

*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

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Administrator: Pauline Connarty

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First Sunday of Lent (Cycle B)

22nd February 2015

Our prayerful thanks and good wishes go with Fr Loreto Tabone on his return to Gozo and we offer a warm welcome home to Fr Jock on his return from India.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) – for those who will be baptised and/or confirmed at the Easter Vigil:

Today we have the next stage in the RCIA, the Rite of 'Pre-Inscription' (a kind of sending off with our prayers) at St John's Church at 9.30am Mass, followed by the Rite of Election at 3pm at St Mary's Cathedral. Prayers are asked for our 4 catechumens (those who haven't been baptised) - **Angela McGreevy, Stephen Finlayson, Chelsea Foley and Dionne Harper**, and our three candidates (those who will be completing the sacraments of initiation) - **Albert Caballero, Sharleena Asiatico, Vito Simone**. **Please do pray for them all in the coming weeks.**

PLANS FOR LENT IN OUR SISTER PARISHES

The season of preparation for Easter began last Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. In the sister parishes we offer different ways of preparation for you to choose from:

Each day there is Mass in either St Mary Magdalene's or St John's, normally at 10am but

- with a **7.30am Mass on Wednesday mornings** at St John's
- and a **7pm Mass** one evening a week at St Mary Magdalene's

Each weekday there is also the **Morning Prayer of the Church** at 9.30am at St John's

Each week

- on **Mondays** there is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** at St John's from 7pm to 8pm
- on **Wednesdays** there is **Stations of the Cross** at St John's after the 10am Eucharistic Service
- on **Fridays** there is **Divine Mercy Devotions** from 3-4pm at St John's and **Stations of the Cross** at 7pm at St Mary Magdalene's.

There is also a choice of **weekly Lenten House Groups** meeting during Lent. There is still a chance to sign up for a group, details of which are listed below. (Contact Fr Jock if you wish to know what's involved in a house group...)

In addition to these daily options there are some one-off events to choose from in the parish and the diocese.

In the parish (and we will offer more details on what's involved in each)

- **A Taize Evening** on Tuesday 24th March at 7.30pm at St Mary Magdalene's
- **Two Icon Evenings - with Sr Kathleen Curran and Juliet McKellaig from the Diocesan Retreat Team.**
 - one on Monday 2nd March at 7pm at St John's
 - one on Friday 27th March at 7pm at St Mary Magdalene's.

In the diocese

- **The Lenten Station Mass for the Edinburgh Deanery with Archbishop Cushley** at 7pm at St Mary's, Leith on Wednesday 4 March – **at which our RCIA candidates will receive the Creed**
- **The Lent Lecture: 'Trafficking: Reflections on a Catholic response'** – on Wednesday 11th March at 7pm: at the Gillis Centre **with** Cecilia Taylor Camara, senior policy adviser for Migrants, Bishops Conference of England & Wales
- **Justice & Peace Lent Retreat: 'The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue'**: Saturday 28th March: 10am to 4pm at St Catherine's Convent with Gemma Lamara, Outreach Manager SCIAF. To register contact: jacqueline.heron@staned.org.uk

LENT IS A TIME FOR SEEKING RECONCILIATION – Our Reconciliation Sunday is the Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 21/22, when several priests will be available to celebrate the sacrament.

LENT IS ALSO A TIME FOR ALMSGIVING ...AND FOR SCIAF'S WEE BOXES: Please take a 'wee box' home for your Lent offerings and remember that every £1 SCIAF received by 17th May will be doubled by the UK Government. Last year SCIAF'S WEE BOX Appeal raised over £800,000 to help people living in poverty, and over two thirds of that money came from parishes.

