

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.

Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year 3 October 2021

Genesis 2:18-24;

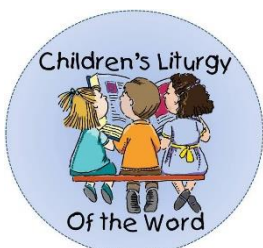
Hebrews 2:9-11;

Mark 10:2-16;



THE RETURN OF 'IN PERSON' CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST JOHN'S

Arlene Lauder writes: 'This weekend's Gospel reminds us that Jesus welcomes the children and shows the disciples how important they are and so it is truly fitting that it is this Sunday that we welcome our young parishioners back to 'in person' Children's Liturgy, starting in St John's at the 9:30 Mass. This is a great opportunity for families to make a return to Mass with the knowledge that the Children's Liturgy team will be building on the good work of the Zoom Children's Liturgy sessions which the children have enjoyed online over the past 18 months, and will ensure that everybody is kept safe.'



In person Children's Liturgy will also return in the next few weeks at St Mary Magdalene's.'

THE SEASON OF CREATION ENDS THIS MONDAY, THE FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI... with this newsletter there is a handout from SCIAF explaining the background to the COP 26 Conference in Glasgow at the end of October – with Pope Francis among those coming... the handout acts as a final offering to conclude our parish celebration of this Season.

This Thursday, as always on the first Thursday of the month, Deacon Eddie will celebrate Benediction at St John's at 7pm.

Parishioners' Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Maria Igoe writes: 'After overcoming several obstacles, most of the Group going to Medjugorje are either there or on their way. Four of us have been there since last Saturday: Joyce Martin and Derek de Freitas, along with a parishioner from the Cathedral Parish and one from Falkirk. On Saturday, six more are flying over: Kathie, Bernie, Frances and Keira Gallagher, along with myself and another Cathedral parishioner. We will be there for a week, joining the Mary's Meals Pilgrimage on Saturday and Sunday. This can be followed on our [Facebook page](#). It will be great to be there again after 2 years.'

THE PARISHES' SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME IS RESTARTING

Arlene Lauder writes: 'The Parishes Sacramental programme for the celebration of First Reconciliation (around P3) and First Holy Communion (around P4) begins again this month. An in-face meeting for the P4 parents/carers will be held this Monday, 4 October, at 7 pm in St John's Church Hall, while the following evening, Tuesday 5 October, an in face meeting at 7 pm in St John's Church hall for the P3 parents/carers. If you would like any further information around Sacramental preparation, please do not hesitate to contact Arlene Lauder on 07950880833 or email on lauder.82@btinternet.com.'

Details will be given in the coming weeks about the parishes' next **Baptismal preparation course**, about the **RCIA**, and about the **P7 Confirmation Programme**.

The St John's Church 'Shop' has opened again, and there is a selection of Advent calendars, Christmas cards, Christmas candles and many other items for sale.

Please do support it.

This Week

Saturday 2 October

11am – St Mark's Episcopal Church, Portobello – **Ordination to the Priesthood of Revd David Todd**

1.30pm – St John's – **Nuptial Mass of James O'Keefe and Danielle Fallon**

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

Sunday 3 October

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

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

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

Monday 4 October

10.00am – St John’s – **Requiem Mass for Moira McConville** – livestreamed

7pm – St John’s Hall – **Meeting for P4 First Communion Parents.**

8-9.15pm – **Zoom Meeting – Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All** {NB Change of Time]

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85398388058?pwd=eEtzWkc4OWxsUDNmMWJOMDd4dzlXQT09>

Tuesday 5 October

10.00am – St John’s – **Requiem Mass for Evelyn Oldershaw** – livestreamed

4.30pm – Skype – **PEP Meeting**

7pm – St John’s Hall – **Meeting for P3 First Reconciliation Parents**

Wednesday 6 October - 10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

Thursday 7 October

9.15pm – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.00am – St May Magdalene’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

4.45pm – St John’s – **Reception of Josie Tilley’s Body**

7.00pm – St John’s – **Benediction with Deacon Eddie** – livestreamed

7.00pm – St John’s Hall – **St John’s Pastoral Council Meeting**

Friday 8 October

10.00am – St John’s – **Requiem Mass for Josie Tilley** – livestreamed

11.00am (straight after Mass) – St John’s - **Rosary at Our Lady’s Altar**

Saturday 9 October

10.45am – St John’s Hall – **Parishes’ Marriage Preparation Course**

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

Sunday 10 October

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

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

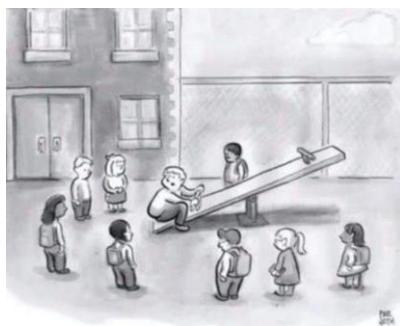
11.15am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Mass with Baptism of Harrison Wedgwood**

