

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**

Assistant priest: *Fr Shaiju Joseph SSP*

Deacon: *Revd Eddie White:* **07986 015772**

Pastoral Assistants: *Jennifer Morris and Christina Vinestock*

Sacrament of Reconciliation: *10.40-11.10am Saturday morning, after the Vigil Mass
(7.30pm on Saturday evening) or any time by appointment*

Shared Parish House: *3 Sandford Gardens, Edinburgh, EH15 1LP*

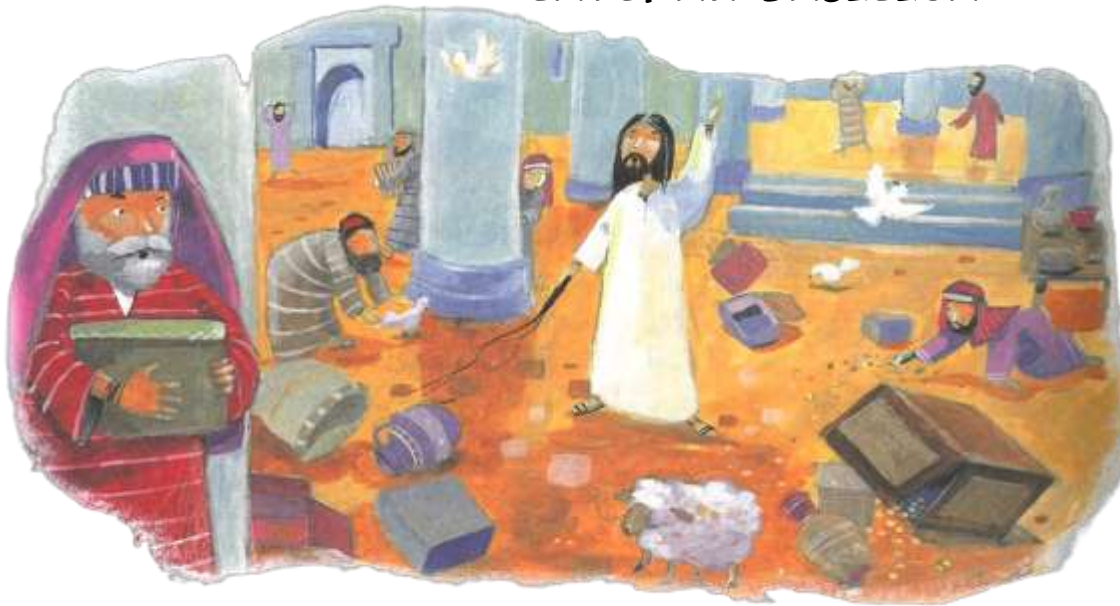
Parish Administrator: *Enrico Fertini*

(Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10.00am to 3.00pm & Friday 11.00am to 4.00pm)

Joint Webpage: <https://sites.google.com/view/stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes>

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

9 NOVEMBER 2025 - FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA



Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the Temple, he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the moneychangers sitting there. And making a whip of cords... he told, 'Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.' ...
(from John 2:13-22)

This Sunday, **9 November 2025**, we observe **Remembrance Sunday**, honouring all who gave their lives for peace and freedom. Please remember the fallen and pray for peace in our world today.

What is this strange feast that we celebrate today – 'The Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica'? It's celebrated every year on 9 November and is one of those feasts that 'trump' a Sunday in Ordinary Time – in this case, the 32nd Sunday of the Year -when it falls on a Sunday. Its origins go back to the 4th century...following the Roman Emperor Constantine granting freedom of worship to the Church in 313, the church was built beside the palace of the Laterani family and consecrated in 324. It (not St Peter's) became the Cathedral of the Diocese of Rome and, until 1309, the popes lived nearby not in the Vatican. Its original dedication is to the Most Holy Saviour, but in the Middle Ages, the names of St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist were added (thus, a common name now is 'St John Lateran').

The basilica bears the description: '*Omnium Urbis et Orbis terrarum Mater et Caput*' ('of All the Churches in the City and in the World, the Mother and Head'). Today's feast was extended worldwide to the whole Church in 1565, and is celebrated to emphasize unity with the Papacy and the Holy See...

