

Lectionary

You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.

Midweek 22nd July 2026 Mary Magdalene

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of
mind and body and called her to be a witness to his
resurrection:

forgive our sins and heal us by your grace, that we
may serve you in the power of his risen life; who is
alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First reading: Song of Solomon 3:1-4

A reading from Song of Songs.

Upon my bed at night I sought him whom my soul
loves; I sought him, but found him not; I called him, but
he gave no answer.

'I will rise now and go about the city, in the streets and
in the squares; I will seek him whom my soul loves.' I
sought him, but found him not.

The sentinels found me, as they went about in the city.
'Have you seen him whom my soul loves?' Scarcely had
I passed them, when I found him whom my soul loves.
I held him, and would not let him go until I brought
him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of
her that conceived me.

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

A reading from Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are
convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have
died. And he died for all, so that those who live might
live no longer for themselves, but for him who died
and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a
human point of view; even though we once knew
Christ from a human point of view, we know him no
longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a
new creation: everything old has passed away; see,
everything has become new!

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: John 20:1-2, 11-18

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to John.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still
dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that
the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she
ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple,
the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They
have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not
know where they have laid him.'

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she
wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she
saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Je-
sus had been lying, one at the head and the other at
the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you
weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my
Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'
When she had said this, she turned round and saw
Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was
Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weep-
ing? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be
the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried
him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will
take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned
and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means
Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me,
because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go
to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my
Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' I
Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,
'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had
said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

God of life and love,

whose risen Son called Mary Magdalene by name and
sent her to tell of his resurrection to his apostles:
in your mercy, help us, who have been united with him
in this eucharist, to proclaim the good news that he is
alive and reigns,

now and for ever. **Amen.**