

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 and Chris Vinestock

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

Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk

Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk/

Joint e-mail for our sister parishes: stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com



1st Sunday of Advent – 3 December 2017

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 a member of the Parish Team..



This Sunday is not just another 'Nametag Sunday' but also 'Sit In Another Seat Sunday' – so that you're seeing new faces and learning new names!

Friday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception – not a Holyday of Obligation but still a great feast – Mass at 10am in St John's and 6.45pm in St Mary Magdalene's.

Next Sunday, 9/10 December, is Reconciliation Sunday: with this newsletter there is an Examination of Conscience to help you prepare to celebrate reconciliation – which takes the form of a short service at the starting-time of each Mass, with several priests available.

Warm Birthday Greetings to Mgr Paul Uria, of the diocese of Moshi, 70 on Thursday 23 November

ADVENT BEGINS THIS SUNDAY - among the events and initiatives are:



The PACT (Portobello and Area Christians Together) ADVENT CAROL SERVICE – 5pm – St John's – today - Sunday 3 December.

Please come along, and welcome, sing along and prepare for Christmas with our fellow Christians of all denominations – and support Christian Aid with a leaving collection too...(For every £1 donated in the CA Christmas Appeal the UK government will give a pound more - that's double the support for people living in poverty. For those that are eligible completing the gift aid information would be very much appreciated - Gift Aid envelopes will be available).



CLUSTER ADVENT RETREAT - 11am-3.30pm – next Saturday, 9 December

at St Catherine's Convent of Mercy, 4 Lauriston Gardens. **A quiet time for the parishioners of our five parishes** (St Teresa's, St Ninian's, St Mary Magdalene's, St Mary, Star of the Sea and St John's) to help us prepare for Christmas...**led by Fr Martin Moran OMI (Parish Priest of St Mary's)**...Recommended (voluntary)donation - £5....Tea and Coffee provided by the Sisters of Mercy (from 10.30am) – Bring your own lunch to share. **Please sign up on the list at the back of your Church (letting us know if you need transport.)** For those unable to come on that day, all members of the cluster are welcome at an Advent morning retreat (10am-1pm), also led by Fr Martin, at St Ninian's the following Saturday, 16 December



ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – A Mass on Wednesday 6 December at 10am at St John's to celebrate the 130th Anniversary of the school (before the move to a new site next Autumn)

Barbara Service, St John's Head, writes: 'Our School will celebrate 130 years at a special 10 am Mass on Wednesday 6 December in St John the Evangelist Parish Church. All families and parishioners who have any connection with our school are warmly invited to attend.'

UNWRAPPING CHRISTMAS- An Advent Initiative on Friday Nights between 7 and 9pm in Café Camino in St Mary's Cathedral – TALK – PRAYER – SOCIAL - led by Archbishop Leo - for Youthful (16-29yr old!) Catholics

'During the three Fridays of Advent this year, I would like to start an initiative in the Archdiocese which aims to engage the young people entrusted to our care and to bring them into a closer relationship with the Lord. Inspired by St John Paul II's vision for World Youth Day, this new initiative is based on relationships, namely, for us to get to know our young people and help them get to know other young Catholics, which eventually should lead to a deepened and sustained relationship with Christ. I would like, therefore, to ask our young people, aged 16-29, to the Cathedral each Friday in Advent (8, 15 and 22 December) at 7pm for a period of catechesis prepared and delivered by me, followed by a short time of prayer, and a period of socialising afterwards in the hall.'

For more information – SrMirjam.Hugens@staned.org.uk

Christmas Season Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

**St John the Evangelist
6.00pm - Children's Mass**

St Mary Magdalene

8.30pm – Christmas Vigil Mass

8.30pm Carol Service

Christmas Day

10.30am – Children's Mass

The 9.30am 4th Sunday of Advent Mass at St John's on 24 December will be a 'Low Mass' – ie a quiet, short (!) one without any music...

THIS WEEK

Sunday 3 December – First Sunday of Advent – 'Nametag and Sit in another Seat Sunday'!

3pm – St Andrew's Square Gardens East – **Blessing of Christmas Nativity Scene by Archbishop Cushley.**

5pm – St John's – **PACT ADVENT CAROL SERVICE (with a collection for Christian Aid)**

...followed by **Inter-Church Youth Group Meeting at St Mark's.**

Monday 4 December

9.15am–Midday and 1.30pm to 3pm - Parish House – **the 2 St John's P7 classes Advent Retreat with Fr Jock**

5-8pm - Holy Rood High School - **Carols and Crafts Christmas Fair.**

7pm – St Patrick's Church, Cowgate – **Monthly Mass to pray for the Beatification of The Venerable Margaret Sinclair.**
Refreshments available afterwards.

