

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



4th Sunday in Advent – 23 December 2018

WELCOME....If you're visiting for the festive season, are new to the area, or just live here, **you are most welcome in our sister parishes this Christmastide. We are delighted you have joined us.** If you are new to either parish please make yourself known to Fr Jock and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' rolls.



Christmas Season Schedule



Christmas Services

St John the Evangelist

St Mary Magdalene

Christmas Eve

6.00pm - Children's Mass

8.30pm – Christmas Vigil Mass

8.30pm Carol Service

Christmas Day

10.30am – Children's Mass

There will be celebrations in the respective Hall at St Mary Magdalene's after the Carol Service and St John's after the Vigil Mass.

There will also be Mass at St John's at 10am on the 27th for the Patronal Feast of St John the Evangelist, and a celebration in the Hall afterwards.

Prisoners of conscience – Shine a light in their darkness.

A message from the Justice & Peace Group: 'Can you take a moment after Mass to write a card to one of the three women imprisoned for activism for human rights whose case studies are at the back of both churches? Cards are available (free) along with suggestions about appropriate messages (and issues to avoid). We will arrange their onward transmission. A card seems a small thing but it can offer hope and encouragement to those who have lost their freedom for striving for justice for their fellow human beings'.

A STEKA Thank You!

Jim Roarty writes: 'Christmas should be a heart-warming season and if you want your heart truly warmed during these cold days of December, visit our Facebook page – [stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com/news/steka](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com/news/steka) - and/or our parish websites - to see the "Thank You" video from the STEKA children in appreciation of the support being given by our two parishes.'

THIS WEEK

Saturday/Sunday 23 December – Annual Leaving Collection for Legho village in Tanzania (at St John's).

Friday 28 December – 12noon – St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Rd, - Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents with Archbishop Leo Cushley

IN THE COMING WEEKS

Thursday 3 January

10am-4pm – Duddingston Kirk – **A New Year Experience** (see noticeboard)

2.50pm-4.30pm and 5.30-7.00pm – Portobello Town Hall - **Visit of Blood Transfusion Service - New donors are always needed.**



Friday 4 January – 12.30pm – St John's Hall - L'Arche Epiphany Lunch (see noticeboard)

Saturday 26 January - St John's Church Hall - from 7.30 pm - Joint Parish Burns Supper – ‘Tickets cost £10pp. All proceeds to go towards funding two defibrillators for the parishes. Tickets will be on sale in the New Year. For any information contact Catherine McAnenny on 07968970159.’

NOTICEBOARD

A warm welcome – and our gratitude – to Fr Jim Walls, a Dundonian and priest of the diocese of Dunkeld. Fr Jim became the Spiritual Director of the Scots College in Rome in September, the same time as his mother Cathy moved from Dundee to live with one of her other sons, Gerard, and his wife, Adele, in Joppa. Jim is spending some time with them over Christmas – and will be celebrating Mass for us on Wednesday at St John's and Friday at St Mary Magdalene's.

L'ARCHE EPIPHANY LUNCH/VISIT OF THE EDINBURGH L'ARCHE COMMUNITY

Mary Iannarelli writes ‘The L'Arche Epiphany lunch is being held on Friday 4 January at 12.30pm, in St John's Hall. Helpers are required to set up on Thursday 3 January and some help is also needed on Friday 4 January. All offers of help gratefully received. Mary can be contacted on 07534666439.’ **For more about Edinburgh L'Arche, see below....**



AN INVITATION TO A NEW YEAR EXPERIENCE FROM DUDDINGSTON KIRK

‘Duddingston Kirk is holding a New Year event for people and families in the east side of Edinburgh to participate in throughout the day between 10am and 4pm. There will be a display of poetry, writings, paintings and photographs. The Garden Room Cafe will be open all the time and everything provided will be free. Dr Neil's Garden will be open and will feature poetry on sticks. Some short musical performances will also happen from time to time during the day.’

NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN AID

Grant Sellar writes: ‘The PACT (Portobello and Area Christians Together) Christmas Carol Concert at St Mark's Church on Sunday 2 December was a thoughtful, reflective and joyful coming together of fellow Christians from across Portobello and surrounding area. Thank you to everyone involved in organising the service, who participated and to all those who came along. The collection raised £795.71, of which £462 was Gift Aid eligible, giving a total contribution to CA of £911.21. Thank you to all for your generous donations to help Christian Aid fight poverty in areas across the world this Christmas time.’



