

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: 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 e-mail for our sister parishes: stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com



Second Sunday of Advent – Sunday 6 December 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.*

Warm Congratulations and the promise of our prayers to Fr Fulgence Sangawe, Parish Priest of St John's twin parish of Legho Village, in Tanzania, who celebrates his silver jubilee of ordination on Saturday 5 December.

Fr Sangawe was a very welcoming host to our pilgrim group when we visited Legho in January.

Two Children's Masses this Sunday

In response to the enthusiasm shown at our first Children and Families' Mass (ie Children within their Family Bubble) in November, we plan to offer two such Children's Masses every month, one month at 5pm on Saturday at St John's (instead of the 6.30pm) and 11.15am on Sunday at St Mary Magdalene's, the following month at 9.30pm and 4.30pm on Sunday at St John's.

So, this week there are Children's Masses at 5pm (instead of 6.30pm) on Saturday at St John's and on Sunday at 11.15am at St Mary Magdalene's. These will be for Children and Family Bubbles Only.....Both Masses are fully booked. In order to

book your place at either Mass (or, when they are full, to go on the waiting list for the Children's Masses on 10 January), please call or text Arlene Lauder on 07950880833.

NB There will be NO Zoom children's liturgy this Sunday 6 December due to the Children's Masses.



RECONCILIATION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 13 December will be our annual Advent Reconciliation Sunday – adapted according to Covid restrictions – with at least two priests available to celebrate a socially distanced sacrament of reconciliation in a short service - with music –

- at the starting-time for Mass (9.30am, 11.15am and 4.30pm).

Because of the Golden Wedding Mass at 6.30pm on Saturday 12 December, the Reconciliation Service linked to the Vigil Mass will take place

- at 6.30pm on Saturday 19 December.

Fr Jock will also be available for Reconciliation

- in St John's from 10.45am to 12.30pm on Wednesday 16 December,
- after the 10am Mass on Thursday 17 December at St Mary Magdalene's,
- and from 5.15 to 6.15pm on Sunday 20 December in St John's.

With this newsletter is an Examination of Conscience to help us all prepare.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve – 5.30pm – St John's - Christmas Vigil Mass for Children and Family Bubble

8.30pm – St John's - Christmas 'Midnight' Mass

Christmas Day: 9.30am – St John's - Christmas Morning Mass.

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – Christmas Children's Mass.'

Fr Jock writes: 'It is obviously going to be a rather different Christmas to any other so we ask your patience and understanding as we try to organise the Masses in the best and fairest way possible – in terms of numbers, venues, times and how people book and places are allocated.

Due to Covid restrictions, and despite holding four Christmas Masses, there will not be enough spaces for all who wish to attend....It has finally been decided that for the services at 8.30pm on Christmas Eve and 9.30am and 11.15am on Christmas Day, the names of attendees will be chosen by 'drawing names from a hat'.

So if you wish to attend one of these three Christmas Masses please contact the Parish House – by calling 669 5618 or emailing stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com between Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 16 December and your name will be put into the draw.

To ensure that singles as well as groups can attend there will be separate draws for each category.

Those who do not get a space will be given priority for the Masses of 26 and 27 December – The Feast of the Holy Family.

When you apply please let us know -

- a) your name and contact details
- b) the service you wish to attend (please limit to one service only)
- c) whether the application is for one person or for a group that can sit together;
- d) if a group, the number of people;
- e) which Mass on 26 (6.30pm) or 27 December (9.30am, 11.15am and 4.30pm) you would wish to attend if you don't get a space for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day;

When spaces have been allocated, you will be contacted to let you know whether or not you have a space, and if you do, for which Mass.

For the Christmas Eve 5.30pm Children and Family Bubble Mass (for children and family bubbles only) bookings should be made by calling or texting Arlene Lauder on 07950 880833 between 8 and 16 December. After that you will be informed if you have a place – and if not, you will be given a first option for the two Children's Masses on 10 January.

We will also do our best to livestream as many of the Christmas Masses as we can, so everybody has a chance to participate in Mass on Christmas Eve/Day.

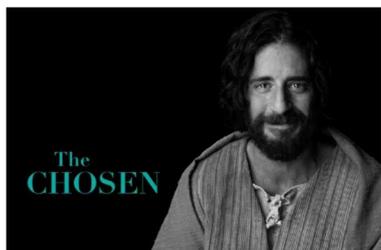
PS For those wary of the idea of 'drawing from a hat', it does have scriptural basis: in the Acts of the Apostles (Chapter 1 verse 26), the Apostles are choosing who to fill the gap left by Judas' death, and two names are put forward, Joseph and Barsabbas...the apostles then pray – '*they then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles....*'!

