

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

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*SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
17th May 2015*

*THE GOD OF EVERY
NATION*

A VISIT NEXT SUNDAY – PENTECOST SUNDAY - FROM ARCHBISHOP CUSHLEY TO CELEBRATE CONFIRMATION:

Next weekend we celebrate Pentecost, the feast of the birthday of the Church, and with Easter and Christmas one of the three great feasts in the Church's Year. That afternoon at 3pm at St John's we will welcome Archbishop Leo Cushley who will celebrate our cluster (ie St Theresa's, Craigmillar, St Mary Magdalene and St John's) Confirmations. This Mass will mean an extra Sunday Mass – which everyone in both parishes is welcome to attend.

This Sunday is World Communications Day: there is a pastoral letter from Archbishop Tartaglia, which can be picked up at the back of both churches, and a **second collection** which allows our Catholic communicators to respond to the demands made on them by the media and to take the message of Jesus Christ into that complex, powerful and influential world.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: Christian Aid envelopes are available at both churches and will be collected at the end of all Masses this weekend. Also the funds raised from 'teas & coffees' after Masses this Sunday will go to support the great work done through Christian Aid.

NAMETAG SUNDAY will take place on Trinity Sunday (Sunday 31 May) rather than Pentecost Sunday this year.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 17th May: 7.30pm: Duddingston Kirk: **PACT Meeting** (PACT stands for Portobello and Area Churches Together - the meeting is one of the three during the year in which representatives of our different churches plan how we will work together).

Tuesday 19th May: 6.30pm: St John's Church: **Confirmation rehearsal.**

7.00pm: St Patrick's Church, Cowgate: **Inter Parish Archdiocesan Choir rehearsal for Pentecost Mass.** (This Mass for Catholics who have recently been received into the Church will be held at St Patrick's Cowgate on the 23rd May, the Vigil of Pentecost, at 5pm. All are welcome to join the choir, and there is no audition. Please register by emailing Jacqueline.heron@staned.org.uk.)

Saturday 23rd May: 5pm: St Patrick's, Cowgate: **Mass with Archbishop Cushley for the diocesan 'neophytes'** – those candidates baptised/received and confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

Sunday 24th May: 7-8.30pm: St John's Hall: **ICON RETREAT** – with Juliet Mckellaig and Sr Kathleen Curran from the diocesan retreat team

10am – 6pm: outside St Mary's Cathedral: **Public Reading of 'Joy of the Gospel'.** Mike Mineter of the Vigil Group writes: 'Motivated by enthusiasm for Pope Francis' letter Evangelii Gaudium ('Joy of the Gospel'), we are holding a public proclamation of this text. It will be opposite the steps of the Cathedral, near York Place, Edinburgh, on Pentecost Sunday from 10am to 6pm'. If you wish to participate, google 'The Vigil Group' and sign up.

Offertory Collection on 9th & 10th May 2015

St Mary Magdalene's

St John the Evangelist

£131.50 (Envelopes: £94.94)

£402.40 (Envelopes: £435.06)

Special Collection (SCIAF Nepal Earthquake Appeal)

£351.30

£678.74

MANY THANKS

IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

Wednesday 27th May: 7.30pm: St Mary Magdalene's Church: **Meeting of St Mary Magdalene & St John's Eucharistic Ministers.**

Thursday 28th May: 7pm: St John's Church: **Performance of Musical, 'Jonah & the Whale',** by St John's Primary School.

Friday 29th May: 10am: Stockbridge: **FRESH START Sponsored Walk along Water of Leith.** (See 'Noticeboard' section of this newsletter for more details.)

Saturday 30th May: 10am: St John's Church: **Mass for those who've been Bereaved** – a new initiative in our parishes, taking place every three months, and organised by our two parishes' bereavement group.

Sunday 31st May: 8pm: St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh: **'Symphonic Praise with the Exile Choir and Chamber Orchestra'**. Free tickets. Call 0131 208 0095 or go to www.originscotland.org.

Saturday 13th June: Gillis Centre, Edinburgh: **Catholic Education Commission Open Forum:** The theme of the first Open Forum meeting is: 'Developing Catholic Teachers and School Leaders to ensure the future of Scotland's Catholic Schools'. Members of the Scottish Catholic community – parents, teachers, clergy – are invited to discuss issues such as: How are teachers being recruited, educated and supported to work in Catholic schools? For further details phone 0131 623 8900 or go to gilliscentre@staned.org.uk.

