

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

Easter Sunday - Sunday 12 April 2020

WELCOME... If you're visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes – even if, sadly, for the moment we can't welcome you to our churches. We are delighted you have joined us. If you are new to the parish, 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.



***We wish all our Parishioners
and Visitors (via email and
online)
A Very Happy
And Joyous Easter.
Alleluia!***

**EASTER SUNDAY MASS THIS SUNDAY ONLINE AT 11am –
live-streamed from the Prayer Room in the Parish House.**

The web address will appear as the top post on our Facebook page -
www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes
and also as the top post on
www.stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com/news

The Mass will then available as a recording on both addresses and on the St Mary Magdalene's website.

'And then the whole world walked inside and shut their doors and said we will stop it all. Everything. To protect our weaker ones, our sicker ones. Our older ones. And nothing. Nothing in the history of mankind ever felt more like love than this.'

(A comment by Chelsea Dianne that so aptly reflects how - on one level at least - the gospel of Jesus is being manifested in society in response to the crisis).

AN INVITATION TO OUR PARISH CHILDREN

Last week we asked the children to draw or paint an Easter picture to either send it in digitally or leave at the parish house in order to decorate the doors of both our churches – thanks to all who have responded **(and it's not too late to do so if you're able!)**



Fr Jock writes: 'A Happy and joy-filled Easter to Everyone from Deacon Eddie, the Pastoral Team and myself, even if this Holy Week has been very different to any other we have ever celebrated...perhaps our own feelings of fear, uncertainty, confusion and various other strong emotions will have brought us closer to those of Jesus and his disciples than perhaps ever before as we've walked with Jesus the journey from Palm Sunday and the entry into Jerusalem to Holy Thursday and Mass of the Last Supper, and from there to Gethsemane and on to Calvary and Good Friday?

.....Now please do create space in your own lives this Saturday night and Sunday – and throughout the Easter Octave this coming week (**every day a little Easter and a feast**) to celebrate the glory and joy and mystery of the Resurrection...remember the apostles and disciples were in a sense under lockdown – as imposed by the occupying Roman army....and please let's continue to pray for each other and especially for all those who are still walking their own Way of the Cross with Jesus at this time...'

MASSES THIS WEEK (*All live-streamed*)

Mass Intention			
Sunday 12 April EASTER SUNDAY	11am	Mass	People of the parish
Monday 13 April (Easter Octave)	10am	Mass	Vincent Wallace
Tuesday 14 April (Easter Octave)	7pm	Mass	SI
Wednesday 15 April (Easter Octave)	10am	Mass	Jimmy Igoe
Thursday 16 April (Easter Octave)	10am	Mass	SI
Friday 17 April (Easter Octave)	10am	Mass	Jean Greig
Saturday 18 April (Easter Octave)	10am	Mass	SI
Sunday 19 April 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER	11am	Mass	People of the Parish

Fr Jock also writes: 'Thanks to Deacon Eddie's expertise, and his and Tanya's generosity in giving of their time, we have managed to livestream all our Masses this last week – and we hope to do so this coming week too....We are in the process of building a team – with Emily O'Brien making her debut on Monday – so that our livestreaming doesn't depend on any one person's availability. Already Enrico Fertini and Maureen Brogan have agreed to help...**if anyone else is willing to join this team** (and 'training' will be given), please contact either Eddie or myself...meanwhile, while the St Mary Magdalene website is in Jean Douglas' very capable hands, **we would greatly welcome any help in redeveloping the St John's website** – volunteers again please contact either Eddie or myself.

(And sincere apologies to those who were ‘watching with Jesus in Gethsemane’ on Thursday night and had to wait rather a long time for Night Prayer scheduled at 11pm....unfortunately I had followed the apostles’ lead and fallen asleep, while waiting,...only waking up at 11.25 – when we did finally manage to say Night Prayer...)

Salome Reflects

Salome, one of the women who accompanied Jesus and his disciples on his journey from Galilee to Jerusalem, reflects on her experience of the past few days.

‘The last two days have been such a nightmare and coming at the end of a long journey too. After Jesus had been laid in the tomb there seemed to be nothing more we could do. The Sabbath followed, a void of such emptiness and desolation: any thought of rest was impossible. Very early in the morning, before dawn, Mary, who came from Magdala, said, ‘Let’s go to the tomb’. We agreed at once, at least it was something to do. Clutching our jars of burial spices we crept along the city wall, a pale seam of light just visible on the eastern horizon. We kept saying to one another, ‘But what about the stone?’ Then, we saw it, the stone had been rolled back. At first, we were rooted to the spot with fright; we approached and cautiously looked inside and were amazed. The tomb seemed so spacious, filled with light and peace, and there was a presence, an angel, who told us Jesus had been raised. I don’t know how long we spent in the tomb but when we emerged into the sunlight it was like coming into a new world: all our pain had turned to joy. Death had been truly overcome so we ran shouting, ‘He is ALIVE! He is ALIVE!’ to tell Peter and the all the others.

