

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

Administrator: Karen Blair (Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8am to 1pm & Friday 11am-4pm)  
Web address: [www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk)      Web address: [www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk](http://www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk)  
Joint e-mail for our sister parishes: [stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com)

*The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Sunday 16 August 2020*

WELCOME....If you're 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.



## WISDOM IN A TIME OF CRISIS

Richard Rohr

*change is  
inevitable  
growth is  
optional*

The word *change* normally refers to new beginnings. But the mystery of transformation more often happens not when something new begins, but when something old falls apart. The pain of something old falling apart – chaos – invites the soul to listen at a deeper level, and sometimes forces the soul to go to a new place. Most of us would never go to new places in any other way.

We will normally do anything to keep the old thing from falling apart, yet this is when we need patience and guidance, and the freedom to let go instead of tightening our controls and certitudes.

In moments of insecurity and crisis, *shoulds* and *oughts* don't really help. They just increase the shame, guilt, pressure, and likelihood of backsliding into unhealthy patterns. It's the deep yeses that carry us through to the other side. It's that deeper something we are strongly for – such as equality and dignity for all – that allows us to wait it out. In plain language, love wins out over guilt any day.

**Fr Jock writes:** 'We are continuing with our normal weekend Mass schedule, which is: Saturday Vigil 6.30pm at St John's - Sunday 9.30am at St John's (which will be live-streamed), Sunday 11.15am at St Mary Magdalene's. Each of these Masses will be about 30 minutes long - with a reduced number of readings and a shortened homily.

As well as these Masses, there is a **pre-recorded streamed full-length Mass (from the Prayer Room) available on-line at 11am on Sunday** (and continuing to be so afterwards) as an alternative for those who cannot attend the live Masses. **Children's Liturgy** will continue on Zoom at 11.15am as part of this Mass.

For our Sunday Masses, people still wanting a place for this weekend (15/16 August) need to ring the main parish phone (669 5447) or email the parish email address to see if a place is still available and someone will get back to you.

For next weekend, like these last two weekends, to help us to manage the numbers, **if you wish to come to one of the live Masses, please contact the parish house by email ([stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com)) or by phone (0131 669 5618 – a special number) to book your place.**

**If phoning, please do so between 10am and 12 noon Wednesday and Friday (nb Change of hours) when there will be someone there to take your call. We will not take any bookings by email or phone before 10am on Wednesday.** (We will also be asking for – and keeping – your name and telephone number for ‘track and trace’ requirements).

Bookings will be on the basis of ‘first come, first served’ but we will make sure that all those who wish to attend Mass in either Church will have their turn the following week, if a place is not available this week. Please be aware also that you will need to utilize hand sanitisers as you come into and leave the church, and masks must be worn throughout the service. You will also need to be escorted to your seat which you will not be able to choose.

For the moment, we will be continuing to livestream Masses some – this week on Monday at 10am, Tuesday at 7pm and Friday at 10am - of our **Weekday Masses** from the Prayer Room in the Parish House, rather than celebrating in the Church with a congregation. (This is partly because after every Mass, ‘deep cleaning’ has to take place – something that takes a considerable length of time and effort. We are so very grateful to our welcomers, stewards and cleaners who are making it possible for us to have our churches open.)

**...and THANK YOU to Fr Jim Walls for celebrating our two Sunday Morning Masses this Sunday, as well as different weekday Masses this last fortnight. Both he and Fr Jim Smith (who has also been celebrating some of our Masses) continue to be true blessings on our community.**

**PS And a little progress with that book....’**



## St John’s is also Open for Prayer

**This Sunday 16 August, and next Sunday, 23 August, both our Churches will be open for Mass but not for private prayer.**

**During the week St John’s will only be open on WEDNESDAY afternoon between 2pm and 3pm (with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament) and Saturday morning from 11am to 12am**

### Children’s Liturgy at Sunday Mass

**Arlene Lauder writes:**

‘It may be the school holidays but Zoom **Children’s Liturgy sessions are continuing.** Why not join us this Sunday 16 August where we will be starting around 11:15 am? To be included, please send your email address to Arlene at [Lauder.82@btinternet.com](mailto:Lauder.82@btinternet.com) by 4pm on Saturday 15 August. Please tell us your full name, your child/children’s names and which mass you would normally attend, this information is for our register to keep all involved safe. **\*\*Please note that we will automatically send the Zoom link by email to everyone who has joined us before’.**\*\*



# THIS WEEK

## Monday 17 August

5pm – Skype – **PEP Meeting** (PEP - Parish Emergency Planning Group)

7pm - **GOSPEL SHARING BY ZOOM**

Join us for reflection and sharing on this week's readings in your own home.

