A FOND FAREWELL TO FR TABONE who returns on Wednesday to Gozo – with much gratitude for his ministry and presence among us….Fr John Robinson will kindly cover our Masses from Wednesday to Friday, when Fr Jock will return (the latter requesting prayer for a good final week on ‘the book’ which is making slow progress!).

CLUSTER PARISHES TOGETHER – THE THIRD AND FINAL MEETING – THIS SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY - MASS 10am at St Teresa’s, Niddrie Mains Road, Craigmillar, followed by the meeting in Richmond Church Hall [across the road]; from 11am to 12.30pm.

Siobhan Sellar writes: ‘The third and final planning meeting for all five Cluster Parishes takes place this coming Saturday 25th February 2017. All parishioners in each parish are warmly invited to attend the meeting, to listen and to contribute as constructively as possible. We would encourage all Parishioners to attend as this is your chance for your voice to be heard and to participate in these important discussions on the future of our Parishes and Archdiocese. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the Church to help provide some indication to the organisers of the numbers attending from each Parish and to assist us in ensuring there is transport to St Teresa’s, Craigmillar for those that require it. If you have any questions about the meeting or next stages then please let Siobhan Sellar or Laura Tweedie know.’

…..and a message from Fr Jock: ‘PLEASE do try and get to Craigmillar for this final meeting in the process on Saturday….a report will be sent to Archbishop Cushley before Easter, and he will then decide on the future shape of the diocese, so it’s so important everybody contributes and participates. The two previous meetings have been encouraging, reassuring and heartwarming – and have kept very well to time!’

LENT starts on Ash Wednesday – 1 March – in ten days time.

…..so we introduce our main Lenten initiative in the 2 parishes: a number of house groups meeting weekly – same day each week, same venue, following the course

- To Be A Pilgrim In The Footsteps Of Jesus -

Alice Codling writes: ‘The journey follows the Gospels of Cycle A and the Journey of Jesus: Into the Wilderness – On the Mountaintop – By the Well – At the Gate – In – or By – the Tomb – On the Road to Emmaus.

There are five sessions, plus an Easter session on the ‘Road to Emmaus’. The course has been created by Kathryn Turner.

The Groups will begin the first week in Lent. (Sunday 5 March)

It would be good if we could make a very special effort this Lent in following the journey of Jesus together – linking with our own journeys and celebrating his glorious Resurrection. We need HOSTS to welcome people into their homes for the journey. We need FACILITATORS to guide us on the journey.

Also, we need YOU to walk the journey with Jesus. ALL ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN THIS JOURNEY. There are two lists at the back of both Churches - One for those willing to HOST a group. One for those willing to FACILITATE. As soon as we get information about the Hosts we will produce lists with the times and days of different groups for you to sign up.’

For further information contact:-

St John’s - Alice Codling – 0131 657 1862 alice@btinternet.com

St Mary Magdalene’s - Jennifer Morris – 07806836099 camsjenny@msn.com

And an Ecumenical Initiative for Lent:

The Community Bible Experience:

Jennifer Morris writes: “The aim is to read the New Testament over 8 weeks. Copies of the New Testament – specially designed for this approach - will be available, and each week participants will meet in the same small
group to discuss what they’ve been reading. (However if you can’t make every week that is ok.) These gatherings are designed to feel more like a book club than a traditional Bible study. They’re an opportunity to share how God’s story is making an impact on each person—what inspires, surprises, puzzles, or challenges us. There’s no advance preparation required for participants other than keeping up with each day’s suggested reading (or catching up with the week’s reading just before the ‘club’ meets!). Una Gallagher and I will be leading and hosting a group open to any parishioners who are interested starting this week – the week beginning 19 February – and will be in touch with those who have signed up giving details of the time and venue – if anyone else is interested please contact me directly on 669 2433.’

We plan to open St John’s Church on a daily basis throughout Lent, giving everybody a chance to spend some quiet time of prayer and personal reflection there at any time of the day they wish. Extra security will be installed within the Church in the coming weeks to make this possible.

We hope that by “Throwing Open the Doors to Christ” (Pope St John Paul II – 2000) and by sharing one of our beautiful Churches, we will serve the people in the surrounding area – of all faiths and none – and that the community of our two parishes will continue to flourish.

CLUSTER PARISHES’ WORLD WAR 1 BATTLEFIELDS VISIT 2018

During the Cluster Planning Group discussions recently, it was suggested that a means of bringing our 5 parishes of St Mary Magdalene’s, St John’s, St Ninian’s, St Theresa’s and St Mary, Star of the Sea, together would be to provide opportunities to share various spiritual and social occasions. Since 2018 is the centenary of the end of WW1, it was suggested that a tour to the battlefields of France and Belgium could be arranged. Des Brogan from St Ninian’s parish has organised such trips for many years and taken both adult groups and pupils from Holy Rood High School where he once taught. This note is an invitation to anyone who might be interested in participating in such a visit. Depending on numbers (30 minimum) a trip could be arranged for Spring 2018 to visit the battlefields of Ypres and the Somme and attend the Menin Gate ceremony. If you are interested in finding out more and getting an itinerary please contact Des at des@mercattours.com or by phone on 0131 661 9191. The tour would be organised on a cost covering basis only.

The Cluster Group WWI Battlefields Experience Sample Itinerary is available on the noticeboard at both churches.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 19th February - 5.00pm - St. John the Baptist Church, St. Ninian’s Road, Corstorphine - REMEMBERING SERVICE – ‘For all those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. The service may be helpful to anyone who feels that they have not had the opportunity to acknowledge and grieve for their loss.’

