

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

Deacon – Revd Eddie White 07986 015772

Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris and Chris Vinestock

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

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 of Advent – Sunday 22 December 2019

WELCOME...If you're visiting for Christmas, 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 and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.



Fr Jock, Deacon Eddie and the Pastoral Team would like to welcome all visitors to our sister parishes here for the festive season, and to wish everybody a Happy Christmas when it comes.

We would like to say a special thank you to all those who have so generously given of themselves and their gifts – whether it has been helping prepare the churches, the liturgies, the orders of service, or assisting in many different ways – and so making it possible for our Christmas services in both churches to be full of joy.

A Reflection on the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (by Mairi Clunas)

In times of stress or anxiety we may have sleepless nights. Not so St Joseph. No doubt, in his 'waking life' as he works, he ponders the various options. What should he do? But then he wants and pays attention to his dreams. Try prayer at night and listen

Christmas Services



Christmas Eve

6.00pm - Children's Mass

8.30pm – Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day

Church open

9.00am – 12 noon

for quiet prayer and reflection

St Mary Magdalene

10.30am – Children's Mass

There will be celebrations in the Hall at St John's after the Vigil Mass. There will also be Mass at St John's at 11am on the 27th for the Patronal Feast of St John, and a celebration in the Hall afterwards.

This Sunday, there is the **Annual Leaving Collection** at Masses at St John's for our/their twin community of **Legho Village in Tanzania**.

Mike Knox writes: ' I go to Legho regularly to support the **2 Young Adult Small Christian Communities** who have now set up an Environmental Group and an Entrepreneurial Small Business Training Programme. They have a Youth Choir of over 50 and are preparing to act as tour Guides and hosts for the St John's and Mary Magdalene's Group.

As you may know we have been involved in building 2 Centres. The smaller Sacred Heart Centre, where the group will stay is now complete. The building of the Twende Pamoja Centre in Legho had to stop several years ago with the foundations and some of the walls completed as the funds ran out. There is a need now for an area for the young people in the community. We propose to develop part of it now of it as a Youth Centre with meeting rooms, an office and a small hair salon. They already have the clippers, courtesy of Pamoja Fashion as well as 2 sewing machines to be brought in January. The young people would like to use part of the grounds for growing tree seedlings and vegetables to fund the youth projects. **For many years now we have had a simple Christmas Collection for Legho at St John's. If possible we would like the Collection this year to help offset the cost of the fence around the Youth Area. This will provide security for the seedlings and demarcate the area which is being given to them.'**

CAROL SINGING IN BINGHAM – Tuesday 23 December – 5.45pm

As part of the **Community Renewal Initiative in Bingham** – of which St Mary Magdalene's is playing an important part – on the evening of Tuesday 23 December, there will be Carol singing around the community...please come and join in – **we will be meeting outside St Mary Magdalene's at 5.45pm.** (There will be **NO Carol Service** this year at St Mary Magdalene's on Christmas Eve).

THIS WEEK

Saturday 21 December - 9am - Our Lady of Loretto, Musselburgh – **Requiem Mass for Dr Alice Doherty**

Sunday 22 December - 5pm - Gillis Centre - 'The Real Jesus – Really Present' – the third Advent Talk for Young Adults (16-30) with Archbishop Leo Cushley - Free - Simply turn up or register on Eventbrite.
TALK - EXPOSITION – PIZZA

Monday 23 December – 6-7.30pm – **Community Carol Singing in Bingham** – (please meet outside St Mary Magdalene's at 5.45pm)

Tuesday 24 December – Christmas Eve
9.45am – St John's - **Requiem Mass for Jean McCraw**

6pm – St John's – **Christmas Eve Children's Vigil Mass**
8.30pm – St John's – **Christmas Vigil Mass**

Wednesday 25 December – CHRISTMAS DAY
10.30am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Christmas Children's Mass**

