

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

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

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Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple: 0131 669 5447

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Administrator: Pauline Connarty

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**Third Sunday of the Year (Cycle B)**

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**WELCOME!** If you're visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most **welcome** in our sister parishes. We are delighted you have joined us. If you are new to the parish please make yourself known to Fr Jock or Pauline, our Parish Administrator, and ask for details of how to register on the parish roll.

**AN IMPORTANT LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP CUSHLEY CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE DIOCESE – and, especially, the future provision of Parishes within it:**

**Fr Jock writes:** 'Archbishop Leo Cushley has initiated a review of the provision of parishes in the Archdiocese and the infrastructure required to support them. Over the coming months, through our open parish meetings and other fora, we will be gathering your views so that we can actively contribute to this ongoing discussion. **Copies of the letter from Archbishop Cushley to the Deans initiating this process will be given out with this newsletter for your information. Please do take one and read it.** And please pray for the priests of our deanery, meeting on Tuesday morning in Cathedral House to discuss their response.'

**A request for Hosts and Leaders for Lenten House Groups**

After the success of the house groups during Lent last year, it is planned to have similar groups this year. The groups will run once a week for six weeks from the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> February to the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> March. **If you are willing to host and/or lead a group, please put your name on the lists at the back of either Church.**

**Sacramental Initiation Programme:** Letters will be going out this week to parents of candidates in P3 & P4 who are preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. If you have not received a letter by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February please contact Arlene Lauder (Sacramental Co-ordinator) on 0131 669 0041 or by email at [alauder.82@btinternet.com](mailto:alauder.82@btinternet.com), or contact Pauline in the Parish Office.

**THIS WEEK**

**DIARY**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January: 7.30pm: Parish House: 'THE WAY (Part 2)' – A St Vincent De Paul Initiative – All Welcome:** For further details please see posters at the back of each Church.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January: 8pm: Parish House: RCIA**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Lauriston Centre: 7.30pm to 9.00pm: 'Walking the John Muir Way'**

**NEXT WEEK**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February:**

**11.15am: St Mary Magdalene's Church: Mass with invited members from Faith & Light.**

**2-4pm: St John's Church Hall: Faith & Light Candlemas Celebration.**

**7.30pm: Portobello and Joppa Parish Church: Meeting of PACT (Portobello & Area Churches Together)**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February: 7.30-9pm: Parish House: St Mary Magdalene's Parish Council Meeting**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February: 7.30pm: Portobello & Joppa Parish Church (formerly St Phillip's) welcomes musician Steph Macleod: 'From Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, to addiction and homelessness'**

**IN THE COMING WEEKS**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February: 10am: St John's Church: Mass with a focus on the bereaved.** (A new initiative - to take place several times a year.)

**11am to 1pm: St Marks Church, 287 Portobello High St: FEB FEST COFFEE MORNING & SALE.** Coffee, Home Baking, Cards, Raffle, Books & Gifts.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February: 7pm: St Patrick's Church, Cowgate: Rite of Election Music Rehearsal.**

Patricia Carroll writes: 'Parishioners are invited to join the Inter Parish Archdiocesan Choir for the first of a series of rehearsals beginning on the 9th Feb at 7pm in St Patricks Cowgate. This is the only one for the Rite of Election. There will also be two rehearsals for the Chrism Mass during Lent. New members are very welcome, especially those who sing in existing parish choirs.'

## **LEGHO 'Greetings from Tanzania'**

Mike Knox writes: *'I have been here for over 8 weeks now and will soon be back at the beginning of March. It was good to be in Legho over the Christmas Season and I will be returning there next week, and then again when Gill Dick comes out on behalf of St John's Primary in February. Fr Sangawe and the Communities would very much like to thank St John's Parish for the Christmas Gift. They have been trying to raise funds to buy new front doors for the Church (as in St John's!), to build a small laundry and an office next to the Church. The gift will go towards this. I have just spent a week with 66 new Form 1 students at St Ursula's Secondary School working from 8.00am until late afternoon. I am reminded that I am no longer as young as I was! It was a great opportunity to get to know some wonderful young people. You can meet them on the blog. ([www.twendepamojatrust.blogspot.com](http://www.twendepamojatrust.blogspot.com)). By contrast this week I spent yesterday morning comfortably out of my depth with St Ursula's Primary Nursery Class. Sr Conjesta and the other teachers who were across in October send their greetings and best wishes for the New Year. I was with them recently.*

