

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

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Fifth Sunday of Lent (Cycle B) 22nd March 2015
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With this newsletter, there is an important letter from Archbishop Cushley – not the one expected introducing the document which offers his vision for our Archdiocese (that will be available next week-end). Instead we have another letter from him, **communicating Pope Francis’ decision on Cardinal O’Brien**, following the investigation made last year by (now) Archbishop Scicluna. Do please read it.

WARM BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO ST JOHN’S PARISHIONER INA MCNAMA, WHO CELEBRATES HER 100TH BIRTHDAY ON SATURDAY 28th MARCH.

This Sunday, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is ‘Reconciliation Sunday’ - there will be an opportunity during the first half of all Masses to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with one of the available priests.

Continuing our Lenten journey ... you will find copies of the reflections for Week 5 of the diocesan Lenten programme, ‘**Giving Our Lives in Love**’, at the back of both Churches.

A NEW LENTEN INITIATIVE FOR OUR TWO CHURCHES - this Tuesday at 7.30pm at St Mary Magdalene’s, we have a ‘Taize evening’.... a candlelight contemplative service of Lenten prayer and song (see below for more details)

This Thursday at 5.45pm at the Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Rd, there is a special showing of one of the great lives of Christ on film - Pier Paolo Pasolini’s ‘The Gospel According to St Matthew’ (1964 – Italian with English subtitles)...Fr Jock has reserved ten tickets (£9- concessions £7.20). If you’d like to go please give your name to him.

Next week is **Palm Sunday**, and then we begin Holy Week the most important week of our liturgical calendar. Details of services during Holy Week are outlined overleaf. Please continue to pray for **our seven RCIA catechumens and candidates who will be baptised and confirmed at the Easter Vigil**: Angela McGreevy, Stephen Finlayson, Chelsea Foley, Dionne Harper, Albert Caballero, Sharleena Asiatico, and Vito Simone.

By tradition, Lenten alms are handed in on Thursday of Holy Week, and this would include the SCIAF ‘wee boxes’. (Remember that the UK Government is matching every £1 donated to SCIAF this Easter.) Why not make one day this week **SCIAF ‘soup day’** - in other words, substitute soup for dinner and put the savings you make in your ‘wee box’? Pick up your free soup recipe from the back of each Church.

Once again, this Easter we are collecting donations of Easter eggs at both Masses on Easter Sunday. All those handed in at St John’s will be taken up to Jericho House for distribution after lunch that day, and those collected at St Mary Magdalene’s will be distributed to those in need via the food parcel service at St Teresa of Lisieux, Craigmillar.

THIS WEEK ... with a reminder that clocks go forward an hour next weekend!

Sunday 22nd March: 7pm: St Mary Magdalene’s Hall: Open Parish Meeting.

Monday 23 March: 7pm: St John’s: Celebration of First Reconciliation – with P3. All welcome.

Tuesday 24th March: 7.30pm: St Mary Magdalene’s Church: Taize Evening.... Lenten prayer and song by candlelight. (The Taize community, founded in France 70 years ago by Brother Roger, sheltered refugees during World War II. Today, the Taize Community is made up of more than one hundred brothers, Catholic and Protestant, from around 30 nations. By its very existence, the community is a “parable of community” that wants its life to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples. We often sing the short repetitive ‘Taize chants’ eg ‘Ubi caritas’ and ‘O Lord hear my prayer’ at Mass in both our churches).

Sunday 29th March: 7pm: St Mary Magdalene’s Hall: Icon Retreat: An evening of prayer with icons led by Sr Kathleen Curran and Juliet McKellaig from the diocesan retreat team ... a chance to experience the gentleness and beauty of a way of prayer central to the tradition of the Orthodox Church.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Sunday 22nd March: 6pm: Lauriston Jesuit Centre: Annual Romero Lecture (followed by Mass in the Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston at 8pm). This year marks the 35th anniversary of the archbishop’s death, and following the recent announcement, the year his martyrdom has been confirmed. The speaker this year will be Fr Brian Pierce OP, an American Dominican, who will present ‘*He Heard their Voice: Archbishop Romero – Mystic and Prophet*’.