After a while some of us decided to return to our homes in Galilee but we carried within us the Good News of Jesus’ resurrection. His presence now always with us, nothing could separate us from his love. This awareness is the basis of my very ordinary life, each day I seek ways to share it with those around me in joy, peace, kindness and hope in times of difficulty. The Good News is that Jesus invites everyone to participate in this way of transforming the world.’ (*Mairi Clunas*)

Access to this Newsletter

While this newsletter has been available for some time via email and online, over the years most people have received a hard copy while attending Sunday Mass or visiting either of our churches.

That is no longer possible....so we are trying to build up our **Parish Distribution Email Address List of Parishioners** and intend to send everyone a copy (with the option for the recipient of opting out).

We have also (see below) divided the two parishes into eight areas and, through the generosity of nearly fifty volunteers, built up a network of co-ordinators and ‘friends’ whom, among other things, will deliver a hard copy of the newsletter to our more vulnerable and elderly parishioners (many of whom will not be online).

Please check with us if you think we might not have your email address (if you have one) – **and let us know of anyone who would like to receive the newsletter but is not doing so at the moment....**

(Because we will be sending a group email some email providers block them or class them as spam so please check your junk folder if you not received them)

Hard copies of the newsletter will always be available from the Parish House, as will copies of Living Faith, the three monthly booklet of daily reflections (covering April, May and June) – this edition with the theme ‘I am with you always.’ (Mt 28.20)

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

THE PARISHES IN A TIME OF CRISIS - Caring for Each Other

Our new PEP (Parish Emergency Planning) Group is meeting regularly to develop and put into practice plans for pastoral, spiritual and liturgical care in these very new circumstances..... We will hope to offer - **and have offered to us** - further ideas and opportunities in the weeks in front of us...

OUR NEW PASTORAL CARE GROUP

The new Covid 19 Parish Initiative “Adopt a Friend” Has Been Successfully Launched

Gary Zoltie writes: ‘After a recent appeal to parishioners to support the vulnerable and those aged over 70 we have had an amazing response. We have 49 **FOLK** (Folk Offering Logistical Kindness) supporting 157 **PIPs** (Possibly Isolated Parishioners).

The PIPs were sorted into their geographical areas around the Parishes of St John’s and St Mary Magdalene’s and split into 8 areas from Craigentinny in the West to Eastfield in the East and everywhere else in between. We also have a group covering those who live outside the parishes. Each area has a leader whose job is to organise their FOLKS and ensure they have the resources to achieve our objectives of :-

- *Regular phone contact*
- *Buying and delivering shopping*
- *Collection and delivery of medication*
- *Delivery of the weekly newsletter*

We were aware that many of our over 70’s are healthy and active and more used to giving than receiving help but we still thought it was worth making contact with them initially just in case. And obviously there are many who are older and in particular need of support at this time.

We launched the initiative last Monday and the response so far has been extremely positive with most of our PIPs really appreciating contact with their church community just over a week into the coronavirus lockdown.

If there is anyone that we have inadvertently missed that would like us to make contact with please do not hesitate to pass their details to Father Jock or myself (email: garyzoltie@hotmail.com or phone 07768647923).’

Parish Finances and Coronavirus

A Message from the diocese: ‘We have been asked how people can continue to support their parish when we cannot put money in the plate at church. If your income has diminished because of the crisis, **please do not** feel obliged to contribute at this time. If your income is secure, **the best option would be to set up a standing order** (if your circumstances change, these can be amended/cancelled). If you have online banking you can set up a standing order form quickly using the parish sort code and account number. If you don’t have online banking, we have standing order forms available which you can complete, sign and post to your bank (using the branch address on your cheque book or bank statement). Alternatively, you can donate using electronic banking.

The Parishes account details are:

St Mary Magdalene’s:

Sort Code: 80-18-31

Account Number: 00277159

Account name - Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh – St Mary Magdalene’s Church Parish name - St Mary Magdalene’s Church

St John’s:

Sort Code: 80 – 46 - 53

Account Number: 10765768

Account name – St John the Evangelist

Please include your name as the payment reference

NOTICEBOARD

AN URGENT REQUEST FROM BETHANY – EMERGENCY £250 000 APPEAL

Alasdair Bennett, Chief Executive of Bethany Christian Trust writes ‘It is hard to **#Stay Home** when you don’t have a home. When you’re homeless, you are more likely to suffer from underlying health conditions and don’t have the facilities to wash your hands. Self-isolating can seem like a luxury.