7.30pm - Parish House – **Cluster Meeting of Parish Priests and Pastoral Council Chairs**

Tuesday 5 December - 7.30 pm - Mayfield Salisbury Church Hall, 18 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ - Newman Society Meeting - Professor Stefano Cracolici, University of Durham, will speak on 'Nativity Scenes: tableaux vivants.' 'We ask a small donation to cover our costs'.

Wednesday 6 December

10am - St John the Evangelist Church – **Mass celebrating the 130th Anniversary of St John's Primary School.**

11am – Baptist Church Café – **Holy Huddle**

7.30pm - Parish House - **Baptism Preparation Course Evening 2**

Thursday 7 December

11am - St John's – **Requiem Mass for Winifred Maughan**

1pm-4pm – St John's Church Hall – **Seniors' Christmas Party (organised by the Thursday Club)**

Friday 8 (and 15 and 22) December

7pm – St Mary's Cathedral – **An Advent Evening for Young People (16-29 year olds) with Archbishop Leo.**

NOTICEBOARD

Hear the good news! You can now listen to a recording of Sunday Mass via the internet. The Masses for St John’s and St Mary Magdalene’s are available at www.soundcloud.com/stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes. There will be a link from our Facebook page each week. You can also listen to excerpts from the St Mary Magdalene Sunday Mass by going to the St Mary Magdalene website (www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk). The opening hymn, readings and homily are there. It all sounds great so give it a go.”

Warm wishes and prayers go with the seven parishioners – and nine others – going on pilgrimage from 7 to 12 December to Fatima - they will be there for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and will also be celebrating the centenary of Our Lady's appearances there.

AN ADVENT INVITATION FROM THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

Jim Roarty writes on their behalf: . *“What you did to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did to me.”* – the words of Jesus in last weekend’s Gospel when he spoke about helping the hungry, homeless, imprisoned etc. Here are a few sample opportunities you might like to take advantage of in this pre-Christmas period:

marysmeals.org.uk : Help Mary’s Meals to feed and educate hungry children at the same time; special bargain offer! – all donations up to end of December being doubled by generous sponsors.

sciaf.org.uk/get-involved/appeals/128-rohingya-emergency-appeal: Support SCIAF’s work in helping the persecuted, starved, raped, massacred Rohingya population currently being “ethnically cleansed” in Burma.

salvationarmy.org.uk; Help the work of the Salvation Army with the homeless and lonely.

crisis.org.uk: Help Crisis not only to give homeless people a warm meal at Christmas but to give them a leg up to improve their situation.

freenazanin.com: Add your name to the petition to Theresa May to use the efforts of her Government to free Nazanin Zaghari-Ratliffe currently unjustly imprisoned in Iran.

change.org; Stop the slave markets in Libya – migrants crossing Libya to seek a better life elsewhere are being sold at slave auctions for as little as \$200! Find the petition to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the change.org site and add your name.

These are only a small sample of the opportunities available to us to stretch out to *“these brothers of ours”*.’

AN ADVENT APPEAL FROM SCIAF

Donna Morris and Siobhan Wright – SCIAF Parish Officers write ‘On 15th August 2017, the 100th anniversary of his birth, SCIAF adopted Blessed Oscar Romero as a patron. Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of El Salvador was known as a champion of the poor. He was shot dead by a sniper’s bullet whilst celebrating Mass on 24th March 1980. SCIAF has chosen El Salvador as the focus of this year’s Advent appeal. We will be working with our partners CESTA to help disabled people in the country to stand up for their rights and are equipping them to support themselves and their families. If you wish any further information about the Advent appeal please do not hesitate to contact us on 0141 354 5527.

AN APPEAL FROM EMMS – the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, a Christian International Health Care Charity who believe that every life matters, and long to live in a just world where all people have access to good quality and dignified healthcare. They work with partners in Malawi, India, Nepal and the UK to see lives lived in poverty and sickness set free to health and hope. Please see leaflets at the back of both churches.

An Irish Choir at St Pat’s

Mgr Philip Kerr writes: ‘**A concert is being performed on Saturday 9 December at 7.30 pm at St Patrick’s, Cowgate. The Broadford Youth Choir from County Limerick** are visiting Edinburgh for the weekend and will offer this concert of seasonal and Irish music. The proceeds will be added to the fund for restoring the art work in the Runciman Apse which was part of the original church opened in 1774. The choir will also be singing at 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday 10 December.’