NOTICEBOARD

A sign of the times: Many thanks to **Fr John Robinson**, kindly covering for Fr Jock a couple of times this week and next – including while Fr Jock celebrates two funerals in Musselburgh (while Fr Basil Clark, the new parish priest there, is on holiday), and a wedding next Saturday north of Inverness.

JUSTICE & PEACE: Resettlement of Syrian Refugees. A Thank-You from Miriam McHardy, the diocesan co-ordinator of Justice & Peace, regarding Edinburgh council's vote on 5th May to accept the resettlement of Syrian refugees: 'Just to let you know that Edinburgh council voted to resettle a number of Syrian families, refugees from the conflict, in Edinburgh. Although only a small number, it will make a huge difference to them to know they are safe and can settle. It was noted that councillors appreciated the notes of support from members of the public. Thanks to all in the parishes who took time to write in support of their settlement. If you would like to find out more about how we can continue to welcome and support refugees and asylum seekers, there is more information at <http://www.edinburghchurchesforsanctuary.co.uk/>.'

FRESH START: A Sponsored Walk will take place on Friday 29th May ... setting out at 10am from Jubilee Gardens, Stockbridge, and walking an 8 mile route along the Water of Leith, around Colinton Dell and on to the Union Canal towpath, finishing at the Fresh Start Food Station at Harrison Place where lunch will be served. This popular event helps to raise vital funds for FRESH START to support the most vulnerable in our community to move forward in their lives after homelessness. Walk as an individual or a team and raise money to support FRESH START. No registration fee, but entrants are asked to raise a minimum of £25 per person. To register please phone 0131 476 7741 or go to admin@freshstartweb.org.uk.

JERICHO HOUSE. Appeal for volunteers. If you have 2 hours to spare once a month and would like to join the team of volunteers from our sister parishes who serve Sunday lunch at Jericho House, please contact Jim Roarty (0131 669 0896).

EDINBURGH & LOTHIAN'S ACROSS GROUP. Jeremy Devlin-Thorp writes: '*I am running the Edinburgh Marathon on 31st May 2015 to raise money for Edinburgh & Lothians ACROSS Group, a charity that takes people with disabilities to Lourdes for spiritual and emotional renewal. ACROSS runs a small fleet of 'jumbulances', purpose-built vehicles that are like a cross between an ambulance and a coach. I went for 10 days last year and saw for myself what an amazing impact this experience has on people who otherwise would never be able to make the trip. If you feel so inclined, please would you consider supporting me? You can do this by donating directly to this fundraising page - <http://www.justgiving.com/Maria-Thomson2> JustGiving sends your donation straight to ACROSS and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. If you can support me, I will really appreciate it, thank you.*' Several of our own parishioners have travelled to Lourdes with ACROSS over the years – and the Jumbulance allows those who are unable to travel by plane to make the pilgrimage supported by an experienced medical team. If you would like to find out more please contact Jeremy at 07900-278043. Jeremy adds a PS: '*Here are the words that have been inspiring me over my 16 weeks of training:*

"THE FIGHT IS WON OR LOST FAR AWAY FROM WITNESSES, BEHIND THE LINES, IN THE GYM AND OUT THERE ON THE ROAD, LONG BEFORE I DANCE UNDER THOSE LIGHTS." (Muhammad Ali)

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those whose have died recently, including: Veronica Mackenzie, Angus McIsaac, Margot Stewart, Myra Lowe, Thea Teale, Michael Alonzi and Louisa Alonzi.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Christine Pugh, Cillian Dempsey, Fernando Alonzi, Margaret Mcpake, Mary Macnamara (Thomson), Joseph Passmore, Julia Young, Elizabeth Bryce, Zelinda Tesoro, John Cook, Catherine Cunningham, Margaret Macmillan, Margaret Johnston, Margaret Cunningham, Ian McAlpine, Mary Meagher, Maureen Quinn, Patrick O'Flaherty, Catherine Brock, Lindsay Gordon, Bridget Walsh, Harry McKenna, James O'Neill, Avril Sibbald, James Harkin, Alice Holligan, Fr Norman Cooper, and Archbishop Andrew Joseph McDonald.

