

*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](http://www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk)

Web address: [www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk)

Joint e-mail for our sister parishes: [stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com)

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)

6 DECEMBER 2015



**THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY commences this week on Tuesday 8th December.** With this newsletter is a pastoral letter from Archbishop Cushley.

In anticipation of the Year of Mercy, we celebrate **Reconciliation Sunday** and welcome Fr John Robinson, Fr Gordon Brown, Fr Jim Crampsey and Fr John McFadden to help us celebrate what one person has called 'the sacrament of God's recklessness'!

**THE CHRISTIAN AID ADVENT CAROL SERVICE takes place this Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, at 5pm, at St Mary Magdalene's Church. A warm invitation is extended to everybody.**

... and, introducing **OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE**. Eddie White writes: 'You will see our new parishes' joint Facebook page if you type in [www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes](http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes). To make this an effective tool for the parishes, we would like as many people as possible to "follow" us on Facebook. Archbishop Cushley has a welcome video for us to be viewed. See it on Facebook.'

Following the success of last year's Christmas Concert at St John's, we are delighted to welcome back the **Edinburgh Telephone Choir and the St John's Primary School Choir** who will be performing this **Thursday 10th December at 7pm**. Please do come along. (Details below.)

**Our parishes' faith formation Autumn programme continues on Monday evenings** in St John's Church Hall. This week's 'Life in Christ' seminar will focus on 'Models of Church', offering us a chance to reflect on our Community and grow deeper in our relationship with God. (See 'This Week' for further details).

...and a new initiative to help us as we try to pray: **next Saturday, 12 December, there will be a short meeting** at 11am in the parish house **for those who might be interested in 'Lectio Divina' ('Sacred Reading')**, which is a well-established way of praying with the scriptures. In January, we hope to start a group, led by parishioner **Mairi Clunas**, which will meet fortnightly in the parish house for 45 minutes at 11am on Saturday mornings to pray with, and reflect on, the scriptures for the following Sunday. This Saturday's short meeting is for those who would like to be part of such a group or to find out more about what might be involved...

**A COURSE FOR NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS...** will take place on three Mondays in January. If you think someone would make a good eucharistic minister, please propose their name to Fr Jock, Jim Roarty, Jennifer Morris or another member of the pastoral team...

... and, finally, a reminder that there will be 'Carols in the Car Park' outside St Mary Magdalene's on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm**, with mulled wine, mulled juice, and mince pies. Please come along and sing your hearts out!



**THE EDINBURGH TELEPHONE CHOIR**

and special guests

**THE ST JOHN'S SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

will perform an evening of carols here at St John's Church  
on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

An unmissable event to raise funds in aid of 'Fresh Start'.

**ENTRY FREE....but there will be a leaving collection for FRESH START, the charity that helps homeless people to adjust to life with their own accommodation.**

## THIS WEEK

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December:** 5pm: St Mary Magdalene's Church: **Christian Aid Carol Service.**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December:** 10.30am: St John's Church Hall. **Maria Igoe writes:** 'The next **Charity Coffee Morning** will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December in the Hall after 10am Mass. Donations will be given to the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.'

7.30pm to 9.30pm: St John's Church Hall. '**Life in Christ' Evening (3).** Our parishes' faith formation Autumn programme continues, focusing this week on '**Models of Church**'.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Holy Year of Mercy Begins.**

10am to 11.30am: St John's Church Hall: **ST JOHN'S PORTY TODDLER GROUP.**

**4.30pm: St Mary Magdalene's: Reception of the body of Basil Juska.**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December: 10am: St Mary Magdalene's: Requiem Mass for Basil Juska.**

7.30pm: St Catherine's Convent, 4 Lauriston Gdns, EH3 9HH: Edinburgh Newman Circle Meeting: '**Parish Experiences**'. A panel of lay people share their experiences.

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** 7pm: St John's Church: **Christmas Carol Concert** (Please see front page for details.)

**Saturday 12 December: 11am:** Parish House: **Introductory meeting for those interested in being part of a Lectio Divina ('Sacred Reading') group** in the New Year.

**Sunday 13 December:** St Mary's Cathedral: **Opening of the Jubilee Year Holy Door by Archbishop Leo.**

9.30am: St John's Church: **Children's Mass – 'Illumination' mass for Primary 3s.**

11.15am: St Mary Magdalene's Church: '**Do this in Memory**' mass for Primary 4s.

## IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December:** 2.30pm: St John's Church: **Mass with Anointing (Healing Mass)** - 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.

### CHRISTMAS 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

## NOTICEBOARD

**Diocesan Parish Census:** Each year a census is taken on the first Sunday of November in each parish in the diocese. This year, in order to get a more accurate picture, we took the average over an eight week period from the beginning of October to 23 November: the results were as follows: **St John's: 6.30pm (Vigil Mass): 75 9.30am Mass: 201 - St Mary Magdalene's: 11.15am: 98.**

**SCIAF.** Jim Roarty writes: "**Your Christmas Present Problems Solved!** Don't know what to get for Auntie Jessie or Cousin Willie? Pick up the SCIAF Real Gifts catalogue or order form from the back of the church and give them something which will please both them and the beneficiaries in the poorer parts of the world."

