


 Mary Magdalene Apostle
 Catholic Community

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



"Sea Cave Sunrise", Acadia National Park, photograph by Benjamin Williamson

"As the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb... The angel said to the women... 'He is not here, for he has been raised...'"

Mt 28:1, 5a, 6a

**Worship Aid
Easter Season 2026**

Welcome and Announcements

GONG

Good evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, CA, on the unceded territories of the many tribes and bands of the Kumeyaay nation, our neighbors on whose land we have made our home.

My name is... one of your lectors this evening. Jane Via is our homilist and in-person presider. Nancy Corran is our online presider. We gather in person and online as we journey together through the Easter season. 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 today. For those on YouTube, we greet you. 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 note that songs are in the inserted song sheet.

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. Prayer requests may be offered in the chat at any time. You may wish to have bread and wine or something similar with you to share in our communion. After our liturgy concludes, we invite our online participants to remain online for some social time.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Monday Book Discussion group has concluded. Thank to Jen Bonakdar for leading our insightful 8-week discussion on how to "*Call In those we would rather cancel*", seeking to bridge the divides we experience in our country, communities, and lives.
- **This Thursday April 23rd 2026 @ 6 PM** at the Jeannie Lecture Hall on the UCSD campus, environmentalist **Bill McKibben** will speak on "*Climate, Faith, and Collective Responsibility*". More information and the link to register to this free presentation has been emailed and is in our weekly bulletin. It will also be livestreamed on UCTV YouTube.
- Thank you, Mary Kay, for organizing our Easter Vigil reception! And thanks to all who brought tasty treats, and to all who helped set up and clean up. It is always a joy to continue our special celebrations with social time and food.
- Please see our bulletin for other community news and events.
- Donations may be placed in the basket outside the chapel doors. Online donations can be made through our website.

We now invite you to take a prayerful breath as we begin our opening song.

[moment of silence]

~ INTRODUCTORY RITES ~

Opening Song - "Let Heaven Rejoice"

Dufford

Refrain:

Let heaven rejoice and earth be glad. Let all creation sing!

Let children proclaim to every land 'Hosannas now we bring.'

Rise in splendor from your sleep, put on your robes of joy.
And in the morning you shall see, the glory of the Christ. **(R)**

Raise your voices. Be not afraid. Proclaim in every land:
Christ has died but now is risen. Christ will come again. **(R)**

Opening Rite

+ In the name of God who is Love, Jesus who lived love,
and the Spirit who breathes Love 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 - Knowing God's Loving Kindness

Source of all, when we doubt Your Presence in others, in ourselves, in all Creation...

R: Open our minds. Reveal Yourself anew.

Jesus, Risen Christ, when we do not recognize You in our midst...

R: Open our eyes. Reveal Yourself anew.

Life-giving Spirit, when we forget to be Your Presence in the world...

R: Open our hearts. Reveal Yourself anew.

ALL: Holy Love, may the Risen Christ free us to live our lives with trust, joy, and compassion, shared with all meet, we pray... Amen.

Gloria

Mass of St Ann by Bolduc

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, belov'd creator. **(R)**

O Jesus Christ, holy anointed 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,
 you belong to each other, in Jesus Christ,
 and the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God Creator. **(R)**

Opening Prayer

Presider: *we pray... Amen.*

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

First Reading

Acts 7:54-8:3

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

After being arrested, Stephen stood before the religious tribunal. When questioned, he expounded the Hebrew Scriptures, arguing that religious authorities, like them, had persecuted prophets throughout the centuries, including Jesus, and that they did not uphold their own Law. When the Council heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed up into the sky and saw the glory of God, with Jesus standing beside. "Look," Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened and the Human One standing with God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. The witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Jesus, the Christ, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "O God, do not hold this sin against them." With those words, he went to his sleep. And Saul approved of their killing him.

That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the twelve were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. Devout Judeans, whether or not followers of Jesus, together buried Stephen. Great was their grief and lamentation over him. Meanwhile, Saul was ravaging the church, entering house after house and dragging off both men and women, whom he committed to prison.