NEWS FROM THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

- **‘Mary's Meals - Double your money!** After their visit to our parishes recently, Mary's Meals have now announced that from now till 1 March 2019, all donations to their "Double the Love" appeal will be matched by the UK Government. Incredible value!
- **St Teresa's Foodbank.** Our two parishes have been supporting the small foodbank run by St Teresa's in Craigmillar. During this run up to Christmas, you might like to drop a few items in the boxes at the back of each church to help St Teresa's to ensure their foodbank users have enough for Christmas.’

SLEEPING BAGS APPEAL



Do you have sleeping bags which are no longer required? The only requirement is that the zips are in good working order. Please contact the Parish Office on 669 5447 and arrangements can be made for collection/drop off.

A Request from Bethany Christian Trust- 'BUY A BED'

'The Bethany night shelters, for which many in our parishes are involved in providing a hot meal for its users, is continuing to meet an unfortunately ever-increasing need, with an average of 61 men and women using the shelters this winter so far. Including staff and core management costs, running the Care Shelters this year is budgeted at £260,000 which equates to £21 per bed space per night. If you wish to donate a bed space for a homeless person, or give one as a present at Christmas, please go to fundraising.bethanychristiantrust.com/event/bab18 to buy a voucher.'



AN APPEAL FROM FRESH START: 'Helping People Make a Home for Themselves'

Paul Bevan writes: 'If anyone would like to donate items for the Starter Packs - we are in particular need of Pots & Pans, Crockery - plates & bowls, and light bulbs. Our Cookers for Christmas Appeal is an annual appeal we make in the months leading up to Christmas when we ask for donations of money to help fund this Service. We then use these funds to purchase, deliver and install a cooker on our client's behalf, allowing them to enjoy meals in their new home. Please tel. 476 7741 for this.'

We appreciate all the donations we receive, but we would ask if you are donating any sharp objects, such as knives, can you please ensure they are wrapped appropriately in order to prevent any accidents when they are being unpacked. Also, can I remind people that Fresh Start cannot take furniture nor large kitchen appliances. For these try Edinburgh Furniture Initiative or Bethany Christian Trust. I am still able to collect larger items, bags and boxes, from people's homes if they need this service, and shall continue to clear anything left at the back of St. John's to deliver to Fresh Start, as I work very close to their premises. My tel. no. is 0131 653 0373 and mobile 07784490155.'

Cluster Group D Day Landings Battlefields Visit 2019

Des Brogan writes: 'As a result of the successful Cluster Parish Pilgrimage to the WW1 battlefields which was held in April 2018, it has been suggested that we should plan a follow up experience to the D Day Landings beaches in Normandy. This note is an invitation to anyone who might be interested in participating in such a visit. Depending on numbers (30 minimum), we hope to leave for Normandy on Sunday 25th and return on Friday 30th August 2019. Accommodation will be at the Novotel, Bayeux and the cost will be £600 pp with £95 single person supplement. The cheapest way to travel would be to agree to share with someone. The itinerary will include visits to Pegasus Bridge, Sword, Gold, Juno and Omaha beaches as well as a number of museums and other less well known sites. Like the WW1 Experience this trip will be informative, detailed and very moving. An itinerary, application form and further details are available from Des Brogan at des@mercattours.com or 07710 720 774'.

3 MINUTE DAILY RETREATS – : 'Loyola Press have produced an internet and phone app which offers a 3 Minute Daily retreat which is useful for those on the move when 3 minutes out of the daily rush and bustle is desired. The email version can be accessed from 3MinuteRetreat@LoyolaPress.com - there is also a phone app which can be downloaded via the app store.'