Day for the Poor – Today, **Sunday 9 November** is also the **World Day of the Poor**, a celebration initiated in 2016, by Pope Francis, marking the end of the Year of Mercy. There is a Special Collection

linked with it - all funds this year go to the Mercy Centre, run by the Sisters of Mercy at St Catharine's Convent of Mercy, Lauriston, Edinburgh . Sr Aelred Timmins writes: *"Homeless people come here every day for food, sometimes for sleeping bags, most of all they're looking for friendship and a listening ear. Please keep us in your prayers, we are grateful to anybody who is able to support the works of mercy in this house."*
Donate online at bit.ly/dayforpoor.

NOVEMBER BEREAVEMENT MASSES - Our two November *BEREAVEMENT MASSES* will take place **this Thursday 13 November** at **St. Mary Magdalene's** at 7.00pm and on **Monday week, 17 November** also at 7.00pm, at St. John's. These are gentle and beautiful candlelit Masses in which we remember our dead - and have the opportunity to light a candle for them... Forms are now available from the back of both churches for you to complete with the names of those you would like remembered and read out. (To ensure the Masses don't take too long the suggestion is that we limit to 6 names – the last of which might be – ‘the Deceased Members and Relatives of the _____ family’). The completed forms should be placed in the boxes provided. Alternatively, please email the same information to Chris Jones, who is kindly collating the lists chrisjones442@hotmail.com

Would you like to know how to hear God's voice more clearly? An Online course starting on Wednesday

God's invitation to relationship is a prayer course **ONLINE** from the **Epiphany Group** to introduce people to ways of praying - It will support you into a deeper prayer life through facilitators' input (all trained spiritual directors with the Epiphany Group), guided prayer experience and sharing. *Dates for next course - Wednesdays 7.00pm- 8.30pm/9.00pm - Zooming from Scotland 12, 19 and 26 November 2025 – 3 and 10 December 2025.* This course is offered free by the Epiphany Group of Spiritual Directors however donations are accepted.

For more information visit www.epiphanygroup.org.uk - To register email invitation@epiphanygroup.org.uk

FIREFLY INTERNATIONAL CHARITY CONCERT - *Bring light into these dark evenings, join us for the Firefly concert in St John's Church, Thursday 20 November (World Children's Day) at 7.00pm!*

A message from the Justice & Peace Group: ‘An evening not to be missed! If we charged admission, the tickets to see our stellar cast would be selling for £'000s on the black market but there is no charge – admission is **FREE!** This year's all-star cast includes the wonderful **Feast of Life Choir**, **Jeremy Thorp** on piano with friends including our own songbird **Louise Holden**, **Jerome Knox** whose velvety baritone wowed us last year, the brilliant **Lee Patterson** and, topping the bill, the **St John's Primary School Choir**.

At the interval, there will be a small sale of ladies, gentlemen and children's accessories.

The good cause we are supporting this year is **Firefly International**, a small Scottish charity with a long global reach, whose MD, Jane Salmonson, is one of our parishioners. **Firefly (<https://www.fireflyinternational.org/>) actively aids children suffering from the trauma of war and violence and is working with children affected by wars in Bosnia, Syria and Gaza.**

As well as the wonderful entertainment, you will also have the opportunity to win one of our fabulous raffle prizes including getting your hair done at Charlie Miller's, eating out at a range of good restaurants, home-baked Christmas cakes and the star prize – a 5lb bag of homegrown Charlotte potatoes! Be in it to win it!!

All prizes have been donated and all the money raised from the raffle and from donations go directly to Firefly International (cash would be preferred). Thank you.'

Bethany Christian Trust – “Buy-a-Bed”

Jim Roarty writes: ‘As many of you will be aware, *Bethany Christian Trust* provides services and support for the ever-growing number of homeless in our country. Volunteers from our parishes are involved in providing hot meals for the people using the Bethany Welcome Centre, an overnight shelter for people with no home, and also in staffing the Bethany Care Van which provides sandwiches and hot drinks for people on the streets.... **Each year, Bethany offers the opportunity for people to “buy a bed”, i.e. to make a donation, this year of £25,** which will cover the cost to them of providing a bed for a homeless person for one night.

