

Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple: 0131 669 5447

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris and Chris Vinestock

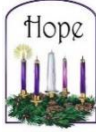
Administrator: Karen Blair (OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 10am to 3pm)

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A Charity Registered in Scotland No. SC008540



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 27 November 2016



THIS SUNDAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHURCH YEAR:

Our Advent plans include:

- ❖ **Reconciliation Sunday** – next weekend 3&4 December. Several priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at our usual starting time for Mass (6.30pm, 9.30am and 11.15am) - after which we continue with the Mass as normal...
With this week's newsletter is an **Advent 'Examination of Conscience/Examen'** – to help us prepare well for both Reconciliation and the Advent and Christmas seasons – by reflecting on our life.
- ❖ **Morning Prayer of the Church** - each morning at 9.30am in St John's Church.
- ❖ **The Christmas Aid Carol Concert** - at 5pm on Sunday 4 December in Portobello and Joppa Parish Church, with the Feast of Life Choir.
- ❖ **An Advent Taize Evening** of quiet reflective music, silence and prayer - at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 December at St Mary Magdalene's.
- ❖ **St John's Advent Open Days: Monday 19 December – Thursday 22 December** when the church is open from 9am to 9pm, heated, with gentle music playing Offering an opportunity for quiet and reflection before Christmas.
- ❖ 100 Copies of the excellent magazine '**Advent Extra**', produced by the Redemptorists – they cost us £1.30 each – so feel free to give either £1 or £2!



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve

St John the Evangelist

6pm - Christmas Eve Children's Mass

St Mary Magdalene

8.30pm – Carol Singing

9pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day

10.30 am - Christmas Mass

NB **Fr Jock writes:** 'This year's Christmas Eve Vigil Mass will take place at St Mary Magdalene's rather than St John's – and at 9pm not 8.30pm.....it's never easy with 2 parishes - of varying sizes - to decide where the Christmas and Holy Week services take place, but it is only right that, in my fourth Christmas here, the Christmas Vigil Mass takes place at St Mary Magdalene's for the first time!!'

RCIA : Rite of Entry to the Catechumenate – 9.30am – St John's – Sunday 27 November

Since September, the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group has been meeting each Tuesday in the parish house, led by our catechists, Alice Codling, Colette Dempsey and Laurie Blyth, with other parishioners present as sponsors/supporters. This year we have been blessed with four 'enquirers', all of whom will enter the second stage of the process during Advent – **George Young** and **Xiaojing Wang** at this Sunday's 9.30am Mass at St John's; and **Colin Murphy** and **Maggie Tam** at the RCIA Advent Mass in the

parish house at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 December. (Incidentally Xiaojing is a parishioner of St Teresa's. St Teresa's doesn't have an RCIA group so Fr Isidore and Fr Brian asked if she could join our RCIA Group, a good example of cluster parish co-operation.)

Xiaojing and Colin will become **catechumens**, George and Maggie, **candidates** - catechumens are those who haven't been baptised, candidates are those baptised into another Christian denomination, or Catholics who have yet to receive all the sacraments of initiation – baptism, confirmation and eucharist. Normally, baptism and reception into the Church takes place at the Easter Vigil. **Please pray for George, Xiaojing, Colin and Maggie – and the RCIA Group.**

RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE – 6-27 November. The retreat concludes with a celebration this Sunday evening – 27 November – at 7pm at St Mark's for the prayer guides from the Epiphany group and the sixty participants – members and parishioners from Portobello and Joppa Parish Church, St Mark's Episcopal Church, Duddingston Kirk, St Mary Magdalene's, Portobello Baptist Church and St John's.

