



Mary of Magdala, ECC – October 16, 2022

Celebrating the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Together Wherever We Are

Fr. Michael Nicosia Presiding

**Welcome and Announcements:  
Social Justice Reflection**

*Lector Linda Joyce*

*Video on Family Housing Network*

**Entrance Song  
Come to the River**

Refrain

Come, O come, come to the river  
flowing from the body of Christ.  
We'll go down, deep in the water,  
but in the Lord we shall arise.

1. Washed in the waters of rebirth,  
we have put on Christ Jesus.

3. Blest are those who thirst  
for the reign of God's justice.

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**Greeting and Welcome**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of  
the Holy Spirit.  
**All: Amen.**

The grace and peace of Jesus our Christ, the Love  
of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be  
with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

**Penitential Rite**

As we recount our holy conversations of last week's Synod we are mindful of the work yet before us.  
May the Word of God prepare us as we evolve together as church here and in the world.

Christ Jesus, through your holy word you teach  
us. For the times our preconceived notions  
impede the birth of the new, have mercy on us.  
**All: Have mercy on us.**

Through your holy word you train us. For the  
times we close our eyes to the signs of our times,  
have mercy on us. **All: Have mercy on us.**

Through your holy word you equip us for every  
good work. For the times "the way things have

always been done" impedes our loving response,  
have mercy on us. **All: Have mercy on us.**

We ask that God have mercy on us,  
✠ forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting  
life. **All: Amen.**

In this grace freely flowing, God's glory is  
revealed. Let us, then, celebrate it in song.

**Glory to God –** *Mass of the Joyful Heart*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to all your people here on earth.

1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,  
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great  
glory,

## Opening Prayer

Father/Mother God, hear us when we call and have mercy on us. Help us to live together well, in justice and kindness, lifting one another up as agents of your faithfulness, that we might be credible witnesses to the love we have known

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our brother, who in the unity of the Holy Spirit lives and works with you, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

Let us joyfully listen to the Word of God, the Good News in our midst.

### First Reading: Genesis 38:6-27

*Lector Linda Joyce*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Judah had three sons. Tamar was married to the eldest, Er, who was wicked, so God took his life leaving Tamar a young widow. Judah arranged for his second son, Onan, to be her husband and raise up a child for his deceased brother, to continue his line. Onan refused Tamar a child, so God took his life.

Judah then said to his daughter-in-law, Tamar, "Remain a widow in your father's house until my third son, Shelah, grows up."

For Judah thought: "I am afraid that he too may die like his brothers." Tamar went and lived in her father's house. Time passed, and Tamar saw that Shelah had grown up, and that she was not given to him in marriage.

So, with no prospect of husband or child, Tamar veiled herself in disguise, and sat at the gateway to the road that Judah was to travel on his way to shear his sheep.

Judah, seeing her, took her for a prostitute because she had her face covered.

Not realizing it was his daughter-in-law, he said, "Come now, let me sleep with you." "And what will you give me to sleep with you?" she asked. "I'll send you a young goat from my flock," he offered.

"Will you give me something as a pledge until you send it?" she asked. He said, "What pledge should I give you?" "Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand," she answered.

So, he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him. After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow's clothes again.

Judah sent her the young goat by a friend of his, who was also to recover the pledge from the woman. Judah's friend inquired of the townspeople, "Where is the temple-prostitute who was by the roadside?"

They responded, "No prostitute has been here."

Returning, Judah's friend reported, "I did not find her. What's more, the townspeople told me there had been no prostitute there."

"Let her keep the things," Judah replied, "or we shall be made a laughing-stock. After all, I came good on my promise by sending this kid, even 'though you could not find her.'"

About three months later, Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law, Tamar, has played the harlot, and is pregnant." "Bring her out," ordered Judah, "let her be burned."



As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, "It is the man to whom these things belong that made me pregnant. To whom do this seal and cord and this staff belong?"

Judah recognized them and said, "She is more in the right than I am, since I did not give her to my son, Shelah." He had no further sexual relations with her.

Tamar gave birth to twins, Perez and Zerah. Through Perez, David, the ruler, was born of Tamar's line.

The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsorial: Psalm 92:2-5, 13-16**

*Lector Linda Joyce*

Our Psalm Response is: The Beloved, God, keeps us. **All: The beloved, God, keeps us.**

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Holy One,  
who created the heavens, who created this  
Earth.

