

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

Parish 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

If you are visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes. Please make yourself known to Fr Jock either in person after the Mass, by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.



21 November 2021



'Yes, I am a King. I was born for this; I came into this world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice' (John 18:37)

Today, the Feast of Christ the King, will be our first NAMETAG SUNDAY for two years!

Prayer at Night – Starting on the First Sunday of Advent

We will be starting online Prayer at night to coincide with the beginning of Advent next Sunday 28 November. This will be on Zoom each night through the winter months until Easter, 17 April 2022. The prayer will start at 9.15pm each evening and last for less than 15 minutes.

This is an initiative of our two parishes, St John's and St Mary Magdalene's, however because it is online it is also accessible for people wherever they are - and all are very welcome.

For ease, the Zoom link will be the same each evening:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9129622900?pwd=b1F1THhtY3NVeGptOWY0VGw2K2xBQT09>

Meeting ID: 912 962 2900 Passcode: Prayer

We will include the link in the parish Newsletter each week and it will also be on the parish website and Facebook page. If you need help in using Zoom to join the prayer, Deacon Eddie or Enrico Fertini will be very happy to help.

Tuesday 16 November marked the start of Catholic Education week. At Holy Rood HS and at St John's Primary School, pupils in RE will be exploring the materials provided by SCES (the Scottish Catholic Education Service). The theme this year is Celebrating and Worshipping. Please see link below with a very short message from Archbishop Cushley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ezSie2QFao&t>

The Holy Rood HS pupils participating in the Caritas scheme will be wearing school uniforms at Sunday Mass this week.

This Sunday a Special Collection will be taken up for the Scottish Catholic Education Service.

LIVESTREAMING AND PRE-RECORDED SUNDAY MASSES... while we will no longer normally be livestreaming the Saturday Vigil Mass (and instead, the pre-recorded Mass from the Prayer Room will be available online from 6pm on Saturday night), this weekend, however, we will be! ... This is because of the non-availability of some of our faithful live-streamers – if anyone might be willing to join the team, please make contact with Deacon Eddie (**07986 015772**) - training provided...

The monthly Tower Tombola Draw – raising funds for The St John's Tower Fund – takes place after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday. The prize will be £297.50 ...

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS MEETING - THIS THURSDAY – 7.35pm – ST JOHN'S

Pre-pandemic, we tried to have two meetings each year for our faithful Eucharistic Ministers of both Parishes, in May and November... we are looking forward to a gathering of those available for our first meeting for two years, when the focus will be particularly on taking communion to the housebound.

A message from the Justice & Peace Group

Bethany Care Van: The Care Van distributes sandwiches and hot drinks to people on the streets at lunch times and evenings, stopping at a few specified places mainly in the city centre. Our two parishes presently do the van two Sunday lunchtimes every month, normally using left-over sandwiches from Pret a Manger from the previous evening.

For each run, we have a team of three – a driver and two people who distribute the food and drinks from a hatch in the side of the van. We meet at the Bethany depot around 11.45am on Sunday morning to load up and after the distribution is completed, return to the depot to clean out the van, usually finishing by 2pm.

With the number of volunteers, we presently have, each person is generally only called on once every two months and we intend to maintain that level of commitment. **However, if we had more volunteers, we could do more lunchtimes while still restricting each volunteer's commitment to only once every two months.**

If anyone would like to join our team, please let Jim Roarty know (jimroarty4@gmail.com: tel 07719952472) Note: for insurance reasons, drivers have to be under 70.

Date for the Diary – Saturday 11 December – CLUSTER ADVENT RETREAT - in the Church Hall of St Mary, Star of the Sea, Leith, between 10am and 1pm, led by Fr Martin Moran OMI... please sign up on the lists at the back of both Churches.

