

Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community



“A new way to be Roman Catholic”

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



"Basin and Towel" by Aaron Spong

*"Now that I... have washed your feet,
you also should wash one another's feet." Jn 13:14*

Holy Thursday

2026

Welcome & Announcements

GONG

Good evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the land that the Kumeyaay people have tended for generations. My name is Suzie Knapp, your cantor this evening. Jane Via is our in-person presider. Nancy Corran is our online presider. We gather in person and online as we enter Triduum, the holiest time of our liturgical year. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are.

We'd also like to welcome any visitors with us this evening. 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]

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

For those of you joining us online, we invite you to join in our songs and communal responses in the worship aid located at mmacc.org.

To continue the quieter, reflective mood of Lent in our solemn Triduum, during the sign of the peace, you will be invited to offer a silent gesture of peace to those around you. At the close of this Liturgy, there will be a ritual stripping of the altar which will be observed in silence. We ask that you remain seated in that holy silence until the Presider exits. Thank you.

Our Good Friday service will be at 12Noon tomorrow. Our Easter Vigil service will begin at 7pm, this Saturday evening. There will be NO Mass on Easter Sunday.

For tonight's liturgy, those joining online may wish to have these items on hand:

- A bell or a like instrument for the Gloria.
- A bowl of water and a towel to participate in the symbolic washing.
- Bread or matzoh and wine or juice to share during our communion.

For those in-person, the matzo we use during communion is gluten-free.

Explanation of the in-person ritual washing...

We pause for a moment of silence as we begin our liturgy.

GONG

~ OPENING RITES ~

Opening Song - "The Servant Song"

Gillard

Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you in the night-time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow 'til we've seen this journey through.

Greeting and Sign of the Cross

Tonight, we come together to remember the love of Jesus, on the night he gathered with his friends for a final meal. We begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith.

+ In the name of God who is Compassion, Jesus who lived compassion, and the Spirit who breathes compassion into human hearts, 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

Ever-Present God, when war, violence, fear, repression, and economic disruption run rampant in our world, remind us of Jesus' call...

R: "Love one another as I have loved you."

Jesus the Christ, when we are reluctant to serve others, or to be served, remind us of your call...

R: "Love one another as I have loved you."

Life-giving Spirit, when we face tragedy in our lives, when we do not trust that our gifts are bread for the world, we remember the call...

R: "Love one another as I have loved you."

Holy Love, we have journeyed through Lent, examining ourselves, the human condition, earthly life, and our place in the Cosmos. As we enter into these three holy days, remembering Jesus' last days, remind us of your call to love one another, we pray...

Opening Prayer

Holy Love, we enter the experience of incomprehensible mystery: the collective rejection of the good, its distortion by misinformation, the violence of collective hate, and the punitive torture and death of goodness itself. Enacted in Jesus' life, and again and again in human history, we share the torment of this pattern of loss with You. Comfort us. Strengthen us, that we might preserve the faint glimmer of hope in the face of such grief, we pray...Amen

Gloria [*sung with bells ringing*]

Mass of St Ann

**Glory! Glory to God in the highest.
Glory! Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

We praise, you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
O God, heavenly One, O God, our creator. **(R)**

O Jesus Christ, holy begotten One,
O Christ, Incarnate Love, Child of the Cosmos,
you take away the pain of the world, bring healing to us;
you take away the pain of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Creator, bring healing to us. **(R)**

For we are one in the Holy One, we are one in the Christ,
we belong to each other, in Jesus Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the glory of Love's Creation. **(R)**

CONSECRATION OF HOLY OILS

*Jane, in her role as Bishop, together with the Body of Christ gathered here this night,
consecrates holy oils for our use from tonight through Holy Thursday 2027.*

Blessing of Sacred Chrism

Presider: (Jane) We begin by blessing sacred Chrism, anointing oil for baptisms, confirmations, ordinations, and the anointing of the sick.

