

OLD SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL & CHINESE MISSION

THE OLD CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (1854)

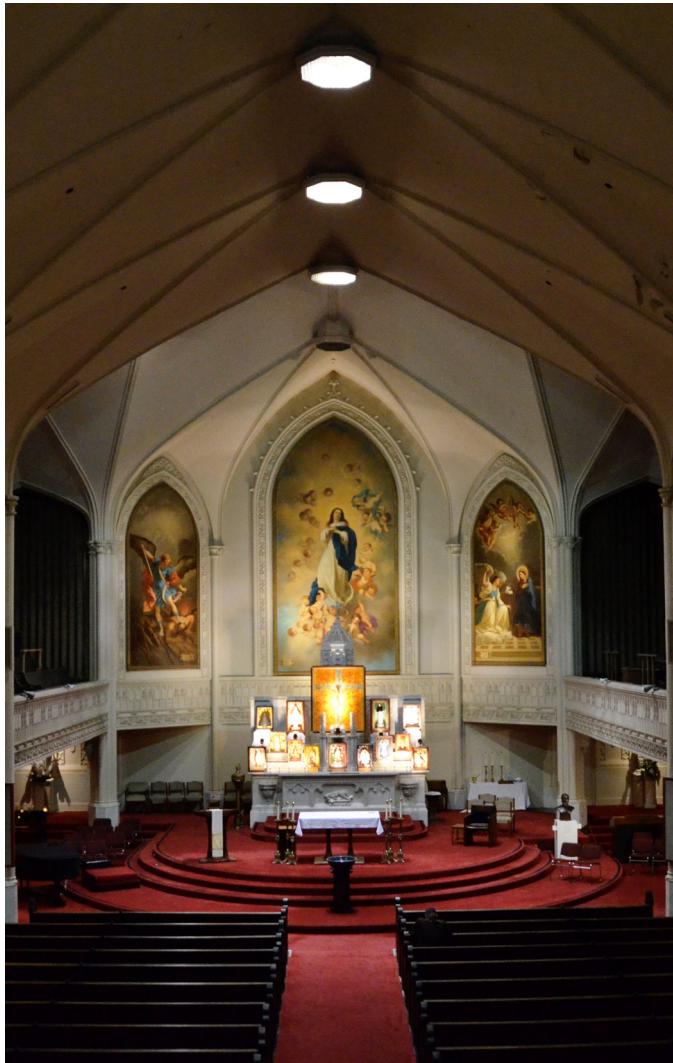
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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Old Saint Mary's Cathedral & Chinese Mission is a culturally diverse Catholic community which seeks to evangelize in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



A MINISTRY OF THE PAULIST FATHERS



OLD SAINT MARY'S, built in 1854 as California's first Cathedral,

was the first Cathedral to be named in honor of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The Paulist Fathers were given Pastoral responsibilities of Old St. Mary's in 1894 and have faithfully ministered to the people of Chinatown, Nob Hill and the Financial District ever since. A Survivor of the 1906 earthquake and fire, this major historical landmark has been retrofitted to



meet new seismic codes; however, we must now comply with the American Disability Act and refurbish the interior of this beautiful old cathedral. Your prayer and financial support today will help save this beautiful landmark, preserve its rich history, and continue the welcoming presence of Old Saint Mary's Cathedral and Chinese Mission.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Tuesday - Friday : 12:05PM

Saturday : 5:00PM Vigil Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation -
(by appointment only)**

Sunday : 9:00AM

11:00AM - Bilingual Mass*

(*Cantonese & English)

Livestreamed on YouTube*

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Fr. John Ardis, CSP
Deacon Simon Tsui

Senior Priests In Residence:

Fr. Joe Scott, CSP | Fr. Richard Chilson, CSP
Fr. Tom Tavella, CSP | Fr. Michael Evernden, CSP

Parish Receptionist: Pia Lim

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

For more information on the sacraments call the parish office at 415-288-3800.



All Are Welcome

Notes from the Paulist

THE CHALLENGE OF MARY MAGDALENE: PART 2

I wrote in last week's bulletin about the fact that no one in the 600 years before Pope Gregory had identified Mary Magdalene as a great sinner. But this image certainly captured the imagination of the Medieval Church!



More works of art have been created about "the Magdalene" as a repentant sinner than of any other saint except for the other Mary, the mother of Jesus. Her tears became more important than her mind or her faith.

The Catholic Church of the 7th century adopted this version of the story with such readiness that it must have served a need. It has inspired countless works of art, which are, without doubt, beautiful--and resonant with meaning. The woman of regretful tears never fails to touch our hearts—because we have our own tears to shed, over our own regrets. The penitent woman is ALL of us, but she is NOT Mary Magdalene. It's safe to say that Magdalene sinned like we all do, but her place in the gospel is intended to model for us something that we do much less well than we do sinning, which is to spread the good news of Jesus.

The necessity to downgrade Mary Magdalene's reputation may have been influenced by the rise of a new form of the papacy. Rather than being seen as a shepherd in the service of God's people, the bishop of Rome became a monarch who wore a crown, lived in a palace, and immersed himself in a world of power, of money, and especially of men.

In this new world, Peter's role in establishing this powerful institution became vitally important. The story of Mary Magdalene was a discomforting inconvenience. How could it be that the risen Lord did NOT appear first to Peter, but to Mary Magdalene in the garden where he was buried? Why was it Mary Magdalene keeping vigil at the tomb, and not Peter? Why did Mary Magdalene bring the good news of Jesus' resurrection to Peter and the other apostles, and not the other way around?

Yes, it is at Jesus' tomb where Mary Magdalene cries—but they are not tears of remorse for her sin. They are tears springing from her grief and love for Jesus, rapidly transformed into tears of joy in the presence of the risen Lord. It was this tearful but joyful Mary who brought the good news of what SHE had experienced to the apostles still hiding away in fear.

When Peter and John finally arrive at the empty tomb, it is to confirm as their own act of faith what Mary of Magdala has already seen with her eyes, believed with her heart and witnessed with her words.

Mary Magdalene is important for we Catholics to remember and honor because she is NOT the only smart, wise and faithful woman who has been "Magdalened" by the male authorities of the church. We have not, as Catholics, been welcoming of smart, gifted women who feel a call to leadership in Magdalene's era or in our own.

Fr. Joe Scott, Paulist

