

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: 8am to 1pm & Friday 11am-4pm)
Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk
Joint e-mail for our sister parishes: stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com

22nd Sunday of the Year – Sunday 30 August 2020

WELCOME....*If you're visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes. If you are new to the parish or area, please make yourself known to Fr Jock by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.*



The Season of Creation - initiated by Pope Francis – begins on Tuesday 1 September and continues until Sunday 4 October (the Feast of St Francis of Assisi). The Pope calls it a “*season of increased prayer and effort on behalf of our common home.*”

To launch the season in our diocese, the Annual Justice & Peace Mass takes place on the World Day of Creation this **Tuesday 1 September, 7:30pm at St Columba's in Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh** (find the registration link [here https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/justice-and-peace-mass-world-day-of-prayer-for-creation-tickets-115018318888](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/justice-and-peace-mass-world-day-of-prayer-for-creation-tickets-115018318888)).

With this newsletter there is a handout that includes a letter from Bishop Nolan, the President of the Bishops' Conference Justice and Peace Committee, and a summary of some of the events during this season. A range of materials can be found at <https://seasonofcreation.org/catholic/>.

AN APPEAL – AND SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY – FROM SCIAF FOR THE LEBANON

‘When the blast hit Beirut recently, more than 200 people were killed in the tragedy. In the aftermath of the disaster, medical services have been overrun, the government has collapsed, and starvation and the coronavirus are spreading rapidly among the poorest.

Even before the catastrophe, Lebanon was a country in crisis. Having survived decades of conflict, they then faced the fallout from the Syrian war and welcomed 1.5 million refugees who are now 30% of the population. The dramatic increase in population has stretched schools, medical services and social care programmes to breaking point. With these vital services unable to cope, it's the poorest who suffer most. The Lebanese economy is in freefall and the destruction of Beirut's shipping port by the blast is disastrous as the country imports an overwhelming majority of its food. There are already major food shortages, and the UN has warned Lebanon is about to run out of bread.

All this at the time the coronavirus is spreading through the country.

Our partners, Caritas Lebanon are working tirelessly feeding the hungry, protecting the homeless, and providing medical care for the sick and injured.

In every crisis, it's the poorest who suffer most. The explosion which devastated Beirut has compounded the poverty pandemic which already gripped Lebanon. This poverty pandemic has already claimed thousands of lives, and without our support, will claim thousands more.

The Lebanese sheltered our Syrian sisters and brothers when they desperately needed it – **we cannot forsake them now.**



By donating to this appeal, you'll be helping the poorest and most vulnerable in Lebanon and reaching out to Syrian refugees who desperately need our help.

Donations can be made after the Masses on Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 September or handed in to the parish house at any time. Alternatively you can donate directly to SCIAF online - go to sciaf.org.uk and click on Lebanon Crisis Appeal.'

AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR A NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR OUR TWO PARISHES

The Sister Parishes of St John the Evangelist and St Mary Magdalene are seeking an open-hearted and experienced administrator to come and join the parish house team on a flexible, part-time basis (20 hours per week) to support our two Parishes.

The Administrator will facilitate the day-to-day administrative operations working closely with the Parish Priest and the Parish Pastoral Team. The role also involves some financial tasks such as supplier payments, basic bookkeeping, and transaction input to the accounting system. Informal enquiries and to receive full details of the role and how to apply are available from Fr. Jock Dalrymple jockdalrymple@postmaster.co.uk T: 0131 669 5447

Closing date for receipt of applications is Monday 7 September with interviews anticipated week commencing Monday 14 September 2020.



STARTING UP OUR SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES AGAIN - BEGINNING WITH BAPTISMS...and continuing with First Communions

Fr Jock writes: 'In the coming weeks, we are aiming to catch up on our backlog of baptisms. If you are wishing to have your child baptised, please make contact with me on 0131 669 5447 or via the parish email address. At the moment, our parish baptismal course is suspended but we hope to resume either on-line or in person as soon as we can.

We will shortly also be contacting by letter those families who are waiting for their child to make their First Communion - with our plans for the celebrations....

