-person presider. Today we gather in person and online. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are. We are glad you are joining us.

For those of you joining us online, you can find the worship aid at mmacc.org. After our liturgy concludes, we invite you to stay online for some social time.

We'd also like to welcome any visitors with us today. For those on Zoom, please feel free to introduce yourselves on chat. For those visitors in person, if you feel comfortable, we invite you to stand and introduce yourselves and tell us where you are from.

[Pause for introductions]

If in-person visitors are present, please read the following paragraph:

Our communal spoken responses are in the Assembly Worship Aid. The songs are on the white song sheet inserted in the Worship Aid.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MMACC will hold an Educational Event offered by Oliva Espin in October. Over two Saturday mornings, Oliva will present on the Popes from Leo XIII to Leo XIV. Mark your calendars for Saturday October 4 & 11 from 10am-12noon. The event will be hybrid, in-person here at GLC as well as on Zoom. More details to follow.

The NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner will take place in the evening on Saturday, October 11. The reception begins at 5:30pm, the dinner program begins at 6:30pm. To purchase seats online, please go to naacpsandiego.org. If you intend to go, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Barbara, by email or phone. If there are 10 of us attending, we can request a table.

Elections for the Community Leadership Council (CLC) are coming up in November. The CLC serves as the Board of MMACC. Please consider whom you might nominate, including yourself.

Save the Date! MMACC's 20th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Sunday, November 30. Mass will be at 1pm, followed by a reception.

Please see our bulletin for other community news and events.

Donations to MMACC may be placed in the basket outside the chapel doors. Online donations may be made through our website under the "donate" tab.

GONG

[moment of silence]

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Song - "Hymn to Sophia"

Scharf

Sheet Music for whom it's helpful. Lyrics-only are below the sheet music.

HYMN TO SOPHIA Margaret Scharf, OP

1. From the be-ginn-ing, cre-a-ting the Cos-mos; breath-ing new
 2. Flow-er-ing beau-ty, your gifts so a-bund-ant. Word-of-Life
 3. Of all the won-ders you bind us to-geth-er. Rip-ples of

life in-to all that has being. Stretch-ing the spir-it to
 whis-pered, a voice that is clear. Pro-mise of pres-ent in,
 life-force we feel that all is a-round. With love and con-cern we're u-

take in the won-ders, touch-ing the heart with a hope-ful-ness
 e-ver-y mom-ent; danc-ing the cre-a-tion, that knows you are
 nit-ed for-e-ver. In one-ness of spir-it is true free-dom

seen. near. found. Emin May So-phi-a be
 near. found. Emin May So-

phi-a give vis-ion to see.
 May So-phi-a be near to us

all. May So-phi-a make
 clear Her call.

Margaret Scharf, OP © 1995. All rights reserved.
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From the beginning, creating the Cosmos;
breathing new life into all that has been.
Stretching the spirit to take in the wonders,
touching the heart with a hopefulness seen.

***May Sophia be near to me. May Sophia give vision to see.
May Sophia be near to us all. May Sophia make clear Her call.***

Flowering beauty, your gifts so abundant;
Word of Life whispered, a voice that is clear.
Promise of present in every moment;
dancing creation, that knows you are near. **(R)**

Of all the wonders you bind us together.
Ripples of life-force we feel all around.
With love and concern we're united forever.
In oneness of spirit is true freedom found. **(R)**

Opening Rite - Sign of the Cross & Greeting

We begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith:
+ In the name of God who shares divinity with us, Jesus who shares humanity with us, and the Holy Spirit who unsettles and inspires us... we pray, ***Amen.***

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

Kyrie - Knowing God's "Hesed" (Loving-Kindness)

Presider: *As we begin we call to mind times we lacked Wisdom...*

Jesus, Gift of God's Justice, when we fail to share our resources with those in need.
[R] God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.

Jesus, Gift of God's Compassion, when we allow discrimination against others and when we benefit from it.
[R] God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.

Jesus, Gift of God's Peace, when we accept divisiveness instead of building bridges.
[R] God, forgive us. Empower us to live the Gospel.

