

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

4th Sunday of Easter - Sunday 3 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.



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 our weekday Masses, please see the back of the Sunday Plus.

Children's Liturgy – Please join us this Sunday 3 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 2 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

While many of us have managed – in a sense, at least - to keep connected with other parishioners of both parishes during the lockdown through the live-streaming of Mass, more than a few will admit to missing the chatting and sharing informally with everyone that tea and coffee after Mass offers.

Last Sunday at our first attempt, 14 people joined together...So 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.

.....and if anyone is willing to host a Zoom session please contact Deacon Eddie White

ewhite@outlook.com

Tanya Simpson's funeral service will take place on Tuesday at 11.30am.

On Friday between 9.20 and 9.55am there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (livestreamed)

There will also be a Rosary Meeting on Zoom on Friday 8 May at 11am. 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.'

Bill Cheyne's funeral will take place at 1.30pm on Tuesday 12 May.

Prayer at Home - A Reflection by Mairi Clunas

Jesus came to a village and a woman (named Martha) welcomed him into her house. Lk10 39-40



'In the gospel we often see Jesus visiting people in their homes and sharing meals with them. Some of these occasions are formal dinners, as in the house of Simon the Pharisee when an unnamed woman anoints Jesus feet: and others are more relaxed, as in the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Then there are the celebrations of new life in the homes of Matthew and Zacchaeus, joyful parties. And, of course, the Last Supper his final meal with his closest friends. So, at this time when we are unable to gather in church, we can invite Jesus to dine with us at home. Like Martha, you can talk with him about the preparation of the meal and give thanks for all the ingredients – the preparation is itself a form of liturgy. Bread from the earth and work of our hands. Next, bring prayerfully to mind those who will join you at table, pray for each one with gratitude – the 'Eucharistic Prayer.' Since our relationships with those who share our lives closely may be subject to difficulties and misunderstandings, we need to offer and receive forgiveness, daily – the sign of peace. Thus, when we sit and eat together we are nourished both physically and spiritually and give

thanks – the Our Father.

For those who live alone the experience will be somewhat different, welcome Jesus into your home, and share with him all that concerns you. He will listen attentively and reassure you with his loving presence, becoming the companion of your solitude. As you 'remain in his love' you may discover a deepening friendship and a sharing of life where the simplest things reveal his presence and providence. Prayer then becomes listening and an openness to the needs of the world. The prayer of intercession.

For it is in the midst of our relationships and in the poverty of our experience that the Real Presence of Jesus is made manifest in our lives. 'Through him, with him and in him in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honour is yours almighty Father, for ever and ever, Amen.'

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 Message from the diocese: 'We have been asked how people can continue to support their parish when we cannot put money in the plate at church. If your income has diminished because of the crisis, **please do not** feel obliged to contribute at this time. If your income is secure, **the best option would be to set up a standing order** (if your circumstances change, these can be amended/cancelled). If you have online banking you can set up a standing order form quickly using the parish sort code and account number. If you don't have online banking, we have standing order forms available which you can complete, sign and post to your bank (using the branch address on your cheque book or bank statement). Alternatively, you can donate using electronic banking. The Parishes' account details are:

St Mary Magdalene's:

Sort Code: 80-18-31

Account Number: 00277159

Account name – **See below**

St John's:

Sort Code: 80 – 46 - 53

Account Number: 10765768

Account name – St John the Evangelist

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!'

A Pandemic Poem

What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Centre down.

And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love—
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.

(Lynn Ungar - 11/3/20)

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

**Keep up
to date**

NOTICEBOARD

Mary's Meals - Adapting to Reach Children at Home

Jim Roarty writes: 'More than one million of the children who usually eat Mary's Meals at school will receive our nutritious food at home, despite the immense challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.'



All around the world, classrooms have closed and homes have become places of learning. As a result, we have had to find new ways to safely reach the hungry children who rely on Mary's Meals.

Our food is already being distributed in villages in Kenya for parents to collect and take home to their children and this approach will soon be mirrored in Malawi and Zambia, while ensuring we continue to adhere to public health

policy.

New ways of

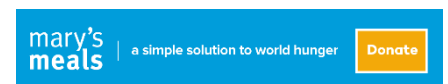
feeding have also been agreed for India and Haiti, and we are having urgent discussions with governments and community leaders in the other countries where we work to ensure we can safely reach hungry children in these extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

Thank you for everything you do to help us keep our promise to the children we feed, particularly at a time when people here in the UK are also facing many challenges. Your donations, prayers and support are appreciated – and needed – now more than ever. Mary's Meals Charity no. is SC022140.'