In exchange, you will receive a beautiful gift card which will make a lovely present for someone.

If you wish to buy a bed, please contact Jennifer Morris, myself or any member of the J&P Group.

Alternatively, you can donate online at <https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com/>. Thank you.'

THIS WEEK

Saturday 8 November (Blessed John Duns Scotus)

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

10.30-11.00am – St John's – **A priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

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

7.40pm – St John's – **A priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday 9 November – Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – *World Day for the Poor*

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

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

12.00pm – St John's – **Baptism of Autumn Nova Evans Keane** (Deacon Eddie)

Monday 10 November

2.30pm – St John's – **Healing Mass** – *livestreamed*

6.00pm – Zoom – **Gospel Sharing**

7.15pm-8:30pm – Mayfield Salisbury Church – A Newman Association talk: **May spirituality help in mental ill-health?** (Anthony Kramers on his experiences of spiritual care in L'Arche communities and in healthcare).

Tuesday 11 November

10.00am- Lauder Lodge – **Mass**

7.00pm – Parish House Prayer Room – **Mass** – *livestreamed*

7.45pm – Parish House – **RCIA (Enquiry Session 6)**

Wednesday 12 November

9.15am-9.45am – St John's – **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

Thursday 13 November

1.30pm-3.30pm – St John's Hall – **Thursday Club**

7.00pm – St Mary Magdalene's – **Bereavement Mass** – *livestreamed*

Friday 14 November

9.15am-9.45am – St John's – **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

Saturday 15 November

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

10.30-11.00am – St John's – **A priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

11.15pm – Parish House – **Inclusivity Group Meeting**

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

7.40pm – St John's – **A priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday 16 November - 9.30am – St John's – **Mass** – *livestreamed*

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

6.45pm – St John's Hall – **St John's Open Parish Meeting**



View the links for the Masses by visiting our website: <https://bit.ly/StJStMM>

In the Coming Weeks:

Monday 17 November

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

Thursday 20 November

7.00pm – St John's – **Firefly Concert**

Our next Baptismal Preparation Course will take place on Wednesday 26 November and Wednesday 3 December at 7.30pm in the Parish House.... if you would like to have a child baptised, please contact Fr Jock....

Contact details for the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP): By phone or text: 07752682213

email: svpedineast@gmail.com

TWENDE PAMOJA - Elizabeth McClory writes: 'Last weekend **Pamoja fashion** raised a grand total of **£600.00**. A big thank you to all who support this charity.'

NOTICEBOARD

TODAY, SUNDAY, A FREE CONCERT OF UKRAINIAN AND ENGLISH MUSIC AND DANCE IN
PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL AT 3PM

THE VOICES THAT UNITE

9 November 2025 3 p.m.

Portobello Town Hall

Admission free

Concert of Karina Cherviakova's Students and Choirs:

Edinburgh Ukrainian Choir "Oberih"
Ukrainian teen's group "Starlight"
Kateryna Dzyha
Alisa Marchenko
Raisa Hordienko
Artem Melnyk

Also on the programme:

Children's dance group "My Way"

Children's dance group "Kvity Ukrainy"

Adult dance group "The flowers of Ukraine"

Adult dance group "TvorchyUA"

Special Guests —

the incredible vocalist Vlad Melentiev

and the amazing guitarist Peter Adams!

The program includes
choral music, modern Ukrainian
and English songs,
and solo performances



Free tickets with QR code

Supported by



Association of Ukrainians
in Great Britain Edinburgh Branch

UPDATE ON THE MONDAY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

Maria Igoe writes: 'Our **September Coffee Morning** raised £270 for the "*Across Jumbulance*", which takes residents from St Joseph's Care Home, Robroyston, to Lourdes. As costs have gone up, every donation helps towards the trip.

The October Coffee Morning raised £225 for "*Aid to the Church in Need*". Today the Church is under greater pressure than ever before. In many countries being a Christian and living out the faith requires courage. Especially in Syria, Iraq, Nigeria and Ukraine, Christians rely on the Church for their survival. So it is very important for us to support our fellow Christians.