ALL: May God, who is Love, forgive our indifference to the Gospel and strengthen us to live with more generosity, compassion, and peace. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Presider: *Holy Wisdom, Sophia, We know You "come near to us" in and through Creation and in the gift of wonder. As we listen to ancient texts about Wisdom and ponder the human pursuit of Wisdom through the ages, "make clear Your call" for us today, "give us vision" to see the way we must go, despite the cost, we pray... Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Wisdom 9:9-18

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

Wisdom is with You, O God.
She knows Your works.
She was present when You made the Cosmos;
You made the Cosmos with Her.
She understands what is pleasing in Your sight
and what is good and right.
Send Her forth from the holy heavens!
From the dwelling place of Your glory,
send Her to labor at my side
that I may learn what is pleasing to You.

For Wisdom knows and understands all things.
She will guide me wisely in my actions
and guard me with Her glory.
Then my works will be acceptable.
Then I shall rule Your people justly, with equity.
Then I shall be worthy of You, O God.

For what human being can know the mind of God?
Who can discern the desires of the Holy One?
The deliberations of the human mind are frail.
Our plans uncertain, our designs often fail.
A perishable body has limits.

The earthly tent weighs down the mind
with its many concerns.
Scarcely we discern the mysteries of Earth,
and it is our home!
Even what is within our grasp,
we ascertain with difficulty.

Who, then, has traced out what is in
and beyond the heavens?
Or who can know Your counsel
unless You give them Wisdom
and send Your Holy Spirit?
Thus the paths of those on Earth will be made holy:
Wisdom will teach us what pleases You,
and all will be saved by Wisdom.

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

Thanks be to God.

Our Psalm Response is: *May our hearts be wise.*

R: May our hearts be wise.

You turn us back to dust with a word:

“Return, mortals.”

For a thousand years are to You

like a yesterday when it is passed,

or like a watch in the night.

R: May our hearts be wise.

Like a dream, we are swept away.

Like grass, we flourish in the morning and are renewed;

yet fade and wither when evening comes.

R: May our hearts be wise.

Teach us to count our days,

that we may gain a wise heart.

Turn to us, O God, that we may know You!

Have compassion on Your servants.

R: May our hearts be wise.

Satisfy us with Love at daybreak,

so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

May the blessing of God be upon us all,

and prosper the work of our hands;

Yes, prosper the work of our hands!

R: May our hearts be wise.

Second Reading*James 1:2-5, 9-12***A Reading from the Letter attributed to James**

My beloved siblings, whenever you face trials of any kind because of your faith, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

But if any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and wisdom will be given to you.

Let the believer in lowly circumstances take pride in their high standing; and the rich in their lowliness, because wealth will disappear like a flower in the field. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower droops, and its beauty vanishes. In the same way, a person will wither away in the pursuit of riches.

Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life promised to those who love God.

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

Gospel Acclamation *[Sung]*

Tompkins

*Alleluia, alleluia! We listen to the word of God.
Alleluia, alleluia! We proclaim the gospel of our God!*

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

God is with you. **[R] And also with you.**
A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke. **[R] Glory to You, O God.**

Large crowds gathered around Jesus. Turning to them he said:
“If anyone comes to me and is not prepared to lose father and mother, spouse and children, and siblings — yes, even one’s own life— this person cannot be my disciple. Those who do not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciples.

“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will you not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? If you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will jeer at you, saying, ‘There goes the one who began to build and was not able to finish.’

“Or suppose a ruler is about to go to war against another ruler. Will the ruler not first sit down and consider whether it is possible, with an army of ten thousand, to oppose the enemy coming against them with twenty thousand? If it is not possible, the ruler will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.

“In the same way, none of you can be my disciple if you do not let go of all that you have.”

The Gospel of God.
Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Nancy Corran

[Moment of Silence]

Prayers of the Faithful 09-07-25

23rd Sunday in the Orderly Course of Time

Jesus has told us that the cost of discipleship can be not less than everything. Let us pray in thanksgiving for the gift of Wisdom Spirit, Who works within us to make us willing and able to pay that price.