**An appeal.** *As you will appreciate computers have and are changing the way the world works and both teachers and pupils here know how important they are and are increasingly so in Tanzania. I am trying to collect **15 Laptops** to use as a mobile resource for all of the primary and schools that have partnerships. If you have one you no longer need that uses Windows and ideally has Microsoft Office please e mail me ([mikeknox2@me.com](mailto:mikeknox2@me.com)). There is no way the schools can afford to buy even one. They would be well used!*

*It is great to read the joint Parish Newsletter each week and helps me feel connected. I won't mention the warm weather and sunshine. With every best wish, Mike (and keep please keep praying for everyone here and all that is going on).'*

## **NOTICEBOARD**

**Fr John Robinson** will kindly be covering for Fr Jock for some of this week's Masses.

**Bridge Club** meets in St John's Church Hall on Monday evenings at 7pm. If you play bridge, or have done so in the past, you are most welcome to join. Please phone Jean Douglas on 0131 657 9962 for further details.

### **Volunteering Opportunity: A New Convener required for the Portobello Monday Centre**

'The Portobello Monday Centre is a local project of 28 years providing informal day care for our members suffering from mild to moderate dementia, in turn giving much needed respite to their carers and families. It is an important community initiative with a dedicated team of helpers. We are looking for a new convener. The role is multi-faceted and we are looking for someone with experience of dementia, someone who feels comfortable doing referral visits to peoples homes with pastoral follow-up, work rotas, co-ordinating the transport and meals to our weekly needs, filling in grant forms, overseeing at the Centre itself. Your week will average 10 hours. If there is a little voice in the back of your head saying "I could do this" please get in touch. We would very much like to hear from you. This is a rewarding opportunity.' Please contact Nell on 0131 669 4351.

**Medjugorje:** Maria Igoe invites anyone interested in going to Medjugorje to contact her on 0131 669 0247. A small group is going in July and there are also a few rooms still available for the trip in May.

**Teacher Job Vacancies in Catholic Schools:** Details of latest vacancies have been posted on noticeboards at the back of each Church.

**Looking for Volunteers! Madaleine Sweeney-Baird**, a young parishioner from Our Lady of Loretto in Musselburgh, is coming to the end of a degree at Napier University and is writing her dissertation on '**Catholic Attitudes to Sex and Sexuality**'. This is a serious (and well-intentioned) work: Madaleine is looking for volunteers (*'of people, over the age of 18, who consider themselves to be Catholic by choice'*) willing to participate in a short interview lasting 40 minutes...for more information see Fr Jock – or contact Madaleine directly on [40058687@live.napier.ac.uk](mailto:40058687@live.napier.ac.uk)

### **THE WORD (a poem by parishioner, Mairi Clunas)**

*The Spirit helps us in our weakness*

In the mystery of silence  
Lies the beginning,  
Where the Word is revealed  
On the breath of the Spirit.

Surrendered to speech  
In the voice of the herald,  
The Word now lies  
Enfolded in the heart.

To rise anew, as prayer,  
Infinite desire and longing love  
Into the silent heart  
Of the mystery. Where lies  
The End of all beginning.

## **PARISH REGISTER**

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including:** Margaret Kelly, Annie Brown, Winifred Roper, Helen Dykes, Teresa Gaffney, Patrick Murray, Elizabeth Hooper, James Halpenny, Mollie Walsh, Teresa Fusco, Veronica Wallace, Elizabeth Gillis, Graham Scott, Andrew Gilhooly, Elizabeth Hall, Antonio Pacitti, Catherine Mary Gray, Edward Grady, Neola Valvona, Peter Kelly, Patrick J Bannon, James McGuire, Elizabeth Keogh, Edward Stone, Bridget Meldrum, Mary Brosnan, Jack Maher, Alice Boyle, John Ward, Alex Begg, Bertie Demarco, Beryl Donegan, and Jamesina (Jimsie) Laidlaw.