You can make a donation by contacting

- https://giving.marysmeals.org/en_gb/email-donate-2
- 2020 Mary's Meals, Craig Lodge, Dalmally, Argyll PA33 1AR
- 0800 6981212 01838 200605

For further information you could email Mary's Meals direct info@marysmeals.org



A LETTER OF THANKS TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST JOHN'S FROM EDINBURGH DIRECT AID

(The St John's Pastoral Council and the Justice and Peace Group agreed that the recipients of our decision the previous year that 30% of the surplus from our Annual Return go to a worthy cause would be Edinburgh Direct Aid ie a local charity from Edinburgh that is working in Lebanon). The surplus for 2019 amounted to £4308.

'I am writing to thank you most warmly for the extremely generous cheque for £4308.00 which has arrived with your letter. We are more sorry than we can say that Masses have been cancelled at St John's, understandably in the current situation, and that we (Denis and myself) do not have the opportunity to join you and your congregation to give thanks for this wonderful donation for the work of Edinburgh Direct Aid.

We all find ourselves in strange times, with an invisible enemy at our doors, but the situation is so much worse in the refugee camps in Idlib province, where the virus has already arrived and there is great crowding, and very poor facilities for practicing the hygiene measures we have taken for granted. Our hearts go out to them. We have sent two containers of vital aid to Idlib. With your help we will send more - we have enough goods already packed that we could load another container as soon as it is safe for our

volunteers to gather together again. Our warehouse is closed but our volunteers continue to work in twos and threes to pack even more donated goods that have already come in. We look forward to being able to visit you when it is safe to meet. I'm sure the parishes will be missing the support and comfort of regular Masses. In the meantime, a very big thank you from EDA to your generous congregations who have trusted us to use this money for the good of the people we seek to help.

Jeanne – (Dr Jeanne Bell/Mrs Denis Rutovitz) - Deputy Chair, Edinburgh Direct Aid 0131 552 1545'

FIONA MACPHERSON PILATES OFFERS FREE CLASSES DURING THE LOCKDOWN

Fiona Macpherson, one of our parishioners, is offering free 30 - 40 minute Pilates classes on Facebook. You can find these (and previous classes which have been recorded) by going to her "Fiona Macpherson Pilates" Facebook page (link below).

Please agree to the waiver before participation.

Feel free to contact Fiona on f.macpherson@blueyonder.co.uk or phone/text 07968036065 for more information

<https://www.facebook.com/113519330281789/posts/129065132060542/?sfnsn=scwspmo&extid=BxR5uP52umKV67qT>

NEWS FROM ARCHBISHOP CUSHLEY

Priest School

A documentary on life at the Pontifical Scots College in Rome was broadcast last Sunday evening. It is now available to view on BBC iPlayer at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000hmvf/priest-school>.

Sunday evenings - At this time, there is a weekly ecumenical call to prayer on Sundays at 7pm. Thirteen Christian churches and organisations are taking part for the fourth consecutive week, with people urged to place a candle in their window at that time. We will publish details for this Sunday's prayer on our social media and website when we receive it.

Please see <https://archedinburgh.org/churches-join-in-prayer-for-sunday-evening/>

Prayer resources

There are an increasing number of valuable resources online that are very useful to Catholics during the lockdown. One which you may find worthwhile is on a website called Thy Kingdom Come, which has issued a range of neatly formatted resources, including Morning, Evening and Night prayer as well as a Pentecost Novena. Visit : <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/resources-catholic-church>

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

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 stniniantriduanal@gmail.com'

Christian Meditation Online

'Experience the joy of God's healing presence during Christian meditation this special Lent. As long as the lock-down lasts, we meditate on Skype on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Fridays at 7.30 p.m. The up-to-date schedule and connection instructions are here: <https://www.meetup.com/Christian-Meditation-Group/events/>
Contact info - mobile: 0771 777 2614 Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1cuO5QJ>'

Unseen Saints

Another Poem by Canon Andrew Monaghan

Pope Francis asked us to revere
the unseen saints of this pandemic,
the ones whom no-one knows
but who give themselves unselfishly
to the good of all around.

His plea for peace throughout the world
then deepened out another realm of unseen saints.

We think of those well known
who sacrificed their lives to work for peace.
The litany is headed now by those like
Oscar Romero and Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
whose principles and actions by their clarity
brought suffering and death.

But then there are the unseen saints
who stood at all the crossroads
which ask where should their faith be active
and what such faith demands.

