

*THE PARISHES OF
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE*

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

Bingham Avenue, Edinburgh EH15 3HY

Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple: 0131 669 5447

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris, Chris Vinestock & Pauline Connarty
 Administrator: Pauline Connarty (OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 11am to 5pm)
 Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk

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4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)
20 DECEMBER 2015



WELCOME! ... Fr Jock would like to welcome most warmly all visitors to our sister parishes for the festive season, to wish everybody a Happy and Holy Christmas, and particularly to thank all who work so generously for their Lord and our Parishes – especially in this festive season but also throughout the year

... and why not visit our parishes' new Facebook page where there is a welcome message from Archbishop Leo to be viewed www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) rite for entry into the Catechmenate will take place at 9.30am Mass this Sunday at St John's. Our four 'enquirers' will take part, **Christopher Umweni** and **Gary Zoltie**, our catechumens, and **David Wylie** and **Freddie Maclellan Hawkes**, our candidates (catechumens are those who haven't been baptised; candidates are those baptised into another tradition, or Catholics who have yet to receive all the sacraments of initiation – baptism, confirmation and eucharist). **Please pray for the candidates, their sponsors, and their catechists.**

ST JOHN'S CHURCH ADVENT OPEN DAYS: MONDAY 21 – WEDNESDAY 23: Many thanks to all who have volunteered to support this initiative, which is part of our response to Pope Francis' Jubilee of Mercy – with the open, inviting Church there for all in our wider community who want a time of quiet in the rush before Christmas. **On Monday** we have two funeral services and a Mass with anointing, so we will be open for quiet prayer and meditation from **6pm to 9pm**. (PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIMES.) **On Tuesday and Wednesday** we intend to open the church all day from **9am to 9pm**. Please sign up to cover a half hour (or more) and use this opportunity for a moment of quiet reflection before Christmas.

THANK YOU ... to **The Edinburgh Telephone Choir** and **St John's School Children's Choir** for a wonderful evening of carols in St John's Church on Thursday 10 December, and to all those who came along and supported this event which raised a magnificent £468.53 for **'Fresh Start'**, helping homeless people to adjust to life with their own accommodation.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SERVICES

	<u>St John the Evangelist</u>	<u>St Mary Magdalene</u>
Christmas Eve	6.00pm: Christmas Children's Mass 8.30pm: Christmas Vigil Mass	8.30pm: Christmas Carol Service
Christmas Day		10.30am: Christmas Children's Mass
Thursday 31 st December		7.00pm: Hogmanay Mass
Friday 1 st January	11.30am: Mass on the Feast of Mary, Mother of God	

CHRISTMASTIDE ... Remember the Christmas season continues right through the Feast of the Epiphany (on the 3rd January) and ends on Sunday 10th January with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 20th December: 9.30am: Mass with Rite of Entry into the Catechumenate for our RCIA enquirers.

1.15pm: St John's Church: Baptism of Rachel Lennox Wilder Craig.

Monday 21st December: 10am: St John's Church: **Requiem Mass for Jenny Wormald.**

2.30pm: St John's Church: **Mass with Anointing (Healing Mass)** – celebrated followed by the sacrament of reconciliation for those who wish. The Rosary will be recited at 2.15pm. If you require transport, please phone Maria Igoe 0131 669 0247.

4.30pm: St John's Church: **Funeral service for Ronnie Dickin.**

6pm to 9pm: St John's Church: **Open Church**

Tuesday 22nd December & Wednesday 23rd December: 9.30am to 9pm: **St John's Church Advent Open Days.** Please sign up to be a welcoming presence ... (Sign up lists can be found at the back of St John's Church.)