OUR PANTS APPEAL:

A message from Jim Roarty of the Justice & Peace Group: 'Pants wanted!!! No, you have not misread the Heading - we want your pants! Those of you who were at the St John's open parish meeting on Sunday 13 November will have heard Becky Chapple, who helps run six refugee camps in Northern Greece, speak about clothing people who have nothing. The biggest problem is underwear – in their circumstances, the refugees have to accept second-hand clothes but Becky and her colleagues draw the line at second-hand pants. She would like to ensure each person has 4 pairs of pants (NB clothes washing facilities in the camps are virtually non-existent). **So, This Sunday (27 November) at all the Masses we will be accepting donations of new/unused pants (for the ladies, think Bridget Jones rather than cheesecutters!) or cash, to buy pants. Or, if you prefer, hand donations of either into the Parish House... – we are looking around to see where we can get the best deal for bulk purchases.'**
For more details of Calaid's work, google CALAID.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 27 November –

9.30am - St John's – **Mass with Rite of Entry into the Catechumenate**

1pm – St John's – Bus leaves for the **Cistercian Abbey at Nunraw**. 'The minibus will leave sharp. Please bring a packed lunch. We will return at 7.30pm. If you wish to go, please call Maria Igoe 669 0247.'

3pm – **St Andrew Square Gardens, (east side of George Street) - Nativity Carol Concert** – 'with guest speakers: the Episcopal Bishop of Edinburgh, John Armes, who gives the Christmas message, Archbishop Leo Cushley, who brings prayers from the city, and Edinburgh Presbytery Moderator, Revd James Dewar, blesses the Nativity Scene.'

7pm – St Mark's – **Concluding Gathering and Celebration** for the participants in the **Retreat in Daily Life**

Monday 28 November –

7.30 - 9pm - Lauriston Centre – '*The Gaze and the Glory - an Evening of Prayer for Advent*' - with Magdalen Lawler SND and Tom McGuinness SJ: 'This evening in the first week of Advent will be an opportunity to prepare for Christmas in a prayerful setting. There will be reflective images of Advent Icons for prayer, with scripture and poetry. The evening will include some time to share and times of quiet.'

Wednesday 30 November –

9.45am – St Mary Magdalene – **Feast of St Andrew - Mass with St John's Primary School**

Thursday 1 December:

10.45am – Parish House - Pastoral Team Meeting

7pm – Parish House – St John's Fabric Committee Meeting

7.30pm – St John's Hall – **Eucharistic Ministers' meeting.**

Saturday 3 December – 9.30am – 1pm - St John's - Pamoja fashion sale

10.30am – 1pm – St JOHN'S OPEN CHURCH.

Sunday 4 December – RECONCILIATION SUNDAY

5pm – Portobello and Joppa Parish Church - Christian Aid Carol Concert

7.30pm – St John's Parish Hall – Peace and Non-violence meeting for young adults.

IN THE COMING WEEKS

Thursday 8 December - 1pm – 4pm – St John's Hall – Thursday Club Christmas Party

Saturday, 17 December – 3pm – St Andrews and St George's West - The Christmas Tree Festival, with the Russian Choir.

Saturday 17 December – 11am-5pm – St Joseph's Gilmore Place. **A Day of Prayer and Reflection in preparation for Christmas, led by Fr Jock** – 'Open to all especially young women who would like to know more about the life and work of the Little Sisters. The itinerary is as follows: - 11am – Holy Mass -

2pm Talk by Fr Jock - **4pm DVD** on life of Little Sisters Reconciliation available. Lunch provided.

If you would like to register for this event please do so at srkmamahon@gmail.com.

NOTICEBOARD

Fr Jock will be away on Monday for 36hrs, visiting Sister Anne Doherty, one of the parish sisters in his former parish of St Paul's, Glenrothes, and St Mary's, Leslie, who has had a stroke – and then on Tuesday, celebrating Mass with the Notre Dame Sisters in Southport for another former parish sister there, Sister Jennifer Smith, who died two months ago. **Fr John Robinson** will kindly be covering for him.

ANNUAL CENSUS

In November, each year, we are asked to hand in to the diocese the Mass Attendance figures for both parishes and each Mass. This is calculated over 3 or 4 Sundays. This year sees a slight rise in attendance in both parishes.