From Archbishop Leo’s Weekly ‘Ad Clerum’

Dying Well event - The Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office hosts an online event titled '**Dying Well: How quality palliative care is the alternative to assisted suicide**'. The speaker is **Dr Gillian Wright** a medical ethicist and palliative care doctor. **It takes place at 7:45pm, THIS TUESDAY 5 October.** Register now at bit.ly/DyingWellEvent

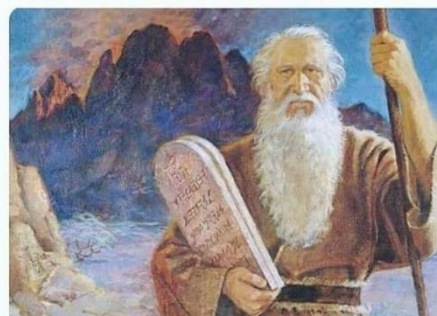
White Mass - A White Mass for doctors, nurses and all healthcare workers in Scotland in gratitude for their service throughout the Covid pandemic takes place at St Mary’s Cathedral, Edinburgh, at midday on **Sunday 17 October.** All welcome.

Safeguarding newsletter - The latest edition of the Safeguarding Matters newsletter from the Bishop’s Conference of Scotland is available at www.bcos.org.uk/safeguarding



“O.K., now, when a teacher comes out, everybody look straight up.”

So technically Moses is the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.



NOTICE BOARD

The Joyful Mind: (Words of Wisdom from Fr Richard Rohr)

I invite you to practice living daily with a joyful mind. What might a “joyful mind” be?

Here are some suggestions:

When your mind does not need to be always right.

When you no longer need to compare yourself with others.

When your mind can be creative but without needing to tell others.

When you can live in contentment with whatever the moment offers.

When you follow the intelligent lead of your heart.

When your mind is curious and interested, not suspicious and interrogating.

When your mind does not brood over imagined injustices.

When your mind does not need the future to be better than today.

When your mind can accept yourself as you are, warts and all.

When your mind can wait, listen and learn.

When your mind can live satisfied without resolution or closure.

When you can find God in all things.

SHINNING UP THE SCAFFOLDING

Last Tuesday, Gary Zoltie, who has been one of the key coordinators of the St John’s Tower Project, and Fr Jock, made an historic ascent to the top of the Tower, along with Gail Howie, the project Supervisor, and Chris Prentice, the project Manager. As well as some memorable sightseeing, they were able to appreciate the amazingly skilled and precise work being done by the masons and the conservator to safeguard the Tower and all passers-by.

A full report, with more photographs, will be published on our Parishes’ Facebook page and St John’s website.



Parish Register

Please pray for those who have died recently:

George Lewis
Agnes McGowan
Fr Andrew Hughes OSB
 (Polly Connarty's brother)
Polly McGillin
 (Catherine McAnenny's aunt)

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Pat Hay-Will - Anthony Iannarelli –
Lindsay Thomson – Catherine Graham
– Fr Hugh Purcell

Anniversaries:

St John's

Oct.2: Anthony Iannarelli (2011); Helena Hapke (2004); Pauline Tracy (1995); Elizabeth Calder (1990); Mrs Reid (1976); Sarah Stone (1944);

Oct.3: Gladys Patterson (2011); George C Handren (2003); Theresa Thomson (2000); Louise Cunningham-Graham (1995); Infant Nicora (1923);

Oct.4: Andrew Callachan (2015); Peter Carr (2001); Gerard Watters (1995); George Calder (1988); John Coyne (1988); Michael Murphy (1955); Margaret Crawford;

Oct.5: Margaret A Wilson (2005); Jerry Kinane (1994); Leonard Stovin;

Oct.6: Catherine Graham (2020); Mary Laurie; Lindsay Thomson (2003); Minnie McMullan (1984); Vincenza Leone (1982); Martha Flynn (1966); Joan Cullen; Mark Cunningham;

Oct.7: David Brown (2007); Catherine Lamara (2004); Thomas Sharp (1989); John Loftus (1929);