Masses This Week – and How/If to Book

For our Sunday Masses, people still wanting a place for this weekend (29/30 August) need to ring the main parish phone (669 5447) or email the parish email address to see if a place is still available and someone will get back to you. For next weekend, like these last few weekends, to help us to manage the numbers, **if you wish to come to one of the live Masses, please contact the parish house by email (stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com) or by phone (0131 669 5618 – a special number) to book your place.**

If phoning to book a place for Sunday Mass, please do so between 10am and 12 noon Wednesday and Friday when there will be someone there to take your call. **We will not take any bookings by email or phone before 10am on Wednesday.** (We will also be asking for – and keeping – your name and telephone number for 'track and trace' requirements). Bookings will be on the basis of 'first come, first served' but we will make sure that all those who wish to attend Mass in either Church will have their turn the following week, if a place is not available this week.

Please be aware also that you will need to utilize hand sanitisers as you come into and leave the church, and masks must be worn throughout the service. You will also need to be escorted to your seat which you will not be able to choose.

For the moment, we are continuing to livestream some of our **Weekday Masses** from the Prayer Room in the Parish House - this week on Monday at 10am and Tuesday at 7pm. (This is partly because after every

Mass, 'deep cleaning' has to take place – something that takes a considerable length of time and effort. We are so very grateful to our welcomers, stewards and cleaners who are making it possible for us to have our churches open – and always open to new volunteers.)

This week, there will be a Memorial Mass for Sr Rosemary Kirkland at 10am in St John's on Wednesday, 'ordinary' Mass at 10am at St Mary Magdalene's on Thursday, and a Requiem Mass for Pat Tansey at 10am on Friday in St John's. (No booking required for any of them)

Children's Liturgy at Sunday Mass

Arlene Lauder writes:



'Zoom Children's Liturgy sessions are continuing. Why not join us this Sunday 30 August where we will be starting around 11:15 am? To be included, please send your email address to Arlene at Lauder.82@btinternet.com by 4pm on Saturday 29 August. Please tell us your full name, your child/children's names and which mass you would normally attend, this information is for our register to keep all involved safe. **Please note that we will automatically send the Zoom link by email to everyone who has joined us before'.**

THIS WEEK

Monday 31 August

5.15pm – Skype - **PEP Meeting** (PEP – Parish Emergency Planning Group)

7pm – **GOSPEL SHARING BY ZOOM**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912062144?pwd=ZWxEMGRGY2RtV1d5a1lTRW5VVjVBZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 1206 2144

Passcode: 257320

The format is very simple – the readings...the Sunday homily...a time of sharing...and ending with prayer.

For those who are shy of speaking out, there'll be a chance to type a thought instead...ALL WELCOME (and, if possible, have your missal or Jerusalem Bible ready – spare copies available for borrowing from the Parish House).

Tuesday 1 September - 7:30pm - St Columba's, Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh – Annual Justice and Peace Mass to launch the Season of Creation (find the registration link [here](#))

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/justice-and-peace-mass-world-day-of-prayer-for-creation-tickets-115018318888>).

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Wednesday 2 September – 10am – St John's – **Memorial Mass for Sr Rosemary Kirkland**

Friday 4 September

10am – St John's - **Requiem Mass for Pat Tansey**

12midday (nb change of time)– Rosary - Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp and also on the phone (contact Maria Igoe – 07981 333219).

NOTICEBOARD

A THANK YOU FROM THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Geoff Dobson writes: 'Your Parishes' Saint Vincent de Paul Conference would like to heartily and gratefully thank our wonderfully generous parishioners who contributed £1050 to our local SVP since the beginning of 'lockdown'.

This money has gone a long way to helping our financially challenged clients and the homeless in our area.

'I was hungry and you fed me, homeless and you gave me shelter.'

Well done to you all. Our and your work continues. Thank you.'



MARY'S MEALS BACKPACKS

Maria Igoe writes: ‘Very many thanks to those who donated backpacks with lots of the items which help young people in poor countries to go to school. We hope that more will be donated, as there must be lots of old backpacks and school uniforms lying around in our homes. Thank you especially to the children, who helped with this project and gave their treasures so willingly.’



