



ST. PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Portland, Oregon



2408 SE 16th Avenue Portland, OR 97214 ✦ 503-231-4955

Email: info@stphilipneripdx.org ✦ www.stphilipneripdx.org ✦ Office hours: Tues-Fri 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Fifteenth & Sixteenth Sundays in Ordinary Time



Jul 12 & Jul 19, 2020

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, Apostle to the Apostles

The feast of St. Mary Magdalene is considered one of the most mystical of feasts, and it is said that of all the songs of the saints, that of Mary Magdalene is the sweetest and strongest because her love was so great. That love was praised by Jesus Himself who said that because **much was forgiven her, she loved much**. Where she is buried, no one knows. Legend has her dying in Provence, France, in a cavern where she spent her last days, and her body resting in the chapel of St. Maximin in the Maritime Alps. Another has her buried in Ephesus where she went with St. John after the Resurrection. This latter view is more likely, and St. Willibald, the English pilgrim to the Holy Land in the eighth century, was shown her tomb there. The true identification of St. Mary Magdalene is not quite clear. The Greek Fathers gave her a separate identity than Mary of Bethany, sister of Martha and Lazarus, but most Latin Fathers [said] she is the same Mary.

—From *Dictionary of the Bible* by Scott Hahn (Doubleday, 2009)



The inaccurate portrayal in the western church of Mary Magdalene as a prostitute began after a series of sermons in 591 by Pope Gregory I in which he conflated three women, Mary of Bethany, Mary Magdalene, and “the sinful woman” into a single individual. This resulted in a widespread but inaccurate belief that she was a repentant prostitute or promiscuous woman. This tradition explains why Mary Magdalene was revered for centuries as the “model penitent.” In 1969 under Pope Paul VI, the General Roman Calendar was

changed to recognize the separate identities of the women.

Mary Magdalene was the first recorded witness to the resurrection of Jesus, His most ardent and loving follower. She had stood with His Mother Mary at the foot of the Cross on that brutal Good Friday afternoon and remained by her side during those difficult hours. On Easter morning, she went with the other devoted women to the tomb and it was there, in the garden near the tomb, that Jesus appeared to her. It was she who first carried the startling news.

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Greetings!

I don't know about you but I think I need some Good News about now. Maybe it's my age (or the quarantine) but somedays I don't know what day it is when I wake up. So my first prayer is "Thank you God for my computer." Because in the right-hand lower corner of the screen— it tells me the date, the day of the week —AND the time." Also, there are a couple of sites that jump up on my screen each day to help me pray. Some of my favorite saints appear on the calendar this month—so I am sharing 'a little something' about a few of them. You can research them on the computer but I suggest that you check out at least three sites just to get a more balanced reading.

July 14— (Tuesday)—St. Kateri Tekakwitha (1657-1680) was born to the chief of the Turtle Clan of the Mohawk nation (New York upstate). Her mother, was an Algonquin, who believed in Jesus. When Kateri was four years old, her family all became ill with smallpox and her parents died. Kateri's face was left deeply scarred and her eyesight was very poor. Her aunts and uncles raised her but, because of the poor eyesight, she did not run and play but instead learned to do beautiful beadwork. When Jesuit missionaries came to her village she was 17 years old and she chose to become Christian. Since Christians also brought disease and destruction to some indigenous villages, her choice was opposed by the council and they started being mean to her. So, she left and traveled rivers by canoe and forests on foot. The Mohawk tribe she joined loved to listen to the stories her mother had told her about Jesus. Her 'job' was to help with the children and older people in the tribe. When she was 24 years old, she became very ill and died.

July 22—(Wednesday) St. Mary Magdalene (First century) came from a small fishing town on the Sea of Galilee called Magdala. In the Gospel, Jesus healed her and she became one of His most devoted followers. Mary is known as the *Apostle to the Apostles* and patron of the Dominicans because she was the first to go to Jesus' tomb and proclaim His Resurrection. Although women did not study with rabbis in Jesus' day—Mary was a disciple of the rabbi and traveled with Him and the apostles to learn everything He was teaching. Mary had the courage to stay at the foot of Jesus' cross with His mother as He was dying. Because of her courage, Jesus 'gifted' Mary with being the first to see Him after His Resurrection.