				2016 Total	2015 Total	
St John's:	6.30pm	76	9.30am	214	290	276
St Mary Magdalene:			11.15am	113	113	98

PEACE ON EARTH & NON VIOLENCE:

Mike Knox writes: '**MAKUTANO** is Swahili for the place where we meet. It is a growing network of relationships bringing together people from the school to late twenties age group, who seek to develop and bring about a vision of life as it could be. Makutano provides a place for people of different backgrounds, lifestyles, faiths and cultures to meet as global citizens and to reflect together on our own society and the world we live in. There are over 100 Scottish and Tanzanian young adults presently involved. **A Makutano Group has now begun in Legho and they would like to connect with young people in St John's and St Mary Magdalene's.** Mahatma Gandhi's grandson, Arun Gandhi, has developed a resource for young people to explore Peace and non-violence and we have been invited to look at how this could be developed for use by young adults and also support the work of the ongoing Peace on Earth Project which our schools are involved with.

Any young adult in St John's and St Mary Magdalene's who would like to hear more about this is invited to come to the Parish Hall next Sunday 4 December at 7.30pm.'

NEWS FROM HOLY ROOD HS: **Joan Daly writes:** 'Here is this week's update of recent events/news from Holy Rood, your Cluster Secondary School. We hope that this helps to keep you informed about some of the pupil learning experiences and exciting events.

- Profile focus week in S1-4 - Holy Rood staff support pupils in identifying their strengths, skills and achievements.
- S3 pupils studying Italian met with Edinburgh University Volunteer Language Ambassadors to hear about opportunities that learning languages can bring.
- A group of S1-S3 pupils and their parents came to first evening session of additional workshops designed to offer further support for pupils in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. A great success by all accounts based on parental feedback on the evening.
- As part of the celebrations for Book Week Scotland, John Fardell (Author, cartoonist and illustrator) worked with S1 English classes.

Please use the link to have a look at our website <http://www.holyroodhighschool.co.uk> and follow us on twitter @HolyRoodRCHigh'

Paul Bevan writes: "Thank you to all who have handed in donations since the last request. To continue with providing these services – setting people who have been homeless up in their own accommodation - we are in need of a few items for our Starter Packs. Light bulbs (preferably bayonet caps), J-cloths, scourers, sponges and dish cloths, Single duvet covers and sheets. Please, no furniture or large electrical appliances. For these contact Bethany Christian Trust or Edinburgh Furniture Initiative.'

Fresh
start

Christian Meditation – 'Advent is a time of prayerful preparation, and a great time to try contemplative prayer. Experience the joy of God's transforming and healing presence during traditional Christian meditation. Our group meets every Friday at 7 p.m. in the Romero prayer room in the Sacred Heart Church at Lauriston St. Enter through the black door on the left side of the main entrance. Contact info - mobile: 0771 777 2614

Email: edinburghmeditation@gmail.com Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1cuO5QJ>

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Kathleen McShane.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Basil Juska, Charlie McLaughlan
St John's:

Nov. 26:- Michael McFadyen (1995); Charles Conlon (1989); Norah Lawler (1968); Maria Teresa D'Arcy;

Nov. 27:- Jean Melrose (1993); Francis Bell (1991); Joseph Mullan (1978); Margaret Brennan (1948);

Nov. 28:- William McGill (1990); Margaret Knowles (1960); Michael Murphy (1945); Angelo J Scott (1937);

Winifred Greenan; **Nov. 29:-** Margaret M Freeman (2012); Catherine [Rena] Begg (2010); Margaret Philips (1989);

James Magee (1976); Henry McKenna; **Nov. 30:-** Grace Knowles (1990); Helen McKinnon (1989); Alfred Reading (1957); Connelly Family; **Dec.1:-** Catherine Gannon (1991); Margaret Davie; Frank Rafferty; Joseph & Catherine Smith; Robert Watson; **Dec.2:-** Barbara Walker (2012); Elizabeth Ogilvie (2006); Annie Donati (1993); William O'Donnell (1993);

St. Mary Magdalene's :

Nov. 28:- Iris Beattie (1980); Nov. 30:- Basil Juska ((2015); Dec.2:- Archibald Mawdsley (1969);

