

*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

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PALM SUNDAY (Cycle C)

20th March 2016

This Sunday is 'Palm Sunday' ... and our Lenten journey concludes with the services during Holy Week. This is the most important week of our liturgical calendar and you will find details of services for the week ahead summarised in an insert enclosed with this newsletter. Please continue to pray for our RCIA catechumens, **Christopher Umwani, David Wylie and Gary Zoltie, and for Freddie MacLennan Hawkes, our candidate, who will be baptised and/or confirmed at the Easter Vigil this Saturday 4th April** – and do pray also for **Catherine and Jessica MacLennan Hawkes and Lourdes Gutierrez** who will be confirmed with them.

Please remember to return your SCIAF 'wee boxes' during the Easter Triduum as part of your Lenten offering. The UK Government will match every £1 you donate, but we must have this money counted and returned to SCIAF in early May, so please do hand in your Lenten offerings in good time to allow us to take advantage of this scheme.

The Primary 4 classes at St. John's Primary have been busy preparing a musical called **Easter Children**. They would like to invite any parishioners who would like to attend to join them on **Thursday 24 March at 1.45pm in the school hall**. There is no cost for the tickets, but they are asking for donations to SCIAF, their Lenten charity.

St John's Church will be open each day of Holy Week at the following times: Monday 10.00 - 16.30, Tuesday 10.00 - 16.30, Wednesday 10.00 – 19.30, Holy Thursday 10.00 – 15.30, Good Friday 10.00 – 20.00 - for quiet time and prayer...for parishioners of both parishes but also for passers-by and anyone who would like to pop in.

(Please give some thought to volunteering for an hour to offer an unobtrusive but welcoming presence in the church – lists at the back of the church. Thanks to the 37 volunteers so far – Friday – 33 spaces still to fill).

Once again, this Easter we are collecting donations of Easter eggs at both Masses on Easter Sunday. These will be distributed to those in need and via the food parcel service at St Teresa of Lisieux, Craigmillar.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 20th March: 1pm to 7.30pm: **Visit to Nunraw.** Maria Igoe writes: 'A group will be going by minibus to Nunraw this Sunday, leaving St John's at 1pm and returning at 7.30pm. Tea, biscuits and cake will be provided but please bring a sandwich. If you wish to go phone Maria Igoe 669 0247.'

Monday 21st March: 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. All are invited to the Hall for tea and home baking after Mass. If you require transport, please phone Maria Igoe 0131 669 0247.

Tuesday 22nd March: 7pm: St Mary's Cathedral: **Chrism Mass – with Archbishop Leo Cushley.**

Wednesday 23rd March: 7pm: St Mark's Episcopal Church, Portobello: **Tenebrae.**

7pm: St Mary's Cathedral: **Evening of Mercy with Archbishop Cushley (Exposition, Reflection and Benediction).**

Thursday 24th March: 1.45pm: St John's Primary: **Easter Children**

HOLY THURSDAY – EASTER SUNDAY: THE 'TRIDUUM' – see separate page

Saturday 26th March: 11am: St John's Church: **RCIA Rehearsal**

IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

Wednesday 30th March: Portobello Town Hall: **THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE** will be in Portobello Town Hall from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm and 5.30 to 7.30 pm. **NEW DONORS ALWAYS NEEDED.**

Friday 1st April: 6pm: St John's Church: Rehearsal for Wedding of Susan Wright & David Hay.

Saturday 2nd April: 1pm: St John's Church: **Wedding of Susan Wright & David Hay.**

Wednesday 6th April: 7.45pm: Parish House: **Parishes Communications Meeting.**

Monday 11th April: 7pm: St John's Church Hall: **Lenten House Groups Get-Together.** All participants in the Lenten House Groups are invited to meet up to reflect on the experience – and relax over tea and coffee and home baking!

NOTICEBOARD

A Note from Mike Knox: 'Dear Parishioners, I returned from Tanzania last weekend and am slowly adjusting to the cold. A great deal has happened in Legho and with the various school projects over the past 3 months and I would just like to thank everyone for their ongoing prayers and support. I look forward to sharing some of what has happened in due course. Monsignor Paul, Fr Sangawe and the people of Legho have asked me to pass on their greetings, best wishes and prayers to the parishioners of St John's and St Mary Magdalene's.'