**All: The beloved, God, keeps us.**

God will not let your foot slip.  
The One who keeps you will not slumber.  
The One who keeps Israel will neither slumber  
nor sleep.

**All: The beloved, God, keeps us.**

God is your keeper, your shade at noon, your  
strength. The sun will not harm you by day, nor  
the moon by night.

**All: The beloved, God, keeps us.**

God will keep you from all evil. God will keep your  
life. God will keep your going out and your  
coming in from this time on, forevermore.

**All: The beloved, God, keeps us.**

### **Second Reading from Second Letter to Timothy. (2 Tim 3:14—4:2)** *Lector Ralph Dorland*

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

As for you, Timothy, continue in what you have  
learned and have become convinced of, because  
you know those from whom you learned it.  
From infancy, you have known the sacred  
scriptures, which are able to make you wise  
through faith in Christ Jesus.

The holy scriptures are inspired by God and  
useful for teaching, reproof, correction, and  
training in righteousness, so that the servant of  
God may be competent, thoroughly equipped for  
every good work.

In the presence of God and of Jesus the Christ,  
who will judge the living and the dead, and in  
view of Christ's coming and the kin-dom, I give  
you this charge: preach the word; be persistent  
whether it is convenient or inconvenient;  
convince, counsel, reconcile, and encourage  
through teaching with the utmost patience.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel Acclamation – *Mass of the Joyful Heart*

Refrain:

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Let your heart rejoice in the Lord  
Let your word proclaim his deeds.  
Let your voice sing out to the world  
that our God has come to save.

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## Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8 – *Fr Michael Nicosia*

My siblings in Christ, God's love is with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel attributed to Luke

Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not lose heart.

He said: "In a certain city, there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to the judge with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

"For some time, she was refused by the judge. But, finally, the judge thought, 'Even though I don't fear God or respect people, because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

Jesus said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. Will not, then, God bring about justice for God's chosen ones, who cry out in prayer day and night?

Will God keep putting them off? I tell you, they will get justice, and quickly. However, when the Chosen One comes, will anyone with faith be found on Earth?"

The Good News of Jesus, our Christ.  
**All: Praise to You, Jesus our Christ.**

## Homily "Correctives" Fr. Michael Nicosia

### Blessing of New Members

*(After the homily, Mary of Magdala new members are called up to the Altar for a community blessing.)*

**Reverend. Jane:** Welcome to Mary of Magdala, a community of seekers and pilgrims. We are people who yearn for the Body of Christ even while living within it. It is an honor that you are here with us.

We give thanks that you have decided to remain in the Body of Christ through worship with our community. Our desire for you is that you grow in the Holy Spirit, and 'live as the heart and mind of Christ, transforming the world.'

**All: We welcome you into this community, dedicated to our God of compassion. We are committed to prayer and service, recognizing our place in Creation and our responsibility.**

Mary of Magdala herself calls us to return to the Spirit through the unending Love continuously offered in the Eucharist and Resurrection

**Mother. Rosean:** Bow your heads and open your hearts to God's blessing:



God of all who seek you, we give you thanks for the many and varied ways you build up your Church. Bless [name them individually]. Grant that they benefit from the community of Mary of Magdala and that the community benefit from their wisdom and generosity.

+Bless your people here and fill us with a desire to serve you, and you alone, In the name of Amma/Abba, Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia.

## Creed – Our Truth

(Michael J. Nicosia © 2020)

We are all One Body in Christ, heirs of the faith handed down to us from the apostles – a revelation continually expanding as we engage with and minister to our world. Uniquely articulated through how we as a community are church together, let us profess our truth.

**We believe in God, our Mother out-pouring, our Father uniting, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and yet to be revealed.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word eternally spoken by God, our brother and teacher, through whom all things were made and hold together. By the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became fully human. For the sake of the truth he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; and on the third day rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven yet remains active in our midst. He will come again in glory**

**to unite the living and the dead, and our communion with him will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son as the dynamic expression of their relationship and channel of their love. With the Father and the Son, She is worshiped and glorified.**

**We believe in the ways She unites us: through her prophetic challenge, through the Body of Christ, the Church, in our shared baptism, in our sacrifices on behalf of others, in our hope in the resurrection, and in the fulfillment of God's promise in eternity. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

*Fr. Michael Nicosia*

Jesus asked, "Will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry out in prayer day and night?" Let us with confidence intercede for the Church and the world.

*Lector Ralph Dorland*

Our response is: Loving God, hear our prayer.

