

THE PARISHES OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple:

Deacon – Revd Eddie White:

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Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris and Chris Vinestock

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Administrator: Enrico Fertini

(Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10am to 3pm & Friday 11am-4pm)

Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk

Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk

Joint Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsandStMaryMagdalenes>

Joint e-mail address for our sister parishes: stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com

WELCOME!

If you are 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.

Fourteenth Sunday of the Year - 4 July 2021



'Jesus went to his hometown and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him.

They said, "Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary" ... And they would not accept him.

And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house"; and he could work no miracle there.'

(Mark 6:1-5)

Today at St John's there is the monthly special collection at both Masses for the Tower Fund.

UPDATE ON THE TOWER TOMBOLA!

Tickets for this draw cost £10 each and can be purchased on an individual basis or in groups of two or more people. The prize will be 25% of the prize pot with the other 75% of the prize pot going towards the Tower Fund – so for example, if we sell 100 tickets, the prize will be £250 while £750 will go to the fund.

Tickets can be purchased monthly or, if preferred, 6 months or 12 months in advance, and payment can be in cash, standing order or a bank transfer. **We have an information leaflet with all the relevant details which has been either delivered or sent out to each household in St John's – and can be sent to any St Mary Magdalene's parishioners who would like to receive it.** (After discussion, we decided to hand deliver – or send out by second class post to those living outside the parish boundaries - rather than as yet another email).

The plan is to have the monthly draw on the second Saturday of each month, with the first one being on

Saturday 14 August

Please contact Catherine McAnenny (07968970159) if you would like to take part in this.

NB If you are signing up for the Tower Tombola and are paying for a ticket by a monthly standing order, the account name is "St John's Church" – account number: 10765768 – sort code: 80-46-53.

Many thanks to all who have generously contributed to the Tower Fund – ...including, this week, Imam Hassan Rabbani, a good friend of our parishes.

The Work on the Tower Continues



Chris Vinestock, St John's Fabric Co-ordinator, writes: 'The scaffolding continues to be erected and will probably require another 1 to 2 weeks to be completed. In the meantime, **your patience is greatly appreciated as at times there may be unavoidable noise – which is why Mass will normally be held at St Mary Magdalene's during these weeks.** Heartfelt thanks for your help and support during this necessary structural work – **and please pray for the safety of all involved.'**

This Week

Saturday 3 July

12.30pm – St John's – **Baptism of Naomi and Chloe Okolo**

6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass – livestreamed, booking required, a few seats still available**

Sunday 4 July

9.30am – St John's – **Mass – fully booked**

11.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube**

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass – fully booked**

Monday 5 July

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass – livestreamed, no booking required**

7-8.15pm – **Zoom Meeting – Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All – to join in over Zoom, go to**

Tuesday 6 July - 7.00pm – Prayer Room – Mass – livestreamed

Wednesday 7 July – 10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – Mass – livestreamed, no booking required

Thursday 8 July

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass – livestreamed, no booking required**

Friday 9 July

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass – livestreamed, no booking required**

11.00am – **Rosary Group – 'Anyone can join, especially if you have Facebook Messenger, but also on WhatsApp, or just on the phone. Sometimes it takes time for us all to join in, but we always manage.**

Please join us. Message Maria Igoe on 07981333219 or mariaigoe@yahoo.co.uk

Saturday 10 July

St Mary's Cathedral – **Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Martin Eckersley.**

6.30pm – St John's – **Mass – livestreamed, booking required**

Sunday 11 July

9.30am – St John's – **Mass – livestreamed, booking required.**

11.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube**

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass – booking required**

Dolores Jones' Requiem Mass will take place at St John's on Friday 16 July at 10am.

NOTICE BOARD

A warm welcome to Fr Jim Smith, celebrating Mass for us from Monday to Wednesday, covering for Fr Jock (who is away for a couple of days bicycling with a friend in Yorkshire). Meanwhile, Deacon Eddie and Tanya and their children are away for a week's holiday in Burnham-on-Sea in Somerset.