We hope the RCIA will begin this year on Tuesday 30 November – more details next week

This Week

Saturday 20 November

6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** - livestreamed

Sunday 21 November – FEAST OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

9.30am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass with Baptism of Maisie Alba Tweedie**

Monday 22 November

10.00am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

1pm – Parish House – **Lunch for the Cluster Priests**

7.00pm-8.15pm – Zoom Meeting – **Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All**

To join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83900303603?pwd=cFZubForSmphMFNKTit2K2RJeUIRdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 0030 3603 - Passcode: 018653

Tuesday 23 November

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass** – livestreamed

10.45am – St Mary Magdalene's Hall – **St John's Finance Council**

Wednesday 24 November - 10.00am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

Thursday 25 November

7.00pm – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

7.35pm – St John's – **Meeting for Eucharistic Ministers of Both Parishes**

Friday 26 November

10.00am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

10.30am (straight after Mass) – St John's - **Rosary at Our Lady's Altar**

Saturday 27 November

10am-1pm – St John's Hall – **Pamoja Fashion**

6.00pm – Prayer Room – **Mass** - pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube

6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass**

Sunday 28 November – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9.30am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

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

From Archbishop Leo's Weekly 'Ad Clerum'

Prisoners' Week Launch Service - This takes place at 7pm on Monday 22 November at St Mary's Cathedral, followed by refreshments in the Coffee Saints café. Please register to attend at <http://www.prisonersweek.org.uk/events>

Nativity Blessing/Carol Service - Archbishop Cushley will bless the Nativity Scene at the Nativity Blessing & Carol Service, which takes place in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh at 3pm next Sunday 28 November. All welcome to attend and sing carols with St Columba's Choir and the Salvation Army Brass Band.

The Archdiocese is recruiting - The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh is looking to recruit a full-time Religious Education Adviser (Primary Schools). Details at bit.ly/vacancy_2021

Catholic Education Week - If you're interested in finding out about teaching in a Catholic school have a look at the materials on *Becoming A Teacher* on the SCES website at: <https://sces.org.uk/becoming-a-teacher/> Current

teachers: Glasgow University is offering a one year, flexible learning course to gain the Additional Teaching Qualification in Religious Education. Details at www.gla.ac.uk

Jesus in the Eucharist and You - The Archdiocese has put together a series of three videos titled *Jesus in the Eucharist and You*. They will help us prepare for the launch of the 40 Hours' Devotion which takes place in every parish at scheduled times throughout the coming liturgical year. **Watch the first one on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel bit.ly/ArchYouTube**

Getting married? - You should be in touch with the parish priest at least six months before getting married. A Marriage Preparation Course is a requirement for those wishing to get married in the Catholic Church.

NOTICE BOARD

We hope to re-introduce Tea and Coffee after 11.15am Sunday Mass at St Mary Magdalene's...but to do that we need volunteers to help serve and clean up afterwards..... if willing to go on a rota, please give your name to Fr Jock

SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child) WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

Maria Igoe and Aileen Hall, our pro-life co-ordinators, write: 'You may have seen that the Pro-Abortion lobby is increasing their efforts to push to extend abortion. Since the pandemic SPUC has suspended their White Flower appeals (on which they rely to keep afloat financially) in our Parishes. That has severely affected their income and funds are needed to get the Pro-Life message across.

As there have been many appeals in our Parishes recently, it seems appropriate that parishioners are asked to contribute privately to this charity. This can be done either on-line at spuc.org.uk/Donate or by putting your donation in a marked envelope and handing it in to the Parish House.

SPUC will be grateful for any donation you can give and asks that you remember their work in your prayers.'



Thanks to the
PJPC e-newsletter

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Warm Birthday Greetings to Derek de Freitas, 70 next Saturday 27 November

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Catherine Walker
Daisy Sanderson

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Michael O'Neill
Hugh Campbell O'Neill
Sally Stone
Jude Payne
Mary Caffarkey
Cathie McKean
Josephine Connelly

Anniversaries:

St John's

Nov. 20: Sally Stone (2003); Peter Rennie (1987); Elizabeth Durkin (1973); Alice McAuley (1935);

Nov. 21: Jude Payne (2015); Andrew Stevenson (2003); Hugh Campbell O'Neill [9yrs] (2000); Patrick Ginnelly (1984); Alfred Sivell;

Nov. 22: Mary R Stewart (2006); Patrick Loftus (1985); Daniel Holligan (1922); Fred Aitken; Mr & Mrs Donlevy; Mary Greig;

Nov. 23: John McGrory (1997); William McPartlin (1997); Rose Ann Kane (1989); Thomas McFadyen;

Nov. 24: Euphemia Connolly (2000); Mary Annie Meechan (1994); Patrick McAuley (1965); Robert Phair;

Nov. 25: Winifred Maugham (2017); Denise O'Donnell (2017); Sr. Bernadette [Poor Clares] (1990); Josephine Connelly (1973); William Moir (1973); Billy McGuire (1945);