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Alice Taylor, Isobel O'Neill, Jane Moyes

St John's :-

Dec.22:- Gytha Somervell (2014); Joseph Desmond (1990); Francis Rooney; Dec.23:- Cecelia McIntyre (2011); Alice Taylor (2006); Francis Rooney Snr.; George & Esther Waters; the Clyne, Harrison, Laurie & Lynch families; Dec.24:- Mary McClory (2010); Tom Brennan (1985); Elizabeth Welby (1964); Anne B Gallagher (1948); James McGravie; John Scally; Dec.25:- William T Pringle (2007); Francis Skey (1993); Arthur Scholan (1991); James Cordery (1989); John Callaghan (1988); Hugh Docherty (1985); Mary E Sweeney (1984); Raymond Demarco (1980); (Baby) Carol Begg (1952); Dec.26:- Iris Murphy (2015); Marjory Graham (2007); Ian Holligan (1997); James Moran (1981); Mary Fusco (1948); David Headspeath; Dec.27:- Alexandrina Bell (2000); Joseph Mullan (1978); James O'Brien Sen.(1960); Joseph Mullan Sen. (1936); Dec.28:- Margaret McGuire (1970); Maria Rossi

St. Mary Magdalene's

Dec.22:- Sally Murphy (2002); John Shaw (2000); Thomas Heaney (1989); Dec.23:- Eddie Kerr (2009); Roseanne Barclay (1992); Michael Boyle (1970); Dec.25:- John Damer (1997); Cecilia Stewart (1992); Dec.26:- Loretta Cannon (1996); James Smith (1982)

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Palmina Crolla, Marie White, David Robertson, Jean McCraw, Cathy Walls, Anna Butler, Mary Phair, Carolann Cranston, Sara Alkahankni, Lena Mancini, Kate Walsh, Rose Thornton, Alan Lugton, Mary Glancy, Sr Jennifer Lindsay,

Kitty Dykes, Ernie Moran, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Maimie Richards, Patricia Lawler, Helen Hanlon, Pat Hunter, David Thom snr, Patricia Crawford, Giulio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Patrick McCafferty, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Kathy Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Sheila Alexander, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Ann Ward, Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Pat Marin, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Louise Gorman, Michael McPhillips, Agnes Harvey, 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: Ellen Kelly, Hew Dalrymple, Joanna Lamb, Jimmy Loughran, Pez Nye, Hazel Marshall, Joseph Jordan, Nora Hanratty, Sr Veronica Marshall, James Clerk, Fr Stephen Muir, Alice Doherty, Martin Doherty, John Clark, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Sr Helen McLaughlin, Jean Nelson, Joseph Daly, James Sangster, Irene Baillie, Eileen Daly, Geraldine McGreavy, Joanne Cooper, Roksan Moczulstra, Wendy Lochhead, Eleanor Brennan, Ann King, 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 Jorden, George Collins, Margaret Robb, Sr Anne Doherty SND, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan, Austen Tod, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, Isabel McInrue, Christopher Browne, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, Vera Hawkes, Conor Kerrigan, young Ray Donovan Syme, Patricia Davies.

	ST MARY MAGDALENE	ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
Offertory Collections		
16 December	£381.73 (including £135.81 gift aid)	£926.11 (including £272.60 gift aid)

Thank you for your generosity

ST MARY MAGDALENE

	Readers for Sunday	Bidding Prayers
23 December	Olaf Pusch & Mary Fenwick	Aileen Hall
30 December	Dorothy Dickson & Aileen Hall	Jim Gallagher

Children's Mass on Christmas morning at St Mary Magdalene's

'The children will be doing a little mime of the Nativity while the Gospel is being read on Christmas morning. There will be a practice after Mass on Sunday 23rd December. Please come along if you would like to take part. If you can't make the practice don't worry. Come dressed as a shepherd or an angel on Christmas morning. We can never have too many....'



As part of the celebrations, the children are asked to bring a small gift of warm socks, hats or scarves for the homeless.

COMPUTER CLUB

The Computer Club will start again on Wednesday 9 January at 1pm.

If you are interested in joining the **200 Club**, please contact Madge and Rob Moyes.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE'S WEBSITE



Jean Douglas writes: 'Most of the Sunday morning masses in our church are recorded and from July 2017 parts of these recordings (the entrance hymn, the readings and the homily) are uploaded, on our parish website. This is done mainly to accommodate our housebound parishioners many of whom have attended Sunday Mass here over a great number of years and now really miss being part of this congregation. It is hoped that being able to hear the familiar choir, listen to and recognise the voices of the readers and, of course, hear Fr Jock's homily will help those who can't come to Mass feel included and closer to the parish.'