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

Psalm

Ute Prayer, with sung refrain Alleluia No.1 by Fishel

The sung Psalm Response is:

***Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen One.
Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to God's Name.***

Earth teach me quiet
as the grasses are still with new light.
Earth teach me suffering
as old stones suffer with memory.
Earth teach me humility
as blossoms are humble with beginning.
Earth teach me caring
as mothers nurture their young. **[R]**

Earth teach me courage
as the tree that stands alone.
Earth teach me limitation
as the ant that crawls on the ground.
Earth teach me freedom
as the eagle that soars in the sky.
Earth teach me acceptance
as the leaves that die each fall. **[R]**

Earth teach me renewal
as the seed that rises in the spring.
Earth teach me to forget myself
as melted snow forgets its life.
Earth teach me to remember kindness
as dry fields weep with rain. **[R]**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-21, 22b-25

A Reading from the First Letter attributed to Peter

You call on the One who receives each person's work impartially, so live out your time as exiles with reverence. Your life is a journey you must travel with a deep consciousness of God. Perishable things, like silver or gold, cannot buy you life. The mystery of the fullness of life is in the death and resurrection of the Messiah, the Christ, the lamb of God. Chosen before the start of time, but revealed *in* time for your benefit, the Christ led you to believe in God, who raised from the dead and glorified the one who was scorned. This is your faith. This is your hope.

Have genuine love for each other. Love one another deeply, from the heart. You have been born anew. You are imperishable, through the living and abiding Word of God. For as it is written:

*"All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of the field;
the grass withers and the flower wilts; but the word of God remains forever."*

...This is the Wisdom that has been conceived in you.

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

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mass of St Ann

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! (2x)

Gospel

Lk 24:13-35

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

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

Two of the disciples were making their way to a village called Emmaus which was about 7 miles from Jerusalem. On the way, they were discussing all that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus drew near to them and began to walk along with them, but they were kept from recognizing Jesus. Jesus asked them, "What are you talking about as you go on your way?"

They stopped, looking grief stricken. One of them, named Cleopas, asked, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who doesn't know the things that have happened these past few days?" Jesus asked, "What things?" They said, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, a prophet, powerful in word and deed in the eyes of God and people, how religious authorities and political leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. We were hoping that he was the One to restore Israel.

Besides all this, just today, the third day since these things happened, some women of our group brought us some startling news. They were at the tomb before dawn and didn't find the body. They returned and informed us that they had seen a vision of two angels, who declared that Jesus was alive. Some of our number went to the tomb and found it to be just as the women said; but they didn't find Jesus."

Then Jesus said, "Do you not have eyes to see? How slow your hearts to believe all that the prophets announced! Did not the Messiah have to suffer all this and then enter into glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted for them every passage of scripture which referred to the Messiah.

When they were near the village, Jesus appeared to be going farther. But they said eagerly, "Stay with us. It's nearly evening. The day is as good as done." So, Jesus stayed with them.

After sitting down with them to eat, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened! And they recognized Jesus, who immediately vanished from their sight.

They said to one another, "Weren't our hearts burning within us as he talked to us along the way and explained the Scriptures to us?" They got up immediately and returned to Jerusalem, where they found the Eleven and the rest of the company assembled.... Then the travelers recounted what had happened along the way as they left Jerusalem, and how they had come to know Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

The Good News of the Resurrection.
Praise to You, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Jane Via

Prayers of the Faithful 04-19-2026

3rd Sunday in Easter

“Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened! And they recognized Jesus ...” We do the same all these years later. In solidarity with the Spirit-intoxicated community of all the years since the beginning of Easter, in resurrection hope let us ask for all that we and all creation need.

Our response: *Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!*
All: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

That like Stephen, every one of us might live as a prophetic witness of Resurrection and new life ... we pray ...

All: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

Saul the persecutor became Paul, the great Apostle to the nations. That we also might respond to our highest calling in trust, hope, and love ... we pray ...

All: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

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: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

That like the travelers toward Emmaus, may we be filled to overflowing with the life-giving messages of the Scriptures and recognize Him in the breaking and sharing of the bread ... we pray ...

All: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

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: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

For those who cannot find it in their hearts to sing “Alleluia!” or whom we have silenced by our apparent indifference to them ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

Now it is time to bring to God the personal prayers and intentions of our Paschal community living in Resurrection hope despite everything. 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: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

[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: Christ is risen, as the women told us! Alleluia!