Our response: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

That those of us who are in lowly circumstances be thankful for our high standing, and those of us who are rich, for our lowliness ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

For the grace to love our companions on The Way dearly, and yet be able to relinquish those ties to God when we hear the call ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

Scripture commands us to treat foreigners the same as citizens, and to love them equally, remembering that we, too, were once foreigners. Let us work to make our country welcoming to migrants, immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

That in Wisdom we discern the self-revelation of God in the enormity and fierce power of the galaxies beyond number, as well as in the most intimate details of our everyday lives ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

The Earth contains the dust of countless generations of our ancestors, as well as the blood of Jesus and of our contemporaries killed in war. May this God-beloved Earth become for them and for us the garden of resurrection and new life ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

For those who provoke us and test our faith commitment to the limits, we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

Now it is time to bring to God the personal prayers and intentions of our hearts, as the Spirit prompts us. All who wish to share a prayer here in person, please come forward to the microphone. All who wish to share a prayer online, please raise your physical or digital hand and you will be called on in turn, or type your prayer in the chat and these will be read aloud. We ask that your prayers be brief petitions, and in consideration of our diversity of perspectives, remember the universal needs of all people.

[After each petition:]

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

[After all petitions have been spoken:]

We lift up all those living with illness, injury, loss, and suffering, those who have gone home in Holy Mystery, and all the prayers here today that have remained unspoken, deep in the silence of our hearts...

(Short pause)

For these intentions and for all the prayers remaining in the chat and in our community prayer book ... we pray ...

All: Wisdom Spirit, You are always within us.

Presider: *Holy Love, As you plant wisdom within our hearts, we plant these prayers, our prayers of hope and longing, within Yours. You have listened to us. Quiet our souls that we might listen to you, even in the silence. Grant us the joy of endurance in faith, we pray... Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song - "Sacred Silence"

Booth/Hanson

***Sacred silence, holy ocean, gentle water, washing over us.
Help us listen, Holy Spirit. Come and speak to us.***

Holy Wisdom, Our companion
Guide our footsteps, fill our hearts with peace.
As we journey, grant us courage,
Come and be with us. **R**

As we gather, 'round Your table,
We remember, how to live in love.
As we enter, holy mystery,
Come and set us free. **R**

Our Eucharist

Presentation & Preparation of Gifts

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.

[R] *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.

[R] *Blessed be God forever.*

Pray, friends, that sharing this bread and wine will enlarge our hearts, our souls and our very selves to welcome God more fully.

[R] *In us and among us, You are with us.*

Prayer with Our Gifts

Presider: *Holy One, For two thousand years, many have understood Jesus as Woman Wisdom incarnate. In our Gospel reading, Jesus calls us to be willing to give all and thus gain life. May this meal, also two thousand years old, represent for us the crosses that each of us bears, unconventional wisdom, and the fullness of life that awaits. In the name of Jesus, we pray... Amen.*

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you. **[R] *And also in you.***

Lift up your hearts.

[R] *We lift up our hearts to God and to one another.*

Presider: God of Wonder, the cosmos proclaims Your glory; the heavens your handwork! Trees of the forest sing for joy and stones cry out. Together, we give You thanks for Your goodness.

Voice 1 (online):

Creating God, in creation we are coming to know ourselves and You. The universe is coming to know itself in us. You are our unity. You are our diversity. Together, we co-create.

Voice 2 (online):

Gracious and tender-loving God, in the midst of conflict and division, You turn our minds to thoughts of peace. When Your Spirit fills our hearts, enemies begin to listen and speak to one another, hands are extended in friendship across divisions, nations seek the way of justice and peace.

Voice 3

Your Spirit is at work when hatred is quenched by compassion and vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For this, we never cease to praise You, as we join countless angels and every creature of the cosmos in song:

Sanctus *[Sung]*

Tompkins

Wholly, wholly, holy God. God of wonder, God of peace.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory!

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are all who come in the name of God.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

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

Presider: And so, God Who is Love, we praise You through Jesus - the Word that brings healing and wholeness - the hand You stretch out to us in our weakness - the way that leads to Your peace. We recognize Your Spirit alive and at work in this bread and wine, and in us. We open ourselves to Your Spirit who transforms these gifts to become in us the body and blood of Christ, as we now fulfill your command of love. We remember that...

All: *...on the night before he died, Jesus took bread and gave You thanks and praise. He broke the bread and gave it to those at table, saying, "Take this, all of you and eat. This is my body. Do this in memory of me."*

[Pause]

At the end of the meal, he lifted the cup and praised You for Your goodness, saying, "Take this, all of you, and drink. This is the cup of my life-blood, the cup of Love. Do this in memory of me."