BOOKING PLACES AT MASS

If you wish to come to one of the 'live' Saturday and Sunday Masses, please contact the parish house by phone (0131 669 5618 – a special number) or by email (stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am to 1pm.

THE POSTPONEMENT OF OUR FINAL FIRST COMMUNIONS TILL 24 JULY

Arlene Lauder writes: 'It was so very sad that we were unable to complete this year's celebration of First Holy Communion with our final six families last weekend. Unfortunately, Father Jock and 4 members of the Sacramental Team had to self-isolate due to being identified as close contacts of someone at the fourth First Communion Mass who later tested positive. Thankfully all have tested negative and are well. It is only due to the well followed Covid National guidelines in place at both our churches that we were able to contain the close contacts from the Mass in question and avoid many more people being affected. We were praised by Health Protection Scotland for our approach, fast actions and follow up of the incident. The postponed First Communions will take place on Saturday 24 July – and there will also be three children making their First Communion on Sunday 18 July.

Link for Night Prayer/Compline

This Saturday – 3 July – 9.15pm <https://youtu.be/Jbs5oZEGk8g>
This Wednesday – 7 July – 9.15pm <https://youtu.be/Ymf9k6LNakY>

DVDs and CDs of Fr Jock's Five Lenten Talks on the Psalms Available

Recently, one of our on-line 'parishioners' - based in St Albans in Hertfordshire – made contact and asked if it were possible to get a cd or dvd of these talks. Very kindly, Enrico, our administrator, managed to locate them on our Youtube channel and collect them together. As a result, cds and dvds of the talks are now available (free - though nobody will complain if a small donation is made to the Tower Fund!) – just make contact with Enrico at the parish house sometime between Tuesday and Friday.

HOLY ROOD RC HIGH SCHOOL END-OF-YEAR NEWSLETTER

Joan Daly, Headteacher of Holy Rood HS, writes: Dear Parents and Carers, as we reach the end of term in what has been a year like no other, I would like to say thank you to all our families for your incredible support and for working alongside us to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils. A special word of praise for our S4, S5 and S6 pupils who have applied themselves so well in recent assessments. We are very proud of their achievements. I must also give tribute to our hard working and dedicated staff who have gone above and beyond to do their best for our young people. We would like to share with you the link to our Summer Newsletter so you can get a flavour of life in and around school. It's humbling to think that all of these experiences were offered despite the many challenges of a second Lockdown. Please click on the link:

<https://sway.office.com/8RtmtmsCL4xCVHWI?ref=Link> We wish you all a safe and happy summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 18 August at 8.40am.

Is it ever too late to say THANK YOU?

Veronica McLauchlan writes: 'At the start of lockdown I was - and still am - shielding. This meant I had milk, supermarket, fish and meat deliveries. The weather was perfect, but the Church doors were locked. However, thanks to the Team in the Parish House, life again changed. Deacon Eddie got our communication set up in the Prayer Room and subject to our home WiFi we were able to hear Mass every day. All involved made - and have continued for 16 months to make - a huge commitment. And whilst I will always be shielding as I am autoimmune, I have recently been very happy to attend Mass in the Church thanks to my fellow parishioners who sanitise both Churches.'

Parish Register

Please pray for those who have died recently:

John Haggerty
Eamonn Fay - Rita Russell
Janie Low - Martin Ward
Susan Leheny

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Eddie Davies - Sam Kershaw
J Cameron Gould- Olga Krupova
Letty Sellar - Josephine Gemmell
Derek Millar - Wyn Brogan
Josie Martin

Anniversaries:

St John's

July 3: Sam Kershaw (2014); Katherine Brown (2004); Violet Macnamara Sen;
July 4: Baby Jamie Whyte (2020); Bill Sharp (1997); Michael Gilhooly (1981); Catherine Trower (1953); Francis J Sweeney 1949);

July 5: Josie Martin (2017); Audrey Reid (1998);

July 6: Elizabeth Hutton (2001); Elizabeth Cossar (1997); Michael Iannarelli (1980); Matilda O'Lone (1978); Peter Cosgrove (1957); Irene McMartin (1941);

July 7: Mollie O'Brien (2004); John Barrins (2003); Rose Paterson (1997);