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

**Sick Parishioners - St. John's:** Monsignor James Rae, Maureen Green, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Eddie Clark, Sarah Clark, Baby Ailsa Fitzgerald, Jane McGuire, Kathy & Jimmy Gallagher, Mona Scoular, Jenny Wormald, Mary Florence & Bob Crabbe, Betty Diponio, Erin Corbett, Sheila Alexander, Fay Dignan, Roz Byers, Michael & Mamie Richards, Pat Kershaw, Joan Howie, Helen Harrison, Cathy McGravie, Alf Macnamara, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Malachy Meehan, Jane Murray, Ann Ward, Paul Bainbridge, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

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

**Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including:** Ellen Green, Anne Gallagher, Anne-Louise Dalrymple, baby Ava Gillies Denise O'Donnell, Margaret Davis, Dorothy Jamal, John Allan, Jane Morton, Christian and John Parham, Christine Wilson, Conor Kerrigan, Rupert Ridge, Jerzy Gladziuk, Vera Hawkes, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, Maria St. Denis, and baby Ray Donovan Syme.

... **And A Note of Thanks: Monica Gorman** writes on behalf of herself and **Chris English:** 'We wish to thank Fr Jock and all parishioners of the sister parishes who offered prayers good wishes, cards and other forms of communication during our stay in hospital and convalescence. May God bless you for your support which was much appreciated and very welcome. All is well and we are happy with our "new joints"!!'

## **ST MARY MAGDALENE'S**

**Readers for this Sunday:** Irene Duncan & Aileen Hall    **Bidding Prayers:** Kate Neilson  
... and for next Sunday: Mary McGovern & Robert Moyes    **Bidding Prayers:** Jean Douglas

**200 CLUB** **Linda Brown writes a reminder:** 'As this is the start of the New Year, the money is due in again for this year which is £12 for the year. This £12 gives a monthly prize of £20 (which would increase if more people joined) and also a chance to win the £200 twice a year (summer and Christmas). If anyone would like to join, please contact Linda Brown on 665-1464.'

NB Apologies - **Our Pastoral Council Meeting has been postponed from Tuesday 27 January to Tuesday 3 February**

## **St. John's**

**Maria Igoe writes:** The next Charity Coffee Morning will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the Hall after Mass. Donation will be divided between the 'Apostleship of the Sea' and 'Lifeboats'. Please come along.

**FAIRTRADE** Linda Brown writes: 'Would any parishioner like to take over the Fairtrade Stall as Linda and Hugh Brown are retiring from the Stall, if anyone is interested could they let us know by phone (0131 665 1464) or email [lindabrown@tesco.net](mailto:lindabrown@tesco.net)'

**LAST CHANCE** ... to purchase half-price calendars from the Church Stall!

**Offertory Collection - 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> January 2015**  
**St Mary Magdalene's - £ 277.06    St John's - £ 840.66**  
**MANY THANKS.**

## Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
<b>Saturday 24th January</b> <i>Memorial of St Francis de Sales</i>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Eithne Macneil  <b>6.30pm Vigil:</b> Canon Michael Cassidy	
<b>Sunday 25th January</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (CYCLE B)</b>	<b>9.30am Mass:</b> People of the Parish	<b>11.15am Mass:</b> Fr Daniel Boyd
<b>Monday 26th January</b> <i>Memorial of Ss Timothy and Titus</i>	<b>10.00am Mass: SI –</b> The Intentions of Our Lady Queen of Peace  <b>7pm to 8pm:</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
<b>Tuesday 27th January</b> <i>Memorial of St Angela Merici</i>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Vincent McDevitt	
<b>Wednesday 28th January</b> <i>MEMORIAL OF ST THOMAS AQUINAS</i>	<b>10.00am Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> Special Intention
<b>Thursday 29th January</b>	<b>10.00am Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>7.00pm Mass: SI -</b> Sick Person
<b>Friday 30th January</b>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Special Intention  <b>3pm to 4pm:</b> <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	
<b>Saturday 31st January</b> <i>MEMORIAL OF ST JOHN BOSCO</i>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Special Intention  <b>6.30pm Vigil:</b> Fr Thomas Flynn	
<b>Sunday 1st February</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (CYCLE B)</b>	<b>9.30am Mass:</b> Canon Michael Milton	<b>11.15am Mass:</b> People of the Parish

### **REFLECTION (An extract from 'Adult Faith: Growing in Wisdom & Understanding' by Diarmuid O'Murchu)**

'Consider what you mean when you tell someone: be realistic. It's another way to say: lower your expectations. It's also connected with a view of maturity that holds growing up to be a process of becoming resigned.' SUSAN NEIMAN (CH 9: 'Toward a Spirituality of Homecoming')

This is one of many books available - in bookshelves at the back of both churches and in the front room in the parish house - to borrow from Fr Jock's library.