Let us pray: May Holy Mystery bless and sanctify this fragrant oil. May those outwardly signed with it be inwardly anointed. May they be made deeply aware of God's Love for them.

(Bishop breathes upon the vessel containing the Chrism)

ALL: O God, Author of human consciousness and spiritual growth, we joyfully give thanks for the rituals and symbols handed down to us through our ancestors of faith.

Voice 1 (online): In creation, You gave us the earth which produces the olive tree which brings forth the richness of this Oil. From the fruit of this tree, we make sacred Chrism.

Voice 2: We bestow sacred Chrism on those called to the holy waters of Baptism. We anoint the newly baptized with oil, blessing them with joy and serenity.

Voice 3: As Moses anointed Aaron priest, Jesus – Your Messiah - was anointed with the oil of gladness by the women who followed him.

Jane: Therefore, Holy One, we pray that - by Your + gracious blessing, we may sanctify this oil you have created. Permeate it with the strength of Your Holy Spirit. Through the Christ, after whom Chrism is named, may Your divine energy infuse this oil as it did for anointing Your priests, rulers, and prophets of old.

All: *May those reborn through Baptism, receive this Chrism as a holy sign of the fullness of life. May they be endowed with the dignity of ruler, priest, and prophet as servants of the people.*

Jane: May this Oil become the Chrism of Reconciliation and Love for those born again of water and Spirit. May they share in Your cosmic glory. Through Jesus the Christ...**Amen.**

Blessing of the Oil of Catechumens

Jane: Holy One, we ask You to graciously bless this Oil + and make it holy. Make it a sign and symbol of Your Holy Wisdom and Cosmic Energy.

ALL: *Through anointing by this Oil, may Catechumens be enriched in faith and understanding, and experience the Gospel of Jesus the Christ. May they embrace good works, joy in service, and the suffering and sorrow of Christian faith and life.*

Jane: May they know Your love and find unspeakable joy as they anticipate baptism. May their journeys as catechumens bring them into the fullness of Christian life as members of the Body of Christ. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Blessing the Oil of the Sick

Jane: Holy Love, Healing Love, You enable healing through Jesus the Christ. Infuse this oil, which nature has provided and human hands have made, with the presence of Your Holy Spirit, Sophia, to sanctify our human needs. Bless this oil + for our use.

ALL: Bless all who are anointed with this oil. Free them from pain and illness. Make them well again in body, mind, and spirit. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, who shares in Your Cosmic Life forever and ever. Amen.

***Jane places the oils on the draped table before the altar. Jane is seated.
Lector approaches lectern.***

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-12a,13a,14

God said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam in the land of Egypt:

This month shall stand at the head of your calendar. You shall reckon it the first month of the year. Tell the whole community of Israel: "On the tenth of this month, every one of your families must procure for itself a lamb, one for each household. If a family is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join the nearest household in procuring one. The lamb will be shared, apportioned according to the number of persons who partake of it. The lamb must be a year-old male, without blemish. Take it from either the sheep or the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month. Then, with the whole assembly of Israel present, it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight.

"Take some of its blood and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house in which the lamb will be partaken. That same night, eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. This is how to eat it: with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand. Eat like those who are in flight.

"This is the Passover of God. For on that same night, I will go through the land, striking down every first-born, both human and beast. The lamb's blood, however, will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you.

"This day shall be a memorial feast, which all your generations shall celebrate as a perpetual institution."

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

[R] *Thanks be to God.*

Sung Psalm

Clarence Rivers

***God is Love and they who abide in Love
abide in God and God in them. x3***

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians:

I received from the Christ what I have also handed on to you:

Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and - after giving thanks - broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and said, "This cup is the covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink from it, do so in remembrance of me."

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim Jesus' death until the Christ comes.

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

[R] Thanks be to God.

[Moment of Silence]

Gospel Acclamation

[Sung] Heritage Mass, Alstott

Glory! Praise to the Word of God!

...for by your endless wisdom, Jesus,

You show us the way.