July 8: Mary Florence Crabbe (2016); James Douglas (2003); Laura M M Dignan (2002); Lawrence O'Brien (1995); James Hutton (1994); Emily Stone (1915);

July 9: Cecilia Sharkey (2016); Mary (Barrins) Clarke (1941); Isabella Mathieson;

July 10: Jimmy Curran (2019); Dorothy Hyde (1982); Jessie Kelly (1979);

July 11: Francis Egan (1997); Vincent Boyd;

St Mary Magdalene's

July 3: Dorothy Barrett (2003); Mary Healy (1997);

July 4: Elvira Tanchuk (2014); Annie O'Toole (1999);

July 10: Charles McKenna (1998);

July 11: Eddie Davies (2017);

July 12: Stella Maria Murray (2002); William Gilhooly (1968);

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's:

Kim O'Neill, Frank Logan, Sheelagh Dobson, Pat Hunter, Ernie Moran, Peter Kelly, Bob Kelly, Jean Bonnar, Joyce Martin, Mike Iannarelli, Chloe Sutherland, May Thomson, Norah Bruce, Patricia Lawler, Celia Stone, Catherine Walker, Ruth Viso, Mary Grady, Susan Cammach, Pauli Walker, Evelyn Oldershaw, Anna Butler, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Pat Hunter, Mary Slight, Mary Phair, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Alf MacNamara, Maureen Lawrie, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Denis Davidson, Sheila and George Service, Chris English, Jacqueline Marinello, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, Sam Burns, Clive Davis, Ella Ayers, Isobel Phillips, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Newall, Michael McPhillips, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Jude Ferguson, and Mary and James Muir.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Katie Mc Anenny, Pat Innes, John Kellegher, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Murdo Tait, John Blyth, Niamh McDougall, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Derek Beatty, Annie Ross, Christopher MacKinnon, Dago Dinis, Audrey Burgess, Jaroslav Icina, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ray Perrett, William Young, Ann Thorp, John Mackenzie, Alistair Grieves, Tonino Howard, baby Josh Simpson, Maureen McEvoy, Helen McCann, Rhoda Tumboli, Dani Miniette, Marina Calanna, Alec Hamill, Peter Millar, Nan Doig, Rachel Kennedy, Leo Stone, baby Baxter Sweeney, Sr May Lewis, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Billy McPhillips, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Michael Igoe, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, John Walsh, Moira McConville, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Lauli Ridge, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Peter Hanley, Jennifer Kay, Ranier Carpo, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Frank Palmer, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Kathleen Cawley, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Emma Bromet, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, and young Ray Donovan Syme

Offertory Collections – 27 June 2021

St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
£102.65 total including Offertory of £56.65 and Gift Aid of £46.00	£1649.40 total including Offertory of £426.00, Gift Aid of £249.40 and £974.00 Online Donations
Peter's Pence	
£63.72	£195.36

THANK YOU!

Next Sunday is 'Sea Sunday' – there will be a chance to contribute, if you wish, to an optional leaving collection for Stella Maris – the Apostleship of the Sea, the Catholic Church's maritime charity.

VIEW FROM THE PEW - SONG OF PITY FOR REFUGEES

A new series of occasional reflections from Pat Dishon, over the years a parishioner of both St John's and St Mary Magdalene's...

Snaw is bluffertin' the toun,
Gurly wunds are roustin' roun,
Peety folk in broken shoon
This winter nicht

Peety help the weary auld
Claes nor fire tae fend aff cauld,
Hoose nor ha' them safe tae hauld,
This winter nicht.

Peety wham in a' the warld,
Fortune fell through hell has harled,
Hungert, hameless, broken, marled,
This winter nicht.

The Scot's poet, Helen Cruickshank, who composed the above verses, wrote them after the Second World War when thousands of displaced persons were thronging Europe, looking for somewhere to call home - hungry, homeless, broken, refugees. In our parish newsletter we read of Fr Jim Walls' plan to walk between the two great centres of Christianity – Iona and Lindisfarne - in aid of St. Maria Skobtsova House, which was inspired by the Catholic Worker Movement and supports refugees in Calais. All being well Fr Jock hopes to join him for a day near the end of his journey.