Our website contains much more than these recordings – from the very first day of the parish until the present day. It includes the history, the Parish Priests, many events both happy and sad, two little videos about the early days. Last year we had 37000 visits - an impressive number for a small parish. So why not visit us on www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk If you have any ideas, comments or information that you would like to share with us we would love to hear from you. Contact : mail@stmarymagdalenes.co.uk

The Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh Catholic Directory for 2019 now on sale at the back of both churches - price £2.50

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Saturday 29 December	G Sellar, B Atansey, J Plews	Sunday 30 December	E Buckley, A Tanzi, E White, B Gallagher, P Connarty
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Today, Sunday, there will be the Annual Leaving Collection for our twin parish of Legho in Tanzania

Jim Roarty writes: **‘The new Eucharistic Ministers’ Rota** is available for collection from the back of the church.’

Maria Igoe writes:-

- ‘On 24 and 31 December there will be no evening Adoration.
- In the Stall there will be selected Christmas cards on sale at half price.’

WHAT IS THE EDINBURGH L’ARCHE COMMUNITY?

‘In a world that values winning and coming first L’Arche Communities are places where people can discover who they are not just what they can do.

There are 11 L’Arche Communities in the UK where people with and without learning disabilities share life together, living and/or working in community. All are part of the International Federation of L’Arche which was founded by Templeton Laureate Jean Vanier.

Although grounded in the Christian tradition, L’Arche Communities welcome people of all faiths and none: our vision is a world where all belong. For more information about L’Arche go to www.larche.org.uk. Like other support providers we are regulated and inspected to ensure a high quality of provision. Each Community is very different.

Our community has 3 shared houses and 4 flats in the Leith and Restalrig area of north-east Edinburgh.

We provide personalised, flexible support and care services to 16 members with learning disabilities including some 1-1 day activities support. In 2014 we opened a specialised, purpose-built service for people with learning disabilities who are ageing and need round the clock care. Our flats support people with varying needs ranging from a few hours visiting support each week to high levels of 1-1 support. All our care services consistently receive Care Inspectorate grades ‘Very Good’ – [click here for link to reports](#).

Our community also includes a wide range of volunteer members, families and friends. We gather in a local hall for monthly meetings, services, meals and prayers.

We are a Christian community who celebrate festivals like Advent, Christmas and Easter, seasonal events like Burns Night ceilidh and Halloween, and have house traditions where individual birthdays and anniversaries are marked. We are open to people of all faiths or no faith.

We aim to:

- Value each individual, ensuring that we see people with disabilities having as much to give as to receive
- Create a sense of belonging, not just to L’Arche but to the wider community and beyond that the world
- Be open to people's own spiritual needs, enabling them to draw on the resources that can provide

What makes L’Arche different is the attention we pay to building relationships and a sense of belonging. In L’Arche we celebrate people with learning disabilities and build circles of support around them. We go beyond basic needs to attend to people’s emotional and spiritual lives. Communities around the world share this common philosophy and approach while reflecting the ethnic, cultural and religious composition of the areas in which they exist.’

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 22 December	10am – Mass - Alec Linton 10.30am – Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm:- Mass – Michael Connelly	
Sunday 23 December 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am:- Mass – Alice Taylor	11.15am:- Mass – People of the Parishes
Monday 24 December	10.00am:- Mass – Jimmy Cosgrove 6.00pm – Christmas Children’s Vigil Mass – George Hancock 8.30pm – Christmas Vigil Mass - Alison Connarty	8.30pm:- Carol Service
Tuesday 25 December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD		10.30am:- Children’s Mass – Tommy & Ina McNama
Wednesday 26 December St Stephen – Feast	10.00am:- Mass – Anne Burns	
Thursday 27 December ST JOHN – PATRONAL FEAST	10.00am:- Mass – St Vincent de Paul and Willie McPartlin	
Friday 28 December The Holy Innocents - Feast	9.00am–9.55am: - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am – Eucharistic Service – 3.00pm: - Divine Mercy Devotions	9.25-55pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am:- Mass – Aidone Dempsey
Saturday 29 December	10am – Mass - SI 10.30am – Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm:- Mass – Isabel O’Neill	
Sunday 30 December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9.30am:- Mass – Fay Dignan	11.15am:- Mass – Terry Delaney

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