Friday 27 December – 11am – St John's – **Mass for the Patronal Feast**



Friday 28 December – 12 noon – St Margaret's Chapel – **Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents** - with **Archbishop Leo Cushley**. 'It will be held in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB. Drinks & Refreshments will be served afterwards. Free Parking available.
prolife@staned.org.uk'

IN THE COMING WEEKS

Friday 3 January – 12. for 12.30pm - St John's Hall – **Epiphany Meal and Celebration with the Edinburgh L'Arche Community** (see noticeboard)

Monday 6 January –

10.15am – St John's Hall - **Charity Coffee Morning**

3pm – St John's – **Requiem Mass for Maureen Callaghan**

Sunday 12 January

9.30am – St John's - **P3 Children's Mass**

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's - **P4 Do This in Memory Mass**

Tuesday 14 January – Departure of Group of Parishioners to Legho, Tanzania, and Steka, Malawi.

NOTICEBOARD

Many thanks to Fr Jim Smith, covering for Fr Jock on Saturday morning while he celebrates Alice Doherty's funeral at Our Lady of Loretto in Musselburgh... **and a warm welcome to Fr Jim Walls**, Spiritual Director at the Scots College in Rome, with us over the Christmas season, as he visits his brother sister-in-law and mother in Joppa – and celebrates several Masses with and for us.

EPIPHANY MEAL WITH THE EDINBURGH L'ARCHE COMMUNITY – VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



Mary Iannarelli writes: 'Helpers are required to set up on the afternoon of Thursday 2 January 2020 and also to assist on Friday 3 January from 11.30 am. The event is a wonderfully inclusive celebration with our L'Arche friends. Volunteers can contact me on 07534 666439.'

CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS - CAN YOU HELP?

Pamela Hanlon writes: 'Every year Crisis Centres provide vital services to people at one of the hardest times of the year. At Christmas, and throughout the year Crisis helps people directly out of homelessness, and campaign for the social changes needed to solve it altogether. For Crisis to offer the services they do over the festive period they ask for volunteers to do as few or as many shifts as they feel able to do. I was not looking forward to my first Christmas period completely on my own, so decided to volunteer for a few shifts, as I felt I would be able to offer something based on my experience and skills set. Crisis also ask if you would like to be a sponsored volunteer. A sponsored volunteer is someone who, as well as volunteering for shifts asks people to sponsor them to raise much needed funds to continue the work of Crisis, and I hope some of you will consider doing this through the link provided. If you have internet access more information can be found about Crisis at www.crisis.org.uk. Thank you.'

ST MARY'S PLAYGROUP, 63 East London Street, Edinburgh EH7 4BW



The Playgroup is open Monday – Friday (drop off 8.45am – collection at 11.45am) children 2½ to 5 years welcome. £10 per morning includes snack and milk. For further information please contact Gail Dempster stmarysplaygroup@aol.com 0131 556 1634.

News From St John's Primary School

Mark Burgess, Depute Head, writes: 'It has been a busy and productive term in St John's and we are delighted to share some of our highlights from each year stage.

In the nursery this November we were learning about Light and Dark, Night and Day and what animals in Scotland do to prepare for the Winter. We made cosy beds in our garden using leaves, for hedgehogs to use when they hibernate. We put in our nursery hedgehogs and covered them up with leaves so that they would stay warm through the winter.

Primary 1's highlight was certainly the Nativity this term. We were very impressed by the way the children learned all their lines, sang beautifully and acted out all their parts. We have had a very positive feedback from the parents. Also, the children seemed to be confident and well prepared a good few days before the performances which made teachers' lives a lot easier.

Primary 2 had great fun with their Scottish topic this term. Our favourite part was the Scots singing, baking and making our very own heeland coos.

Primary 3 have been introduced to multiplication this term and are progressing very well. Some are even challenging each other, as well as their teacher with some of the more difficult times tables! Keep up the hard work everyone

Primary 4 enjoyed going to Edinburgh castle where we learnt a lot about the castle and enjoyed role playing with soldiers' clothes. We also really enjoyed meeting the elderly at the Baptist church where we sang Christmas carols and mingled with everyone learning more about their lives. We also enjoyed singing to the elderly during their Christmas party.