The Refuge at Calais exists to welcome in as many vulnerable refugees as possible. But things are even worse than they were for the refugees in Helen's poem. Those displaced people were given refuge. The Jewish child refugees in the Kindertransport scheme, fleeing the Nazis, were taken in, and kept safe, by ordinary families in Britain. Most of them never saw their parents again. Now we are told by some politicians and the worst of the tabloid Press that the name refugee equates with criminal – people to be feared – the 'other'.

Yet, in Scotland, we are a refugee church. Take a walk around Mount Vernon Cemetery, look at the names on the gravestones. The names tell you of people, like the Irish, fleeing famine in Ireland, the Italians fleeing poverty in their homeland, the Poles and Ukrainians, displaced and unable to return to their countries after the war. They and their descendants made the church we know, made the Scotland we know – they enriched us.

Nor was it a one-way system. Scots left in huge numbers during the nineteenth century because of the Clearances, in the 20th cent. because of mass unemployment. In the late 1940s an emigrant ship took nearly all the young people from the Isle of Lewis to America. There can hardly be a family in the parish who doesn't have cousins in Canada, the USA or Australia. People moved to make a better life for themselves and their families. Nobody ever suggested they were 'criminals.'

As Christians we know that these refugees are our brothers and sisters. One Creator made us all. It is so easy to be fooled into thinking differently when everything coming at us from a hostile society suggests otherwise. The Lord has only our voices, our hands, to do his work in the world.

In last Sunday's Reading from St. Paul to the Corinthians he asks for financial help from those who have so much to help the poorer members of the church, in Jerusalem. Perhaps those of us who can afford it can give something towards Fr Jim's fundraiser for, St. Maria Skobtsova House, in the name of the One who found no room at the Inn.

FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

Chapter 25 – Bill Taizé's Experience (*)

In our deep resting with the Lord we, too, have the experience of awakening with a cleansed and healed vision. We see in a way that we have never seen before. We come to realise how unaware we have been.



(British and Irish teenagers in pilgrimage in Taizé in August 2017)

In ordinary life we are blind to much of what goes on in our lives and in the world around us. We live in a dazed state, as Bill discovered on a visit to Taizé.

Bill, who was a member of our community for six years and then left, told me what happened to him when, shortly after leaving us, he experienced the long silence during the evening prayer of the monastery. In Taizé worship, people are lulled into silence by the repetition of a few simple words chanted by the brothers and the congregation.

'After 45 minutes, the chant was only just beginning to penetrate the hard little shell we carry around with us,' Bill told me as we walked in the Clent Hills. *'Something within was beginning to waken up. Like someone rousing from deep slumber, coming to consciousness, I came out after nearly three hours in that prayer and felt it was only just beginning to get through. I realised that I would have to do this every day for it to have an effect. And yet I could have talked about prayer with anyone!'*

'It was all about being still and letting something happen. To let the prayer erode the resistance you put up without realising it. And you had to resist trying to understand what was going on, and articulating it and sharing it. The more I stayed there, the more the chant washed over me, the more it began to break through to me.'

'As I woke I prayed, babbled like a child. But as consciousness returned, I could not hold on to the child's prayer. I realised that my ordinary, everyday self seemed to exist in a kind of coma.'

() The **Taizé Community** is an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers, from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about thirty countries across the world. It was founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, a Reformed Protestant.*

Taizé has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Through the community's ecumenical outlook, they are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation.

A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL OF THE FOUTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Mark 6: 1-6

When I first started supporting my home football team, I would occasionally travel to away games. Those years coincided with the time when football violence was a regular occurrence. Certain away games were more problematic, and you quickly found out how to recognize potential flashpoints, and who to avoid. It was commonplace to wear a scarf showing your allegiance to the team you were following and there were times when it was expedient to tuck your scarf well inside your coat to hide it from view. It was much more difficult, however, to hide your accent. Whether it was to buy a hamburger or a pint of beer from a friendly looking pub, your vulnerability was exposed the minute you spoke. The police expended a lot of manpower and energy keeping rival factions apart. These days we seem to be much more sensible and civilized and its now very rare to hear or read about crowd disturbances, at least as far as football is concerned.