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

In gratitude for all Pastors and Ministers within the Ecumenical Catholic Communion especially for Pastor Jane, Mother Rosean, Fr. Michael, and Fr. Teri, as we celebrate Pastors Appreciation Month, that they will know our appreciation for their dedication and tireless service, we pray...

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

In gratitude for the Consecration of Fr. Paul Burson as Bishop, that he will be blessed by God as he assumes his new responsibilities, we pray...

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

In gratitude for all the women in remote rural areas who contribute to rural development and agriculture and who represent 40% of the workforce in developing countries, we pray...

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**



In gratitude for all men and women who grow food to feed us and for all who support programs to feed the hungry on this World Food Day, we pray...

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

I will now read the prayers requested from those in the sanctuary... .. We pray.... **All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

For those on zoom who are unable to voice their prayers today, we pray... **All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

And for all those on our prayer list and the prayers you hold in your hearts, we pray...

**All: Loving God, hear our prayer.**

*Fr. Michael Nicosia*

God of Compassion and Care, you are ever-faithful to your promises. Hear our prayers and help us to be ever-faithful in bringing about your reign of justice and peace. All this we ask in Jesus' name. **All: Amen.**

## The Peace

God will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on, forevermore. The Peace of Christ be with you always. **All: And also with you**

Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.  
(Please share a sign of Peace with one another.)

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

As we prepare our tables, offering food and drink here and across our network, we are reminded that our offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the mission of God's church.

Please continue to give as you are called and able.

Let us sing together:

## Offertory Song

### Here I am, Lord

Refrain

Here I am, standing right  
beside you.

Here I am; do not be afraid.

Here I am, waiting like a lover.

I am here; here I am.

1. Do not fear when the tempter  
calls you.  
Do not fear even though you fall.  
Do not fear, I have conquered evil.  
Do not fear, never be afraid.

2. I am here in the face of ev'ry child.  
I am here in ev'ry warm embrace.  
I am here with tenderness  
and mercy.  
Here I am; I am here.

3. I am here in the midst of ev'ry trial.  
I am here in the face of despair.  
I am here when pardoning  
your brother.  
Here I am, I am here.



## Preparation of the Gifts (During Offertory Song)

Blessed are you, Lord, 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.  
*(if prayer audible) Blessed is God forever.*

By the mystery of this water ✠ and wine  
may we come to share in the divinity of Christ,  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.  
Blessed are you, Lord, 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.

*(if prayer audible) Blessed is God forever.*

### The Washing of Hands

Lord God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble and contrite hearts.

Lord, wash away my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Pray, my siblings in Christ, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, our almighty Father/Mother

**All: May God accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name for our good and the good of all God's creation.**

God of the Promise, in union with all who worship in this way we offer bread and wine and

prepare the supper of your Son. Like your holy Wisdom, they come from the fabric of our lives.

Use all these gifts in service of the common good and the advancement of your just reign.

We ask this through the same Christ who empowers and unites us, to your glory now and in the age to come.

**All: Amen.**

## Eucharistic Prayer Preface of Revelation Unfolding - Michael J. Nicosia © 2022

Our God is with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
Let us give thanks to our Loving God.

**All: And also with you.**

**All: We lift them up to our God.**

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Father/Mother God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks, for from the reservoir of our Sacred Texts and most holy Tradition you have made us wise through faith in Christ Jesus, your Son.

You give your gifts of grace for every time and season; give us your Holy Spirit that she may help us always by her power.

With loving trust may we turn to you in all our discernments as your revelation continues to unfold in our holy dialog with your holy Word as your holy Church living in a world of holiness. Such conversations are the holy ground from which your grace becomes incarnate to reveal who you are, who we are in you, and what good works we as heirs of your Promise are called to accomplish.



And so we join the angels and saints in  
proclaiming your glory:

**Holy** – (sung)

*Mass of the Joyful Heart*

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Lord God of hosts.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

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We commit ourselves to the community of faith  
in which this song resonates, calling upon You,  
most merciful God, to send your Holy Spirit upon  
us and upon the offerings we have set before  
You.

Bless (+) these gifts that they may become for us  
the body and blood of Christ — for through his  
sacrifice and our communion with him your  
Compassion and Challenge can transform our  
world.