‘An appeal from Bethany Christian Trust: Bethany is very short of single beds at the moment so if you happen to have a good quality bed you can spare for someone that doesn’t have one, your donation would be gratefully received. To arrange an uplift, please call 0131 561 8903. Beds are given along with other items of furniture to people who have moved into new tenancies and don’t have the resources to furnish the place themselves.’



The Venerable Margaret Sinclair

Father Joe McAuley, Archbishop’s Delegate to Promote the Cause of Venerable Margaret Sinclair writes ‘A monthly Mass to pray for the Beatification of The Venerable Margaret Sinclair is held on the first Monday of every month – **including this Monday 4 December** - at 7.00pm at the National Shrine of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair, St Patrick’s Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh EH1 1TQ. Petitions can be sent to the shrine office by post or email www.margaretsinclair.scot ‘

Holy Rood RC High News: Joan Daly writes: ‘Here is this week’s update of recent events/news from Holy Rood, your Cluster Secondary School.

- All pupils in S1-4 have been working on their Pupil Profiles focussing on their strengths, skills and achievements. The Pupil Profile is an important document as it is a snapshot of each pupil’s latest and best achievements and also enables us to celebrate pupil success in school whilst also recognising pupils’ out of school achievements.
- We celebrated Book Week Scotland with a trip to select books for our school library and also a visit to Piershill Library where S1 pupils listened to Lari Don, an award winning Scottish author for children.
- S5/6 Drama pupils attended a performance of “The Crucible”. The performance was enjoyed by all and has helped the pupils to advance their knowledge of this text which they are studying in class.
- Well done to the S6 pupils who took part in the Rock Trust U18 Sleep Out raising awareness of the problem of youth homelessness in Edinburgh and beyond. The event was a great success with our young people supporting this cause along with 125 other young people from Schools and Youth Groups across Edinburgh and the Lothians. The Rock Trust is our chosen advent charity with fundraising throughout the month of December going to this charity.
- You are warmly invited to our Carols and Crafts Christmas Fair on **Mon 4th December 5-8pm**. The evening will include musical performances by our pupils and an opportunity to do some Christmas shopping - high quality gifts on sale from local crafters, teachers and pupils. Entry price £2 (children free). Proceeds to our advent charity The Rock Trust. **Please ask your friends and families to follow us on twitter @HolyRoodRCHigh** ‘

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: **Tony Kretz, Philip Sutherland, Denise O’Donnell, Winifred Maughan**

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: **Bill Brogan, Maria Juska**

St John’s :

Dec.2:- Barbara Walker (2012); Elizabeth Ogilvie (2006); Annie Donati (1993); William O’Donnell (1993); Dec.3:- Jean Tunley (1997); Andrew & Mary Malcolm; Patrick McLory; Dec.4:- Sarah Jessiman (2003); Robert Kerr (1999); Hugh Walsh (1994); Ronald Godley (1988); John Lawler (1970); A Duffy (1950); John Scollon; Dec.5:- Helen Cassidy (2004); Mary Bisset (2001); Bill Brogan (1996); George Forrest (1988); Neil Donoghue (1987); Elizabeth Quinn (1980); Edmund Z Schmelter (1970); Nancy Syme; Dec.6:- Patrick Butler (2007); Winifred Adamson (2000); Grace Spencer (1980); Mary Meehan; Dec.7:- Charlie DiCarlo (1997); Thomas Holt (1972); John Tweedie ; Dec.8:- Margaret O’Brien (2001); Robert Taylor (1998); Kathleen M Codling (1977); James Waldie;

St. Mary Magdalene’s :

Dec.2:- Archibald Mawdsley (1969); Dec.3:- Leonora Hanlon (1990); Dec.6:- Maria Angela Langlands (1997); Dec.7:- Thomas Burdell (2000);

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

Sick Parishioners - St. John’s: Mary Salvona, Ronnie Smith, Ernie Moran, Norman Telfer, Elizabeth Elton; Philip Jamieson, Matthew Harvey, Maimie Richards, Patricia Lawler, Aodhan Dempsey, Jean McCraw, Joan Howie, Helen Hanlon, Patricia Davies, Tina Cupo, Mary Phair, Pat Hunter, David Thom snr, Rose Thornton, Anna Butler, James Sangster, Mary Glancy, Patricia Crawford, Giulio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Patrick McCafferty, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, John Cregan, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Jane McGuire, Kathy Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Sheila Alexander, Cathy McGravie, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Ann Ward, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

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

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Alan Knight, Vera Hegarty, Hew Dalrymple, Irene Baillie, Eileen Daly, Geraldine McGreavy, 315.30 Joanne Cooper, Roksana Moczulstra, Wendy Lochhead, Ian Petrie, Eleanor Brennan, Ann King, baby Summer Martin, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Philys Sutherland; Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jonty Savage, Julia Jared, Anne-Marie Bevan, Ellen Green, Mario Chianto, Caroline Narrie, Kathleen McConnell, Jake Jordan (aged 17), George Collins, Margaret Robb, Sr Anne Doherty SND, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan, Catherine Leslie, Austen Tod, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, John Allan, Isabel McInrue, Anne Gallagher, Christopher Browne, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, Vera Hawkes, Conor Kerrigan, Maria St. Denis, young Ray Donovan Syme.