Nov. 26: Michael McFadyen (1995); Charles Conlon (1989); Norah Lawler (1968); Maria Teresa D'Arcy;

St Mary Magdalene's

Nov. 21: Mrs Durkin (1974);

Nov. 23: Annie Fitzsimons (1999);

Nov. 25: Annie Brown (1992); Catherine McGee (1982);

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's: David Dowie, Anne Polson, Fiona Connel, Inge Downey, John Freeman, John Waugh, May Thomson, Sheila and George Service, Margaret Campbell, Ann Dobie, Kim O'Neill, Frank Logan, Sheelagh Dobson, Ernie Moran, Bob Kelly, Jean Bonnar, Mike Iannarelli, Chloe Sutherland, Norah Bruce, Mike and Patricia Lawler, Ruth Viso, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, Anna Butler, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Mary Slight, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Alf MacNamara, Maureen Lawrie, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Sam Burns, Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, Clive Davis, 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:

Robert Daly, Una Johnston, Michael Ramsden, Mary Thomson, Fr Raymond OCSO, Ian Henderson, Stuart Falconer, Tom Sutcliffe, Nan Doig, Ant Ridge, Claire Johnston, Emma Bromet, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Lewis White, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie McAnenny, John Kellagher, Murdo Tait, Niamh McDougall, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Annie Ross, Christopher MacKinnon, Jaroslav Icina, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, baby Josh Simpson, Helen McCann, Rhoda Tumboli, Dani Miniette,, Peter Millar, Leo Stone, Sr May Lewis, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Michael Igoe, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, John Walsh, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, James Shepherd, Peter Hanley, Jennifer Kay, Ranier Carpo, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Frank Palmer, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, KMisia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull and young Ray Donovan Syme

Offertory Collections – 14 November 2021



St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
£305.80 total including Offertory of £85.80 and Gift Aid of £220.00	£ 1642.85 total including Offertory of £300.45, Gift Aid of £397.40 and £945.00 Online Donations
Caritas & J&P Commission £51.00	World Day of the Poor Collection £272.85

The next Pamoja Fashion sale will be Saturday, 27 November, from 10am to 1pm.

A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING - JOHN 18:33-37

At 9.15 am or thereabouts, last Sunday, 14 November, as many were preparing to mark Remembrance Sunday, it seemed that the whole of the UK experienced a sort of collective shudder. Buckingham Palace announced that the much-anticipated attendance by Queen Elizabeth II on the Balcony overlooking the Cenotaph, would no longer take place. Her desire to be present at the ceremony had been well publicised, especially after her two week break from public life. When at the 11th hour it was announced that she would no longer be present, it was as if everyone took an intake of breath at exactly the same time. The announcement took everyone by surprise. Monarchist and Republicans alike paused for a moment of reflection. At a time when the UK seems anything but united, when honesty and integrity in public life appears to be a thing of the past, when we are encouraged to equate terrorism with the migration of the displaced, the prospect of losing the figurehead of the Commonwealth left us feeling somewhat rudderless. Her example of commitment to the whole of the Commonwealth stands in stark contrast to nationalism and xenophobia. I'm never sure as to where I stand on the future of the monarchy, but I am not at all afraid to admit that I am 100% Elizabeth-ist! Another news item demanded our attention this week, when the Yorkshire cricketer Azeem Rafiq appeared before a Select Committee to speak about his experiences of Racism within the sport of cricket. One part of his testimony was particularly powerful. In answer to a line of questioning he replied: 'I've got a part of Karachi in me; I've got a part of Barnsley in me'. So few words, so much to ponder.

This weekend we commemorate the Kingship of Jesus Christ. The full title of the Feast is: **Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Universal King**. He is King of everyone and everything: the smallest wren in the garden, the child born into war-torn Yemen who only sees three dawns, to the 95-year-old monarch who continues to do her public duty. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Universal King. The gospel passage is familiar to us from the commemoration of the Passion on Good Friday. It is John's account of the proceedings and we read of Jesus being hauled before Pilate. Pilate is perplexed, he finds himself caught on the horns of a dilemma. He can find no wrong in Jesus, but he dare not anger the Scribes and Pharisees. He desperately seeks for a way out of his quandry. The Jewish People were difficult to govern, they resented the Roman occupation, and the trial of Jesus is full of jeopardy: '*So, you are a King, then?*' '*It is you who say it. Yes! I am a King, I was born for this, I came into the world for this, to bear witness to the truth and all who are on the side of Truth listen to my voice*'. Today's passage ends here, at verse 37. Verse 38 sees Pilate, perhaps in exasperation, snapping back at Jesus: '*Truth? What is that?*'