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Pat Hunter, Patricia Crawford, Guilio Crolla, Bob Crabbe, Mary Phair, Patrick Doherty, Jane Wright, Alf Macnamara, Gerry Wynne, Mary Phillips, Francis Ginnelly, John Ritchie, Patrick McCafferty, Tricia Davies, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Isobel O'Neill, Ina McNama, Josie Martin, David Thom, John Cregan, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Jane McGuire, Kathy Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Fay Dignan, Roz Byers, Sheila Alexander, Michael & Maimie Richards, Joan Howie, Cathy McGravie, Jane Murray, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Malachy Meehan, Ann Ward, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Ella Ayers, Chris English, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Denis Davidson, Laurie Wallace, Elizabeth Mackail, Betty McEwing, Annie Watson, Isobel Phillips, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Tony Matrondola, Jude Ferguson, Mary & James Muir,

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Mario Chianto, Caroline Narrie, Kathleen McConnell, Jake Jordan (aged 17) Marguerite Marlatt, Poppy Smith (aged 6), Tina Stevenson, George Collins, Margaret Robb, Sr Anne Doherty SND, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan, Catherine Leslie, Dympna Clifford, Austen Tod, Roy McGillivray, Hugh McGeady, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, John Allan, Isabel McInrue, Anne Gallagher, Denise O'Donnell, 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, Rupert Ridge and Lesley Lemarchand.

ST MARY MAGDALENE

**Readers for Sunday
4 Dec**

Tessa Haring and Sam Henry

Bidding Prayers

Peggy Ferguson

**.... and for Sunday 11
Dec**

Children

Gena Gallagher writes 'Seniors Christmas Party, Thursday, 8 December 1pm – 4pm in St John'
Drivers are needed to transport people to and from the party'.



Julie Harris and Una Gallagher write: 'We would love to have some new helpers for our children's liturgy groups at both St John's and St Mary Magdalene's. You would not be expected to lead a group! Just to sit in as an extra pair of hands – a wingman for the adult taking the group. It doesn't matter what age you are and whether you have any experience with children – this may suit a teenager, a parent, grandparent, or anyone who feels they'd like to see what goes on in our children's groups. There would be absolutely no preparation required and even if you can only help very occasionally, that would still be great. If interested, please contact (St John's) Julie Harris 07919 525872 and (St Mary Magdalene's) Una Gallagher – 657 2831'

ST JOHN'S

Vigil 3 Dec

C Vinestock, C Plews,
B Kelly

Sunday 4 Dec

E Clark, P Maclellan Hawkes, P Glancy,
M McDiarmid, C Volpe

Maria Igoe writes: 'The Morning Prayer of the Church will be said during Advent at Our Lady's altar from Monday – Friday before Mass or Service. Please join us.'

**Offertory Collections
for 21 November**

ST MARY MAGDALENE

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

£296.90 (inc £103.00 gift aid)

£734.50 (inc £321.01 gift aid)

Pastoral Formation Fund

£183.24

£446.46 (£20 gift aid)

Many thanks

Masses, Devotions and Services		
	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 26 November	10.00am: Mass – Deceased Members of the Paterson Family 10.30am: Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm: Vigil Mass – People of the Parish	
Sunday 27 November 1st Sunday of Advent – Year A	9.30am: Mass – Jimmy Gallagher	11.15am: Bridget Greene
Monday 28 November	10am: Mass – Charlie McLauchlan 7pm – 8pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 29 November	10am: Eucharistic Service-	7pm – Mass - Linda Wisbach
Wednesday 30 November SOLEMNITY OF ST ANDREW	10am: Eucharistic Service	9.15-40: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.45am: Mass – Basil Juska
Thursday 1 December	10am: Mass – Andrew Keogh	
Friday 2 December	9.25-55: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am: Mass – Helen Harrison 3pm–4pm - Divine Mercy	
Saturday 3 December Memorial of St Francis Xavier	10.00am: Mass – Liz Davis 6.30pm: Vigil Mass – Frances Allan	
Sunday 4 December 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A	9.30 am: Mass – People of the Parish	11.15am: Mass – Fr Colman McGrath

A Reflection for Advent - Spiritual Growth

‘The seed of the Spirit has been planted in each of us. We must learn how to nourish this seed so that it can grow and bear much fruit. This journey, our pilgrimage of love, begins and deepens as we hear God murmur within our hearts: I love you just as you are. I so love you that I come to heal you and give you life. Do not be afraid. Open your hearts.’

Jean Vanier, Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John P.87

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