Mike Knox and Twende Pamoja (Let us Walk Together)

Des Brogan, Maria McCann and Linda McGee, the three Twende Pamoja Trustees, write: 'We hope you and yours are well and that you are now beginning to look forward to the celebrations of Christmas. It is three months since Mike left us and while he is no doubt enjoying the heavenly banquet, we are working away to try and ensure the continuation of his projects in Scotland and Tanzania. Your support is greatly needed and so we make you aware of our Christmas Appeal. – Please see handout/attachment with this newsletter...'

AN AUTUMN AND ADVENT INITIATIVE FOR OUR TWO PARISHES

A chance to watch and reflect on a superb new series about the life and ministry of Jesus



THE CHOSEN

based on the Gospels and remaining true to their spirit, but with great creativity imagining life at that time and what might have been the background to the events we know so well.

This week – Episode 4 – do watch it at home and then reflect on the questions included in this newsletter (see handout) ...and/or, if you'd like to be part of a

'house group' sharing with a few others – please contact Geoff and Sheilagh Dobson

(geoffdobson@btinternet.com) – and they will send you a Zoom link – for the meeting at Tuesday at 2pm (by which time you should have watched the episode!).

The Link for Episode 4 is [https:// https://youtu.be/Y-YFzEI8Gt0](https://youtu.be/Y-YFzEI8Gt0)

We have DVDs available for those unable to access the episodes online.

Any questions, please contact Deacon Eddie - ewhite@outlook.com - or ring the Parish House – 0131 669 5447.

Masses – and How/If to Book

To help us to manage the numbers, if you wish to come to one of the ‘live’ Saturday and Sunday Masses, please contact the parish house



by phone (0131 669 5618 – a special number) only on

Wednesday 10am to 1pm

Thursday 10am to 1pm

Friday 11am to 1pm

Or by email (stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com) until Friday 1pm. We are continuing to livestream some of our Weekday Masses from the Prayer Room in the

Parish House - **this week on Monday and Friday at 10am and Tuesday at 7.00pm** (This is partly because after every Mass in one of our Churches, ‘deep cleaning’ has to take place – something that takes a considerable length of time and effort. We are so incredibly grateful to our welcomers, stewards and cleaners who are making it possible for us to have our churches open – **and always open to new volunteers.**)

Please also be aware that you will need to utilize hand sanitisers as you come into and leave the church, and masks must be worn throughout the service.

Due to the COVID regulations we have limited seatings available and therefore **we advise early booking.** We are grateful for your patience and understanding in these difficult times.’

THIS WEEK

Saturday 5 December

5.00pm – St John’s – **Children’s Mass (fully booked)**

Sunday 6 December

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass (fully booked)**

11.00am – **Full length Sunday Mass** (streamed on YouTube, pre-recorded from the Prayer Room)

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Children’s Mass (fully booked)**

4.30pm – St John’s - **Mass (fully booked)**

Monday 7 December

10am – Prayer Room – **Mass (livestreamed)**

4.30pm – Skype – **PEP Meeting**

7-8pm – Zoom/Google Meeting – **Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All**

To join by Zoom, click the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691657743?pwd=cWVORXlqaHlRRVI4aXJNM2wzRm5wUT09>

Meeting ID: 846 9165 7743

Passcode: 766897

Via Google: meet.google.com/zhr-jtkf-tpa

The format is very simple and unthreatening – listening to the Sunday readings, and to a precis of Fr Jock or Deacon Eddie’s homily, and then – for those who wish (but absolutely no pressure, it’s more than ok to remain silent) – a chance to share one’s own personal perspective, and finally, concluding with some very gentle prayer....Do give it a try....

Tuesday 8 December (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)

7.00pm – Prayer Room – **Mass (livestreamed)**

Wednesday 9 December

9.20am – St John’s – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.00am – St John’s - **Mass (livestreamed, no booking required)**

Thursday 10 December

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene’s - **Mass (livestreamed, no booking required)**





Friday 11 December

9.20am – Prayer Room – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

10.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass** (livestreamed)

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



Saturday 12 December

12.30pm – St John’s - **Baptism** of Ilaria Diotaiuti

6.30pm – St John’s – **Vigil Mass with Golden Wedding Renewal of Vows**

Sunday 13 December (Reconciliation Sunday)

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass (booking required)**

11.00am – **Full length Sunday Mass** (streamed on YouTube, pre-recorded from the Prayer Room)

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene’s – **Mass (booking required)**

4.30pm – St John’s - **Mass (booking required)**

From Archbishop Leo’s Weekly Ad Clerum

COVID-19 - Updates for our Archdiocese can be read at the coronavirus updates page on www.archedinburgh.org

Pro-Life Advent Rosary

Join people across the Archdiocese on Zoom to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions.