New Dawn in Scotland – Virtual Conference – 28 to 30 August

Living the Word of God – John 8: 31-32

‘The 11th New Dawn in Scotland Conference is held online this year - Join us on New Dawn in Scotland Youtube New Dawn in Scotland Channel

Facebook www.facebook.com/NewDawnYouth/ Website www.newdawninscotland.com

Friday 28 August -Session 1 – The Holy Spirit

7pm Welcome – Douglas Hunter –
Praise and Worship – Gary Stephens ND International Leader
7.30pm Holy Mass – Fr Gabor Czako and Rev Doug Duncan
8.15pm Talks given by Ralph Martin & Pos Powell

Saturday 29 August

Session 2 - Children’s Ministry

10.30am Interactive Zoom Session for Primary age children led by Children’s Ministry Team
(Children must be registered by a parent or guardian by email at newdawninscotland@gmail.com)

Session 3 – Youth Ministry

12 noon Talk given by David Wells - Interactive Zoom Session for Secondary age led by Youth Ministry Team

(Youth must be registered by a parent or guardian by email at newdawninscotland@gmail.com)

Session 4 – Reconciliation

4pm Praise & Worship – Talk given by Fr Keith Herrera

Session 5 – Healing

7pm Healing Service led by Canon William Fraser, Max Ford & Craig Lodge Community

Sunday 30 August

Session 6 – Youth Ministry

12 noon Talk given by Fr Nicholas Grace
1.30pm Interactive Zoom Session for Secondary age – Fr Peter Morris and Youth Ministry Team
(Youth must be registered by a parent or guardian by email at newdawninscotland@gmail.com)

Session 7 Mary the Mother of the Church

3.30pm Praise and Worship – Talk given by Sr Anna Christi

Session 8 – Evangelisation

6pm Praise and Worship – Talk given by Vernon Robertson
Holy Mass – Fr Peter Morris
Conclusion & Thanks - Douglas Hunter - Final Blessing – Bishop John Keenan

From Archbishop Cushley’s Recent Ad Clerum (‘To The Clergy’)

Pregnancy Support – How Can I Help?

The Archdiocesan Pro-Life office aims to start a pregnancy support service and wants your help. An online event takes place on Saturday 5 September featuring Sr Roseann Reddy who will share her experiences from running the Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative for over 20 years. Register on Eventbrite by searching ‘Pregnancy Support – How Can I Help? Or visit the events section of the Archdiocese’s Facebook page.

Street Pastors

Edinburgh Street Pastors are recruiting new volunteers. Training will take place on the weekends of 18 to 20 October and 15 to 17 November and will be run on the Friday evening, Saturday part day and the Sunday afternoon of both weekends. If you are interested please email edinburghsp.training@gmail.com or call 07523 267 906. For background information see www.streetpastors.org.

THE LEGION OF MARY DURING LOCKDOWN AND BEYOND

Maria Igoe writes: 'In March, when 'Lockdown' began, the members of the Legion of Mary decided that, although they could not physically meet, they would meet on-line. So every Tuesday at 10.30am, we link up, using 'Facebook Messenger', and pray the prayers of the Legion together. We read a passage from our Handbook and discuss what we can do to be of service in these difficult times.

This has resulted in a variety of small tasks being undertaken. We deliver Parish Newsletters, phone those, who are on their own, send cards and letters to parishioners and clean the Church. We also say the Rosary on-line on Fridays at 11am with a small group. We make sure that cards are available from the Stall, especially for bereavement.

One of our members has made hundreds of masks to WHO standard, and these have been distributed to parishioners, as well as many essential workers. Another has made masks, mainly for her family.

We have been participating in all Masses being streamed and have enjoyed Benediction. Now that the Church is open for Mass, we have been attending and making sure others know when the Masses, Adoration etc are available.

We will continue carrying out these small tasks until we can meet physically again and get 'back to normal.'

We would like to give a mention to our Auxiliary members, who pray the Rosary and Legion prayers for Our Lady's intentions. We appreciate their efforts and hope that they have found joy and focus in linking to the worldwide strength of our prayers at this uneasy time.

In trying to use this time fruitfully we have spent more time in study and prayer. Although we still pray to get 'back to normal' soon.'

Love, Loss & Quarantine – until 30 August

Jeremy Devlin-Thorp writes: 'After the, surprising, sell-out of our show "Love, Loss and Cake" at The Edinburgh Fringe Festival last summer, my friend Malcolm and I were encouraged to create another show for this year's Festival. It would be called something like "Love, Loss & Recovery" and would cover one year on from loss. But lockdown intervened and the live Fringe was cancelled. Then the promoters of last year's venue who, like us, did not want the Festival spirit to die this year, asked us and other performers to create a show to be broadcast on-line on their platform. It runs for around fifteen minutes and is called "Love, Loss & Quarantine".

