

# Saint Mary Magdalene

*Feast*



CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP  
AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Prot. N. 257/16

DECREE

The Church, both in the East and in the West, has always regarded Saint Mary Magdalene as the first witness of the Lord's Resurrection and the first evangelist, and with the greatest reverence has always honoured her, although in diverse ways.

Given that in our time the Church is called to reflect in a more profound way on the dignity of woman, on the New Evangelisation, and on the greatness of the Mystery of Divine Mercy, it seemed right that the example of Saint Mary Magdalene might also fittingly be proposed to the faithful. In fact this woman, known as the one who loved Christ and who was greatly loved by Christ and was called a "witness of Divine Mercy" by Saint Gregory the Great and an "apostle to the Apostles" by Saint Thomas Aquinas, can rightly be taken by the Christian faithful of this age as a model of women's role in the Church.

Therefore the Supreme Pontiff Pope FRANCIS has established that from now on the celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene should be inscribed in the General Roman Calendar with the rank of Feast rather than Memorial as is presently the case.

The new rank of celebration does not involve any change of the day on which the celebration itself takes place and, as for the liturgical texts, the following is to be observed:

- a) The day dedicated to the celebration of Saint Mary Magdalene remains the same as it is found in the Roman Calendar, that is, 22 July.
- b) The texts to be used in the Mass and in the Divine Office remain the same as those contained in the Missal and in the Liturgy of the Hours on the day of the Feast, with the addition in the Missal of a proper Preface, attached to this Decree. It will be the responsibility of the Conferences of Bishops to translate the text of the Preface into the vernacular language so that, having received the approval of the Apostolic See, it can be used and, in due time, included in the next reprint of the Roman Missal.

Where, according to particular law, Saint Mary Magdalene is legitimately celebrated on a different day and as a Solemnity, this day and rank remains as before.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 3 June 2016, Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

✠ ROBERT Card. SARAH  
*Prefect*

✠ ARTHUR ROCHE  
*Archbishop Secretary*



CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP  
AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Prot. n. 354/19

FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

At the request of the Most Eminent Vincent Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, made in a letter dated 5 July 2019, in virtue of the faculties granted to this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff FRANCIS, we are delighted to confirm the texts and variations which have been added to the Roman Missal and Liturgy of the Hours relevant to the feast of Saint Mary Magdalene and the optional memorials of Popes Saint John XXIII and Saint John Paul II, set forth in the English language, as it stands in the attached copy.

In the printed edition, this Decree, by which the Apostolic See has granted the requested *confirmatio*, must be inserted in its entirety.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 22 July 2021, on the Feast of St Mary Magdalene.

✠ ARTHUR ROCHE  
*Prefect*

✠ AURELIUS GARCÍA MACÍAS  
*Bishop Undersecretary*



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE  
OF ENGLAND & WALES

DECREE OF PUBLICATION

In accord with the norms established by the Holy See, the texts and variations which have been added to the Roman Missal and Liturgy of the Hours relevant to the feast of Saint Mary Magdalene and the optional memorials of Popes Saint John XXIII and Saint John Paul II, and is published by authority of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The texts and variations which have been added to the Roman Missal and Liturgy of the Hours were canonically approved for use by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales on 19 April 2018, and subsequently confirmed by the Apostolic See by decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on 22 July 2021 (Prot. n. 354/19).

Given at the General Secretariat of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, London, on 26 July 2021, the memorial of Saints Joachim and Ann, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✠ VINCENT Cardinal NICHOLS  
*Archbishop of Westminster*  
*President*

Rev. Canon CHRISTOPHER THOMAS  
*General Secretary*

# THE ROMAN MISSAL

22 July

## SAINT MARY MAGDALENE

Feast

### Entrance Antiphon

Jn 20: 17

The Lord said to Mary Magdalene:  
Go to my brothers and tell them:  
I am going to my Father and your Father,  
to my God and your God.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

### Collect

O God, whose Only Begotten Son  
entrusted Mary Magdalene before all others  
with announcing the great joy of the Resurrection,  
grant, we pray,  
that through her intercession and example  
we may proclaim the living Christ  
and come to see him reigning in your glory.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

### Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, the offerings  
presented in commemoration of Saint Mary Magdalene,  
whose homage of charity  
was graciously accepted by your Only Begotten Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## Preface: Apostle to the Apostles



V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir - it.



V. Lift up your hearts... R. We lift them up to the Lord.



V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
to glorify you in all things, almighty Father,  
whose mercy is not less than your power,  
through Christ our Lord.

He appeared in the garden  
and revealed himself to Mary Magdalene,  
who had loved him while he was alive,  
seen him dying on the Cross,  
sought him as he lay in the tomb,  
and was the first to adore him, newly risen from the dead.  
He honoured her with the task of being an apostle to the Apostles,  
so that the good news of new life  
might reach the ends of the earth.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,  
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

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.  
Hosanna in the highest.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our sal - va - tion, to glori -  
 fy you in all things, al - might-y Fa - ther, whose mercy is not less  
 than your power, through Christ our Lord. He appeared in the gar -  
 den and revealed himself to Mar - y Mag - da - lene, who had loved  
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 en from the dead. He honored her with the task of being an a -  
 postle to the A - pos - tles, so that the good news of new life might  
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 Saints, we, too, give you thanks, as in ex - ul - ta - tion we ac - claim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts...

### Communion Antiphon

2 Cor 5: 14, 15

The love of Christ impels us,  
 so that those who live may live no longer for themselves,  
 but for him who died for them and was raised.

### Prayer after Communion

May the holy reception of your mysteries, Lord,  
 instil in us that persevering love  
 with which Saint Mary Magdalene  
 clung resolutely to Christ her Master.  
 Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## Acknowledgements

For use in the Dioceses of England & Wales approved by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Confirmed by the Apostolic See (Prot. N. 354/19, 22 July 2021)

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