



•*Making Catholicism relevant* •*Restoring women's ordination* •*Living the change we envision*



Joshua Tree in Autumn, photo by Julianna Barnaby

"...I make a way in the desert..." Is. 43:19

**Ordinary Time II - Fall
September 14, 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. Jane Via is our homilist and in-person presider. Nancy Corran is our online presider. Today we gather in person and online as we journey through Ordinary Time. 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 join in breakout rooms 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

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Song – “All Are Welcome”

Haugen

Let us build a house where all can dwell and all can safely live.
 A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
 Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
 Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true.
 Where all God’s children dare to seek to dream God’s reign anew.
 Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God’s grace.
 Here, as one, we claim the faith of Jesus: **(R)**

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
 A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
 Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space.
 As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: **(R)**

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone.
 To heal and strengthen, serve and teach and live the Word they’ve known.
 Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s grace.
 Let us bring an end to fear and danger: **(R)**

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard.
 And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
 Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.
 Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **(R)**

Opening Rite

We gather and we begin...
 + In the name of Holy Mystery, Jesus, God-with-Us, and Sophia Spirit, 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 ~ “Call to Consciousness”

Presider: *We pause to remember those times this past week that we failed to take time to grieve the seeming triumph of violence and the loss of national civility and shared identity...*

Holy Mystery, we fail You when we cling to past concepts of You and are afraid to enlarge our consciousness.

ALL: *Holy Mystery, Stretch our minds.*

Jesus the Christ, we fail to follow you when we do not care for and respect creation.

ALL: *Jesus the Christ, Help us stretch out our hands.*

Sacred Spirit, we shut You out when we resist change and fail to respond to the needs of our time.

ALL: *Sacred Spirit, stretch our hearts to the dimensions of God.*

ALL: *Help us find You within, follow Jesus, and embrace Holy Wisdom, Amen.*

Opening Prayer

Presider: *Holy Love, we gather in a time of national crisis, the intensification of gun violence and political violence. We feel helpless, frustrated and sometimes angry. Help us to learn to grieve innocent lives lost, escalating violence, and cultural collapse. May our grief help us transcend violence with inner revolution. Amen.¹*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Numbers 27:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Numbers

A claim was presented by the daughters of Zelophehad, who had belonged to the clan of Manasseh. Manasseh was the son of Joseph and his wife. The names of the daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. The women stood before Moses, the priest Eleazar, the leaders, and the whole community, at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. They stated their case against a traditional practice: "Our father died in the desert. He was not among the company of Korah's group, those who banded together against our God; but he died in the desert in the same way that many others of that generation died. He left no male heirs. Why should the name "Zelophehad" be taken away from our clan because he had no son? Give us our holding on the same property as our father's brothers."

¹ All of the prayers for this Sunday are developed or taken from "Beyond Violence: The Path Through Grief to Spiritual Evolution" by Ilia Delio. Posted on September 11, 2025. [Center for Christogenesis](https://christogenesis.org). <https://christogenesis.org>.

Moses took their case before God for a ruling. God said to Moses, "The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they say: You will indeed give them their property, their inheritance among their father's brothers. See that their father's heritage is passed on to the daughters."

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

Psalm

Ps 71:1+3+5-7; 17b+18+20-21

The Psalm response is: *Restore us to Life.*

R: Restore us to Life.

In you, O God, we take refuge. Let us never be shamed.
 In Your justice come to us, deliver us. Listen to us and restore us!
 Be our rock of refuge. Be our stronghold that we may be safe and secure.
 You are our rock and fortress.

R: Restore us to Life.

You are our hope and our trust from our youth.
 We have relied on You from birth.
 You brought us forth from our mother's womb with praise on our lips!
 We still proclaim Your wonders!

R: Restore us to Life.

When we are old and gray, do not forsake us.
 Let us live to declare Your Love to the next generation,
 Your marvelous deeds to all who are to come!

R: Restore us to Life.

Though we have seen troubles, many and bitter,
 You will restore our life again.
 Even from the depths of Earth, You will raise us up.
 You will increase our honor and comfort us once more.

R: Restore us to Life.

Second Reading

Timothy 1:12-17

A Reading from the First Letter to Timothy

I am grateful to Jesus the Christ, our Leader and our Holy Servant, who has strengthened me. The Christ, the Anointed One, deemed me faithful, and so appointed me to this ministry. I used to be a blasphemer, a persecutor, a violent person. I acted ignorantly in my unbelief. However, I

have been treated with great compassion and forgiveness. The grace of God has been granted to me in abundance, as has the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Here is a saying that can be trusted and is worthy of your complete acceptance: "Jesus the Christ came into the world to welcome all who are lost."