Each Monday at 7:30pm in Advent. To register, visit bit.ly/RosaryAdvent2

DIY Abortion: Make Your Voice Heard

A Zoom session to learn how to respond to the Scottish Government online consultation on early medical abortion at home. 7:30pm, Tuesday 08 December. Register at bit.ly/DIYabortion

Be Still - Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM helps you cut through the cacophony of consumerism to ensure prayer is the priority in your prep to celebrate the birth of Christ. This Zoom event takes place at **7:30pm on Monday 14 December**. No registration required - join using this link bit.ly/BeStillWebinar

Diploma in Catechetics

More people are registering for the Archdiocese’s Diploma in Catechetics. Lectures take place on a Thursday evening on Zoom, so you can learn from the comfort and convenience of your home. To register visit bit.ly/CatecheticsDiploma (deadline 01 January). Or for more info email: sranna.marie@staned.org.uk

Stay updated

To receive a monthly update from the Archdiocese straight to your inbox, subscribe at archedinburgh.org/news-events (scroll to bottom of page). Or email matthew.meade@staned.org.uk and put ‘subscribe me’ in the subject bar. The December update can be found at bit.ly/ArchDecUpdate.

An Advent Journey with the Scottish Laity Network Forced like Jesus Christ to Flee - How shall we Sing to the Lord in a Foreign Land?

Thursday 10 December – Danny Sweeney - Forced to Leave ~ No Room in a Foreign Land

Danny was a Civil Servant working in Yorkshire for the Home Office Asylum Directorate. The same day he interviewed with [Justice and Peace Scotland](http://JusticeandPeaceScotland) for a job was the day that the ‘old jungle’ camp in Calais was destroyed. Danny’s work and life in Scotland has kept treading a path through Calais, and walking alongside refugees and asylum seekers, seeing the frontline of a humanitarian crisis unfolding in our society.

Thursday 17 December ~ Hyab Yohannes and Hannah Rose Thomas - Stories of Pain, Survival and Hope leading to a Liturgy of Lament and Hope

Hyab is an Eritrean refugee and researcher at the University of Glasgow and holder of the UNESCO RILA PhD Scholarship. He works formally for local charities and international organisations in Egypt including UNHCR, IOM, Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA) and Saint Andrew’s Refugee Services (StARS).

Hannah is an English artist and Durham graduate in Arabic and History, currently studying her PhD at Glasgow University as a UNESCO Scholar. While living in Jordan as an Arabic student in 2014, Hannah organised art projects with Syrian refugees for UNHCR. This experience led her to seek ways to combine her art and humanitarian work. Hannah subsequently began painting portraits of refugees she had met, to show the people behind the global crisis, whose personal stories are often shrouded by statistics.

Through her art Hannah gives voice to the voiceless, lionises the isolated and prescribes dignity to the persecuted and forcibly displaced. Hannah seeks to use art as a tool for advocacy, bringing their stories into places of influence in the West.

NOTICEBOARD

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY.... WELL, AT LEAST GOOD NEWS OF A LOAN FROM THE DIOCESE FOR THE ST JOHN'S TOWER PROJECT:

Gary Zoltie, Chair of St John's Finance Council, writes: 'Firstly, some good news!! At a meeting of the Trustees of the Archdiocese on Thursday 26 November they approved our proposal for an increased loan of £150,000 which now means that we have the funds in place to push on with the full tower renovation. The loan will be interest free and repaid over a maximum period of 25 years. Any money raised through donations, second collections, fundraising and grants will contribute towards reducing the loan required and the time over which the loan is repaid.

Following my talk after the two St John's Masses a couple of weekends ago, I have received some questions from parishioners about how to process donations and standing order payments and I thought it would be worthwhile to restate that here:-

For those with online banking you can set up a standing order payment or bank transfer to

Sort Code 80-46-53, Account No. 10765768

Account Name: St John The Evangelist

Please add "Tower" and your surname to the reference so that we know it's to be allocated to the Tower Fund.

If you don't have online banking but still want to make a regular weekly or monthly donation through your bank account we can provide you with a form which you can complete and send to your bank branch and they will set it up for you.

Finally, we thank you for your ongoing support and generosity and please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at garyzoltie@hotmail.com if you have any questions.'