As we mature and grow, we quickly learn the importance of recognising situations and individuals that might be harmful to us or to our journey. A recovering gambling addict avoids betting shops, online websites and mobile betting apps and must close their ears to the relentless onslaught of adverts offering a free bet often using the friendly grand-fatherly tones of so-called celebrities. To any recovering addict there are situations that are to be avoided at all costs, and they must be identified at the earliest opportunity.

The politics of division are to be avoided by us with the same energy. We are told to be wary of those people who would come and steal our school places or drain the NHS, those people who are benefits scroungers. The ruling classes often hide behind the notion that ‘this is what the people voted for, what they want’ as they pursue their ideology. The scroungers and immigrants are put in one box, and the ‘people’ in another. Both sides have been given their team colours to wear. The one is told that the other is the enemy – and it doesn’t really matter which box we are in as long as we are divided and remain distrustful. It’s division that is the order of the day: socialist against capitalist, Republican against Democrat, Immigrant (illegal or otherwise) against naturalised citizen, Islam against Judaism and Christianity. And all this because we feel secure when we have a label or two with which to identify the ‘other’. The problem with labels is that we then struggle to see the person to whom the label has been attached.

Labels stifle and stunt our growth. Labels help us feel secure, and if we feel secure, we feel more comfortable, but they prevent us from seeing and hearing the other person. So, the one who has been caught out lying to his or her partner will always find it difficult to be trusted – not only by the aggrieved partner but also by many others who know them. When we attach a label to someone, we know where we stand. We like to believe that we are ready to give everyone a second chance but still hang on to the mantra that a leopard cannot change its spots. Nowhere has this been more apparent in recent weeks than over the contrasting treatment of Shamima Begum and the English cricketer, Ollie Robinson. We were encouraged to excuse the tweets of the latter because he sent them when he was young but told to reject any suggestion that the former’s age and immaturity might be contributory factors in her decision to run away to Syria. The debate rages on.

Jesus faces the same issue in today’s Gospel passage. He is preaching in the synagogue of his **hometown**. His audience cannot cope with his newfound eloquence and wisdom. How can he speak like this, they ask? Surely, he is only a carpenter, we know his mother and the rest of his family. They attach a label to him, put him in a box and consequently are deaf to his preaching and teaching. Mark tells us quite simply: *And they would not accept him*. Jesus takes his leave of them but not before pointing out, *A prophet is only despised in his own country*. His fellow townsfolk have condemned themselves through their own preoccupation with labels. They see the carpenter but cannot hear the man. They are deaf – but it is a self-induced deafness. There’s a lesson there for us all. Is there anyone that we no longer hear because we have labelled them thus becoming deaf to anything they may have to offer? Is there anyone we have placed in a box and thrown away the key? If yes then it is we who are the poorer, not them. We have engaged in self-induced deafness.

(NB The author of these reflections is a friend of Fr Jock living in Northumberland)

THE DEER'S CRY, taken from 'St Patrick's Breastplate', a prayer attributed to St Patrick (385 - 461) – and put to music by Shaun Davey and sung by his wife Rita Connolly

The DEER'S CRY

I arise today through the strength of heaven
Light of sun, radiance of moon
Splendour of fire, speed of lightning
Swiftiness of wind, depth of the sea
Stability of earth, firmness of rock

I arise today through God's strength to pilot me
God's eye to look before me
God's wisdom to guide me
God's way to lie before me
God's shield to protect me

From all who shall wish me ill
Afar and a-near
Alone and in a multitude
Against every cruel, merciless power
That may oppose my body and soul

Christ with me, Christ before me
Christ behind me, Christ in me
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ on my right, Christ on my left
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down
Christ when I arise, Christ to shield me

Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me

I arise today.



To listen to Rita Connolly's haunting rendition of *The Deer's Cry* click on the QR code or go to YouTube, *Rita Connolly sings at Powerscourt*.