Lenten House Groups

The groups will run once a week for six weeks from the week beginning 16th February to the week beginning 23rd March. **If you would like to participate in these groups please put your name on one of the lists which can be found at the back of each Church or ring the hosts.**

Host	Phone	Address	Day and Time	Leader
Pauline MacInnes	657 3411	56/1 Moira Terrace	Monday, 2.30	Pauline MacInnes
Joyce Martin	669 6339	38 Milton Road	Monday, 7.30	David Connarty
Jennifer Morris	669 2433	14 Duddingston Row	Tuesday, 3pm	Aileen Hall
Geoff Dobson	669 1699	11 Coillesdene Ave	Thursday, 2.30	Geoff Dobson
Ann Dockrell	657 1101	15 Duddingston Pk Sth	Thursday, 7.30	Anne Jabir (THIS GROUP NOW FULL)
Laura Young	629 0270	4 Goff Avenue	Thursday, 7pm	Laura Young (THIS GROUP NOW FULL)
Anne Gilchrist	669 8235	10 Pittville Street	Friday, 10 am	Sheelagh Dobson

‘Walk With Me’

We have bought a supply of these excellent booklets, the theme of which is the joy of living the Beatitudes. Please feel free to take one as an aid to your Lenten journey of prayer for 2015.

THIS WEEK

Sunday 22nd February:

9.30am: St John’s Church: **Pre-inscription Rite for RCIA candidates will take place during Mass.**

3pm: St Mary’s Cathedral: **RCIA Rite of Election.**

5pm: St John the Baptist’s Church, St Ninian’s Rd, Corstorphine: **Remembering Service.** ‘The service is for those who have suffered the death of a child from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, whether recently or at an earlier time. It is hoped that representatives from organisations that provide counselling for stillbirths, miscarriages, and abortions will be present and available after the service.’

Tuesday 24th February:

7pm: St John’s Church Hall: **Meeting for Primary 3 parents & children in preparation for first celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

7pm: Sacred Heart Church (Ogilvie Room): **Christian Meditation.** An opportunity to renew your spiritual life during Lent. For further details phone 07717772614 or email edinburghmeditation@gmail.com

Wednesday 25th February:

7.30am: St John’s Church: **Early morning Lenten Mass**

10.45am: Parish House: **Sister Parishes’ Team Meeting**

7pm: Gillis Centre: **Evangelisation Evening:** ‘*Good News about the human body*’ based on Pope John Paul’s Theology of the Body.

Friday 27th February: 9.45am: St Mary Magdalene’s Church: **Mass with St John’s Primary School with distribution of ashes (Ash Friday!?).**

Saturday 28th February: 10am: St John’s Church: **Mass with a Focus on the Bereaved.** (Postponed from 7th February). **This is a new initiative organised by our sister parishes’ Bereavement Group and taking place on a Saturday morning every 3 months.** Invitations are sent out to those who have been recently bereaved – the Mass will have hymns and a short homily and there will be a chance to light a candle in memory of a loved one – and there is tea and coffee, and an opportunity to support each other in our grief, in the Hall afterwards. All most welcome.

IN THE COMING WEEKS

Sunday 1st March: 9.30am: St John’s Church: **Mass with ‘Do This in Memory of Me’ and presentation of the Creed to Primary 4 candidates for Sacramental Initiation.**

11.15am: St Mary Magdalene’s Church: **Children’s Mass with Primary 3 candidates for First Reconciliation.**

7pm: St John’s Church Hall: OPEN PARISH MEETING.

Novena in Honour of St John Ogilvie begins as we approach the 400th anniversary of his death on 10th March. (For more details see Fr Jock.)

Friday 6 March:

10.30am: St Martin’s Church, Magdalen: **World Day of Prayer Service.** (We have been asked for 2 volunteer readers for this service. Please contact Una Gallagher if you would be willing to do so.)

2.00pm: St John’s Church: **World Day of Prayer Service.**

Saturday 14th March: 10am to 3.30pm: Lauriston Hall: **An Initiative of the Vigil Group** (‘a group with a commitment to pray for renewal of the church, including ourselves’) - **‘The Future of Church:** An opportunity to explore different ways of being “Church” - a day of prayer, reflection and discussion on the future of parishes in the Archdiocese.’ For further details contact the vigilgroup.org.uk.

Offertory Collection - 15th February 2015

St Mary Magdalene’s - £ 285.95 St John’s - £ 716.06

MANY THANKS

NOTICEBOARD

Fairtrade Fortnight commences this week until Sunday 8th March. The Fairtrade Stall will be selling a variety of goods next Sunday 1st March & Sunday 8th March after 9.30am Mass in St John's Church Hall.

LEGHO: The news from **Mike Knox** is that the group of teachers heading out to Tanzania arrived safe and well and started work in their partner schools on Monday. Among the group is one of our St John's parishioners, **Gill Dick**, a teacher at St John's Primary School. You will be able to read a full account of the visit in next week's newsletter. In the meantime to follow their journey and see some wonderful photos go to www.twendepamojatrust.blogspot.com

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those whose have died recently, including: Stephen Murrin.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including: John Mctighe, Thomas Robb, Margaret Cheyne, John Walsh, John Dunn, John Hughes, Luisa Iannarelli, Mary McPartlin, Jackie Garvie, Agnes Gallagher, Margaret Tait, Annie Lesley, Richard Rooney, Winifred & Charles Wynne, Josephine Broadley, Jean Keenan, James Keegan, James Hanlon, Mary Young, Agnes Watters, Helen Molloy, James Thornton, Edward Magee, Bridget Meehan, Filomena Perilla, Mary Green, Betty Rope, Susan Passmore, Sean O'Donnell, William Murray, Mary Coll, Peggie McGill, Mary Simpson, (Baby girl) Lamb, James Alexander, Bernard Macnamara, Rita Deignan, Agnes Bannon, Fred Somerville, Joe Martin, Mary Meenan, and Fr Walter Glancy.

Please pray for the sick of our sister parishes, including:

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Mgr James Rae, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Baby Ailsa Fitzgerald, Jane McGuire, Mona Scoular Kathy & Jimmy Gallagher, Jenny Wormald, Mary Florence & Bob Crabbe, Erin Corbett, Sheila Alexander, Fay Dignan, Roz Byers, Michael & Mamie Richards, Pat Kershaw, Joan Howie, Helen Harrison, Cathy McGravie, Alf Macnamara, Marie Angela Crolla, Dolores Jones, Malachy Meehan, Jane Murray, Ann Ward, Gerry Houston, and Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Betty McEwing, Annie Watson, Anne McGeachie, Mary Robertson, Maria Juska, Isobel Phillips, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Silvia Berry, Tony Matrundala, Jude Ferguson, Mary & James Muir, Liz Davis, Rose McKay and Denis Davidson.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Sue McDevitt, Teresa Gallagher, Anne-Louise Dalrymple, Jeanette Amos, Ellen Green, Anne Gallagher, baby Ava Gillies, Denise O'Donnell, Margaret Davis, Dorothy Jamal, John Allan, Jane Morton, Christian and John Parham, Christine Wilson, Conor Kerrigan, Rupert Ridge, Jerzy Gladziuk, Vera Hawkes, Maria St. Denis, Marie Crolla, Margaret Rose, and baby Ray Donovan Syme.

Warm birthday greetings to Fr John Robinson, whose birthday is on Friday 27th February.

ST MARY MAGDALENE'S

Readers for this Sunday:

Sam Henry & Tessa Haring

Bidding Prayers: Anne Jabir

... and for next Sunday:

Children's Mass

Bidding Prayers: Children's Mass

Stations of the Cross Una Gallagher writes: 'There will be Stations of the Cross in St Mary Magdalene's each Friday in Lent at 7pm starting Friday 27th Feb. Volunteers are needed to read the Stations. If you would like to help please see Ann Dockrill or Una Gallagher.'

Food Parcel Service. If you would like to donate to the food parcel service supporting families in the local community, please leave donations of tinned food in the box provided at the back of the Church. Tins of tuna, hotdogs and meatballs would be much appreciated, as would any toiletries you can donate. These will be distributed from St Teresa of Lisieux Parish who are helping 8 to 10 families per week.

200 CLUB

Jean McNally writes: '- In order to comply with 200 Club Rules we are pleased to announce that, with immediate effect, the monthly prize will increase from £20 to £25. The two big 1/2 yearly prizes will remain at £200 each. Thank you for your support. New members always welcome.'

St. John's

Fairtrade Fortnight commences this week until Sunday 8th March. The Fairtrade Stall will be selling a variety of goods next Sunday 1st March & Sunday 8th March after 9.30am Mass in St John's Church Hall.

A REMINDER ... St John's Parish OPEN MEETING will take place next Sunday 1st March at 7pm in St John's Church Hall. Please do come along to discuss the Archbishop's letter and to have your say! The three Open Parish Meetings each year are the key meetings of the year - when we prayerfully reflect on what has been happening - and what will and can happen - in our sister parishes.

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St John the Evangelist	St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 21st February <i>Commemoration of St Peter Damian</i>	10.00am Mass: Hugh Kellacher 6.30pm Vigil: People of the Parish	
Sunday 22nd February FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE B)	9.30am Mass: John Hughes	11.15am Mass: Fr Tom Flynn
Monday 23rd February <i>Commemoration of St Polycarp</i>	10am Mass: Norah Glancy 7pm to 8pm: <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Tuesday 24th February	10.00am Eucharistic Service	7.00pm Mass: Holy Souls
Wednesday 25th February	7.30am Mass: Fr James Martin 10.00am Eucharistic Service <i>(followed by Stations of the Cross)</i>	
Thursday 26th February	10.00am Mass: Thomas Robb	
Friday 27th February	10.00am Eucharistic Service 3pm to 4pm: <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	9.45am Mass with St John's Primary School with distribution of ashes: Stephen Murrin 7pm: <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 28th February	10.00am Bereavement Mass: SI (Wedding Anniversary) 6.30pm Vigil: John Mctighe	
Sunday 29th February SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE B)	9.30am Mass: People of the Parish	11.15am Mass: Mgr Hugh Boyle

AN ESSENTIAL CONVICTION

'There can be no peacemaking or social work or anything else to improve our world unless we are convinced that the other is important. You are precious. You, not just 'people', but you. And we have a call to make history - not just accept history. We are called to change things - to change the movement of history, to make our world a place of love and not just a place of conflict and competition.'

Jean Vanier, "Living Gently in a Violent World", p. 63.

Lent: springtime of the spirit

Each year the trees give us a lesson in renewal.

First the bud, then the blossom, and finally the shoot.

Spring dresses the trees in a new robe, and makes them young again.

But this is possible only because in autumn they let go of their old leaves, and in between is a period of nakedness.

Lent is the springtime of the spirit.

Lord, help us not to be afraid to let go of old habits, and to face our spiritual poverty, in order that you may renew us, and so at Easter we will feel young again in our discipleship.

Flor McCarthy, *New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies* (Yr B)

LENTEN THOUGHTS

Fast from facts that depress: feast on verities that uplift

Fast from lethargy: feast on enthusiasm

Fast from thoughts that weaken: feast on promises that inspire

Fast from shadows of sorrow: feast on the sunlight of serenity

Fast from idle gossip: feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from hostility: feast on non-resistance

Fast from bitterness: feast on forgiveness

Fast from self-concern: feast on compassion for others

Fast from personal anxiety: feast on eternal truth

Fast from discouragements: feast on hope

Fast from words that pollute: feast on phrases that purify

Fast from discontent: feast on gratitude

Fast from anger: feast on patience

Fast from pessimism: feast on optimism

Fast from worry: feast on divine order

Fast from complaining: feast on appreciation

Fast from negatives: feast on affirmatives

Fast from unrelenting pressures: feast on unceasing prayer.

Source Unknown