NOTICEBOARD

MANY THANKS ... a message from Bronagh Power: ‘Many thanks to all who came along to our **‘Pop-Up Shop’ in aid of SCIAF and the Tanzanian Trust partnership.** And thanks too to all those who so generously donated clothes, accessories and raffle prizes. We made a grand total of **£850** which will go a long way to helping these worthwhile causes.’

ST JOHN’S PORTY TODDLER GROUP Tuesday 24th March: 10am to 11.30am: St John’s Church Hall: A chance for pre-schoolers, siblings and parents to get crafting, playing, snacking, chatting and having fun. Craft materials and snacks provided for little ones. Tea and biscuits for parents. (£3 for 2 yrs + and £1 for under 2's.) For more information on events request to join our Facebook Group **‘St Johns Porty Toddler Group’** or send your contact details to stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com. **And in the weeks ahead the Toddler Group will meet on the following Tuesdays: 7 April, 28 April & 12 May.**

CRAIGENTINNY DEMENTIA SINGING GROUP Monday 23rd March: 2pm to 4pm: St Christopher's Church, Craigentenny Road. For more details please ring Helen Fraser on 0131 661 2344 or Una Gallagher on 0131 657 2831.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

	<u>St John the Evangelist</u>	<u>St Mary Magdalene</u>	<u>OTHER VENUES</u>
SATURDAY 28 th March	6.30pm: Vigil Mass	-	
SUNDAY 29 th March PALM SUNDAY	9.30am: Mass with procession	11.15am: Mass with procession & with focus on Primary 4 ‘Do This in Memory of Me’ sacramental candidates.	
MONDAY 30 th March	7.00pm: Ecumenical Stations of the Cross		
TUESDAY 31 st March			<u>St Mary’s Cathedral</u> 7.00pm: Chrism Mass with Archbishop Cushley & the priests of the Archdiocese.
THURSDAY 2 nd April HOLY THURSDAY	7.30pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper followed from 9pm to 11pm by watching with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.		
FRIDAY 3 rd April GOOD FRIDAY	10am: Children’s Stations of the Cross 10.45am: Walk to St Mark’s to join the other churches and walk back to St John’s for a (very short) Ecumenical service (followed by tea, coffee and hot cross buns in the Hall.) 7.30pm: Stations of the Cross	3pm: Solemn liturgy of the Lord’s Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.	<u>Portobello & Joppa Parish Church</u> 10am: Service followed by a walk to St Mark’s Episcopal Church and a further walk with the Cross to St John’s for a short ecumenical service.
SATURDAY 4 th April HOLY SATURDAY	10am: A shortened version of Morning Prayer and the Office of Readings.	8.30pm: EASTER VIGIL with Baptism & Confirmation of RCIA catechumens and candidates. (NB Change of time, as determined by Archbishop Cushley in an Ad Clerum received on Friday)	
SUNDAY 5 th April EASTER SUNDAY	9.30am: Children’s Mass with Baptisms.	11.15am: Children’s Mass with Baptisms.	

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those whose have died recently, including: Margaret Reid and Sarah Home.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Gerry Higgins, Hilary Bell, Rose Daly, William Clarke, John Berry, Dennis J Sweeney, Frank Irvine, Harry McGroarty, Margaret Gilhooly, James McMillan, Helen McCann, John Bell, Thomas Thomson, Catherine McCartney, James White, Cecilia McLaughlin, Nigel Tosney, Bernard Coll, Alexander Sharp, Margaret Phair, Barbara Conlon, Sarah Waugh, John Allen, Frank Connelly, Maurice Brosnan, Natalie Valente, Angelo Young, Mary Brown Fusco, Alice Ashburner, Peggie Desmond, Margaret McCartney, Jean Dickson, William Meenan, Margaret Connolly, Alice Baron, Dorothy Kate Lynch, James Lacey Jun, Sarah Ferrier, William Corrigan, Hans Janik, Bridie Hughes, Margot Tweedie, Charles Marrins, and Edward Baxter (killed in action).

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Mgr James Rae, Gerry Gallagher, Maureen Lawrie, Maria Domenica Crolla, Mary Grady, Baby Ailsa Fitzgerald, Jane McGuire, Mona Scoular, Kathy & Jimmy Gallagher, Jenny Wormald, Mary Florence & Bob Crabbe, Erin Corbett, Fay Dignan, Sheila Alexander, 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, 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: Isabel McInrue, Anne-Louise Dalrymple, Jeanette Amos, Anne Gallagher, Denise O'Donnell, Margaret Davis, Dorothy Jamal, John Allan, Christopher Browne, Jane Morton, Christian and John Parham, Conor Kerrigan, Rupert Ridge, Jerzy Gladziuk, Vera Hawkes, Maria St. Denis, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, and baby Ray Donovan Syme.