This term in **Primary 5** we enjoyed learning about St Andrew and presenting an assembly about him to our parents. We learned new songs including The Bonny Ship the Diamond and Auld Lang Syne and danced, acted and narrated the important story of how St Andrew came to be our patron saint.

Primary 6 enjoyed using iPads to research the Solar System and presented a talk about their favourite planet. We developed our confidence when speaking in front of others, using clear voices and eye contact. We also were able to find key information and adapt it into our own words. We thoroughly enjoyed this, and all learned from each other!

Primary 7 have been to Benmore for a residential experience taking part in new and exciting outdoor challenges. This term we have developed new skills in the kitchen and learned traditional ceilidh dances with a modern music twist.'

Holy Rood RC High News

Joan Daly writes: 'Here is the update of recent events/news from Holy Rood, your Cluster Secondary School.

- Senior Modern Studies pupils returned from a very exciting visit to the **Parliament** in London.
- A large group of S1 pupils very much enjoyed their first visit to the **French Institute** to see the film **Santa et Cie**, - pupils also squeezed in a visit to the French library.
- Our three **Family Learning Events** have been a great success and have included a Numeracy themed treasure hunt around the school and numeracy quiz. In the Health and Wellbeing Session, families cooked a variety of tasty, healthy recipes and shared their dishes at the end. Finally in the Literacy session, listening and artistic skills were needed to design and make a Christmas card.
- A huge thank you to all for advent **fundraising efforts** which took place in the last week of term, including events such as Staff vs Pupils Sporting events, Bake Sales and Christmas Jumper Day. We await the grand total which will go to the **Scottish Association of Mental Health**.
- The last day of the Christmas term will culminate with "**Holy Rood's Got Talent**" - we are all very much looking forward to the show.
- We wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas holiday with your family and loved ones.

Please ask your friends and families to follow us on twitter @HolyRoodRCHigh'

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours) : ☎0800 027 1234

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Silva Wu and Maureen Callaghan

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Fr John Robinson, Alice Taylor, Mary McClory, Palmina Crolla, Isobel O'Neill, and Hew Dalrymple

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:-** Palmina Crolla (2018); 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: Charlotte McGregor, Jimmy Scoular, Mary Glancy, Betty Dougal, Alison Thomson, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Sheila Alexander, Patricia Lawler, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Pat Tansey, Ernie Moran, Maureen Low, Pat Hunter, Dolores Jones, Alan Blyth, Mary Slight, , Marie White, Cathy Walls, Anna Butler, Mary Phair, Sara Alkahankni, Rose Thornton, Alan Lugton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Guilio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Kathy Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla, Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Sam Burns, Ella Ayers, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, Elizabeth Mackail, John Prior, Sheila Service, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Michael McPhilipps, Agnes Harvey, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Chris English, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Denis Davidson, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, Isobel Phillips, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Jude Ferguson, Mary & James Muir.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Billy Cavanagh, Hannah Muldoon, Johan Reape, Emma Bromet, Margaret Lee, Seamus Hughes, Joan Bonnar, Mekala Osborne, Jean Nelson, Frances Green, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Maureen Henderson, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Celine Dinis, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Peter Hanley, Pez Nye, Hazel Marshall, Sr Veronica Marshall, James Clerk, Martin Doherty, John Clark, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Joseph Daly, Rokšana Moczulstra, Wendy Lochhead, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Ellen Green, Kathleen McConnell, Jake Jorden, George Collins, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan, young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
15 December 2019	£382.35 (including £169.10 gift aid) Direct Debits - (an additional £50.00) – overall figure: £432.35	£850.95 (including £374.34 gift aid) Direct Debits - (an additional £403.50) – overall figure: £1254.45
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>		

ST MARY MAGDALENE

	Readers for Sunday	Bidding Prayers
22 December	Sam Henry & Martha O' Hanlon	Anne Jabir
28 December	Mary Fenwick & Willie Montgomery	Jennifer Morris

This year, there will be NO Carol Service on Christmas Eve



All those willing to sing carols/songs on Tuesday 23 December around Bingham please meet outside St Mary Magdalene's at 5.45pm. Please do support this initiative.