Holy Rood Virtual Open Evening

Joan Daly, the Head Teacher, writes: 'Holy Rood's P7 Open Evening normally takes place around this time, however due to current restrictions due to Covid-19, we are not able to host visitors in school. We have therefore created a Virtual Open Evening so that P7 pupils and parents/carers can become familiar with some of our key staff, curriculum and the subjects supports available. Whilst we know that this will not replace a physical visit to the school, we hope that it provides a good alternative and that it helps each child's transition to Holy Rood.

The Virtual Open Evening is available on our school website:

<https://sway.office.com/rzwoY6h6WMWRRULw?ref=Link>

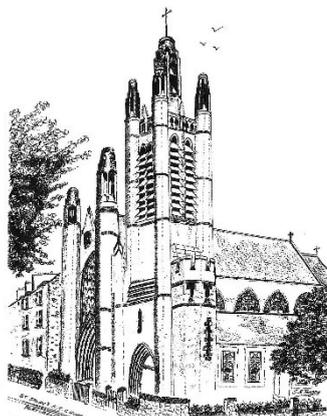
We are very proud of our school and are very much looking forward to welcoming P7s and new parents and carers into our school community.'

Porty Light Box

*Keep an eye out
for the Light Box at the top of Bellfield St.*

*There will be
lots of photos from the local churches
providing some lovely Christmas cheer!*

OUR FIRST ST JOHN'S TOWER FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE – A CHRISTMAS RAFFLE...



Catherine McAnenny writes: 'The first initiative we have agreed on is a Christmas raffle and we have already secured some fabulous prizes. Due to the restrictions imposed on us because of COVID we won't be able to promote the sale of the tickets after Mass as we once would have done. So, instead, we hope that it's ok that we have posted three books of tickets to many households in St John's...the tickets will be £2 each and will be in books of five. We would be very grateful if you would return the money and any unsold tickets back to the Parish House in the envelope that will be provided.

If any parishioners feel that they could sell more books of tickets perhaps to extended family, friends and work colleagues, please contact me on 07968970159 and more ticket books can be delivered. Similarly, if any St Mary Magdalene's parishioners are willing to help, that would be wonderful...

A Reminder for those who do not have the Internet but would like to 'access' Mass....

Maria Igoe writes: 'Dial-a-Mass offers those who are unable at this time to get to Mass and who do not have the Internet, the opportunity to hear a short Mass daily on the phone. This was started by Fr Stephen Baillie, who will now share this service with 4 other Priests, including Bishop John Keenan. It is greatly appreciated by those who have no other way to partake in the prayers of the Mass and the scripture readings. Access this by phoning 0141 473 4869.'

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours)

☎0800 027 1234

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Theresa Gallagher, Ilona Kalopos and John Dunn

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Margaret Risi, Mary Salvona, Jimmy Duke, Joseph Dykes, Jean McCraw, Maria Juska, Jenny Wormald, Bill Brogan, Alice Doherty, Jane Wright, Hilda Prior and Myles Durkin,

St John's Dec.7:- Charlie DiCarlo (1997); Thomas Holt (1972); John Tweedie ; **Dec.8:-** Margaret O'Brien (2001); Robert Taylor (1998); Kathleen M Codling (1977); James Waldie; **Dec.9:-** Mary Salvona (2017); Jenny Wormald (2015); May Maclean (2007); S. M. Nelson (1985); Frank McGuire (1979); Bridget Lawrie (1990); **Dec.10:-** Jimmy Duke (2014); Vincent Kelegher (2003); Margaret T Ward (2001); Mary McLauchlan (2000); Joseph Dykes (1985); Maggie Bonner (1982); Michael Keogh (1948); James Anderson; **Dec.11:-** Stan Tweedie (2014); Mary Meehan (2006); Bridget & Michael Meldrum; Annie Shrivener; **Dec.12:-** Jean McCraw (2019); Alice Doherty (2019); John Ritchie (2016); Valerie Messent (2003); Myles Durkin (1975); Margaret Riach (1960); Ann Cassidy; James Daly; **Dec.13:-** Jane Wright (2016); John Dalrymple (2016); James Quinn (1991); Joseph P Gannon (1968); Agnes Stone (1964); **St Mary Magdalene's Dec.7:-** Thomas Burdell (2000); **Dec.9:-** Richard Sheppard (1973); Mary MacDougall (1969); **Dec.10:-** Maria Juska (2015); **Dec.11:-** Winifred Graham (1981);

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

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Chris and Louise English, Jacqueline Marinello, Sheila and George Service, Ray Donnelly, Sam Burns, Clive Davis, Ella Ayers, Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Prior, John Newell, 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 & James Muir.