The November Coffee Morning will be held after Mass in St John's Parish Hall on **Monday 17 November**. Donations will be given to **STEKA Home in Malawi**, which looks after 100 children. Prices have doubled there, recently and it is increasingly difficult to feed all the children, as well as others who come to them for help. Please come along and enjoy tea, coffee and home baking. Thank you.'

SING-A-LONG - Our joint Parish Sing-a-long will take place **this Thursday 13 November and again on Thursday 4 December... 2.00pm-4.00pm in St Mary Magdalene's Church Hall.**

Scotland is the theme on 13 November (tartan and St Andrew's flags optional) and Christmas on 4 December ...and yes, it's that time already! - Hope to see you there.... Jennifer, Mary and Kate'

Fancy a Trip to the Balkans? (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro etc) – **Tuesday 18 November**
St MM Parishioners Steve and Kate have just returned from a 6-week tour in their campervan and have produced a slide-show photo presentation of their time in this fascinating region and surrounding countries. Join us to share in their fun and adventures in the **Day Chapel at St Mary Magdalene's, Bingham Crossway at 2pm-3:15pm** on Tuesday 18 November. **Refreshments will be provided**

A TALK BY REVD SIGRID MARTEN OF ST GILES CATHEDRAL - 7PM – SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER – ST JOHN'S HALL

Eleanor Cullimore writes: 'As you may know our two churches have an Inclusivity Group that arose as a result of the Parish Synodality sessions. One of the objectives of this group is to identify how those marginalised in the church may be recognised and empowered. We are lucky in our city to have as a neighbour the Reverend Sigrid Marten, Associate Minister of St Giles Cathedral. We have invited her to come and talk to us on '**The Role of Women in the Formation and Growth of Christianity**' with a further discussion about where we are now with women in the church, and about her own experiences as an ordained Church of Scotland minister. This will be at 7.00 p.m. on Sunday 23rd November in the St John's Church Hall. There will be refreshments, and you are all very welcome.'

‘SAINT’ OF THE WEEK – Blessed Eugene Bossilkov (1900-1952)

Bulgarian Prelate and Bishop of Nikopol – Anniversary: 13 November



Eugene Bossilkov was born into a family of Latin-rite Catholics in northern Bulgaria and was given the name Vincent at his baptism. At this time the mission to northern Bulgaria was entrusted to the Passionist Fathers, and he received his secondary education first at the Passionist minor seminary in Oresco and then at the diocesan seminary in Nikopol. In 1914 he was sent to the Order's seminary in Belgium, where he received the habit in 1919, taking the name Eugene of the Sacred Heart in religion. He was ordained on 25 July 1926, at a time when Catholics in Bulgaria numbered less than 1 per cent of a total population of some three and a half million, of whom the great majority were Eastern Orthodox, with a sizeable Muslim minority.

In 1927 he was sent to Rome to study for a degree at the Pontifical Oriental Institute, and in 1932 he gained a doctorate with a thesis on the union of Bulgaria with the Roman Catholic Church in the early thirteenth century (1204). On his return home in 1933 he served first as personal secretary to the Passionist Bishop Damian Theelen and then, having expressed a preference for more pastoral work, as pastor in Bardaski-Gheran, where he concentrated on improving the level of religious education among his flock, with particular emphasis on young people.

The government of Bulgaria agreed to cooperate with Hitler's forces in March 1941, thereby avoiding actual occupation by Germany. This put a stop to all missionary endeavours, though it also prevented the Nazi excesses that took place in other eastern European countries. In summer 1944 the government tried to change sides but did so just too late, three days after Stalin had declared war on Bulgaria on 5 September. A "Fatherland Front" government was installed with partisan participation and Soviet military support and moves began to control religious activity. All religious feasts were suppressed, any religious manifestation had to be within church buildings, church schools were confiscated, and all Catholic charities were suppressed. A special law passed in 1949 forbade any religious activity not under state control and all contacts with ecclesiastical bodies outside the country.