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88504556715?pwd=OXorV1R4TUM2eEFpeDRKYnRiYkxrZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 0455 6715 Passcode: 057690

*The format is very simple – the readings...the Sunday homily...a time of sharing...and ending with prayer. For those who are shy of speaking out, there'll be a chance to type a thought instead...ALL WELCOME (and, if possible, have your missal or Jerusalem Bible ready – spare copies available for borrowing from the Parish House).*

**Wednesday 19 August – 7.30pm - Zoom – St John's Pastoral Council Meeting**

## Friday 21 August

9.20am – Youtube - **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

11am – **Rosary** - Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp and also on the phone (contact Maria Igoe – 07981 333219).

# NOTICEBOARD

## A REQUEST FOR CLEANERS/SANITISERS

Fr Jock writes: 'At the moment, our churches are open each week for one weekday Mass in both churches and for our normal Sunday Masses. Obviously it isn't wise or possible for many people to clean and sanitise our churches after Mass; however, so far we only have a few people (whose generosity is much appreciated) on the rota ....in order to spread the load, and to ensure these regular cleaners/sanitiser are kept safe by not being over-exposed, **we are looking for more volunteers** to offer their services – **many thanks to those who did so after last week's appeal**. Only if we have a few more, will we be able to offer more weekday

Masses, rather than ones live-streamed from the Prayer Room, and continue offering three Sunday Masses....if you are willing and able to help, please contact Fr Jock – or Chris Vinestock at St John's or Jennifer Morris at St Mary Magdalene's via the parish house.

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours)

 0800 027 1234



'Love cannot bind people together if no one learns anything from anyone else.'

*St Augustine*

# POPE FRANCIS – NEVER GIVE UP

*'You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you.*



*Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.*

*To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness.*

*It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.*

*Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life.*

*Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.*

*To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes".*

*It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry". It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you".*

*It is to have the ability to say "I love you".*

*May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ...*

*In spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter may it be a lover of wisdom.*

*And when you make a mistake, start all over again.*

*For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance.*

*Use your losses to train patience. Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity.*

*Use pain to plaster pleasure. Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence.*

*Never give up ....*

*Never give up on people who love you.*

*Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show.'*

# A Message from Fresh Start

*(An Edinburgh based charity helping people who have been homeless get established in their new home)*

‘Due to Covid 19, we had to stop taking donations to ensure everyone’s safety.

We are now pleased to say we would be delighted to start taking the goods listed below from our Church supporters (but please: **only the goods listed below**). The reason we are only taking these specific goods is for the safety of our staff and if you give us goods that are not on this list we will not be able to accept them, as you may be aware it costs us money to get rid of goods we cannot use. However, this is mainly to keep the Fresh Start staff and volunteers as safe as we possibly can. We have worked hard during the crisis to put in place very strict safety procedures including the receiving of donations.

We will only take donations from Churches and not the general public at this point.

What we will take:

Mugs	Soup / cereal bowls	Shampoo	Toilet cleaner
Tumbler glasses	Cutlery	Deodorant	Anti bac spray
Small side plates	Pots and pans	Soap	Washing up liquid
Large dinner plates	Small electrical appliances	Shower gel	Bleach

We do hope that you will be in position to assist us in starting taking donations as it is a vital way of us generating goods, but we also hope that you understand the new procedure at this moment in time.

**(Note from J&P Group: Donations should be left at the back of the church, just outside the shop at St John’s, or in the porch at St Mary Magdalene’s).**

## *A Prayer post Lockdown*

*Lord, help us leave*

*From resentment to a positive reading of the crisis,*

*From a Church which intervenes “from the outside” to a Church which walks,*

*From a Church as “place of salvation” to a Church which is “sign of salvation,”*

*From a framework of supply and demand to the dynamic of dialogue,*

*From the imposition of a religious system to a proposal of faith,*

*From the conservation of the established community to mission,*

*From the repetition of the inheritance to creativity.*



# PARISH REGISTER

*Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Charles Douglas and Margaret Waugh*

**St John's**

**Aug.16 :-** William Burns (2016); Mary Rae (2013); Carlo Mancini (2002); Sydney Reid (1987); **Aug.17 :-** Edna Mary Travers (2019); Peggy Hanlon; Catherine Phair; **Aug.18 :-** Mary Hughes (2018); Mary Eaton (2015); Joyce Barber (1996); Alexander Binnie Sr. (1983); **Aug.19 :-** Kate Hanlon; **Aug.20 :-** John Pelosi (2009); Nellie McIntee (2005); Allan Dobson (2000); May Knight(1976); Cathie Fairgrieve; **Aug.21 :-** Alexander Binnie Jr. (1992); Margaret Ward (1956); Francis Bell