ST MARY MAGDALENE

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Offertory Collections for

£315.30 (inc £82 gift aid)

£929.41 (inc £316.41 gift aid)

Thank you for your generosity

ST MARY MAGDALENE

Readers for Sunday

3 December

Tessa Haring & Sam Henry

10 December

Willie Montgomery & Anne Jabir

Bidding Prayers

Jean Douglas

Aileen Hall

Warm birthday greetings to Aileen Hall, 75 on Thursday 23 November



Seniors Christmas Dinner Party – Thursday 7 December – 1pm-4pm in St John's Church Hall. Please add your name on the list at the back of the church. Also if you require transport, please add your name on the list or telephone Gena on 661 1311....



'.....**Drivers are required both to pick up Seniors** for the Christmas Party on Thursday 7 December at 12.30pm or to take them home at 4pm. Please add your name on the list at the back of the church or telephone Gena on 661 1311. Thank you.'

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Saturday 9 December P MacInnes, O Brooks,
J Kemp

Sunday 10 December E Clark, P Connarty, C Dempsey,
G Gallagher, M Slight



Jim Roarty writes: 'A message from the J&P group: **Fairtrade:** There will be a Fairtrade stall at St John's this weekend 2/3 and next weekend - your opportunity to get your Advent calendar, Christmas cards and other Fairtrade goodies.'

The next Charity Coffee Morning will be on Monday 4 December after Mass. Donations will be given to Mary's Meals, and, as 3 benefactors are doubling all donations made at this time, it will be a great boost for the charity. Please come along.

There has been an excellent response to the request for donations for Mary's Meals Backpacks, so much



so that we earned a notification in a Newsletter in Dundee, where the Backpacks are assembled. It is suggested that this month we donate towels and spoons. The towels do not need to be new and bath towels will be cut and sewn in Dundee. The spoons can be any size and are used to eat the meal provided for the children.'



Maria Igoe writes: 'Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diaries and Candles (including Pro-Life candles) are on sale at the Church Stall. The Stall is open every day during Mass. Please feel free to serve yourself, if there is no-one on duty, and hand in the money to the Parish House. Please support our Stall because all the profits go to the Parish.'



The Legion of Mary Reunion will take place in Broxburn on Saturday 13 January, beginning with Mass at 12 noon and followed with a 3 course meal and entertainment. The cost has yet to be decided, but all who have been before know that the catering is excellent and the cost is very low. Numbers are required now, so if you wish to go, please contact Maria on 669 0247.'

The Presence of God

'I am drawn to the communities whose roots are in the poorest neighbourhoods, which welcome those who have been deeply wounded, like alcoholics, people just coming out of prison, young people lost in drugs, delinquents or people with mental illnesses. There is not always much joy and fun in these communities, but there is great fidelity and acceptance of woundedness. The faces of the people who work in them are lined with fatigue. But in these communities we feel the presence of God, who is close to the most rejected and wounded people of all.'

Jean Vanier, Community and Growth, p147

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

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 2 December	10.00am:- Eucharistic Service 6.30pm:- Mass - Canon Raymond Fitzpatrick	
Sunday 3 December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am:- Mass – Bill Hunter & deceased members of the Hunter & McWilliams families	11.15am:- Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 4 December	10.00am:- Mass – Dora Knowles 7-8pm:- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 5 December	10.00am:- Eucharistic Service	9.25am-9.55am:- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am:- Mass – Bill Brogan
Wednesday 6 December	10.00am:- Mass – William and Mary McPartlin	
Thursday 7 December St Ambrose - Memorial	11.00am:- Mass – Requiem Mass for Winifred Maughan	
Friday 8 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the Blessed Virgin - Solemnity	9.25-9.55am:- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am:- Mass – Thomas Kelly	6.45pm – Mass – Mgr James Clancy
Saturday 9 December	9.45am Mass – Tony Kretz [Nb Change of Time] 6.30pm:- Mass – Colin Phair	
Sunday 10 December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am:- Mass – Philip Sutherland	11.15am:- Mass – People of the Parish