Gospel Reading

John 13:1-17, 33-35

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

A reading from the Gospel attributed to John. ***Glory to you, O God.***

It was before Passover, and Jesus realized that the hour had come for him to pass from this world and to his loving God. He knew that God had put all things into his own hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God. Jesus had always loved his own in this world. Now he showed how complete this love was. During supper, Jesus rose from the table, took off his clothes and wrapped a towel around his waist. He poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel that was round his waist.

When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said, "Rabbi, you're not going to wash my feet, are you?" Jesus answered, "Right now, you don't understand what I'm doing; but later you'll understand." Peter replied, "You will never wash my feet!" Jesus answered, "If I don't wash you, you have no part with me." Peter said to Jesus, "Then, Rabbi, not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well." Jesus said, "Any who have bathed are clean all over and need only wash their feet. Then, you will be clean, though not every one of you." For Jesus knew who was to betray him. That's why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After washing all the disciples' feet, Jesus put his clothes back on and returned to the table. He said, "Do you understand what I have done for you?"

You call me 'Teacher' and 'Leader' — and rightly so, for I am. If I, then – your Teacher and Leader – have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example. You should do as I've done to you. The truth is: no protégé is greater than their mentor; no messenger outranks the sender. Once you know all these things, you'll be blessed if you put them into practice." Judas then left...

My dear ones, I won't be with you much longer. You'll look for me, but what I said to the temple authorities, I say to you: where I am going, you cannot come. I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. This is how all will know that you are my disciples: that you Love one another."

The Gospel of God.

[R] Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

RITUAL FOOT WASHING

Introduction to the Foot washing:

Reminder of 2 Stations/Instructions for Ritual Washing

"The Basin and the Towel"

Michael Card

***Chorus: And the call is to community
The impoverished power that sets the soul free
In humility, to take the vow
That day after day we must take up
The basin and the towel***

"Ubi Caritas"

Taizé

***Ubi caritas, et a-mor. Ubi caritas. Deus ibi est.
Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity;
God will dwell with you.***

Offertory Song and Presentation of the Gifts

"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.***

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)**

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)**

See the face of Christ revealed in every person standing by your side, Gift to one another, and temples of your love. **(R)**

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

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.***

Pray that our offering is one that God desires.
We are gathered in Your name. Be with us in our midst.

Prayer with Our Gifts

Holy Love, even in the midst of grave anxiety and fear, humans must eat. Our physical nourishment is enriched by food for our spirits. May this bread and wine, blessed and shared by all gathered at this feast, sustain us even in our darkest hours, we pray... Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

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

Lift up your hearts to the One who is Love.

We open our hearts to You, O God.

Let us give God thanks and praise. ***We give our thanks and praise.***

Presider

Blessed are You, Creating Spirit. At your word, all creation came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, stars, the planets in their courses and this fragile earth, our island home. From the primal elements, You brought forth human beings and blessed us to participate in Your ongoing web of life.

Voice 1 (online): From birth, we grow into life-in-service to one another and all the earth. Our destinies have always been wrapped up in one another - our individual well-being bound to the well-being of all. And so, with all those across generations, we join our voices in singing Your unending praise:

Sanctus

Heritage Mass, Owen Alstott

***Holy, Holy, Holy, O God of Hosts.
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are all who come in Your Name, O God.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!***

Voice 2 (online): In Jesus, we learn how to serve others, even strangers and enemies. Jesus lived in service of the common good. He sought out those in need of community. He befriended those who were isolated. He challenged structures that divide and separate us.

Voice 3: The Spirit that worked through Jesus works through us. The Spirit of courage that kept Jesus proclaiming love even in the face of death can live in us. As we feast at this table, O God, fill our hearts with courage to follow Jesus, to live as he lived.

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

Presider

Pour out your Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. May they be for us the Body of Christ, that we might be the body of Christ in the world. We remember that...