Bishop Theelen died in August 1946, and Fr Eugene was chosen as apostolic administrator in anticipation of the nomination of a successor. Despite the prohibitions in force, he ordered a mission to be conducted in each parish and personally took part in these. He was named bishop of Nikopol by Pope Pius XII on 26 July 1947 and made his ad limina visit to Rome in July 1948. He left to go back to Bulgaria on 1 October, despite being advised against returning because of the danger of imprisonment or even death, telling a friend, *"I am the shepherd of my flock. I cannot abandon the flock."*

After his return the political situation deteriorated, and he advised the Passionist provincial in Holland to recall the missionaries; most left in early 1949. He stayed behind, writing to his provincial, *"If it comes to the worst, so be it. I have the courage to go on living. I hope I also have the courage to suffer the worst, always remaining faithful to Christ, the Pope, and the Church."* Arrests of priests began the following year, and he was under constant surveillance and unable to move around freely: *"I can't take a step without my 'guardian angel' always at my heels. What a feeling!"* he wrote to his provincial. He resorted to writing in a simple code, with the government his "dentist" and his troubles his "toothache": *"My health is fine, but the dentist won't leave me in peace; it's not easy to free oneself of a dentist of this kind, but that's only part of the entire story!"* He was nevertheless able to ordain four priests on 18 December 1951.

On 16 July 1952 the state police took action against every Catholic community in Bulgaria, arresting some forty priests, including the bishop, who was staying in a modest holiday home outside Sofia. Until his trial opened on 29 September there was no further news of him, though evidence was to emerge that he had been savagely tortured in prison. After four days during which the authorities failed to extract any confession of anti-Soviet activities from him or any of those tried with him, he, two Assumptionist religious, and a parish priest were condemned to be shot. Relatives were allowed to visit him for the last time on 6 October; they implored him to ask for clemency, but he refused, saying, *"No, I know the Lord will give me the strength to accept death in accordance with his will. I have not denounced anyone... I could have been free to enjoy every possible comfort, if I had wished it."* He did ask for blankets, as he was made to sleep on a bare cement floor. His niece Gabriella brought him a basket of food every day until mid-November, the guard returning the empty basket. When it was returned with the food untouched on 18 November, Gabriella was told that he had been executed on the 11th. Confirmation of this reached the Vatican only in 1975, when the Bulgarian Head of State, Todor Zhikov, had an audience with Pope Paul VI, who asked

him directly what had happened to Bishop Bossilkov and was told that he had died "in prison twenty-three years ago." His body was thrown into a common grave and has never been found.

He was beatified in Rome on 15 March 1998. The Bulgarian prosecutor general then started proceedings for his posthumous exoneration, and in May 1999 a decree of the Bulgarian Supreme Court of Appeal found that the 1952 trial records contained "glaring violations" of justice and annulled the death sentence.

Butler's Lives of the Saints, ed Paul Burns

FROM ARCHBISHOP LEO'S AD CLERUM

How to use AI to speak up for the vulnerable – This beginner level webinar will show you how to use AI tools to find key pro-life points and express them naturally in your own tone of voice — helping you write to politicians with clarity and confidence. **Monday 17 November**, 7:45pm on Zoom. Register at bit.ly/prolifeai

Red Wednesday at Cathedral – Archbishop Cushley, will celebrate Mass at 7:00pm on **Wednesday 19 November** at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, to pray for Christians across the world who suffer for their faith. William More from Aid to the Church in Need, will speak at the Mass.

Victory: A day to explore the gift of confession – The Church instructs us to go to confession – Why? If you'd like to deepen your understanding of this limitless gift join the Archdiocese on **Saturday 22 November**, 10:00am-3:45pm at St Patrick's, 30 Low Craigends, Kilsyth, G65 0PF, for a day hosted by the Catechetics Commission – its first 'on the road' event. The day includes talks, testimony, and an opportunity for Confession. There is also Mass ahead of the day at 9:30am. Register on Eventbrite at bit.ly/return2025.

Mass for Young Adults – Archbishop Cushley invites Young Adults across the Archdiocese for Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, **Sunday 23 November** at 7:00pm, in the Jesuit Church of the Sacred Heart, 26 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh.