Of sinners, I am the foremost, but I was dealt with compassionately for this reason: so that in me - the worst case of all - Jesus the Christ might demonstrate divine patience, divine forgiveness, that I might become an example to those who would come to believe in Christ for the sake of Life everlasting. To the immortal, invisible, and only God, be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

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

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

"Halle, Halle" John L. Bell



Gospel

Lk 15:1-32

God is with you. ***And also with you.***

A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke. ***Glory to you, O God.***

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So, to the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus addressed this parable:

"What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy! Upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep. I tell you, in

just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

“What woman, having ten coins and losing one, would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, ‘Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.’ In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Then he said, “A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’ So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. He longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought, ‘How many of my father’s hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I will get up and go to my father and say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers.”’

So, he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. The son said, ‘Father, I’ve sinned against heaven and you; I no longer deserve to be called your son. But his father ordered his servants, ‘Quickly! Bring the finest robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Take the fattened calf and slaughter it.

Then, let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again. He was lost, and has been found.’ And the celebration began.

Now the older son had been working out in the fields and on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called to one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, ‘Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound. The elder brother became angry. When he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father, ‘All these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. Then this son of yours returns, who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, and for him you slaughter the fattened calf.’

The father replied: ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate. We must rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again! He was lost and has been found.’

The Gospel of God.

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Jane Via

Prayers of the Faithful 9-14-2024

24th Sunday in the Orderly Course of Time

Our Scriptures speak of the up-ending of human traditions and perspectives. God says that women may inherit property as well as men. The persecutor Saul becomes the Apostle Paul. The prodigal father gives a lavish welcome rather than the cold shoulder to his errant children. Let us pray in thanksgiving for this gift of a kin-dom that includes life-giving reversals.

Our response: Lover of human beings*, help us to love like You.

All: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

That, like Moses, we hear clearly the word of God that all children are equally God-beloved, without regard to gender ... we pray ...

All: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

That we understand deep down that God, our prodigal Mother and Father, welcomes us all in the divine embrace of Love ... we pray ...

All: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

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: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

That as we remember that now long-ago September 11th, we recommit ourselves to building the beloved community instead of returning hatred and violence ... we pray ...

All: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

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: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

For those who do not accept our commitment to the equality of all human beings before God and before humanity ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

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: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

[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: Lover of human beings, help us to love like You.

Presider: *Loving Mystery, help us connect our surface selves with our deeper selves as we share our sorrows, vulnerability, and hopes with You. Help us to love from a wellspring deep within. May our collective prayers reveal possibilities otherwise invisible to us, we pray...*
Amen.

**[NOTE: In the Greek Orthodox liturgy, God is sometimes addressed as "Philanthropē," which means "Lover of human beings." That is the inspiration for today's PoF response.]*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song – "Sing of Our God's Goodness"

Sands

Sing of our God's goodness, Author of all wisdom, come to God and bless
This Name. Goodness God has shown us, This Love is forever, faithful to the end of days.

R: Come then all you people, sing of our God's goodness, melodies of praise and thanks to God. Ring out holy glory, praise God with your music, worship God and bless This Name.

Jesus the Christ suffered, honor in dishonor, risen from the snares of death.
The Word has been spoken, one bread has been broken, new life is now giv-en all. **R**

Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow, Spirit of the God of all;
solace for the weary, blessing for the broken, splendor of the living God. **R**

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.

Beloved, may these gifts embolden us to receive You more fully.
The gifts are ready. All are welcome at this table.

Prayer with our Gifts

Presider: *Incomprehensible Holy Mystery, You call us not only to heightened consciousness, to spiritual evolution, but to joy. May this bread, broken and shared, symbolize forgiveness as love and this wine outpoured, evoke the joy of community in Jesus the Christ. We pray...Amen.*

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you. ***And also in you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to God.***

Come to the table and give thanks. ***We give God thanks and praise.***

Presider

Cosmic Creator, You choreograph the spinning stars, the orbits of planets, the wildly flung asteroids. You paint with colors yet unseen. You open our ears to the music of the spheres, our minds to the science of mystery and the mystery of science. Your holy writ is everywhere. You are unceasingly at work, bringing order from chaos, filling emptiness with life.

Voice 1(online)

You made Yourself known in Your servant, Jesus. Through healing and teaching, he modeled love in a ministry of prophetic compassion. He calls us to live and love on the margins, to align ourselves with those who are oppressed, outcast, and isolated.