That’s why Bethany Christian Trust is determined to keep our doors open during this crisis, to do more to assist people and make sure all of our services stay operational.

Homeless people are being hit really hard by the coronavirus outbreak. Due to the temporary closure of our charity shops, **we urgently need your help** to ensure we can still give vital care and support to those who have nowhere else to go.

Please donate today so that we can protect the people who need us now more than ever.

We know that this is a difficult time for many people financially. You can help us by **copying this message and forwarding to your family and friends**, praying for our staff and people who use our services or **making a donation** to supporters@bethanychristiantrust.com

Together we can make sure no one is left alone or in danger. **Thank you for your valued support at this time of crisis.’**

Learn to DeDevelop and help STEKA in Malawi survive Covid-19

Emma Wood writes: ‘We are launching a campaign today which we hope will entertain you so much that you will manage to donate to help the STEKA family survive the Covid-19 disaster. Our **#DeDevelop** campaign will take the form of snapshots of the STEKA children entertaining themselves without ‘costing the Earth’.

We know how hard Covid is making life for everyone, but we are especially worried about our partners, the STEKA family in Malawi, currently home to 74 young survivors of trafficking and abuse. With only 17 ventilators in its public hospitals which serve 80% of the 18 million population in Malawi, it’s really important for them to keep safe and not get the virus. We don’t like asking for donations because both STEKAskills and STEKA are dedicated to reducing donor dependency and promoting social entrepreneurship. This means that STEKA recently invested in equipment to be hired out for events as well as cars which are hired out to tourists. And STEKAskills was hoping to earn an income for the STEKA Centre from Dialogue Groups to be run with visiting school groups in the summer. But Covid-19 has put paid to all that. With no visitors, there’ll be no profits. And STEKA desperately needs to ensure it has enough money to buy beans, rice and Nsima to eat, as well as paying essential water and electricity bills. If you can make a donation, however small, please do so via our donate button. Thank you and keep safe .

The first post in our campaign will be of STEKA's Chancy who made his toy out of a mango stone (look online) and string because knows how to have fun without costing the earth. He’s one of 74 young people living at the inspirational STEKA care home in Malawi and we’ll be sharing more posts like this to show the world how to de-develop during the Covid-19 Lockdown (and hopefully afterwards too). Please share our posts to spread the message and follow us for regular updates. And if you believe that ‘developed’ countries need to learn how to ‘dedevelop’ hashtag us to share your pictures of de- development ...

This is the time to be slow:

This is the time to be slow,
to lie low to the wall
until the bitter weather passes.

Try, as best you can,
not to let the wire brush of doubt
scrape from your heart

all sense of yourself
and your hesitant light.

If you remain generous
time will come good,
and you will find your feet again
on fresh pastures of promise
where the air will be kind
and blushed with beginning.

John O'Donohue

**Remembering in love our many sisters and brothers locally and around the world who
in recent weeks have died from the Covid-19 virus:**

We say farewell,
As best we can, and as tenderly,
Often in tears and unbelief that this is true
They are gone, and we are left - and -
All too soon -
Often in the dark reaches of the night
Memories become our companions.
Yet through our tears, a dawning always breaks
Even if at first just a slither of light.
Their voices, now distant, guide us to that path.
Where love returns
And reaching out again
Is what we do
Even when our hopes are fragile still.
(Peter Miller)

*Who brings about peace is called the companion of God in the work of creation.
(A traditional Jewish saying)*

St Teresa's Food Bank

Jennifer Morris writes: 'In 'lockdown' it is difficult to source, gather and deliver donations of essentials to the Food Bank. With financial help St Teresa's, Craigmillar, could organise the purchase of essentials or food vouchers for families in need. If anyone wants to donate money they could put a cheque (St Teresa Parish) in the post to The Parish House, St Teresa of Lisieux, 120 Niddrie Mains Road Edinburgh EH16 4EG. Alternatively they could put cash or cheque in an envelope marked 'St Teresa's and leave it at our Parish House (if passing by on your daily exercise). Another option is to purchase and send food vouchers to St Teresa's.

For other Foodbanks – you can donate at <https://edinburghnw.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Christian Meditation Online

'Experience the joy of God's healing presence during Christian meditation this special Lent. As long as the lock-down lasts, we meditate on Skype on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Fridays at 7.30 p.m. The up-to-date schedule and connection instructions are here: <https://www.meetup.com/Christian-Meditation-Group/events/>
Contact info - mobile: 0771 777 2614 Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1cuO5QJ>'

Some Isolation activities

(Courtesy of St George's Alumni Network)

Gardening & Nature:

If you don't have a garden of your own, the **Botanics** in Edinburgh have started a 'Virtual Spring' on their website so you can see everything coming to life: <https://www.rbge.org.uk/visit/virtual-spring/>.