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Mgr James Rae, Anne-Marie Aitken, Tom Brown, Jean McCraw, Mary Florence & Bob Crabbe, Jimi Boyle, Michele Grandone, Gerry Gallagher, Maureen Lawrie, Jude Payne, Maria Domenica Crolla, Mary Grady, Mona Scoular, baby Ailsa Fitzgerald, Jane McGuire, Kathy & Jimmy Gallagher, Jenny Wormald, Erin Corbett, Fay Dignan, Sheila Alexander, Roz Byers, 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: Elizabeth Mackail, Pat Gilmartin, Betty McEwing, Annie Watson, Anne McGeachie, Mary Robertson, Basil and 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: William and Hugh Mcgeady, Hew Dalrymple, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, Valentino and Paloma Rivera, Isabel McInrue, Jeanette Amos, Anne Gallagher, Denise O'Donnell, Margaret Davis, Dorothy Jamal, John Allan, Jane Morton, Christopher Browne, Christian and John Parham, Conor Kerrigan, Rupert Ridge, 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 **Bidding Prayers:** Jim Gallagher
... and for next Sunday: Catrina MacGillivray & Mary Fenwick **Bidding Prayers:** Kate Neilson

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.

St. John's


STEWARDSHIP: Fr Jock writes: 'Mike Reilly, a member of St John's Finance Council, will speak at both Masses this weekend on the matter of financial stewardship. As an insert to this week's newsletter you will find a note of Mike's brief presentation and a summary of the Income & Expenditure Statement for St John's Church for the financial year ending 31 December 2014 prepared by Gary Zoltie. This shows total income for the year of £89,904 (which includes a one off legacy of £5,000). The total expenditure for 2014 amounted to £89,323. Thus, while the financial statement shows a small surplus of £581, St John's is facing the prospect of increased costs year on year while at the same time regular income is diminishing. Please do take time to consider the financial accounts for the last year: the more people who take an interest in all aspects of parish life, including our financial stewardship, the more likely we are to be able to pass on what we have been entrusted with to the generations that will follow us.'

JUSTICE & PEACE: Food Parcel Service. Jim Roarty writes: 'For those of you who read your newsletter assiduously, you will have noticed that St Mary Magdalene's have been assisting St Teresa's with the provision of food, toiletries etc. to help struggling families in the Craigmillar area. At the recent J&P Group meeting, we agreed that this is something that we would like to support so any food and toiletries left in the J&P box at the back of the church will be passed on to St Teresa's.'

ST JOHN'S SUMMER FAYRE RAFFLE. Congratulations to Julie Collins who won the luxury hamper, and to all the lucky winners who have now been contacted ... and many thanks once again to all those who so generously donated prizes to the raffle.

'But to whom should [the Church] go first? When we read the Gospel we find a clear indication: not so much our friends and wealthy neighbours, but above all the poor and the sick, those who are usually despised and overlooked, "those who cannot repay you" (Lk 14:14). There can be no room for doubt or for explanations which weaken so clear a message. Today and always, "the poor are the privileged recipients of the Gospel", and the fact that it is freely preached to them is a sign of the kingdom that Jesus came to establish. We have to state, without mincing words, that there is an inseparable bond between our faith and the poor. May we never abandon them.' *Pope Francis in his Encyclical "Evangelii Gaudium"*

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 16th May	10.00am: Mass 1.00pm: Wedding of Sharleena Asiatico & Stephen Finlayson 6.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 17th May 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.30am Mass: Cillian Dempsey	11.15am Mass: Deceased members of the Gorman Family
Monday 18th May <i>Memorial of St John I</i>	10.00am Mass: Special Intention (Mass followed by May Devotions) 7pm to 8pm: <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Tuesday 19th May	10.00am Eucharistic Service (followed by May Devotions)	10.00am Mass: Special Intention
Wednesday 20th May <i>Memorial of St Bernardine of Siena</i>	10.00am Mass: Fernando Alonzi (Mass followed by May Devotions)	
Thursday 21st May <i>Memorial of St Christopher Magallanes and Companions</i>	10.00am Eucharistic Service (followed by May Devotions)	7pm Mass: Myra Lowe
Friday 22nd May <i>Memorial of St Rita of Cascia</i>	10.00am Mass: Margaret Mcpake (Mass followed by May Devotions) 3pm to 4pm: <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	
Saturday 23rd May	10.00am Mass: Michael Alonzi 6.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 24th May SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST 	9.30am Mass: Brendan Boyle 3pm: CONFIRMATION MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP LEO CUSHLEY	11.15am Mass: Canon James O'Connell