**St John's Church 'Open Doors'.** In order to offer passers-by the chance to enjoy a few moments of quiet reflection, we hope to be able to continue opening St John's Church on a more frequent basis. Ideally, we would like to establish a team of volunteers to welcome visitors on Church Open Days. If you think this could be part of your ministry and are interested in supporting this initiative promoted by Pope Francis, please speak to Fr Jock or Chris Vinestock.

*Offertory Collection on 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015*

St Mary Magdalene's  
£260.71 (inc Gift Aided: £153)

St John the Evangelist  
£947.51 (inc Gift Aided: £458.20)

Many thanks

## PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those whose have died recently, including: Basil Juska, Kitty Martin and William Cotterell.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Margaret Risi, Myles Vincent Durkin, Grace Spencer, Mary Meehan, Winifred Adamson, Patrick Butler, Thomas Holt, John Tweedie, Charlie DiCarlo, Kathleen Mary Codling, James Waldie, Robert Taylor, Margaret O'Brien, S.M. Nelson, Frank McGuire, Bridget Lawrie, Mary (May) Maclean, Michael Keogh, Maggie Bonner, James Anderson, Mary MacLauchlan, Margaret Theresa Ward, Vincent Kelegher, Jimmy Duke, Annie Shrivener, Michael Meldrum, Bridget Meldrum, Mary Meehan, Stan Tweedie, Margaret Riach, James Daly, Ann Cassidy, Valerie Messent, and Joseph Dykes.

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Gerry Wynne, Eddie Clark, Jenny Wormald, 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, Alf Macnamara, Jane Murray, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Malachy Meehan, Ann Ward, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Maria Juska, 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, Edward Martin, Chuck Buchanan, Austen Tod, 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.

Many congratulations to Anna Collins, who recently won the Baden-Powell award for her services to guiding!

### ST MARY MAGDALENE'S

**Children's Liturgy Fundraising.** Una Gallagher writes: 'The children will be doing a 1 hour sponsored silence during Advent in aid of SCIAF. This won't be easy for many of them! Please support them by signing their sponsor sheets.'

**Readers for this Sunday:** Mary Fenwick & Catriona MacGillivray **Bidding Prayers:** Jim Gallagher  
... and next Sunday: **'Do This in Memory of Me' Mass**

**Christmas Volunteers.** Kate Neilson writes: 'If you would like to help with arranging flowers, and decorating the Church and porch for Christmas, please speak to Jean McInally or Kate Neilson.'

**200 CLUB** Linda Brown writes: 'The winner of the 200 Club for November is Clive Davies with Number 4 who wins £25. Congratulations Clive! Next month the draw will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> December for £200!! New members welcome.' For information contact Madge Moyes from St Mary Magdalene's parish (657 2744), or Linda Brown from St John the Evangelist parish (665 1464).

**LEGHO** Over the years parishioners at St John's have been invited to contribute to a Christmas gift to Legho to support the projects the communities are developing. There will be an opportunity to make your donation at a leaving collection following both Masses at St John's on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December, the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

### St. John's

**Linda Brown writes:** 'The Fairtrade Stall and Christmas teas and coffees, turkey and cranberry rolls, festive mince pies etc., will be in St John's Church Hall after morning Mass on Sunday 6th December'.

**Eucharistic Ministers for Masses next weekend: VIGIL:** C Vinestock, O Brooks, P Hunter.

**SUNDAY:** E Clark, T Burgess, P Connarty, C Dempsey, K Dykes.

<b>Masses, Devotions and Services</b>		
	<b>St John the Evangelist</b>	<b>St Mary Magdalene</b>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Bill Brogan  <b>6.30pm Vigil Mass:</b> Mgr. James Rae	
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i>	<b>9.30am Mass:</b> Margaret Risi	<b>11.15am Mass: People of the Parish</b>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>MEMORIAL OF ST AMBROSE</i>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Richard McGlinchey  <b>6.45pm to 7.30pm:</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> (N.B. CHANGE OF TIME.)	
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	<b>10.00am Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>6.25pm to 6.55pm:</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> <b>7pm Mass:</b> Anne Martin
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>Memorial of St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin</i>	<b>10.00am: Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>10am: Requiem Mass for Basil Juska</b>
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00am: Mass:</b>	
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>Memorial of St Damasus I</i>	<b>9.25am to 9.55am:</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> <b>10.00am Mass: (with St John's School P6)</b> William Cotterell  <b>3pm to 4pm:</b> <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>Memorial of our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Myles Vincent Durkin  <b>6.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish</b>	
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i>	<b>9.30am Mass:</b> Nora Hannon	<b>11.15am Mass:</b>

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

## **PRAYER**

‘Prayer is an attitude of trust in our Father, seeking his will, seeking to be a presence of love for brothers and sisters. Each of us must know how to rest and unwind in silence and contemplation, heart to heart with God.’

*Jean Vanier, Community & Growth, p 189.*