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: *[Sung]* Tompkins

*We remember you, we remember you.
Jesus who lives, loves, and dies, rising in our hearts.*

Voice 4: Deepen our capacity to love one another. Strengthen us to overcome all that separates us. Awaken us to our communion with You in all creation. May we build Your church throughout the world as a sign of unity and an instrument of Your peace.

Voice 5: We gather with You around this table, in friendship with Mary Magdalene, the Apostle, and all the prophets and saints, living and dead. Here, may we know strength. Here, may all who suffer know consolation. Here, may all who have gone before us be remembered and blessed. Embrace them in joy. May they, and we, come to know the fullness of Your splendor.

Presider: When suffering passes and death transforms into Cosmic Love, when the fullness of Your peace is revealed, we shall give You glory with Jesus, the Cosmic Christ, through whom Your goodness flows.

Doxology & Great Amen

Tompkins

[Recited]

*Through Christ, with Christ, In Christ
in the unity of Sophia Spirit,
all glory and honor is Yours!*

[Sung] *We eat this bread; we drink this cup. We share as one body of Christ.
We give our thanks; we give our thanks. Amen, amen, amen!*

The Prayer of Jesus *[Sung]*

Kosits

The prayer often called the "Our Father" has been translated and rendered in many ways over the last 2,000 years. Please pray using the words and language most comfortable to you. MMACC offers this sung contemporary version.

*Loving God, in whom is heaven,
may Your name be honored everywhere.
May Your kin-dom come, may your heart's 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.*

The Sign of Peace

May you always know the peace of God within you. **[R]** *And also within you.*
Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Lamb of God [Sung]*Tompkins*

Lamb of God, you call us to live in expectant hope.

Lamb of God, you call us to witness to your love.

Lamb of God, you call us to work;

For peace and justice in our world. Grant us peace. Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Presider

This is holy bread and wine for God's holy people.

[R] *We become one as we share this meal.*

This is the table of Jesus. He made no restrictions. Neither do we. All are truly welcome to receive the gluten-free Eucharistic bread and the consecrated red wine or white grape juice. May *all* who share in this communion be united in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. Come! God's table is ready!

Communion Song - "Blessed and Broken"*Lynch*

God, you're the one I love, You're the one I know.
You're the one who makes me strong, spirit in my soul.
From the clouds of yesterday, through the night of pain,
Teach me, God, to know your way, know it once again.

Bread, blessed and broken for us all;

Symbol of Your love from the grain so tall.

Bread, blessed and broken for us all;

Bread of life you give to us, bread of life for all.

May the bread we break today, may the cup we share,
Lift the burdens of our hearts, lift them ev'rywhere.
Passing on to each of us, a measure of your love
Love to make us whole again, as we share your Word. **R**

[Moment of Silence]

Prayer after Communion

Presider: *Beloved God, We are blessed, and we are broken. And we know that the mystery of Wisdom dwells between blessing and brokenness. May the bread we broke and the cup we shared "lift the burdens of our hearts", and the burdens of all hearts "everywhere". May this meal we have shared remind us that Wisdom is within us and among us, we pray... Amen.*

CLOSING RITES

Closing Blessing

Presider:

O Come, O Wisdom, into our lives!
Bring beauty from the chaos of our times!
To us the path of insight show...
and teach us in Her ways to go...

Let the Church say... **AMEN!**

Sending Forth

This Mass is ended.
Our service continues.
Thanks be to God!

Closing Song - "Lead Me God"

Becker

Blessed are the poor in spirit, Longing for their God,
for God's coming kin-dom shall be theirs.
Blessed are the sorrowing, for they shall be consoled,
and the meek shall come to rule the world.

***Lead me, God, lead me, on by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way.
Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my God, and lead me, God, today.***

Blest are they who through their lifetime sow the seeds of peace,
all will call them children of their God.
Blest are you, though persecuted in your holy life,
for in heaven, great is your reward.

***Lead me, God, lead me, on by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way.
Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my God, and lead me, God, today. x2***

We are grateful that you have joined us for worship today.

At Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community, we have embraced the dream of a transformed Roman Catholic Church. We seek to support a full-time paid womanpriest or equivalent and a variety of social justice activities, giving a percentage of our Sunday offering back to the community. To support our community, please visit <http://www.mmacc.org/donate>.

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