You can watch it free at: <https://online.thespaceuk.com>

then click on *Click here to watch all other shows - we are in the Cabaret section.*

If you would like to watch it, our show plus others runs until **30 August**. You can watch it at any time of the day or night! The show is completely free of charge but you can make a contribution to a mental health charity if you so wish."

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours)

☎0800 027 1234



PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Pat Tansey, Cathy Walls, Tom O'Malley and baby Adam Sadlakowski

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Len Buckley, John Speedman, Catherine McAllister, Alberto Tanzi, Yvonne Lyon and Fr Jock Dalrymple

St John's

Aug.30 :- Kathleen O'Donnell (1994); Len Buckley (1992); **Aug.31 :-** James B Waugh (1997); Anne Conway (1973); **Sept.1 :-** Isabella Bowyer (2009); Agnes Finn (1979); Joseph G O'Kane (1964); **Sept.2 :-** Betty Abercrombie (2016); Sarah Brown (2002); Eileen Bannon (1967); **Sept.3 :-** Alberto Tanzi (2004); Mark J DiPonio (1995); Helen Cullen (1986); Joseph & John Deignan; **Sept.4 :-** Daniel Iannarelli (1992); Peggy Knowles (1991); Betty Hughes (1977); **Sept.5 :-** Catherine McAllister(2015); Muriel Wheatley (2004); Margaret Cunningham (1994); Maria Crolla (1993); Doreen Hogan (1991); Fr.Jock Dalrymple, Dean (1985); Bridget Allen (1978); Margaret Blore (1970)

St Mary Magdalene's

Aug.30 :- Agnes Gibson (2007); **Aug.31 :-** Ann Fraser (2002); **Sept.3 :-** Elvira Pelosi (2001); **Sept.4 :-** Owen Mahon (1994); **Sept.5 :-** John Speedman (2018)

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Alice Neilson, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Chloe Sutherland, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Molly Lugton, Sheila Tansey, Frank Logan, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Sheila Alexander, Patricia Lawler, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Ernie Moran, Maureen Low, Pat Hunter, Dolores Jones, Alan Blyth, Mary Slight, Marie White, Anna Butler, Mary Phair, Sara Alkahankni, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Guilio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

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

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Casimierz Cichocki, John McCall, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, Lesley Barker, Hazel Yeoman, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Catriona MacKinnon, Max Middleton (aged 9), Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Lauli Ridge, Emilia Iheji, Jan Meise, Seval Kazimoglu, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Carla Zanetti, Peter Hanley, Fr Christopher Delaney, Jennifer Kay, Janie Low, Ranier Carpo, William Young, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Gerry Mulvenna, Frank Palmer, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Celine Diniz, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Audrey Burgess, Kathleen Cawley, Margo Law, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Emma Bromet, Margaret Lee, Joan Bonnar, Mekala Osborne, Jean Nelson, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Sr Veronica Marshall, Martin Doherty, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Roksana Moczulstra, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jake Jorden and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
23 August 2020	£150.00 (including Gift Aid of £75.00 and £124.00 Direct Debits – ie £274.00)	£604.70 (including Gift Aid of £199.80) and £744.00 Direct Debits – ie £1348.70)
Donations made during July via card payment	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist £19.54



Cathy Walls RIP

Fr Jim Walls's Mum, Cathy died very peacefully on Monday evening. Jim, his brothers, Gerrard and Stephen, and his sister-in-law Adele have asked for the message below to be included in this newsletter: *'The Walls family would like to thank Fr Jock, her Eucharistic Ministers (Colette Dempsey and Hilda Anderson), the Legion of Mary, the Facebook Messenger Rosary Group, and all those who made mum feel so welcome in the church the few times she was able to attend. You are an exceptionally warm community. May God bless you all abundantly.'*

Cathy's funeral services will be live-streamed from Ss Peter and Paul's, Dundee, on Sunday, 30 August at 6pm (Reception of Remains) and on Monday, 31 August at 10.30am (Requiem Mass).

A REFLECTION ON THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL - Matthew 16: 21-27 - BY BERNARD TRAYNOR

It was Harold Wilson who first suggested that a week was a long time in politics. It may be true of the political world but is equally true in the life of Saint Peter. Last week, Jesus anointed him as his successor. 'You are Peter, and, on this rock, I will build my Church'. This week he describes him as 'Satan' – 'an obstacle to the Gospel'. In the space of a few verses he falls from his lofty, if unrequested perch, and is deemed lower than any of the other disciples. It's bad enough being taken to one side for a quiet word – quite another to be humiliated by a public rebuke in front of the other disciples. See, how the mighty fall. There are two lessons to be taken. We must guard against empty words – words that may sound good but aren't accompanied by anything of substance.