Before he was given up to death, a death he  
freely accepted, he took bread and gave you  
thanks. He blessed the bread (+), broke it and  
gave it to the disciples, saying

**All: Take this all of you, and eat it: this is My  
Body, which will be given up for you.**

When the supper was ended, he took the cup.  
Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the  
cup to the disciples, and said:

**All: Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This  
is the cup of My Blood, the Blood of the new and  
everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and  
for all so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of Me.**

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Memorial Acclamation** – (sung)

*Mass of the Joyful Heart*

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Christ,  
until you come again.**

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In memory of his death and resurrection, we  
offer you, Father/Mother, this life-giving bread,  
this saving cup. We thank you for counting us  
worthy to be in your presence and serve you.  
May all of us who share in the body and blood of  
Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy  
Spirit.

Loving God, remember your church throughout  
the world. Strengthen the bonds of our shared  
ministry within our Rocky Mountain Region  
in union with our bishop, Kae.

Keep us united in faith through the holy  
conversations across our Communion, guided by  
our new Presiding Bishop Pablo. And keep us  
united in love as we live our prayers in  
collaboration with our 301 Faith Partners and  
beyond.

Gracious God, remember all those who have  
died... May these, and all for whom your  
revelation is complete, find in your presence  
light, happiness, and peace.

For ourselves, too, we ask some share in the  
fullness of communion that is your Promise  
enjoyed by Mary, our Mother, our patron Mary of  
Magdala, and all your apostles, martyrs, and  
saints in glory, enabling us to say together:

**All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is  
yours, Self-emptying/Life-giving God, forever  
and ever.**





## Great Amen – *Mass of the Joyful Heart*

Amen. Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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## The Prayer of Jesus

Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

**ALL: Abba/Amma, God in heaven, holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time**

**of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen**

## The Shared Table

**Lamb of God** – *Mass of the Joyful Heart*  
(Sung)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

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May this mingling of the body and blood of Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Integral to covenant we celebrate, with faith in your love and mercy we eat your body and drink your blood.

Let it not bring us condemnation, but health in mind and body.

## Invitation to Communion

The radical hospitality of this table is one of the revelations we cherish. In truth, all are welcome.

May the mystery of our participation in this sacred mystery enliven our faith, inspire our service, and incarnate Christ's love wherever we may be.

Behold Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are we who are called to this communion.

**All: Jesus, I am ready to receive you, and by your invitation, I am here.**

By one sacrifice Christ has forever perfected those who are being sanctified.  
Let us affirm...

**All: In this we are a Eucharistic people, the body of Christ Incarnate, the blood of Christ poured out for the life of the world.**



## Communion Song

### We Come to You

1. By your body and blood,  
by your life and your love, renew us.  
May your sacrifice be  
forgiveness in me; heal us.

Refrain

We come to you.  
We come to you broken, hungry.  
We come to you.

We come to you.  
Make us whole again.

2. In the body of Christ  
we are brought to new life; restore us.  
May the flesh that we eat  
and the blood that we drink save us.

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## Prayer after Communion

Good and faithful God, you have united us in  
prayer and purpose around the altar of your  
Word and the table of your Son, that we may be  
mindful of each other's needs and of all that  
justice demands.

May your Spirit continue to empower us and  
keep us ever-ready to forgive, challenge and  
inspire the world. This we ask and can do  
through Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Gray La Fond will be confirmed on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at 5pm Mass. Bishop Kae Madden will be our  
presider. Let us pray together in support of Gray's reception of the blessing of this Holy Sacrament:

**All: Creator Spirit, strengthen Gray with your  
gifts of grace, to love and serve as a disciple of  
Christ.**

**Grant that they may grow into the fullness of  
the stature of Christ.**

**Fill Gray with the joy of your presence.**

**Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit: the  
spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of  
love, patience and gentleness, the spirit of  
wonder and true holiness.**

**In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen**

## Concluding Rite and Dismissal

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

May almighty God bless you: ✠ the Source of All  
Meaning, the Eternal Word, and the Holy Spirit.  
**All: Amen.**

The mass is ended, let us go in peace  
to love and serve God and one another.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Closing Song

### Your Grace is Enough



1. Great is your faithfulness, O God;  
you wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.  
You lead us by still waters into mercy,  
and nothing can keep us apart.  
So remember your people,  
remember your children,  
remember your promise, O God.  
Refrain  
Your grace is enough,  
your grace is enough,

your grace is enough for me.  
2. Great is your love and justice, God of Jacob;  
you use the weak to lead the strong.  
You lead us in the song of your salvation,  
and all your people sing along.  
So remember your people,  
remember your children,  
remember your promise, O God.

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