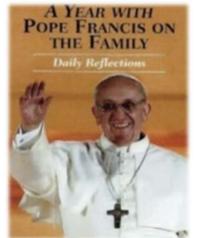
Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Joe Greenan, Martin Carr, Michael Igoe, Elizabeth Foster-Melliari, baby Josh Simpson, Katie McAnenny, Piotr and Daniela Przekop. Jack Gibson, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, baby Francesca Horwood, Peter Von Schenk, Anthony Finnerty, John Walsh, Linda McKean, Moira McConville, Kathleen Kay, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, Hazel Yeoman, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Max Middleton (aged 9), Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Lauli Ridge, Jan Meise, Seval Kazimoglu, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Carla Zanetti, Peter Hanley, Jennifer Kay, Janie Low, Ranier Carpo, William Young, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, 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, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Rokšana 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
29 November 2020	£73.10 offertory and £115.00 Gift Aid - £188.10 total	£614.88 (including Gift Aid of £122.40) and £350.00 Standing Orders – £964.88 total
Tower Fund Collection		£3176.00 (including Gift Aid of £2450.00)

Warm Congratulations to Evlynn and Jim Roarty, who celebrate their Golden Wedding next Saturday, 12 December (and will renew their vows at the Vigil Mass).
...and to Enrico Fertini, our administrator, 50 on Monday 7 December (sharing a birthday with **Deacon Eddie**, who is slightly younger...)

“St Joseph was not stubborn in following his own life plans; he did not allow resentment to poison his soul, but he was prepared to make himself disposed to the news that, in a disconcerting way, was presented to him ... The Holy Spirit works as He wills, when He wills, and where He wills; we entrust ourselves without pretending to see striking result. We know only that our commitment is necessary”



Watch The Lyceum Christmas Tales for FREE! Click here to find out more
<https://lyceum.org.uk/whats-on/production/lyceum-christmas-tales>

This is one for the younger parishioners- a little fun and it's free.

‘WHERE I FIND GOD’ – Rita O’Brien

Rita O’Brien is married to a farmer and lives in the countryside. She is the mother of two boys, Tom and Conor. She has mostly worked as a midwife and neonatal nurse, but more recently changed career to bereavement counsellor in the Maternity Hospital



One day a woman came into the hospital where I work for her routine ultrasound scan of her baby at thirty-six weeks’ gestation. The baby’s heartbeat had stopped. The doctor told her gently that her baby had died. I sat in silence with this lady. When she lifted her head, we held each other’s gaze for what seemed like an eternity. I felt God in that gaze.

When I worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, sometimes out of the blue I was touched by a wave of calm and I could feel God between my hands and the baby’s tiny body.

On Sunday, tucked away in our little Godly playroom overhead, the congregation below, I sit on the floor in a circle with the children and in silence we “get ready” to hear the story. Those precious moments recharge my batteries for the whole week.

I know deep down, even though I am not always aware or tuned in, that every one of us and all of creation are connected by this great Mystery that we call God.



THE CHOSEN

<https://youtu.be/Y-YFzEI8Gt0>

(Link for Episode Four)



Episode Four: “The Rock on which it was built”.

With his life and family under threat from Rome, Simon (Peter) spends one last night fishing in a desperate attempt to square his debts. Andrew spots a familiar face waiting for them on the shores of Lake Galilee...

Matthew is described by Simon as ‘a little off.’ He watches the night fishing trip from the hilltop with his dog and witnesses the morning catch.

- a) *Simon, as portrayed in this series, at this stage of his life, is losing everything. Is this the kind of person I imagined Jesus chose on which to build his church? Simon’s ear has been cut by the Romans, mirroring, perhaps, the source of his outburst in the garden of Gethsemane...*
- b) *We meet Simon’s wife (Eden) and her Eema/Ima (Mum). We are invited to consider Simon with real life modern issues - can/should Granny come to live with us? How are we going to manage financially? How can considering Simon’s situation influence me today?*
- c) *Simon and his brother Andrew, James and John and their Dad, Zebedee, go night fishing. Simon is at the end of his tether and is considering fleeing to Egypt. His companions prepare to support him on the beach should the Romans arrest him. I recognise that it is Jesus on the beach in his short tunic. Jesus calls to the men and asks them to have one more attempt with their nets...*

How do I feel when their fishing efforts are rewarded? How does Jesus seem to respond to this miracle of a catch? What strikes me most?

- d) *What is changing about my sense of who Jesus is and the nature and character of Simon...?*