Concluding Presider's Prayer: ...we pray... Amen.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

Offertory Song - "Table of Plenty"

Schutte

Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty! God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

O come and sit at my table, where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely, to share the cup of my love. **(R)**

My bread will ever sustain you, through days of sorrow and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of gladness, to flood the depths of your soul. **(R)**

Your fields will flower in fullness; Your homes will flourish in peace. For I, the giver of home and harvest, Will send my rain on the soil. **(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.

Friends, pray that in sharing this bread and wine, we will know our dying and our rising.
With the Risen Christ, we proclaim love stronger than death.

Prayer with Our Gifts

...we pray... *Amen.*

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you.

And also in you.

Come to the table with thankful hearts.

We open our hearts to God and to one another.

Presider: Blessed are You and all Creation: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, stars, the planets in their courses and this fragile earth, our island home. You are unceasingly at work, bringing order from chaos and filling emptiness with new life.

Your love restores our broken world. Your Chosen One, Jesus the Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. And so, we join with all those in every generation who have followed you into the dance, singing this unending song of praise:

Sanctus [Sung]

Mass of St Ann, Bolduc

*Holy, holy, holy, O God of hosts,
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are all who come in Your Name, Holy God.

Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Voice 1 (ONLINE)

In the first light of Easter, glory broke from the tomb, changing the women's sorrow into joy, emboldening them to be bearers of the good news of resurrection. From the tomb, the mystery shone clear that life in You transcends death.

Voice 2 (ONLINE) We give You thanks for Jesus and for all who have taught and shown us selfless love. May we love our neighbors and our enemies as ourselves. May we give Your Spirit freedom to act in us and so transform ourselves and our world.

Voice 3

Jesus renewed the promise of his presence, making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking assurance to fearful disciples, sharing a meal with them.

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

Presider:

We recognize Your Spirit alive and at work in this bread and wine, and in us. We open ourselves to Your Spirit who sanctifies and transforms these gifts to become You in us, the body and blood of Christ. We remember that...

All: ... On the night of his betrayal, Jesus gathered with his friends to share a final Passover meal. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and 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."

Presider:

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

Mass of St. Ann

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

Voice 4

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, justice and equity. Imbue them with the joy of divine diversity. Bestow on them the wealth of humble service to others.

Voice 5

Remember us gathered here. Remember all who seek You. Remember all in need of healing and all who suffer. Remember all who have died and gone before us into the fullness of cosmic splendor with you.

Presider: 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 Sophia Spirit,

may all glory and honor be Yours, forever and ever...

The Great Amen

Mass of St Ann, Bolduc

A-men, a-men, a-men. A-men, a-men, a-men.

~ COMMUNION RITE ~

The Prayer of Jesus [Recited]

Celtic version, John Philip Newell

Throughout the centuries, the prayer of Jesus, often called the "Our Father," has been translated and rendered in many different ways. Please pray in the language and words most comfortable to you. We offer this contemporary recited version:

***Holy One beyond all names
Eternal Wellspring
May Love rise again in us today
With food for every table
Shelter for every family
And reverence for every life.
Forgive us our failings in love
And free us from all falseness
That the light of our souls may shine
And the strength of our spirits endure
For Earth and all its people
This day, tonight, and forever. Amen.***

Sign of Peace

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

Lamb of God [Sung]

Mass of St. Ann, Bolduc

***Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of hope, O Jesus the Christ.
Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of love, O Jesus the Christ.
Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of peace, Grant us peace.***

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

Blessed are we to share in the Mystery of Life.

At MMACC, all are truly welcome at this table. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey, you are invited to receive the gluten-free Eucharistic bread and the consecrated red wine or white grape juice. Whenever and wherever we gather, we are the church and God is with us. May all who share in this communion be united in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. Come, for God's table is ready! Amen

Communion Song - "In the Breaking of the Bread"*Hurd*

*In the breaking of the bread,
We have known You; we have been fed.
Jesus the stranger, Jesus the Christ
Be our companion; be our hope.*

Bread for the journey, strength for our years,
Manna of ages of struggle and tears.
Cup of refreshment, fruit of the land,
Bless and receive now, the work of our hands. **(R)**

Bread of the promise, people of hope,
Wine of compassion, life for the world.
Gathered at table, joined as one body.
Sealed in the Spirit, sent by the Word. **(R)**

Prayer After Communion

...we pray... Amen.

~ CONCLUDING RITES ~

Closing Blessing

...let the church say... Amen!

Sending Forth

Christ is Risen, we rise and we are sent!
Let us go forth in joy and love.
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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 (or team 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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