Advent Rosary for Life – Every Monday in Advent at 7:45pm to pray for unborn children, their mothers, and all pro-life intentions. Each session is on Zoom and lasts about 30 minutes. Following the Rosary there is a short reflection from a guest speaker: Deacon David Harper (1 Dec, Diocese of Motherwell), Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (8 Dec, March for Life UK), Fr Jamie McMorris (15 Dec, St Margaret's, Edinburgh), and Archbishop Leo Cushley (22 Dec). Register at bit.ly/rosary25

For a full list of forthcoming events in the archdiocese, visit <https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/>

Table Sale Flea Market at St Mary, Star of the Sea, Leith Church Hall - Saturday 15 November 11.00am – 3.00pm A great opportunity to pick up a few presents for Christmas and to discover some very interesting crafts and curiosities. Includes Teas & Coffee Stall & Tombola. Entrance: 50p - Book a table for £25 to sell your goods. For info, please contact: 0131 554 2482

A Concert at Greyfriars Kirk – Friday 21 November – with the Edinburgh University Music Society
Chris Jones, from St John's Sunday morning Mass music group, **writes**: 'Four of our parishioners are in the choir of *Edinburgh University Music Society*. This concert at *Greyfriars Kirk* on **Friday 21 November** has three beautiful compositions in Latin: a Mass by Louis Vierne, a setting by Bruckner of the fourth century prayer of the Immaculate Conception of Mary "Tota Pulchra Es" and Biebl's "Ave Maria".
To round off the evening there is a performance by the University Sinfonia orchestra of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5. Not to be missed. Tickets are available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/edinburgh/greyfriarsv-kirk/eums-sinfonia-and-chorus-winter-concert-2025/e-vzzjdx>. Thank you.'

Eyden's Friday Night Music – Friday 28 November
7.00pm-9.00pm - Eyden's Café, 215 Portobello High Street, EH15 1EU

Nick Gent (guitar) and **Jeremy Thorp** (piano), with **Louise Holden** as special guest, a night of swing jazz. A 5-star show at Edinburgh Fringe review 2024 - Booking essential (+£5 for music) at 0131 258 9061

A REFLECTION ON THE FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

(The author of this reflection is a friend of Fr Jock who lives in Northumberland)

One of my favourite anthems of the 70's was the Joni Mitchell song: *Big Yellow Taxi*. Its advent into my consciousness coincided with the arrival of Edward P Echlin SJ., that slightly eccentric American Jesuit, who I have mentioned before. Both were instrumental as I took my early faltering steps into the world of ecological awareness. Joni Mitchell sang of the destruction and decimation of the natural world in the pursuit of wealth and earthly power: *They took all of the trees and put them in a tree museum – and they charged the people a dollar and a half just to see 'em. Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone...they paved paradise and put up a parking lot.* And so, it went on. We didn't learn then – and we have learned little since. Humans bemoan the decimation of the planet, lament the floods and wildfires but are addicted to air travel, plastic, palm oil, and avocados, not to mention bags of ready washed salad leaves – “They're so convenient, aren't they”. We take pride that there is no waste – without a thought for the piles of discarded vegetation, left on the floor of the packing plant, because some of the leaves didn't quite pass quality control! Gallons of water used without a thought for the environmental cost – but the packets of salad look so attractive on the supermarket shelves – don't you think?

In 1983 I was moved from one parish where I was blissfully happy, to one where the exact opposite was true. In the former, there was warmth and camaraderie. We were able to work together, like kindred spirits (though the parish priest found me difficult to make head or tail of). We clicked and life was both enjoyable and productive. The contrasting move saw me struggling. I didn't feel at home in the new parish. The parish priest, by comparison, exuded all the warmth of an iceberg, the pastoral work, too, involved a huge change - chaplaincy to two huge psychiatric hospitals for which I had no experience whatsoever, with the only qualification and protection, a clerical collar. I approached the bishop to speak of my struggle and received the somewhat unhelpful reply – “You're not facing any difficulties that haven't been faced by others before you.” Pastoral empathy was never his strong point. Years later, I realised that what I was going through was a period of mourning. I was longing for the security I had enjoyed in my previous position. I felt adrift. Joni Mitchell became my comfort once again: *Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone...they paved paradise and put up a parking lot.* I struggled find a foothold - something, anything to hold onto. Salvation came my way in the most unforeseen circumstance. One day out in the car, I stumbled, for the first time, across the hamlet of Hartburn in Northumberland. With a population of 194, I was to become a frequent visitor to its 12th century parish Church of St Andrew. The Knights Templar had used the church in the 13th century. The walls exuded a peace that was sacred and comforting in equal measure. It was the sort of place where I could breathe and touch eternity. It was here that I re-discovered an anchor in life, so that I was no longer adrift. On that first visit, I must have stayed for several hours, for it was dark as I left with a kindly vicar calling out into the gloom as he prepared to lock the heavy oak door. I would return many times. I have found that sacred stillness in other places over the years; a small chateau named ‘Le Mortier’ in Chanceaux-sur-Choisille, near Tours; the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, once the tide has separated the island from the mainland; an agricultural Benedictine monastery in Clervaux (not Clairvaux) in Luxembourg. All places, where I have been blessed with the touch of God, caressing my face, whispering words of comfort and encouragement. All were sacred places where I could gain encouragement. A courage that would embolden and enable me in my attempts to live out the Gospel. Their walls know my secrets and my failures – all left in His hands, so that I could go out – back into his world and to do my best.