Oct.8: Katherine Wills (2010); Eva M Berry (1980); Donald O'Kane (1960);

St Mary Magdalene's

Oct.3: James Healey (1993);

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's: Frances Archibald, Fiona Connel, Catherine Walker, 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, Eileen Brown, 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:

Sam Burns, Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Jacqueline Marinello, 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:

Ant Ridge, Garrett French, Claire Johnston, Bruno Massaro, Emma Bromet, Mary Murphy, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Finny Paterson, Drew Shiels, Lewis White, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Rachel Kennedy, Gordon Marron, Una Johnston, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie Mc Anenny, John Kellagher, Murdo Tait, Niamh McDougall, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Annie Ross, Christopher MacKinnon, Audrey Burgess, Jaroslav Icina, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, baby Josh Simpson, Helen McCann, Rhoda Tumboli, Dani Miniette, Peter Millar, Nan Doig, Leo Stone, 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, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, 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, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, and young Ray Donovan Syme

Offertory Collections – 26 September 2021

Thank You!

St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
£255.45 total including Offertory of £135.45 and Gift Aid of £120.00	£ 1671.84 total including Offertory of £349.20, Gift Aid of £388.64 and £934.00 Online Donations

St Mary Magdalene's 200 Club and St John's Tower Tombola Draws

We are pleased to announce the lucky winners for the recent draws:

And the Winners are...

St Mary Magdalene's 200 Club - August: Dorothy Dickson, £30.00

September: Maureen Scott, £30.00

St John's Tower Tombola – September: Scott Miller, £282.00

Congratulations to all of them!

A REFLECTION ON THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2: 18-24; Mark 10: 2-18

Rules! Rules! Customs and rules! Rubrics and traditions to be followed. They add security in their various layers for we can often feel anxious and uncertain. A lasting memory from my childhood involved a host that was dropped on the floor at the distribution of Holy Communion. As an altar server my task was to carry the plate to hold under everyone's chin as they dutifully poked tongues in the direction of the priest.

I cannot remember how it happened, but a host fell onto the floor. I was despatched to get the finger towel from the credence table, and this was carefully placed over the spot where they host had fallen. The priest and I continued with the distribution of Communion, each of us performing a dance around the cloth that would have scored a perfect 10 on Celebrity Come Dancing! At the end of the Mass the priest removed his chasuble, but still wearing Alb and girdle went out to ritually clean the spot. In my 8-year old eyes, I was witnessing something magical and mysterious, though now, some 60 years later, I am slightly more cynical. I live my life trying to see things as Jesus might see them and I think I can detect a wry smile as he looks down on my reminiscing. Will He be impressed or saddened that the Code of Canon Law contains over 2000 Canons – one for each year of the Church's existence?

Last week in the UK, we were left stunned by the murder of Sabina Nessa, a 28-year old teacher working in London. This week, we were fed gruesome detail surrounding the murder, earlier this year, of Sarah Everard. Both were young women who should have been safe in what claims to be a civilised part of the world. Sarah was murdered by a police officer who used his position and police paraphernalia to satisfy his own intrinsically evil behaviour. Rules were in place to prevent such happenings and these rules were ignored, and, more damningly, there is a suggestion of cover up or a blind eye being turned. Both cases have prompted calls for changes to the Law, for better protection. Calls for a change in attitudes, for a change of heart have been growing in volume but are often not strident enough to be heard. Last week's Gospel passage saw Jesus admonishing his followers to not give scandal, to be sufficiently aware of themselves to ensure that they do not lead others astray, or cause harm. This week, the narrative moves on: the Pharisees are trying to trap Jesus and pose a question concerning the lawfulness, or otherwise, of divorce. Jesus turns the question back onto them: *What did Moses command you?* He patiently listens to their answer, then, somewhat cuttingly, replies *it's because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you.* When it comes to our life of faith, knowledge of Canon Law and rubric must always play second fiddle to a loving and generous heart. The need for laws only arises when our behaviours show that we have failed to understand the love of God, when we have failed to recognise the intrinsic worth of each and every human being.

The first reading this weekend, presents a very basic understanding of creation, on how we came to be on this earth and why we are here. The author of Genesis tells how God takes a rib from the man and forms it into a woman, causing the man to exclaim *This at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh.* God as Creator had brought a succession of potential companions to Adam, but none brought him a feeling of completeness. When he sees the woman, the man is immediately at peace for he has found love in its purest form. *This at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh.* Love created us, and it is for love that we exist. This simple truth lies at the very centre of our being. The Book of Genesis reminds us that, in the beginning, there was no evil, no sin. This is why we never look upon another human-being as a plaything, we never exploit them to further our own wealth, for when we make choices that mean we don't or can't show respect, then laws become inevitable. *It's because you were so unteachable that Moses wrote this commandment for you.*

In an ideal world we should not need extra laws to protect women – for in an ideal world, men would know how to behave. We would not need laws to protect children from cruelty, for in an ideal world parents would know how to behave. In an ideal world we would not need to organise conferences to protect the environment. In an ideal world...

FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

Chapter 38 – Compassion



What are we supposed to do with the faults and failings we begin to recognise in ourselves during our silent prayer - our jealousy, say, our impatience, our tendency to judge? Silence gives us the confidence to look at the shadow side of our lives, and the parable of the wheat and the dandelion in Matthew's Gospel helps to answer this question.

The field of our lives yields both weeds and healthy crops, good qualities and bad; dandelion springs up among the wheat. If we follow the advice in the Gospel, we would not be eager to

root out the weeds. Jesus says, *'Let them grow'* (**Matthew 13:30**).

If we can live with our faults, and not take a sledgehammer to them, they can be of use to us. If we do not recoil and run away from them, if we can let them be, then we can learn a great deal.

'Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate,' Jesus told the crowds. *'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven'* (**Luke 6:36-38**). How important it is for us to look on ourselves, as well as on others, with such compassion.

When, instead of hating myself for my faults, I learn to be compassionate towards my own weaknesses, then I will learn to be more understanding of the weaknesses of others. The more intolerant I am of my own failures and faults, the more intolerant I will be of other people's failings.

This is not a licence to be indifferent to our faults, to be self-indulgent, to behave just as we like. No. It is a way of treating our weaknesses not with severity and hatred, but seeing them as aids, to teach us patience and compassion, tolerance and understanding. If I can learn this balance, if I can hold the goodness and weakness of my life in this way, then my relationships with others will flourish.

Being too severe with our weaknesses leaves us feeling guilty, with a low sense of our worth. And that means we are no good to others. It leaves us paralysed. So much good is left undone, not because of lack of goodwill but because we feel unworthy, useless.

The kingdom of God is about building relationships - a healthy relationship with ourselves first, then healthy relationships with others and so with God. If I can be compassionate towards my own failings, as he is compassionate, then this tolerance and understanding will naturally flow towards others. I shall become a compassionate person. I shall be building his kingdom.

God knows our faults and he loves us. He will take care of them. It is not the weeds in our lives that God is interested in. He is interested in the wheat, which he will gather into his barn. Our weeds he will tie in bundles and throw into the fire.

'Do not abandon your gifts,' Augustine prayed. *'Do not desert the field in which you have sown the seed, until your harvest is stored in the heavenly barn.'*

Twende Pamoja Fund Raising Cycle

Paul Macpherson writes: ‘Thank you to everyone who donated, we raised more than £4,000 to help support the Sacred Heart Centre in Mweka, Tanzania. If you would still like to donate, please hand your donation in to the parish house and we will make sure it gets to the Sisters and Community in Mweka.

On 2nd of September, the first anniversary of Mike Knox's death, I set off from St John's Church, Portobello, at 05:07 in the morning to cycle from Edinburgh to Blyth. The weather was perfect, not too hot, not too cold with the wind blowing in the right direction. The roads were quiet, and I made good progress. The first objective was to get on and off Holy Island before the causeway was covered by the tide at 10:25. The Lammermuir Hills, were the first challenge, up and over The Rig at Gifford, followed by few other bumps, before I dropped down to Duns. But Mike was obviously watching over me as I seemed to fly up the hills. After Duns the run down to Holy Island went well, and I was standing outside St Aidan's church there at 09:10 and back across the causeway by half past nine.

A team from Twende Pamoja had agreed to provide lunch at Walker Walls just outside Wooler. So, with 134Km completed and after an excellent lunch of Baked Potato and Chilli Con Carne and a welcome rest, I set off on the final 83Km. The ride across to the Northumberland coast was in to a crosswind, but once I turned south once again the wind was behind me and I sailed down the coast passing some lovely beaches on the way. Finally, I arrived in Blyth, Mike's birthplace, and was met at the band stand finish point by my family and the team from Twende Pamoja, who presented me with a medal or two, 215 Km completed in just over 8 hours. Thank you for your support.'



Paul, his wife Fiona and their children in Blyth, at the end of the cycle ride.



Des Brogan, Susan Christopher and Linda McGee, the TP Trustees and Paul's supporting team!