The list is endless,
from Nazi Germany to the Yemen,
Rwanda, South Sudan, El Salvador,
Mexico, Bosnia, Russia and China.
In each of these, the unseen saints
are ripped apart by people of
what seems to be good will and faith.
And in each of these, the unseen saints
are crucified between the twin crosses
of the cynic and the pious.
Unseen saints are never only praised
but are often done to death for doing good.

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours) : ☎0800 027 1234
--

PARISH REGISTER

<i>Please pray for those who have died recently: Sr Rosemary Kirkland (Joyce Martin and Evelyn Buckley's sister), Tanya Simpson, Janet Black and Mgr Charles Hendry</i>

<i>Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Nicola Murray, Josephine McDiarmid, Bridget McTighe and John Rennie</i>
--

St John's

May 3:- Glenda Wood (1999); Annie Czaba (1995); Sarah Boyle; **May 4:-** Henry Stuart Mackersy (1994); John McElroy (1987); Peter Moran (1985); **May 5:-** Kevin Flynn; **May 6:-** David M Metcalfe (2006); Theresa Henderson (1995); Edward Hanlon; **May 7:-** Veronica Mackenzie (2015); Lorna Demarco (1971); James H McGrory (1957); Mary Macnamara; Bridget Murray; **May 8:-** Bridget McTighe (2018); John Rennie (2011); Jim Ponton (1986); John Kane (1949); Mary Taylor; **May 9:-** Rosanna O'Neill (1970); Bruno Nicora (1932);

St Mary Magdalene's

May 3:- Alister Gilmour (1996); Ellen Keenan (1983); **May 5:-** Joseph Robertson (1998); **May 6:-** Bridget Dowie (1968); **May 7:-** William McPhillips (1998); Margaret Hanlon (1994); **May 8:-** Martin Gaughan (1998); Thomas Murphy (1968);

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Frances Cunningham, Susan O'Hara, David Reid, Molly Lugton, Jamie Clark, 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: Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Sam Burns, Ella Ayers, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, Elizabeth Mackail, John Prior, Sheila Service, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Michael McPhilipps, 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: Ena McCann, Rustom, Ranier, Mikey and Myrna 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, Maureen Henderson, 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.

Warm Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Jimi Boyle, 60 last Tuesday, April 28.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
26 April 2020	Details next week	£447.40 (including Gift Aid of £227.40) and Direct Debits – £371.40 - ie £818.80

Many thanks to all who have handed in their contributions to the Parish House, or who have arranged for them to be received by direct debit or standing order.

SCIAF – WEE BOX, BIG THANKS - 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.

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

Sponsored Slim – Fr Jock is very 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 – **over £500 has been raised** – final figure next week to give anyone who wishes to donate a final opportunity to do so...

‘Medjugorje -- for those who are sad because they cannot go to Medjugorje in May,

Maria Igoe writes: ‘...there are wonderful films, talks and messages on 'You Tube' and can be googled. 'Maria Vision' has short talks from Sr Emmanuel and also Patrick and Nancy Latta, most days at the moment. On 'You Tube' you can also find testimony of Patrick's dramatic conversion.

Fr Leon Pereira, chaplain to the English speaking pilgrims, gives a commentary on the day's gospel on Marytv, and there are very interesting stories of his life, particularly his experience in Medjugorje at the age of 19. He was a medical Doctor before joining the Dominicans and his noviciate year was done in Edinburgh.

Films worth watching are: A Time for Miracles - Medjugorje. The story of Artie Boyle and his friends. The Miracle of Medjugorje. Mostly about Fr Jozo, giving an insight into life under the communists - starring Martin Sheen.

Searching the internet for film of the Blue Cross, Apparition Hill, Kricevac, the Risen Christ, St James' Church will lift your spirits. We have a lot to thank the internet for.'

A Reflection by the Revd Peter Miller

'Life is not just a question of getting through each day, although that is important, and especially as we think of millions of our sisters and brothers who face a struggle for food and shelter every new morning For centuries, all the world's religious traditions have invited us to discover within ourselves a continuous expansion of heart and spirit. We forget this in our often frenetic life-styles, but these virus weeks have caused us to halt and become aware in fresh ways of our amazingly rich humanity. Just pause as you read this and listen to that inner voice which tells you that your life is both unique and precious. That you carry within you the possibility of discovering a guiding Light which will not go out. Befriend that inner strength which enables you to keep searching, to be alive to new insights, to encounter these fresh truths which can change the way you think about everything. Shed any pent up bitterness. Laugh at your own limitations. Look outwards, phone a friend (you don't need Zoom!) and hear the bird song above the silent streets.'