Claudia Tisba, Community Support Worker, writes: **'Bingham Community Café – in St Mary Magdalene's Hall** - are looking for **volunteers to help run the café**. Nicoleta will be on holiday from 9 January to 16 March, so we're hoping someone would like to take over on Monday mornings in her absence. Community Renewal can provide training and Food and Hygiene Certificate. Even if people can only do some of the days it would still be really helpful. Anyone who's interested can get in touch with Cris at Community Renewal (07733 263 604) or pop by the Community Renewal Office in Bingham Drive.'

Do please support this new community initiative – from 10.30am to midday (every Monday – and starting up again on 6 January) our **Community Café/Drop-In (Free tea and coffee and friendly chat) – all most welcome.**

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

**Saturday
28 December**

Jim Roarty, Jeff Kemp,
Patrick Shannon

**Sunday
29 December**

Evelyn Buckley, Theresa
Spence, Pauline Connarty,
Colette Dempsey, Gena
Gallagher

Eucharistic Ministers for Christmas Vigil Masses

6.00pm: **Eddie Clark**, Enrico Fertini, Theresa Spence, Pat Whyte, Evelyn Buckley, Jim Roarty, Bernie Gallagher, Pauline MacInnes

8.30pm **Chris Vinestock**, Joyce Martin, Gena Gallagher, Tracy Burgess.
(Deacon Eddie will be assisting)

Names in **bold** to set up, please.

Warm birthday greetings to Kathy Gallagher, who celebrated her 85th birthday yesterday, Saturday 21 December.

A New Kitchen in St John's Hall? If you are willing to become part of a group looking into the feasibility of extending and developing the hall kitchen, please contact Fr Jock.....

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

We are all conscious about climate change and are always looking to improve in ways we can help the environment! Would you consider receiving your weekly newsletter by e-mail? Using e-mail would let us reduce the amount of paper and ink we use and save 'wear and tear' of the photocopiers. If you would be happy to receive your newsletter electronically all you have to do is send an e-mail to Karen our Parish Administrator at stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com. The bonus is you receive the newsletter on a Friday afternoon. The newsletter is also available online via our parish websites and Facebook Page.



Christmas cards being sent out to the housebound in our parishes

St Mary Magdalene



St John the Evangelist



Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 21 December	10.00am:- Mass – Sandy Mackay 10.30am–12.30pm: - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am: - Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm:- Mass – People of the Parish	
Sunday 22 December 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am:- Mass – Alice Taylor	11.15am:- Mass – Pat and Mary McClory
Monday 23 December	10.00am:- Mass – Yvonne Lyon	
Tuesday 24 December	9.45am – Requiem Mass for Jean McCraw 6.00pm – David Thom 8.30pm – David Robertson	
Wednesday 25 December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	Church open 9.00am – 12 noon for quiet prayer and reflection	10.30am:- Mass – Ina and Thomas McNama
Thursday 26 December St Stephen - Feast	10.00am: - Eucharistic Service	10.00am:- Mass – Hew Dalrymple
Friday 27 December St John - Feast	10.00am–10.45am: - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am:- Mass – Noreen Lennard NB CHANGE OF TIME 3.00pm: - Divine Mercy Devotions	
Saturday 28 December The Holy Innocents - Feast	10.00am:- Mass – SI 10.30am: - Sacrament of Reconciliation 6.30pm:- Mass –Terry Delaney	
Sunday 29 December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	9.30am:- Mass – Isobel O’Neill	11.15am:- Mass – People of the Parish