THANK YOU! On behalf of St Vincent de Paul Conference, Geoff Dobson would like to say 'many thanks to all who came along to the Rock Choir Concert, and thanks too to all the helpers for the wonderful baking and friendly hospitality. Your generous donations raised a grand total of £801.12 to support the SVDP in the vital work they do reaching out to those in need in our local community.'

SVDP. Geoff Dobson writes: 'Wanted : A lady volunteer to work with teenagers from Holyrood High School's newly formed Saint Vincent de Paul Conference . This would involve working with a male volunteer from our parish, in order to liaise between St John's and St Mary Magdalene's SVP conference and our sister conference from Holyrood High School. The aim would be to promote joint working and projects to enthuse young people about the practical outworking of their Christian Faith. PVG clearance will be required.' If interested please contact Geoff Dobson on 07808 029 391.



SITUATION (soon to be) VACANT. Community Leader to lead the community and faith life of L'Arche Edinburgh, and to direct the growth of its provision of services to 16 adults with learning disabilities. For informal info, contact: Anthony Kramers, via anthony.kramers@larche.org.uk or 07979 810870. Closing date Tuesday 22nd March 2016.

The Official Citations for the Diocesan Medal

Bernard Ayers

'Bernard Ayers was born in Suffolk and brought up in London. He spent twelve years in the RAF, fighting in two wars, before becoming a civil engineer. In 1953 he married Ella, a lass from Edinburgh. They bought a house here in 1975, and settled in it permanently in 1988. Since then, Bernard and Ella have both been among the most respected, loved and valued of St Mary Magdalene parishioners, working tirelessly in both spiritual and material spheres. Bernard himself has been an altar server, passkeeper, Eucharistic minister and parish council member; and was until very recently the person responsible for overseeing the fabric of the church – essential work without which it would not be in its present good condition, and any expenditure for which he would always pay out of his own pocket.

Bernard is distinguished by his humility; he has never sought the limelight nor recognition and even now in his nineties continues quietly with his efforts on behalf of St Mary Magdalene's – still taking communion to the housebound, giving lifts to Sunday Mass to other parishioners and offering wise counsel to whomever approaches him for advice. Bernard is also the most generous of men, kind, courteous, private and devout, a truly worthy recipient of this medal and we, the parish, thank God for him. In the same spirit, he himself thanks God for his wife, Ella: as he wrote last week: 'without my wife's loving support, I could not have done the work, both practical and spiritual, for the church - perhaps you would mention this for me on Sunday'.

Kathy Gallagher

'Kathy has been a mainstay of the parish life of St John's, Portobello, for more years than she would care to remember. In the 1970's, she became involved in the Charismatic Renewal and although not the type to push herself forward, she gained confidence through prayer to become involved in other things. In that decade too, she organised the Mass for the Sick, so much still a feature of our parish life although now rebranded as the Healing Mass. Since 1982, she has been an active member of the Legion of Mary, taking on Officerships at parish and Curia level. She was also the first woman to do a reading at Mass – reportedly, she was so nervous that the priest had to turn the page for her! When Special Ministers of the Eucharist were introduced, she was one of the first and still takes Holy Communion to the housebound.

Kathy also became part of the RCIA team, sharing her faith with and acting as a Godparent or sponsor to those seeking to know more about the Catholic faith. She inspired and influenced people not by theological debate but through sharing her life, love and personal experience – all accompanied by her radiant smile and infectious laugh. She has also embraced almost every other aspect of parish life: prayer groups, church cleaning, pilgrimages, the parish Tanzania connection – in her late 60's, she was one of the "more mature" group who visited Legho. For years, until her recent ill-health, she faithfully opened the church every morning and for weddings and funerals, and looked after the sacristy. She has also been a frequent pilgrim on our Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.'

In all this, her personality shines through: smiling, cheerful and always ready to help. It is worth noting that while contributing so much to the parish, she has also been a loving wife to Jimmy, brought up ten children, and is a most proud Grandmother of twenty-three grandchildren and great-grandmother of one great grandchild (with another on the way).....'