Monday 20 February
7pm – 8pm – 5 Sandford Gardens – A Meeting for all interested in helping revitalise the St John’s- Legho Relationship. ‘Come and catch up on the recent visit to Legho by parishioners help and opportunity to strengthen the ties between our communities…’

Tuesday 21 February
10am - Requiem Mass for Frances Ginnelly

Thursday 23 February
7pm - Sacred Heart Hall, Lauriston – ‘First for Downs, Up for Anything Else - a creative & discursive event on new prenatal screening tests.’ ‘We are delighted that His Grace Archbishop Cushley will be attending. Details are here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-for-downs-up-for-anything-else-tickets-29679493163 If you would like to know more about the event, then please contact Rachel on 07850 080267.’

Friday 24 February
7.30pm - St. Joseph's Home, 43 Gilmore Place – Mass for Vocations – ‘Everyone is most welcome to join us in praying for this special intention.’

Saturday 25 February
10am - St Teresa’s, Niddrie Mains Road - Mass - followed at 11am – in Richmond Church Hall (across the road) - by the 3rd and final planning meeting of ‘Cluster Parishes Together’.

IN THE COMING WEEKS

Sunday 26 February
9.30am – St John’s - Reunion Mass for children in P5+6+7 who have made their First Communion and Confirmation in the past 3 years. There will be refreshments in the hall after each mass.

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene - Reunion Mass for children in P5+6+7 who have made their First Communion and Confirmation in the past 3 years. There will be refreshments in the hall after each mass.

1pm – 7.30pm – Trip to Nunraw. The minibus will leave St John's at 1pm and return at 7.30pm. Please bring a sandwich. Tea, coffee and cakes will be provided. If you wish to go contact Maria Igoe 669 0247.

Sat. 4th March
10am - St John's Parish Church - Bereavement Mass: 'This is an opportunity to come together with others who are bereaved and to remember and reflect on our losses and those we are parted from. All welcome. Teas, coffees, and refreshments will be available afterwards in the Parish House.'

NOTICEBOARD.

Bereavement Mass - Sat. 4th March at 10am at St John's Parish Church.

Tessa Haring writes: ‘This is an opportunity to come together with others who are bereaved and to remember and reflect on our losses and those we are parted from. All welcome. Teas, coffees, and refreshments will be available afterwards in the Parish House.’

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Frances Gnelly, Janette Marren, Anne Cosgrove
Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: Una O'Reilly, Kevin Crow

St John’s:

St. Mary Magdalene’s:
Feb.18:- Alex. Cummings (2003); Barbara O’Rourke (1991); Feb.19:- Margaret Cheyne (2014); Feb.20:- Anne Wallace (2008); Feb.21:- Elizabeth Mulvanney (1996); Sarah O’Neill (1993); Feb.22:- Mary Robertson (2016); Feb.24:- Mary Coll (2004);

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


Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Anne-Marie Bevan, Ellen Green, Mario Chianto, Caroline Narrie, Kathleen McConnell, Jake Jorden (aged 17) Marguerite Marlatt, Poppy Smith (aged 6), George Collins, Margaret Robb, Sr Anne Doherty SND, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan, Catherine Leslie, Dymphna Clifford, Austen Tod, Hugh McGeady, Peter Kent, Isabel Bolus, John Allan, Isabel McNamara, Anne Gallagher, Denise O’Donnell, Dorothy Jamal, Jane Morton, Christopher Brown, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, Vera Hawkes, Christian Parham, Conor Kerrigan, Maria St. Denis, baby Ray Donovan Syne, Rupert Ridge and Lesley Lemarchand.

Offertory Collections for 12 February

ST MARY MAGDALENE

Thank you for your generosity
Special Collection
£333.23 (inc £89.00 gift aid)
£137.95

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

£853.84 (inc £289.40 gift aid)
£308.90

ST MARY MAGDALENE

Readers for Sunday

19 Feb
Olaf Pusch & Mary Fenwick

26 Feb
Bidding Prayers
Kate Neilson

Children’s mass

Arlene Lauder writes: ‘Calling all Children in P5+ 6+ 7 who made their First Communion and Confirmation in the past 3 years. You are all warmly invited to a ‘Reunion Mass’ on Sunday 26th February 2017 at St John’s at 9.30am or St Mary Magdalene’s at 11.15 am- (you choose). There will be refreshments in the hall after each mass. Looking forward to seeing you there.’ PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE MAY BE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT THIS EVENT

Maria Igoe writes: ‘There will be a trip to Nunraw on Sunday 26th February. The minibus will leave St John's at 1pm and return at 7.30pm. Please bring a sandwich. Tea, coffee and cakes will be provided. If you wish to go contact me on 669 0247.’

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Vigil 25 Feb
C Vinestock, M Reilly, V Paterson

Sunday 26 Feb
E Buckley, T Burgess, M Iannarelli, P MacLellan Hawkes, P Glancy

Maria Igoe writes: ‘The February Charity Coffee Morning raised £180 for Mary's Meals. Thank you for your generosity.’
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<td>10.00am: <strong>Mass</strong> – SI - Sr Aine’ Lynch</td>
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<td>10.30am: <strong>Sacrament of Reconciliation</strong></td>
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<td>6.30pm: <strong>Mass</strong> – Grace Gilroy</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 19 February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday 20 February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 22 February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9.25-55am</strong>: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</td>
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Why not visit our parishes’ Facebook page [www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes](http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes)