

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 & Friday: 10am to 3pm)

Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk

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

6th Sunday of Easter - Sunday 17 May 2020

WELCOME...If you're visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes – even if, sadly, for the moment we can't welcome you to our churches. 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.



A Reflection on Sunday's Gospel (John 15: 9-17)– by Mairi Clunas

'I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate, the Holy Spirit'

'In today's gospel passage Jesus speaks to us about the path of love, fidelity and sacrifice which lead to an ever deepening friendship with God – it is part of his final sharing with his disciples at the Last Supper. The scriptures offer many examples of this pattern of growth, a departure to make one's home in God. Abraham must leave all that is familiar in fidelity to God and is eventually blessed with the gift of his son, Isaac. Then there is the beautiful story of Ruth, a widow, who makes a similar journey: in fidelity to her mother in law she leaves her own native land to become a migrant worker before her marriage to Boaz. In the gospel too we see the fidelity of Mary and Joseph, of Saint John and Saint Mary Magdalene – who accompany Jesus to the end and are also first to experience the resurrection. As we grow in our life of faith and try to follow the way of Jesus we discover that we are not alone: the Holy Spirit is given to us as a guide and support – in prayer we open ourselves to his/her prompting, guidance and consolation. The living water promised by Jesus to the Samaritan woman. In the depths of our heart we may catch a glimpse of the 'face of God' and discover that love is always his meaning. This experience is not easy to express in words and others may sometimes be puzzled by our perseverance in the face of trials, yet we know we are not alone since God has made his home with us. Try to find some time each day to be refreshed at this source and so become more aware of the faithful friendship of the Holy Trinity.'

Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension, normally a Holiday of Obligation, and of course of Celebration too....**Mass will be 'you-tubed' live at 10am and available online for the rest of the day.**

(**After the Ascension** there begins the first and original **Novena** – nine days of prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on us all once more at the Feast of Pentecost – Sunday 31 May.)

A Novena will be sent out by email midweek.

Benediction from St John's Church - Wednesday 7pm

A new/old way for us to join together

Deacon Eddie writes: 'On Wednesday this week, there will be Benediction in St John's Church...Some music, scriptural reading and reflection, prayer and silent adoration. This will be Live Streamed on this link : <https://youtu.be/QEfHmKmdLEg>

If all goes well, we hope to repeat this in St Mary Magdalene's next week.'

SUNDAY MASS THIS SUNDAY ONLINE AT 11am

live-streamed from the Prayer Room in the Parish House.

The web address will appear as the top post on our Facebook page -

www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes

and also as the top post on

www.stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com/news

The Mass will then be available as a recording on both addresses and on the St Mary Magdalene's website.

For details and livestream links for all our Masses, please see the back of the Sunday Plus.

On Friday between 9.20 and 9.55am there will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** (livestreamed) and then at 11am there will be a **Rosary Meeting** on Zoom. If you would like to join, please contact Maria Igoe (0798 1333219). 'For those who do not have the internet, we can phone them at that time and they can pray with us that way.'

Children's Liturgy

Arlene Lauder writes: 'Please join us this Sunday 17th May for a Zoom children's liturgy session which will be starting around 11:15 am.

To join in please send your email address to Arlene at Lauder.82@btinternet.com by 6pm on Saturday 16 May. 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.****

After Mass Teas and Coffees on Sunday During Lockdown via Zoom

If you are interested in joining in one of these calls (even if you've never experienced Zoom before) and to have a tea/coffee and a chat with whoever else wishes to join us, please email

stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com or send a private message to facebook.

or alternatively simply

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84640966574?pwd=SHBsR1dSQ2lDQ29YVSswSXh0bU5PQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 4096 6574

Password: 016296

..... **SCIAF – WEE BOX, BIG THANKS - This year the SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE Appeal has received UK Aid Match. This means that all public donations up until THIS WEDNESDAY 20 MAY to the appeal will be doubled by the UK Government.**

Thank you to everyone in the two parishes for supporting SCIAF's Lenten Appeal. You can return your WEE BOXES to the Parish House anytime (or wait until it is safe to open our Churches again). Thank you once again for your great generosity.

9am Morning Prayer Online From the Portobello Churches

Fr Jock writes: 'During lockdown, the ministers and priests from the local Portobello-based Churches have been meeting online via Zoom every Tuesday morning at 10am to support each other and 'compare notes'....out of this weekly 'Holy Huddle' has come an initiative – a 5 minute **Morning Prayer at 9am each morning** - with a rota: on Monday you get Glenn Innes from Portobello Baptist Church, Tuesday, Sophia Marriage from St Mark's Episcopal Church, Wednesday, Lourens De Jager from Portobello and Joppa Parish Church (Church of Scotland), Thursday, Stewart Weaver, also from PJPC, and Friday, myself. The prayer comes online at 9am on each of our Facebook Pages – and remains accessible there.'

NEWSLETTERS are available from the Parish House at any time – they sit in the porch and will be given to you if you ring the bell.....

THE PARISHES IN A TIME OF CRISIS - Caring for Each Other

A Message from our Parishes' St Vincent de Paul Conference

'Have you been financially hammered by the Covid 19 crisis? Have you lost your job or your business and have no financial reserves left? Are you unable to feed your family? The SVP might be able to help. Please **either text 07752 682 213** or **email** the parish house office on stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com with your **phone number, name and address** and a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul will get back to you within 48 hrs.'

Our PEP (Parish Emergency Planning) Group is meeting regularly to develop and put into practice plans for pastoral, spiritual and liturgical care in these very new circumstances.... **We would be so grateful if people were willing to put forward ideas for us to implement in the weeks ahead**

OUR COVID PASTORAL CARE GROUP

is wondering if you know of anyone inadvertently missed out who would like

Regular phone contact Buying and delivering shopping

Collection and delivery of medication Delivery of the weekly newsletter

If so, please do not hesitate to pass their details to Father Jock or to our co-ordinator, Gary Zoltie (email: garyzoltie@hotmail.com or phone 07768647923).

Parish Finances and Coronavirus - A New Way to Give

If you are still in a position to give to our parishes during this time, you can set up a Standing Order by online banking, pop an envelope through the joint parish house (state which Parish it is for) or you can use one of the links below using your debit or credit card (and you can add gift aid even if you are not registered to donate through the parishes.)

For St John's, please donate here:

https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2&reference=EDJOE&amount=

For St Mary Magdalene's, please donate here:

https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2&reference=EDMAG&amount=

Please do not feel under any pressure but we are offering this initiative in response to those who have asked for an alternative online method of payment.

If you wish to set up a standing order, The Parishes' account details are:

St Mary Magdalene's:

Sort Code: 80-18-31

Account Number: 00277159

Account name – See below

Please include your name as the payment reference

There has been some confusion as regards setting up standing orders for St Mary Magdalene's. This has been investigated – Jean McNally writes: 'it looks like the format of "Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh St Mary Magdalene Church" should be used if one is completing a form and posting or handing in to the bank, while if a money transfer or Standing Order is being set up electronically, the recognised format is "Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh03". Let us hope that this works!'

St John's:

Sort Code: 80 – 46 - 53

Account Number: 10765768

Account name – St John the Evangelist

DO YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO WISHES TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE?

Over the past few weeks many of our parishioners from St John's and St Mary Magdalene's have been receiving the newsletter electronically.

If you know someone who would like to receive a copy each week (please check with them first!) let us know and we can add them onto our distribution list during this time. If you do not wish to receive an electronic version and are being sent one at the moment, please let us know.



**Keep up
to date**

Two Poems by Canon Andrew Monaghan

Lockdown Frustration

Stories abound these days
of the rise in mental stress at home
and of domestic violence erupting.
The sunshine breeds a restlessness
for the outside space
which was once neglected and despised.
The young break boundaries
to once again roam free
and divert resources from the greater
needs around.

Frustration is the easy label
but for me the artist Michael Craig Martin
found a deeper meaning
when he stressed the special
exists in the ordinary things around us.

Frustration is for me the restless search
for what is special,
and the failure then
to find what is or should be truly special
in the ordinary things around.
Can we in lockdown start again
to find the joy of ordinary things,
and that appreciation of our loved ones
which give us inner strength?
And can we in the ordinary things around
find once again the God
who made the ordinary special
by becoming one of us?

Lessons in this time of Lockdown

How many Mums and Dads,
Grannies, Grand-dads and the like,
have come these last few months to appreciate
the teachers we once took for granted?
An easy job, they said,
with lots of holidays to boot.
Great words are spoken of resources given
to make home lessons just a breeze
but those who take it seriously
are struggling with the task.

In speaking of the teachers he once knew,
James Mumford spoke in recent times
of how some people could not have proved
so pivotal in life,
if they had had much more concern
for their own lives and cares.
He spoke of unknown teachers hearing Christ's own words
and laying down their lives for all their children day by day.
The secret of one person's success in years to come
is another person's real success,
but one remaining always one of life's great secrets.

That made me think again of Mums and Dads,
of Grannies and of Grand-dads
in this special time of lockdown challenge,
and how, so often unappreciated,
they too as teachers
lay aside their own concerns
and give themselves to serve the young.

THIS WEEK AND IN THE COMING WEEKS

Saturday 16 May - 10.30am - 12.30pm - Laudato Si Retreat at St Ninian's, Restalrig -

Rab Burnett writes: 'Laudato Si' Week, 16 - 24 May, invites us to help reshape the world that will arise after the pandemic has passed. The present crisis is an opportunity to start anew, and to make sure that the world that arises after this crisis has passed is sustainable and just. Laudato Si' tells us that "everything is connected" and tragically, this health catastrophe has much in common with the ecological catastrophe. Both are global emergencies that will affect many people, both directly and indirectly. Both are experienced most deeply by the poor and vulnerable, and both expose the deep injustices in our societies. Both will be solved only through a united effort that calls on the best of the values we share. As Eco-Congregations in the Cluster, you are invited to participate in an online retreat hosted by St Ninian's and delivered by **David Coleman, Chaplain - Eco-Congregation Scotland**. If you are interested or would like more information please contact me, Rab Burnett stniniantriduana1@gmail.com'

Monday 18 May - 5pm – Skype – PEP (Parish Emergency Planning) Meeting

Tuesday 19 May – Funeral Services of Sr Rosemary Kirkland, Jamie Clerk and William Hubb.

Wednesday 20 May

7pm – Youtube/St John's – **Benediction**

7.45pm – Zoom – **St John's Pastoral Council Meeting**

Thursday 21 May – Feast of The Ascension

Friday 22 May –

9.20am – Youtube/Parish House Prayer Room – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

11am – Zoom – **The Rosary**

Lockdowns from Lauriston Jesuit Centre - A series of talks exploring the impact of the coronavirus on our faith and society.



'We are delighted and excited to announce our upcoming speakers.

Join us on Zoom every Tuesday at 7.30pm. Login using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2365092814> or Meeting ID: 236 509 2814

We will also be livestreaming to our Facebook page!

Our Guest Speakers are:-

- **Tuesday 19 May** - 7.30pm - 'The Church after lockdown' with Jesuits in Britain Provincial **Damian Howard, SJ**
- **Tuesday 26 May** - 7.30pm – 'We will not all die but we will be changed: Living Laudato Si after lockdown' with Theologian **Dr Theodora Hawksley**
- **Tuesday 2 June** 7.30pm – 'The Pope in lockdown: How Francis is guiding humanity through the Corona wilderness' with author **Austen Ivereigh**.

Also scheduled to speak are

- **Tuesday 23 June** 7.30pm – Head of the Vatican's response to Covid-19, **Fr Augusto Zampini**
- **Sarah Teather**, Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service tbc

For more information please contact Andrew Cassidy at lauristonjesuitcentre@jesuit.org.uk

NOTICEBOARD

St Teresa Craigmillar's Food Bank – 'Many thanks from St Teresa's for the donations of money and food which have helped the Food Bank continue its vital role during lockdown.'

Calling all Sewers and Crafters...A Request from STEKA

Emma Wood writes: 'Last year the charity STEKAskills spent £5,650 on materials and getting goods made in Malawi to sell in Scotland, and took £9,750 from sales, making much needed money to invest in creating opportunities for the most marginalised people in the world to transform their futures through enterprise. This year, Covid-19 means that it's highly unlikely that we will be able to import anything from Malawian tailors and makers, or make the money we need to sustain our work over there. We do however have some beautiful fabric here in Scotland and wondered if any enthusiastic sewers would be interested in us delivering material to them so they could sew bags, aprons, peg bags, masks or indeed anything you fancy which we could sell. If you'd be interested in helping please call or text me on 07784394125 or email stekaskills@gmail.com'

Our Defibrillators in Action:

Geoff Dobson writes: 'I have just heard from the Scottish Ambulance Service that the St John's defibrillator has been deployed within the past 24 to 48 hrs. This is the second time that St John's defibrillator has been deployed since November. This does not necessarily mean it was used but that the SAS instructed someone to go to get it just in case so it may have been used....

This means both defibrillators have been deployed in total three times in less than one year.

Thank you to St John's and St Mary Magdalene's parishioners and Bingham Community Trust and the SVP for their contributions.'

WHAT IS A GRANDPARENT?

(Taken from papers written by a class of 8-year-olds.)

Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other peoples.

A grandfather is a man & a grandmother is a lady!

Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money.

When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.

They show us and talk to us about the colours of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on 'cracks.'

They don't say, 'Hurry up.'

Usually grandmothers are fat but not too fat to tie your shoes.

They wear glasses and funny underwear.

They can take their teeth and gums out.

Grandparents don't have to be smart.

They have to answer questions like 'Why isn't God married?' and 'How come dogs chase cats?'

When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television because they are the only grown ups who like to spend time with us.


They know we should have snack time before bedtime, and they say prayers with us and kiss us even when we've acted bad.

A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. then when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! he teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

It's funny when they bend over; you hear gas leaks, and they blame their dog.

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours)

 0800 027 1234

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: Diane d'Souza, Frank Holligan, William Hobb, Catherine Young, Dr Andy Mitchell, Jo McDermid and Joseph Gilhooley

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Alex Hunter, Brendan Deignan, Gordon Campbell, Christine Pugh, Cillian Dempsey, Fr Norman Cooper and Reg Howes

St John's

May 17:- Christine Pugh (2013); Cillian Dempsey (2005); Mary (Thomson) Macnamara (1996); Joseph Passmore (1963);

May 18:- Julia Young (1984); **May 19:-** Alex. Hunter (2019); John Cook (2003); Catherine Cunningham (2003); Zelinda Tesoro (1992); Elizabeth Bryce (1986); **May 20:-** Margaret Macmillan (2008); Fr. Norman Cooper (1996); **May 21:-** Lindsay Gordon (2013); Catherine Brock (2009); Mary Meagher; Patrick O'Flaherty; **May 22:-** Harry McKenna (1988); Archbishop Andrew J Macdonald (1950); **May 23:-** Brendan Deignan (2019); Alice Holligan (1929)

St Mary Magdalene's

May 19:- Patrick McGuinness (1971); Frank Finnegan (1967); **May 22:-** Fraser R Morrison (1993); **May 23:-** Mary Pelosi (1992)

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Chloe Sutherland, Frances Cunningham, Susan O'Hara, 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: Elizabeth Mackail, Ella Ayers, Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Sam Burns, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, , John Prior, Sheila Service, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Michael McPhillips, Agnes Harvey, 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: Fr Christopher Delaney, Jennifer Kay, Janey Low, Ranier and Mikey Carpo, William Young, Marie Baird, Fr Tommy Greenan, Andrew Franklin, Gerry Mulvenna, Frank Palmer, Mairi Wilson, 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, Frances Green, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Peter Hanley, Hazel Marshall, Sr Veronica Marshall, Martin Doherty, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Joseph Daly, Roksana Moczulstra, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jake Jorden, George Collins, John Donnelly, Noel Flanagan and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
10 May 2020	£75.00 (including Gift Aid of £50.00) and Direct Debits – £170.00 - ie £245.00	£892.40 (including Gift Aid of £442.40) and Direct Debits – £778.25 - ie £1670.65

Sponsored Slim - Fr Jock is very grateful to all those who have supported the Legho Young Christian Communities in Tanzania and the STEKA Children’s Home in Malawi through this sponsorship – **and for those continuing to donate - the final figure is now £650, so each will receive £325.....**

***An Excerpt From a Reflection on the Eucharist during Covid 19
by Fr Andy Grayson***

‘...It is important that the Eucharistic celebration, that is the Mass, is not limited to the church or to the priest. We are, all of us together, a Eucharistic community and even our closed churches cannot, in any way, prevent us from living our lives as a Eucharistic People.

While it’s great to have live streamed Masses broadcast into our living rooms, which helps to connect to the wider Church, it is ultimately a passive experience, as all television is. We cannot truly participate in the celebration of the Mass on TV. On the other hand however, simply being physically present at a Mass does not guarantee that a person is fully participating. We need to come to appreciate that the Mass is not something that we attend or which is given to us by the priest but an experience which we all fully participate – priest and people alike.

First of all, the Eucharist is about sharing in a meal – food and drink – bread and wine. Jesus loved to share in a meal and the Gospels are full of stories where Jesus gathers around a table to eat and drink with all kinds of people. Even living on our own we can give thanks to God for the food we eat. In the old days it was called ‘grace before and after meals.’ We can be particularly thankful if other people are doing our shopping for us, or in some cases cooking meals for us and bringing them to our door. St Paul reminds us in his first letter to the Corinthians ‘ every time you eat the bread and drink the cup, you are proclaiming his (Jesus) death ...’

Secondly, prayer unites us, even when we pray alone. We are not really alone when we pray because the presence of Christ resides within us. That’s why we never pray, even on our own, ‘My Father, who are in heaven’ But always ‘Our Father’ and ‘forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.’ It’s always including other people. Praying for others and giving people a call on the telephone or through an email or even a text keeps us united in prayer. Being isolated does not mean we become passive recipients of the good will and kindness of others, but prayer makes us active members of the Body of Christ reaching out to others.

Remember St Teresa of Lisieux, (commonly known as ‘the little flower’) who became a nun at the age of 15 years. She died of tuberculosis 9 years later at the age of 24 years. These years were uneventful and ‘ordinary’. Yet she stuck bravely to her ‘little way’ of simple trust and love of God and her neighbour. Her neighbours were not only the sisters in the convent with her, but she united herself with all people everywhere, especially the poor and sick. It is no wonder therefore, that the Church has made her the patron saint of missionaries. Even though she never physically left Lisieux, her loving heart reached out to the whole world in prayer. Just like the human heart pumps blood around body, so Teresa’s heart of prayer was the driving force of love that flowed around the world.

In this way our own prayer, no matter how solitary it may be, is a well spring of love that reaches out to the whole world. Oh yes, indeed we are an active, engaging, and empowering Eucharistic community, which gives life to the world.’