**St Mary Magdalene's**

**Aug.21 :-** John McNulty (1967); John Monteith (1967)

**Sick Parishioners - St. John's:** Alice Neilson, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Chloe Sutherland, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Molly Lugton, Sheila and Pat Tansey, Frank Logan, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Sheila Alexander, Patricia Lawler, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Ernie Moran, Maureen Low, Pat Hunter, Dolores Jones, Alan Blyth, Mary Slight, Marie White, Cathy Walls, Anna Butler, Mary Phair, Sara Alkahankni, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Guilio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

**Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's:** Agnes Harvey, Sam Burns, Clive Davis, Elizabeth Mackail, Ella Ayers, Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Prior, Sheila and George Service, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Michael McPhilipps, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Chris English, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Jude Ferguson, and Mary & James Muir.

**Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including:** John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Catriona MacKinnon, Max Middleton (aged 9), Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Lauli Ridge, Emilia Iheji, Jan Meise, Seval Kazimoglu, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Carla Zanetti, Peter Hanley, Fr Christopher Delaney, Jennifer Kay, Janie Low, Ranier Carpo, William Young, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Gerry Mulvenna, Frank Palmer, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Celine Diniz, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Audrey Burgess, Kathleen Cawley, Margo Law, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Emma Bromet, Margaret Lee, Joan Bonnar, Mekala Osborne, Jean Nelson, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Sr Veronica Marshall, Martin Doherty, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Roksana Moczulstra, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jake Jorden and young Ray Donovan Syme.



Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
9 August 2020	£299.00 (including Gift Aid of £230.00 and £124.00 Direct Debits – ie <b>£423.00</b> )	£667.60 (including Gift Aid of £372.40) and £744.00 Direct Debits – ie <b>£1411.60</b> )

## *A Second Post Lockdown Prayer*

*Ever present God,  
 be with us in our isolation,  
 be close to us in our distancing,  
 be healing in our sickness,  
 be joy in our sadness,  
 be light in our darkness,  
 be wisdom in our confusion,  
 be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,  
 that as the doors reopen  
 we may with zeal of Pentecost  
 inhabit our communities.*

# PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Week after week, we can take on the biggest issues we face as a society – from continuing racism, mass incarceration, inequality and poverty to gender violence and human trafficking, climate change – and just try to be hopeful.

Or we can start by going deeper, to a more foundational and spiritual understanding of hope – rooted in our identity as the children of God, made in the image of God, as the only thing that will see us through times like this.

I believe we should start there. Because the biggest problem we face – the biggest enemy at the heart of many of the issues – is hopelessness.

And perhaps the most important thing the world needs from the faith community today is hope.



Hope is a decision,  
a choice we make  
because of this thing  
we call faith.  
Hope is our job.

*Jim Wallis*

I believe that hope isn't a feeling, a mood, or a personality type. Rather, hope is a decision, a choice we make because of this thing we call faith.

Hope is our vocation and our identity as the people of God. Let's put it this way – when we confront the depth of things we address we must also understand our role. I am convinced now that hope is our job as people of faith.

Hope is our job.

Hope is the particular thing the people of God need to provide, and is the most important thing that every movement for change needs.

*Jim Wallis*

# Children's Letters to God



Dear God -  
Please put a -  
nother Holiday  
between Christmas  
and Easter.  
There is nothing good  
in there now.  
Ginny

Dear God,  
It rained for are whole  
holiday and is my father  
mad! He said some things  
about you that people are  
not supposed to say, but I  
hope you will not hurt him  
anyway.

Your friend  
But I am not going to tell you  
who I am

Please Send me  
I never ask  
for anything before  
you can look it up  
Bruce

Dear God,  
How come you did all those  
miracles in the old days and  
don't do any now?  
Seymour

Dear God,  
my brother  
is a rat. you  
should give him a  
tail. Ha ha.

Danny



Dear God,  
I wish that there wasn't  
no such thing of sin.  
I wish that there was  
not no such thing  
of war.

Tim M  
age 9

Dear -God- if-  
we-come-back  
as-something-  
please-don't  
let-me-be  
Jennifer-Horton  
because-I-hate  
her.

Denise

Dear God,  
Please send Dennis Clark  
to a different camp  
this year.  
Peter