**ST MARY
MAGDALENE'S**

Readers for this Sunday: Mary McGovern & Robert Moyes
... and for next Sunday: **Children's Mass**

Bidding Prayers: Jean Douglas
Bidding Prayers: **Children's Mass**

THIS SUNDAY 22nd MARCH at 7pm St Mary Magdalene's Parish Open Meeting in the Church Hall. Please do come and have your say! If you need transport to the meeting or if you can offer to bring people to and from the meeting please ring Una Gallagher on 0131 657 2831.

FOOD PARCEL SERVICE If you would like to donate to the food parcel service supporting families in the local community, please leave donations of tinned food in the box provided at the back of the 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.

SCIAF HOME BAKING ... SUNDAY 29TH MARCH: St Mary Magdalene's Children's Liturgy Fundraising for SCIAF. Baking stall and other goodies available before & after Mass. Please support the children in their Lenten fundraising for SCIAF by buying their baking. (Donations of home baking also very welcome.)

AND A REMINDER ... to any parishioners requiring transport on Holy Thursday to 7.30pm Mass at St John's please contact Una Gallagher on 0131 657 2831.

GIFT AID: Gift Aid envelopes are being distributed in the coming weeks to all those parishioners who make their offertory donation via the Gift Aid Donor scheme. This scheme allows the parish to claim an additional 25pence from the Inland Revenue for every £1.00 you donate. If you indicated an interest in becoming a Gift Aid Donor on the Parish Census Form we will be sending out a set of envelopes which can be used to make your weekly offertory donation. Issuing numbered envelopes ensures the anonymity of the donor, and this requirement for confidentiality is strictly observed. If you are not already a Gift Aid Donor and would like to contribute via this worthwhile scheme please don't hesitate to contact Pauline Connarty in the Parish Office (0131 669 5447) to find out how it works.

St. John's

EASTER OFFERING: 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 an Easter Offering.

Trip to Nunraw: Maria Igoe writes: 'The trip to Nunraw to celebrate Brother Philip's 90th Birthday will take place this Sunday 22nd March. The minibus will leave St John's at 1pm.'

Offertory Collection - 14th & 15th March 2015

St Mary Magdalene's - £ 191.35 St John's - £ 914.60

Special Collection (Papal & Episcopal Charities & SCIAF)

St Mary Magdalene's - £ 178.80 St John's - £ 394.76

MANY THANKS

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 21st March	10.00am Mass: Anne Kinane [followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation] 6.30pm Vigil Mass (including Sacrament of Reconciliation) Betty di Ponio	
Sunday 22nd March FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE B)	9.30am Mass (including Sacrament of Reconciliation): People of the Parish	11.15am Mass (including Sacrament of Reconciliation): Canon Michael Cassidy
Monday 23rd March <i>Commemoration of St Turibius of Mongrovejo</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer 10am Mass: Fr Daniel Boyd 7pm to 8pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 24th March	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Eucharistic Service	9.45am Mass (with a class of pupils from St John's Primary School)
Wednesday 25th March SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION	7.30am Mass: Fr Thomas Flynn 9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Eucharistic Service (followed by Stations of the Cross)	
Thursday 26th March	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Mass: Special Intention	
Friday 27th March	9.30am Morning Prayer 10am Eucharistic Service 3pm to 4pm: <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	7pm Mass (followed by Stations of the Cross): Special Intention
Saturday 28th March	10.00am Mass: Ina McNama (100 th Birthday) (Fr Jock available for Reconciliation after Mass) 6.30pm Vigil: Gerry Higgins	
Sunday 29th March PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	9.30am Mass with procession: Agnes Clyne	11.15am Mass with procession: Special Intention (sick person)

The Essential Quality

'Perhaps the essential quality for anyone who lives in community is patience; a recognition that we, others and the whole community must take time to grow. Nothing is achieved in a day. If we are to live in community, we need to be friends of time.'

Jean Vanier, Community and Growth, p.134