***On the night of his betrayal, Jesus shared a final Passover meal with his friends.
He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples, saying:
"This is my body. Do this in memory of me."***

[Pause]

In the same way, Jesus took the cup filled with wine. He gave You thanks, and gave the cup to his friends, saying: "Take this all of you and drink. This is my life-blood; the cup of Love. Do this in memory of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: *[Recited]*

We proclaim your death, O Christ, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Voice 4

Rend our hearts for the healing of the world. Open our hearts to know Your sacred worth in all beings and Earth itself.

Voice 5

Change us, that others might have hope. Change us, that all creation might be valued. Change us, so that no one, and nothing, stands before their oppressors alone.

Voice 6

Empower us to bring about a world where justice reigns and love flourishes. May we hold our leaders, secular and religious, accountable to this difficult work.

Presider

We remember everyone who has touched our lives with the Spirit of Your love. Be with all who are sick and all who suffer. Be with all who have died and gone before us into the fullness of cosmic life with You. Gather together people of every gender, race, language, religion and way of life to share in Your one unending banquet. In Your presence, we give You glory with all creation and with Jesus through whom Your goodness flows.

***Through Christ, With Christ, In Christ,
In the unity of the Sophia Spirit,
may all glory and honor be Yours, forever and ever.***

The Great Amen

A-men, a-men, a-men!

Heritage Mass, Alstott

~ COMMUNION RITE ~

Prayer of Jesus

John Philip Newell

Throughout the centuries, the prayer of Jesus, often known as the "Our Father," has been translated and rendered in many different ways. Please feel free to use the words and language most comfortable to you. We offer this spoken contemporary version:

Ground of all being,
Your name is sacred, beyond speaking.
May we know your presence,
may your longings be our longings in heart and in action.
May there be food for the human family today
and for the whole earth community.
Forgive us the falseness of what we have done
as we forgive those who are untrue to us.
Do not forsake us in our time of conflict
but lead us into new beginnings.
For the light of life, the vitality of life,
and the glory of life are yours now and forever. Amen.

Silent Sign of Peace

May the peace of Christ, which surpasses all understanding, be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another, in holy silence, a sign of Christ's peace.

Ritual of the Breaking of the Bread & Lamb of God [Sung] *Heritage Mass, Alstott*

*Jesus the Christ, you call us to the Gospel of Love. Look kindly on us.
Jesus the Christ, you call us to the Gospel of Hope. Look kindly on us.
Jesus the Christ, you call us to the Gospel of Peace. Grant us peace.*

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

ALL: We are blessed to share in this sacred meal.

Communion Song "Now We Remain"

***We hold the death of the Christ deep in our hearts,
Living; now we remain with Jesus the Christ.***

Something which we have known, something we've touched,
What we have seen with our eyes;
this we have heard; life giving word. **(R)**

He chose to give of himself, became our bread.
Broken, that we might live, love beyond love, pain for our pain. **(R)**

We are the presence of God; this is our call.
Now to become bread and wine:
Food for the hungry, life for the weary,
For to live in God's love we must die in God's love. **(R)**

Prayer after Communion

Incomprehensible Holy Mystery, as we enter the solemn rites recalling Jesus' trial, suffering and death, we remember all those who, working for justice and truth, have been wrongly arrested, tried and executed. We know that in our time and place such injustice continues to be perpetrated. Anyone can become victims of the lust for power, domination, greed, and hate. We ourselves could be unjustly apprehended. May our awareness of Jesus' suffering and death, despite his dedication to the healing of all people, give meaning to our suffering and death. We pray in Jesus' name...Amen

CLOSING RITE

Ritual of Stripping of the Altar *Sandy Trybus, Becky Wilder & Maggie Harris*

[Please remain seated in silence until the Presider leaves the sanctuary. There is no closing song. Please depart in silence.]

**Please also join us for
Good Friday Liturgy, April 3 at 12Noon
Easter Vigil, April 4 at 7pm**

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Some song lyrics have been adapted to align with our commitment to inclusive language.*

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