July 25—(Saturday) St. James the Apostle (First century) Jesus called James and his brother John 'sons of thunder.' They were fishermen and might have been fishing partners with St. Peter and St. Andrew who were also brothers. All of these men were apostles and accompanied Jesus during his ministry. James was also with Peter to witness Jesus' Transfiguration. When James asked to sit at Jesus's right hand in his Kingdom, Jesus asked him if he could 'drink of the cup I drink,' which referred to Jesus' death. And—James was the first of the apostles to be martyred.

July 29—St. Martha (First century) is remembered as the 'busy' sister of Mary—the sister who sat and listened to Jesus teach as Martha works. They are the sisters of Lazarus. In the story, Jesus goes to their house (with his apostles) for dinner. While Mary sits with Jesus and all of his followers, Martha is busy fixing the dinner for all the guests. Martha mumbles that Mary should be helping her with all the work... and Jesus tells Martha that 'there is a time for everything' and that listening to him now might be the better choice. WELL—in my humble opinion—since there were no 'take-out' restaurants near—I would have mumbled too!

Deo Gratias—Barbara M. Harrison

You are the
only Bible
some people will
ever read.

Lord,
we love you.
Expand our hearts.
Let us love our neighbors.

Make us brave enough to
cleanse wounds,
to give shelter when it is
needed,
to help pay the bills and
give our helping
hands.

When we love you
in our neighbor,
let us find
You
in
ourselves.

~ Anne Osdieck



Mickie Campagna ♥ Andrea Del
Rosario ♥ Antonette Amato ♥
Eleanore Baccellieri ♥ Family of
Joan Henkel ♥ Family of Don
Dindia ♥ Family of Joan
Andreas ♥ Family of
Tiziano Della Gasperina

Please contact the office if you, or
someone you know needs our prayers!
debbieg@stphilipneripdx.org

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Mary was from Magdala, a small fishing town on the Sea of Galilee, between Capernaum and Tiberias. She believed herself to be a “great sinner,” who heard Jesus speak of the mercy and forgiveness of God and changed her life completely. Her matter-of-fact witness to the Resurrection moved Peter and John to run and see for themselves: “I have seen the Lord and these things he said to me.” Jesus had chosen her to bring the news to the others and she simply told them what had happened.

In 2016, Pope Francis elevated her liturgical memory, **July 22**, from memorial to feast.

She has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love.

Excerpted from The One Year Book of Saints by Rev. Clifford Stevens



Mass Intentions

- Sat. Jul 11:** 8:00 a.m. – † Warren Guthrie – Debra Guthrie
4:00 p.m. – † Raymond Capri – Marietta & George
- Sun. Jul 12:** 9:30 a.m. – † Gordon Carnese – Charles Carnese
- Tue. Jul 14:** 8:00 a.m. – Violet Petrusich – Sue Wandtke
- Wed. Jul 15:** 8:00 a.m. – † Giuse Pham – Theresa
- Thur. Jul 16:** 8:00 a.m. – † Fr. Rich Colgan – Mary Loy
- Fri. Jul 17:** 12:10 p.m. – † Ngo Van nHan – Ngo Giang
- Sat. Jul 18:** 8:00 a.m. – † Warren Guthrie – Debra Guthrie
4:00 p.m. – † Chuck Helvey – Jane Mace/ Carol Helvey
- Sun. Jul 19:** 9:30 a.m. – People of St Philip Neri
- Tue. Jul 21:** 8:00 a.m. – † Sam & Trudy Ignazzitto – Ed & Victoria
- Wed. Jul 22:** 8:00 a.m. – † Giuse Pham – Theresa
- Thu. Jul 23:** 8:00 a.m. – † Ed Fergus – Theresa Baker
- Fri. Jul 24:** 8:00 a.m. – † Paul & Irma Masvidal – Barbara & Bill
- Sat. Jul 25:** 8:00 a.m. – † Warren Guthrie – Debra Guthrie
4:00 p.m. – † AnnaRose Allais – Dorothy Bruck

“We the welcoming community of St. Philip Neri Parish, empowered by the compassion of Jesus and supported by the Eucharist and the Word, dedicate ourselves to engage with and enrich the lives of those we touch”.

Reconciliation Times

Saturday

by appointment only

Pastor – #101

Fr. Andrew Thomas

athomas@stphilipneripdx.org

Administrative Assistant -#100

Debbie Guthrie

debbieg@stphilipneripdx.org

Director of Faith Formation - #103

Barbara Harrison

barbarah@stphilipneripdx.org