Pilate is more at home dealing with subterfuge and political posturing. Philosophical questions are not his forte – or indeed of interest. He was more at home doing deals with the Sadducees and Pharisees in the interest of maintaining order and keeping his Roman bosses sweet. He turned a blind eye to some of their dealings and they in turn kept the people under control. He needed them and they him. Subterfuge and political intrigue have been present ever since Cain murdered his brother. If Pilate chose to ignore Jesus' claim he would not be able to ignore the question that had come from his own soul, his own inner self: '*Truth? What is that?*' On his deathbed did the question still haunt him – or had he found an answer? You know that game when we are asked to share our ideal guest list for a dinner party, I have always wanted to sit beside Pilate. He came face to face with God-made-man and then his questioning came from his own inner-self and has been forever remembered

Truth – what is that? The question never goes away. As long as humans breathe, the question remains. We may spend hour after hour on the treadmill of life, trying to make ends meet just to survive – but still Pilate's question hangs over us. '*Truth? What is that?*' I remain convinced that we make progress in our search for the answer to the degree in which we are open to those around us; everyone- irrespective of race, colour or creed. This weekend's question is not as good as Pilate's but is equally pertinent: How do my actions and thoughts stand up to questioning by God, and by my own conscience? '*Truth? What is that?*'

GOD'S DREAM

The Lord God said:
I myself will dream a dream within you ...
Good dreams come from me, you know ...
My dreams seem impossible
not too practical,
not for the cautious man or woman ...
a little risky sometimes,
a trifle brash perhaps ...

Some of my friends prefer
to rest more comfortably,
in sounder sleep
with visionless eyes ...

But, from those who share my dreams
I ask a little patience,
a little humour,
some small courage,
and a listening heart ...
I will do the rest

Then they will risk
and wonder at their daring ...
Run ... and marvel at their speed ...
Build ... and stand in awe at the beauty of their building ...

You will meet me often as you work ...
in your companions, who share the risk ...
in your friends, who believe in you enough
to lend their own dreams
their own hands
their own hearts
to your building

In the people who stand in your doorway,
stay awhile,
and walk away knowing that they, too, can find a dream

There will be sun-filled days,
and sometimes it will rain ...
a little variety –
both come from me.

So come now, be content
It is my dream you dream ...
my house you build ...
my caring you witness ...
my love you share
and this is the heart of the matter.

*Charles Peguy, French Poet
(1873-1914)*



FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

Chapter 45 – The Lord Is At Work



The changes that take place in our times of stillness are often unnoticed by us. Or they seem slight. But they are significant. Even tiny changes in our souls can have long-lasting effects.

One day, on a tour of York Minster with a group from the school where I taught, we stopped before the windows known as The Five Sisters. Our guide invited us to keep looking at the great sea of grey glass. 'Just keep looking,' she said, 'and tell me what you see.'

Our party of schoolboys was silent. Then, one after another, they said: 'I see little red specks.' 'I see green ones.' 'And blue ones.' The longer we stood, the more of these little specks of colour appeared. What at first seemed a mass of grey was soon speckled with colour.

When we first enter the great silence of our hearts, all we may see is a grey landscape where nothing is of interest and nothing is happening. But if we stay and hand ourselves over to the silence, slowly we begin to notice things that, with our restless eyes, we did not at first see. The longer we stay, the more our gaze discovers.

God is always at work in the hearts of those who are searching for him. As we hand ourselves over to silence we are allowing the Lord to work in us. He is moving in the very depths of our being, in the place we call the subconscious. He is at work in those areas where our hurts are buried, where problems and past traumas are deadening our inner lives.

And while nothing seems to be happening on the surface, a lot may be going on in these hidden places. The Lord is at work freeing us, healing us. Only later, often much later, do we become aware that he has visited the darker areas of our being and set us free.

We need a very perceptive eye, like the schoolboys at York, to spot the changes in ourselves at first: a tiny lowering of the level of anxiety perhaps, a feeling of more energy, or an ability to sit with sad memories. Others may notice them before we do. Sometimes a glimmer of the divine light in us shines through.