This weekend we celebrate the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. A church built some 800 years before St Andrew's in Hartburn. It is the Pope's parish Church and was dedicated on 9th November 324. It serves as a reminder that though churches are built of stone, places where we can go for sustenance. They aren't meant to be lived in. Attractive though the idea was, I couldn't remain for ever in the Norman simplicity of St Andrew's, Hartburn. Strengthened by my encounter with God, it was time to leave, gird my loins, to remove my self-pity and get on with the task in hand. I am a link in a chain – a bond of connection between others, as Cardinal Newman put it. Sometimes I feel all at sea, overwhelmed by the size of the task: and then, there are other occasions when I have a confidence and self-belief that can only have come from the God who sat beside me when I felt alone. We need sacred moments in life: occasions when we can take time to ‘be’ in his presence – but then we go out. We aren't afraid. Let us be fearless. Let's pray that timidity can be banished.



PARISH REGISTER



Warm birthday greetings to Revd Bill Wishart (Minister of St Martin's, Magdalene Drive), 60 on Monday 10 November

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Onita Cosma - Florence Reynolds

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Frances Allan - Tom Plews

Billy Turnbull - Domenico Fertini

Mike Delaney - Benny McLeish

Andrew Smart - Canon Peter Donati

Thomas McGravie

Stella McDevitt - George Hancock

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's:

Anne McBirnie, Margaret Hand young Saoirse Golden, Ros Mackay, Duncan Cullimore, Sr Nan McKinnon RSCJ, Kate Walsh, Pauline Robertson, Dorothy Dickson, Celia Stone, Carol Simpson, , Maggie and John Flanagan, Alex Nielsen, Belinda Wingfield Digby, Sr Helen McLaughlin RSCJ, Helen Kilgour, Mike Fox, Moira McCafferty, Young Shay Graham, Jimmy Curnyn, Simon Hall, John McLaughlin, Susan Cammack, May Matthews, Rose Thornton, Margaret Thom, Pamela Hanlon, John Lawler, Betty Dougal, Barbara Durcacz, Mairi O'Connor, Lesley O'Donnell, Donald Oswald, Prisca Kemp, Mary Slight, Mike Noonan, David Reid, Ann O'Brien, Diane McCarthy, Margaret Duffy, Mike Burns, May Thomson, Kenny O'Connor, John Whyte, Maria Pacitti, Ann Dobie, Chloe Sutherland, Ruth Vizer, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, Vincent Knowles, Sarah McManus, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Norman Telfer, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers and Marie Angela Crolla.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Maureen Scott, Monica Gorman, Julie Keegan, Jean McInally, Bill McGeachie, Norrie Gibson, Aisha Montgomery, Tom Kay, Eleanor Campanile, Mary McGovern (jnr), Carolynne McCann, Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Bridget Malone, Margaret Ryan, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Jude Ferguson and James Muir.

Offertory 1/2 November:

St Mary Magdalene's, £301.80 total, including £127.00 Offertory, £67.80 Gift Aid and £107.00 online.

St John's, £1685.40 total, including £297.40 Offertory, £243.00 Gift Aid and £1145.00 online.