Further afield, there are some amazing 'journeys' through the **American Great**

Parks: <https://artsandculture.withgoogle.com/en-us/national-parks-service/parks>

Hobbies:

Bridge - Free sites since you can't get to your usual clubs:

Find free games at BBO bridge: www.bridgebase.com

Mr Bridge (Bernard Magee) for tutorials and interactive play: www.mrbridge.co.uk

Sport & Exercise:

Yoga with Adrien (beginners & all levels): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7AYKMP6rOE>

Workouts with Joe Wicks: <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebodycoach1/videos>

Ballet classes: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/uk/health/a31927123/free-online-ballet-classes/>

Educational:

Learn a **language** from scratch: <https://www.duolingo.com/learn>

Loads of **free courses**: <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>

Arts & Culture:

For **opera** lovers: <https://www.lamonnaie.be/fr/sections/388-mm-channel>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RoyalOperaHouse>

Art for beginners: <http://rapidfireart.com/how-to-draw-for-beginners/>

Some great **free** shows: <https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2020/mar/17/hottest-front-room-seats-the-besttheatre-and-dance-to-watch-online>

"Spiritual Communion"

As you are aware, in order to try to limit the spread of Covid-19, all public Masses have been suspended for the foreseeable future. This means that many people who are used to receiving Holy Communion regularly at Mass will not be able to do so for the time being.

During this "Eucharistic Fast" one way to keep close to the Lord is to make a "Spiritual Communion." This is an ancient spiritual tradition of the Church which consists in making a simple act of "spiritual communion," whereby we unite ourselves to God through prayer. It is a beautiful way to express to God our desire to be united with him when we are unable to receive Holy Communion.

The great 13th century Dominican Friar, St. Thomas Aquinas defined a Spiritual Communion as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament [in Communion at Mass] and in lovingly embracing Him as if we had actually received Him." You can make a Spiritual Communion at communion time during a live-streamed or recorded Mass – or, indeed, whenever and wherever you like, using the prayer given below, or others like it, or your own heartfelt thoughts.

An Act of Spiritual Communion (St Alphonsus Liguori, an 18th c Southern Italian)

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

**Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.**

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

A more modern one:

**I wish my Lord Jesus
to receive you
with similar humility and devotion
to that with which your holy Mother received you,
and with the spirit and fervor
of so many faithful Christians down through the centuries.'**

The Memorare (which Archbishop Cushley is inviting us to pray each day)

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

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

Please pray for those who have died recently: Vincent Wallace, Anne Cramer, Adrian Aylward, Aaron Higgs, Sharon Withers, Thomas Boyle and Barbara Robinson

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Pat McNally, Jimmy Igoe and Bunny Scoular

St John's

Apr.12:- Janet Clark (1990); Mary Quadbeck (2006); Alexander Holligan (1998); Elizabeth Meagher (1998); **Apr.13:-** John Heron (2000); Michael Gilmartin (1994); John Burns (1945); **Apr.14:-** Bunny Scoular (2016); Charles McCann (1998); Edmund Francis Flannigan (1992); Kathleen Scott (1986); **Apr.15:-** Josephine Day (2018); James P Igoe (2007); Richard Thompson (2001); Alexandrina R Mackay (2000); Mary Rae (1985); James Ward Sen. (1956); Andrew Mannering ; **Apr.16:-** Elizabeth Delaney (2000); Veronica Rowley (1995); Elizabeth F Demarco (1985); Catherine O'Brien(1958); Mrs Duffy (1956); **Apr.17:-** Agnes Adamson (1990); John Rae Sen. (1976); Julia Lacey (1941); **Apr.18:-** Robert Hazlett (1998)

St Mary Magdalene's

Apr.12:- Jean Newlands (1972); **Apr.13:-** Janet Christie (1998); **Apr.14:-** Teresa Vivien (1980); **Apr.15:-** John Dubosz (1980); **Apr.16:-** Pat McNally (2009); John O'Hara (2006)

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Bernadette Campbell, Susan O'Hara, David Reid, Molly Lugton, Jamie Clark, Sheila and Pat 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, Cathy Walls, 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: Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Bill Cheyne, 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, 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: Colin Gibson, Michael Goldschmidt, Mairi Wilson, Louise Short, 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, Frances Green, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Maureen Henderson, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Peter Hanley, Hazel Marshall, Sr Veronica Marshall, Martin Doherty, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Joseph Daly, Rokšana Moczulstra, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jake Jorden, George Collins, Ena McCann, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
5 April 2020	Direct Debits - £50.00 (Full figure to come)	£1209.80 (including Gift Aid of £889.80) and Direct Debits - £384.75 -ie £1593.75

Warm birthday greetings to Susan Cammack, 60 on Good Friday, 10 April