Why not visit our parishes' Facebook page www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently including: Una Docherty, Paul Watson, Florence Tracey, Rhys Scott and Shaun Scott.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Patricia Durkin, Bernard Vinestock, Margaret Reid, Alison Stewart, John Scollan, Tom Buchanan, Josephine Lawler, Neil Reid, Canon Joseph Donlevy, Daniel Ferguson, Joseph Ufnowski, Sabatino Andreucci, Mary Kelly, Jean Ward, Patrick Coll, Kathleen Main, Dennis J Sweeney, Hilary Bell, Rose Daly, William Clarke, John Berry, Helen McCann, Thomas Thomson, James White, Cecilia McLaughlin, Neil Tosney, Bernard Coll, Alexander Sharp, Margaret Phair, Barbara Conlon, Sarah Waugh, John Allen, Frank Connelly, Maurice Brosnan, Natalie Valente, Angelo Young, Mary Brown Fusco and Margaret McCartney

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Patrick Doherty, Jane Wright, Alf Macnamara, Gerry Wynne, Mary Phillips, Lorna Dickson, Francis Ginnelly, John Ritchie, Patrick McCafferty, 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: Louise Wallace, Sean McGovern Jnr., Elizabeth Mackail, Betty McEwing, Annie Watson, Anne McGeachie, 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: Noel Flanagan, Catherine Leslie, Dympna Clifford, Simon Benson, Austen Tod, Fr Tony McDonald, Edward Martin, 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 PALM SUNDAY

Laura Tweedie & Jean Douglas

Bidding Prayers: Anne Jabir

Gospel narrator & other voice:

Jim Gallagher & Catriona McGillivray

EASTER SUNDAY

Children's Mass

SCIAF CHILDREN'S BAKE SALE

Una Gallagher writes: 'Thank you to all who baked and bought cakes at the bake sale for SCIAF. Particular thanks to the girls who manned the stall so enthusiastically. The bake sale raised a magnificent £65.10.

Between their sponsored silence and the bake sale the Children's Liturgy children have raised a total of £280 for SCIAF!'

DVDs of Mgr. Rae's Requiem Mass are now available for those who ordered copies. Please contact Pauline Connarty or one of the parish team who will make sure your copy of the DVD reaches you.

GIFT AID. Gift Aid envelopes are now available for collection from the back of both churches for all those parishioners who make their offertory donation via the Gift Aid Donor scheme.

St. John's

PAMOJA FASHION SPRING FORWARD IN STYLE

Spring Forward in Style - an opportunity to update your wardrobe and accessories for the new season. Friday 15 April 7.30pm onwards in St John's Hall. £3 entry donation which includes a glass of wine and refreshments. Donations of designer, new and nearly new clothes and accessories welcome. Please leave them in the basket at the back of the church. Please note: There will be no Twende Pamoja sale on Saturday 2nd April

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR EASTER

VIGIL: G Sellar, T Burgess, P MacInnes (plus two Eucharistic Ministers from St Mary Magdalene's)

EASTER SUNDAY: E Clark, P Glancy, G Gallagher, K Gallagher, E Buckley

Offertory Collections for 12th & 13th March

St Mary Magdalene's
£421.60 (inc: £257 Gift Aided)

St John the Evangelist
£1067.08 (inc: £541)

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 19th March SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.	10.00am Mass: Sr Joan Tierney 10.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm Vigil Mass: Bernard Vinestock	
Sunday 20th March PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	9.30am Mass with procession (with focus on Primary 4 'Do This in Memory of Me' sacramental candidates) Margaret Reid	11.15am Mass with procession People of the Parish
Monday 21st March MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK	2.30pm Mass with Anointing: Catherine Gilroy 7.30pm: Ecumenical Stations of the Cross	
Tuesday 22nd March TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Eucharistic Service	10.00am Mass: Special Intention 7pm Chrism Mass [St Mary's Cathedral]
Wednesday 23rd March WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Mass: Patricia Durkin 7pm: Tenebrae [at St Mark's]	7pm: Evening of Mercy – with Archbishop Cushley [St Mary's Cathedral]
Thursday 24th March THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (MAUNDY THURSDAY)	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Eucharistic Service	7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (followed by watching with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane until 11pm). Paul Watson
Friday 25th March FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (GOOD FRIDAY)	10.am: Service at Portobello & Joppa Parish Church with members of the other churches - and walk back to St John's for.....11am: short Ecumenical service. 3.00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.	9.30am Children's Stations of the Cross followed by a walk to St John's Church for short Ecumenical service at 11am.... 7.30pm: Stations of the Cross
Saturday 26th March HOLY SATURDAY	10.00am A shortened version of Morning Prayer & the Office of Readings. 8.00pm: EASTER VIGIL (with Baptism & Confirmation of RCIA catechumens and candidate and others). Joseph Gallagher	
Sunday 27th March EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	9.30am Children's Mass John Scollan	11.15am Children's Mass People of the Parish