Wednesday 23rd December: 10am: St John's Church: **Requiem Mass for Isabel Garvie.**

Thursday 24th December: 10am: St Mary Magdalene's Church: **Requiem Mass for Maria Juska.**

IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

Sunday 27 December: (Feast of St John): After 9.30am Mass: **Blessing of the new Notice-Board.**

VOCAL. Doing something different for carers! The VOCAL Edinburgh carer centre will remain open on **28th, 29th and 30th December 2015** from 9am-5pm for a special programme of events and For further details of how VOCAL could help you please contact Helen Gestwicki, Carer Centre Communications Worker, 0131 622 6666 or visit the VOCAL website: <https://www.vocal.org.uk/DoSomethingDifferent.pdf>

A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE

According to the Handbook Of Catholic Sacramentals by Ann Ball, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' was written to teach Catholics about the catechism at the period when Catholicism was against the law. Its gifts symbolise religious ideas and the "true love" is God. Here is her interpretation of what the gifts might mean.

<i>A partridge in a pear tree</i>	Jesus Christ, symbolised as a mother partridge that feigns injury to distract predators from her helpless nestlings.
<i>2 Turtle doves</i>	The Old & New Testaments
<i>3 French Hens</i>	Faith, hope and charity
<i>4 Calling Birds</i>	The 4 Gospels
<i>5 Golden Rings</i>	The Pentateuch or 5 Books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)
<i>6 Geese a laying</i>	The 6 days of creation.
<i>7 Swans a swimming</i>	The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
<i>8 Maids a milking</i>	The 8 Beatitudes (Blessed are: the poor in spirit; those who mourn; the meek; those who hunger and thirst for righteousness; the merciful; the pure in heart; the peacemakers; those who are persecuted for righteousness sake).
<i>9 Ladies dancing</i>	The 9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit ("But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.")
<i>10 Lords a leaping</i>	The 10 Commandments.
<i>11 Pipers piping</i>	The 11 faithful disciples.
<i>12 Drummers drumming</i>	The 12 Articles of the Apostles Creed.

Offertory Collection on 12th & 13th December 2015

St Mary Magdalene's
£323.22 (inc Gift Aided: £108.55)

St John the Evangelist
£982.17 (inc Gift Aided: £468.80)

Many thanks

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those whose have died recently, including: Ronnie Dickin and Isabel Garvie.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Alice Taylor, Jim Marin, Fr. William John Clyne, Mary McNally, Sandy Mackay, Paddy Breen, Frances Welby, John Breen, Mary Gallagher, Francis O'Connor, Jean Malcolm, Alexander Paton, Eileen Flannigan, Francis Rooney (jnr), Joseph Desmond, Thomas Heaney, Helen (Gytha) Somervell, Francis Rooney (sen), George and Esther Watters, The Laurie Family, The Harrison Family, The Clyne Family, The Lynch Family, Alice Taylor, Cecelia McIntyre, Tom Brennan, Elizabeth Welby, Anne Bridget Gallagher, James McGravie, John Scally, Mary McClory, Mary E Sweeney, (Baby) Carol Begg, Hugh Docherty, James Cordery, Frances Skey, Arthus Scholan, Raymond Demarco, John Callaghan, William Thomson Pringle, James Moran, Mary Fusco, Ian Holligan, David Headspeath and Marjory Graham.

Please pray for the sick of our sister parishes, including:

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Jane Wright, Alf Macnamara, Gerry Wynne, Mary Phillips, Liz Saddler, Lorna Dickson, Etta Dewar, Francis Ginnelly, John Ritchie, Patrick McCafferty, Terry Delaney, Tricia Davies, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Isobel O'Neill, Ina McNama, Josie Martin, David Thom, John Cregan, Tom Brown, Maureen Lawrie, Mona Scoular, Mary Florence & Bob Crabbe, Mary Grady, Jane McGuire, Kathy & Jimmy Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Fay Dignan, Roz Byers, Sheila Alexander, Pat Kershaw, Michael & Mamie Richards, Joan Howie, Helen Harrison, Cathy McGravie, , Jane Murray, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Malachy Meehan, Ann Ward, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Elizabeth Mackail, Betty McEwing, Annie Watson, Anne McGeachie, Mary Robertson, Isobel Phillips, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Silvia Berry, Tony Matrondola, Jude Ferguson, Mary & James Muir, Liz Davis, Rose McKay, Laurence Kennedy, and Denis Davidson.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Simon Benson, Fr Tony McDonald, Austen Tod, Edward Martin, Cameron Hall, baby Marnie Josie-Sophia Cree, Roy McGillivray, Hugh McGeady, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, John Allan, Valentino and Paloma Rivera, Isabel McInrue, Anne Gallagher, Denise O'Donnell, Margaret Davis, Dorothy Jamal, Jane Morton, Christopher Browne, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, Vera Hawkes, Christian and John Parham, Conor Kerrigan, Maria St. Denis, baby Ray Donovan Syme, and Rupert Ridge.