In the UK we have plenty of experience in this regard. We're surrounded by an endless stream of public figures who pour out words that are worthless and meaningless, like a handshake from a dodgy second-hand car salesman – and, sometimes they're not even that honourable. In our own lives we are well versed in saying the sort of thing that we think the other person wants to hear – rather than what the other person needs to hear. It starts when we prepare for a job interview. 'Remember to tell them about all of your good points, sell yourself.' There was a whole industry that seemed to spring up overnight: We were presented with all sorts of help and advised how we could beat the isometric testing that had become a feature of so many interviews.

On a personal level, when the truth was dawning on me that I may have an issue with alcohol, I would seek the advice of other heavy drinkers. "Do you think I have a drink problem?", I would ask. They all told me what I wanted to hear, for to say otherwise would have been to shine a searchlight on themselves, and, in this respect, I chose my audience carefully (Its difficult to outflank an alcoholic!). None of them told me what I needed to hear. Instead they said: "No, you're just a heavy drinker" – as if that word 'just' was absolution in itself. We've maybe used that word 'just' ourselves. It was just a little lie – or, in my case, it was just a slight exaggeration!

Today, Peter is filled with faux outrage. He, and the other disciples are enjoying their fame and popularity. Jesus performs miracles and the crowd love it, when He preaches, He has the people eating out of His hand. Which of the disciples would want this to end – so Peter takes it upon himself to be their spokesman: This must not happen to you.' Jesus' rebuke is sharp and direct. 'Get behind me, you are an obstacle in my path'.

The second lesson is, perhaps, the more important. Popularity and integrity are never natural or easy bedfellows. Adherence and commitment to the Gospel message will, from time to time, bring us into conflict with those around us. Sometimes that conflict will have far reaching consequences. It may cost a relationship, it might mean going short to help someone whose need is greater than ours, digging deep into our reserves of time and emotional energy as well as finances. Discipleship will cost us. Witness to the Gospel demands that we have a thick skin. As teenagers we had dreams as to what our life would become. Life gets in the way and dreams evaporate. The Ferrari and Sailing Yacht gave way to a Ford Focus and an annual holiday on a canal boat. We realised that nice though the Ferrari might have been it wasn't essential for our happiness. What is essential is being able to look in the mirror without reproach. For we who are among his followers, it is Jesus himself who stares back from the other side of the silvered glass. 'The Son of Man is going to come in his glory...and when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.' Tonight, at the end of your evening ablutions, before you turn out the light, He will be staring back at you. As darkness marks the end of another day who will He see?

Children's Letters to God



Dear God
I like the Lords prayer best of all.
Did you have to write it a lot or
did you get it right the first time?
I have to write everything I ever
write over again.

Low



Dear God,
I would like to know why
all the things you said
are in red?

Joanne

Dear God
In bible times
did they really
talk that fancy?

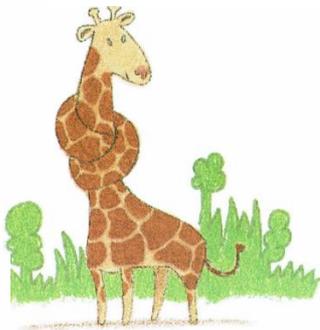
Jennifer

God,
IT'S O.K. that you
made different
religions but
don't you get
mixed up some - times.

Arnold

Dear God,
Instead of letting people die
and haveing to make new ones
why don't you just
Keep the ones you got now?

Jane



Dear God,
Did you mean for
giraffe to look
like that or
was it an
accident.

Norma

Dear God,
I do not think anybody
could be a better
God. Well I just
want you to know but
I am not just saying
that because you
are God. Charles

Dear God,
I want to be just
like my Daddy when I get
big but not with so much
hair all over.

Sam

Dear God,
I think about
you sometimes even
when I'm not praying

Elliott



Dear God,
Do animals use you
or is there somebody else
for them?

Nancy



Dear God,
On Halloween I am
going to wear a devil's
costume, Is that
all right with you?

Marnie