Voice 2 (online)

Empowered by Your Spirit, we too can create new possibilities of healing, connection, and freedom. We are grateful for Your assurance of love in the face of hate, justice in the face of injustice. With trust and thanksgiving, we join with the angels and saints, and all peoples around the world, as we sing our song of praise:

Sanctus [Sung]

Adina Meyer, RCWP

Ho - ly, ho - - ly! ____ The u - ni-verse shines with your glo -

ry! ____ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - - na, ____ ho - san - na to our God! ____

— Bles - sed are all ____ who come in the name of our God most

high! ____ Ho-san - na, ho - san - na to our God of Love!

Voice 3: God calls us as we are, from wherever we are, to feast on the dreams of God, to be in solidarity with the Christ, to turn from the lure of money, power, greed, and control. God calls us to love unceasingly.

(Please extend your hand, palm up, toward the bread and wine.)

Presider: We recognize Your Spirit manifest in these gifts, O God. May this bread and wine become in us the body and blood of Jesus, inspiring us anew to pursue a just world in which everyone can flourish. We remember that...

On the night before Jesus died, he took bread and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread and shared it with his disciples saying, "Take and eat; this is my body. Do this in memory of me."

(Pause)

After the meal, Jesus took the cup, gave You thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying, "Take 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 our faith.

Adina Meyer, RCWP

Je - sus Christ is the Bread of Life! The Spi - rit re-fresh-es with Liv - ing Wa - - ter!

Voice 4: For the good of our shared lives and all that is yet to come, transform us that we might protect our planet Earth and dedicate ourselves to its rejuvenation.

Voice 5: We remember all who have died and gone before us into the fullness of cosmic life with You. Sustain us in the power of sacred memory. Comfort all who suffer. Help all peoples to establish peace in every land.

Presider: We trust in the vision of Your one unending banquet, when people of all ways of life, of all time, gather to share in Your Feast of Love. Then, in the grandeur of the Cosmos, we will give you glory with Jesus, through whom your goodness flows. For it is...

[Recited]

***Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of Sophia Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, now and always.***

The Great Amen

Adina Meyer, RCWP



The Prayer of Jesus *[Sung]*

Wilhelmy

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

***Loving God, in whom is heaven;
May your name be honored everywhere.
May your kin-dom come,
the desire of Your Heart for the world 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.
Keep us from all anxiety and fear
For you reign in the pow'r of love, which is your glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.***

Sign of Peace

May you always know the peace of God within you.

[R] And within you.

Let us offer one another – and the whole world - a sign of peace.

Lamb of God *[Sung]*

Holy Cross Mass

Jesus Christ, You call us to the Gospel of peace, O Jesus the Christ.

Bread of Life, You call us to the Gospel of love, O Bread of Life.

Emmanuel, You call us to the Gospel of hope, grant us peace.

This is the Bread of Resurrection, the Wine of New Life.

Blessed are we to share in the Mystery of Life.

This is the table of Jesus, who 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 – “We Remember”

Haugen

We remember how you loved us to your death,

And still we celebrate, for you are with us here;

And we believe that we will see you when you come

– in your glory – We remember, we celebrate, we believe.

Now we re-create your love, we bring the bread and wine to share a meal.

Sign of grace and mercy, the presence of our God. **(R)**

Here a million wounded souls are yearning just to touch you and be healed.

Gather all your people and hold them to your heart. **(R)**

See the face of Christ revealed in every person standing by your side,

Gift to one another, and temples of your love. **(R)**

Prayer After Communion

Presider: *Holy Mystery, may we know that “grief is not the final word but “a form of awakening to life on a deeper level...We cannot correct the tragedies of the past, but we can transform our lives toward a better future.” Help us to embrace the way forward as the way inward. We pray*
...Amen

Closing Blessing

Presider: *Holy Love,
You who are our central, transcendent selves.
We know there are no heroes, no heroines, no heroex...only us.*

*Breathe the breath of courage into us
That we might embrace spiritual evolution,
That we might become people of unitive consciousness:
Voices of unitive consciousness
Voices of freedom for all people,
Voices of Hope.
Let the church say...Amen*

Sending Forth

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

Closing Song – “All You Works of God”

Haugen

***All you works of God, ev'ry mountain, star and tree,
bless the One who shapes your beauty, who has caused you all to be
one great song of love and grace, ever ancient, ever new.
Raise your voices, all you works of God!***

Sun and moon: Bless your Maker! Stars of heaven: Chant your praise!
Showers and dew: Raise up your joyful song. **R**

Night and day: Bless your Maker! Light and darkness: Chant your praise!
Lightning and clouds: Raise up your joyful song. **R**

All who live: Bless your Maker! All Gods people: Chant your praise!
Servants of God: Raise up your joyful song. **R**

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. Financial support is essential to breathe life into this dream and to keep it alive for future generations. To underscore our commitment, we seek

to support a full-time paid woman priest 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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*Some song lyrics have been adapted to align with our commitment to inclusive language.
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