ST MARY MAGDALENE'S

Readers for this Sunday: John Cunningham & Anne Jabir
... and next Sunday: Sam Henry & Tessa Haring

Bidding Prayers: Jean Douglas
Bidding Prayers: Kate Neilson

FOOD PARCEL SERVICE. Remember that if you would like to donate to the food parcel service supporting families in the local community, boxes are provided at the back of each Church. Tins of tuna, hotdogs and meatballs would be much appreciated, as would any toiletries you can donate. These will be distributed from St Teresa of Lisieux Parish who are helping 8 to 10 families per week. **Jim Roarty writes:** 'Thank you for your ongoing support of this initiative and to the parishioner who generously donated excess food stock from a shop. Many families will benefit from your kindness this Christmas.'

LEGHO. There will be an opportunity to contribute to a Christmas gift to Legho at a leaving collection following Masses at St John's this weekend. Funds raised will go towards supporting projects being developed by our fellow parishioners in Tanzania. Visit www.twendepamojatrust.blogspot.com for further details.

St. John's

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION This is a special Envelope Collection. Over the years it has become an integral part of our Annual Parish Revenue on which we depend to balance our Budget. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church if you wish to make a Christmas Offering.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES:

6.00pm VIGIL: Kathy Gallagher, Bernie Gallagher, Linda Brown, Hugh Brown, Chris Vinestock.

8.30pm VIGIL: Linda Moran, Maura Spencer, Flora Dick, Moira McDiarmid, Tracy Burgess.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR MASSES NEXT WEEKEND: VIGIL: P MacInnes, V Knowles, M Reilly.

SUNDAY: L Moran, A Tanzi, L Dick, L Young, T Burgess.

St John's Church Flower Team will meet on Christmas Eve at 10.30 am to prepare the Church for Christmas. Please come if you can.

Many thanks to Lorna Pelosi for the gift of an angel to watch over the Christmas crib at St John's Church... and congratulations to Jim and Evlynn Roarty who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary last Saturday.

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 19th December	10.00am Mass: Margaret Knowles 6.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 20th December 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C	9.30am Mass: Joyce Hughes	11.15am Mass: Jim Marin
Monday 21st December <i>Memorial of St Peter Canisius</i>	10.00am Requiem Mass for Jenny Wormald. 2.30pm: Mass with Anointing. 4.30pm: Funeral Service for Ronnie Dickin. 6pm to 9pm: OPEN CHURCH FOR ADVENT 7.00pm to 8.00pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 22nd December	9am to 9pm: OPEN CHURCH FOR ADVENT 10.00am Mass: Sandy Mackay	
Wednesday 23rd December <i>St John Cantius</i>	9am to 9pm: OPEN CHURCH FOR ADVENT 10.00am Requiem Mass for Isabel Garvie	
Thursday 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE	10.00am: Eucharistic Service 6.00pm Christmas Children's Mass Jude Payne 8.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass SI – Xmas blessing	10.00am Requiem Mass for Maria Juska 8.30pm Christmas Carol Service
Friday 25th December THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD		10.30am Christmas Children's Mass Helen McRae
Saturday 26th December FEAST OF ST STEPHEN	6.30pm Vigil Mass: Deceased Legionaries	
Sunday 27th December FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	9.30am Mass: Fr William John Clyne	11.15am Mass: People of the Parish

ON WEEKDAYS DURING ADVENT ... Morning Prayer will be said in St John's Church at 9.30am before the Mass or Eucharistic Service.

FRIENDS

'Friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.'