Anniversaries:

St John's:

Nov.8: Benny McLeish (2017); Frances Allen (2016); Nino Nicora (1987); Grace Gallagher (1980); George Pennycook; Andrew Smart; **Nov.9:** Edith Miller (2020); Mary Cook (2007); Francis McNulty (2000); Marjorie Thom (1993); Catherine Anderson (1990); Bridget Carrol (1987); Mrs Brennan (1985); Canon Peter Donati (1983); **Nov.10:** Simon Curran (2019); Harry Hughes (1991); Edward Cubitt (1990); Senga McAlinden (1987); Robert McGuire (1943); **Nov.11:** Dorina Hadden (2010); Peter Swinney (1998); Thomas Bassi (1992); Terry Callaghan (1992); Catherine Keegan (1985); Annie Lord; **Nov.12:** Thomas McGravie (1991); John Cregan (1985); Charles Anderson (1982); Stella McDevitt (1975); Ann Hartnett (1968); **Nov.13:** William Turnbull (2019); Tom Plews (2014); Anne Platt (1999); Rose Fox (1998); Martin Black (1997); Christina Service; **Nov.14:** James Pyper (2013); Kitty McDonald (2000); Mario Marcantonio (1998); Maisie McGrory (1997); Isabella Cheape (1982); Anthony Gallagher; Margaret Ward;

St Mary Magdalene's:

Nov.8: Agnes O'Hara (1970); **Nov.9:** Mary Josephine Herschan; **Nov.10:** Ninette Loreta Pasqua Pelosi (2022); John Wallace (2000); **Nov.11:** George Hancock (2018); Terence Callaghan (1992); **Nov.14:** Michael McNulty (2022);



Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Kathleen Reville, George Gaynor, Eleanor Bagnell, Ken Lewis, Brian Philipps, Eugene Grant, Bronagh McCourt, Baby Freddie Cross, Josie Young, Irene McIsaac, Sophie Robinson, Tricia Scott, Baby Aidan McGuire, Job Jose, Eileen and Rick Sheptak, Ann Dooley, Sr Jeanette Connell LCM, Vaji Naji, Christopher McCarthy, Caroline Cassidy, Ben Higgins, Frances O'Donnell, Anita and Roger Bromley, Paul Kuppinger, Wyns and Jan Meise, Kaz Mordaszewski, Jacques and Monique Kopp, Tom Cullimore, Brian and Nancy McDermott, James Sutherland snr, Christine Henderson, Saramma Samuel, young Riley, baby Felix, Clare, Sau Mee Jin, Jenny Offord, Mike Foy, Fr John Chadwick, Dr Grier Gordon, Sr Monica Delaney FMDM, Mian Astill, Stuart Falconer, Roz Paton, Carl Barber, Danielle D'Souza, Anne Morris, Damian Mulvenna, Edward and Francisca Chan, Coralie Isherwood, Peter Hughes, Alasdair Mackay, Phyllis Oliver, Sandy Reid, David Miller, David Paterson, Mary Ferguson, Vincent McCann, Peter Higgins, Anne Claveirole, Revd Peter Millar, Ewa Kiersztejn, Revd Bill Wishart, Amparo Serrano, James Shepherd, Alison St Clair Ford, Kirsty McCrimmon, Noel Power, Mary McCormack, Sheila Laughlin, Helen Campbell, Mr Mega, young Zachary Cowie, King Charles, Elizabeth McKenzie, Marna Clarke, Eugene Feehan, Mag Farnon, Ann Currie, Jacob Green (aged 14), Pat Campanile, Mireille McNab (aged 15), Michelle Lee, Peter Hanley, Helen Robertson, young Josh Simpson, Tish Deacon, Elizabeth McGrath and Granny Elizabeth, John and Anne Havard, Harriet Wingfield Digby (aged 12), Alan Proudlock, Evelyn Walsh, Eunice McDonald, Grace Stuart, David Fenwick, Judith Franklin, Clare Johnston, Mary and Derek Lamarque, Michael Doherty, Jean Wylie, Angela Khan, Charlotte O'Brien, young Martha Moyes (aged 8), Kazim Kazimoglu, Tony Rigg, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, John Kellagher, Betty Blyth, James O'Rourke, Andrew Franklin, Jamie Mitchell, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Mary Turnbull and young Ray Donovan Syme.