

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 Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsandStMaryMagdalenes>

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

If you are visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes. Please make yourself known to Fr Jock either in person after the Mass, by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.



Thirty-first Sunday of the Year - 31 October 2021



Mark 12:28-34;

'This is the first of all the commandments:

you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

The second is this:

you must love your neighbour as yourself.'

With this newsletter, there is a Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Cushley, giving details of our archdiocese's plans for the 'Synodal Process' initiated by Pope Francis which will culminate in a Synod in Rome in 2023.

There is also reflection - in a handout - by our Justice and Peace Co-ordinator, Jim Roarty, on COP 26 and why it is so important, with the request that at our weekend Masses and in our private prayers we join with the millions of others around the world praying for the success of the vital conference.

At today's Masses we welcome and thank Fr Jim Smith, covering for Fr Jock who returns on Sunday evening from his annual retreat. And at St John's, there is the Monthly Collection for the Tower Fund.

NB Please remember the clocks go back one hour at 2.00am on Sunday morning!

This Monday is the Feast of All Saints, while Tuesday is the Feast of All Souls, two halves of one great Feast in which we both pray for our dead relatives and friends and celebrate our hope and belief that they are with God in Heaven.

There are two Masses on both days, 10am at Mary Magdalene's and 7pm at St John's on All Saints, and vice versa on All Souls.

NOVEMBER BEREAVEMENT MASSES

Our two November **BEREAVEMENT MASSES** will take place on **Thursday 11 November at 7pm at St John's** and on **Thursday 16 November at St Mary Magdalene's, also at 7pm.**

These are gentle and beautiful candlelit Masses in which we remember our dead - and have the opportunity to light a candle for them...

Forms are now available from the back of both churches for you to complete with the names of those you would like remembered and read out. (To ensure the Masses don't take too long the suggestion is that we limit each person to 6 names – the last of which might be – 'the Deceased Members and Relatives of the _____ family'). The completed forms should be placed in the boxes provided. Alternatively, anybody may email Chris Jones, who is kindly collating the names, on his email - chrisjones442@hotmail.com – using the link below

<https://bit.ly/BereavementStJMM>

CHILDREN'S MASSES ARE BACK NEXT SUNDAY – 7 NOVEMBER

Arlene Lauder writes: 'On Sunday 7 November, we are delighted to recommence our special P4 'Do This in Memory' and P3/ children's Family Masses.

The children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will gather for the first time at St John's Church for the 9:30 am Mass and the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, along with any other children, will be welcomed at St Mary Magdalene's Church at the 11:15 am mass.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children and their families to come together to celebrate and participate in the Mass as they prepare for the Sacraments which they will receive next year. Please pray for our young parishioners on their journey.'

....and we hope to restart Children's Liturgy at St Mary Magdalene's on Sunday 14 November at the 11.15am. Particular thanks to the six parishioners who responded to the request at the end of the 11.15am Mass last Sunday for Leaders and Adult Helpers – without which we could not recommence. Contact will be made with them shortly.

Benediction This Thursday in St John's at 7pm

Deacon Eddie writes: 'Benediction takes place on the first Thursday of every month. With November being a month in which we particularly remember our dead family and relatives, this month's Benediction service will be in keeping with this. We will offer prayers for those who have gone before us.

If anyone would like add a name to our prayers for the service, do let me know either by contacting the parish house or by emailing me directly on ewhite@outlook.com'

The next Healing Mass – a Monday afternoon Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick – will take place on **Monday 8 November at 2.30pm in St John's**. All welcome.

The next Baptism Course will take place on **Wednesday 10 November and Thursday 18 November at 7.30pm in St John's Hall**. If anyone wishes to have their child baptised, could they please make contact with Fr Jock in the coming week.

This Week

Saturday 30 October - 6.30pm – St John's – Vigil Mass - livestreamed

Sunday 31 October

9.30am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

11.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass** – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass**

Monday 1 November – FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass with St John's School Primary 6** – livestreamed

7.00pm – St John's - **Mass** – livestreamed

7-8.15pm – **Zoom Meeting – Gospel Sharing and Reflection – Open to All**

To join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87947984621?pwd=a0p5WFpEWEZhaGhJZGJibTQ3SU5BZz09>

Tuesday 2 November – COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

10.00am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

10.45 – St Mark's – Holy Huddle (The monthly meeting of the local Ministers and Priests)

7.00pm – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass**

Wednesday 3 November - 10.00am – St John's – Requiem Mass for Eileen Brown – livestreamed

Thursday 4 November

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Memorial Mass for Maureen Henderson** – livestreamed

7pm – St John's – **Benediction** – livestreamed

Friday 5 November

9.15-9.45am – St John's – **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – livestreamed

10.00am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed

10.30am (straight after Mass) – St John's - **Rosary at Our Lady's Altar**

3.30pm – Parish House – **Meeting of Fr Jock with Imam Hassan Rabbani**

Saturday 6 November

12.30pm – St John's – **Baptism of Aidan Murphy**

6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** - livestreamed

Sunday 7 November

9.30am – St John's – **Children's Mass focusing on the P4 First Communion children and including their enrolment in the 'Do This in Memory of Me' programme** – livestreamed

11.00am – Prayer Room – pre-recorded, streamed on YouTube

11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Children's Mass with P3 First Reconciliation candidates (but very much open to all children)**

From Archbishop Leo's Weekly 'Ad Clerum'

All Souls' Day - Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, including those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery, Edinburgh, will take place on All Souls' Day,

Tuesday 2 November, at 10am in the Cemetery Chapel at 49 Mount Vernon Road. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Cushley.

Dementia: Hope on a Difficult Journey - An event for those supporting friends or family with dementia will be held at the Gillis Centre, Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, from **2-4pm next Saturday 6 November**. A talk will be led by Dr Adrian Treloar, and there will be a chance to share experiences before a time of prayer in St Margaret's Chapel, onsite. Light refreshments will be served. The event is organised by the Archdiocesan Marriage & Families Commission. Register at bit.ly/DementiaEvent2021

Global Day of Action - SCIAF invites you to march at the Glasgow Global Day of Action on **Saturday 6 November**. The event takes place during COP26 and brings together those who support Climate Justice. More details at <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/glasgow-global-day-for-action-2021>

COP26 – Mass - The Bishops of Scotland will celebrate Mass during COP26 at St Aloysius' Church, Rose Street, Glasgow, on **Sunday 7 November at 1pm**. The Mass is for delegates, visitors to Glasgow and all the Faithful of Scotland. Register to attend at <https://mediades.co.uk/cop26/>

Vocations Mass - The Archdiocesan monthly Mass for Vocations takes place at **6:30pm on Monday 8 November** at St Albert's Chaplaincy in George Square, Edinburgh.

World Day of the Poor - This takes place on **Sunday 14 November**. The Christian is called to follow the example of Jesus in loving God and neighbour, especially the most vulnerable. In our Archdiocese the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) has been carrying out this mission since 1845. This year the Caritas, Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese wish to use the Special Collection to be taken that weekend to support two SSVP projects; The Furniture Project based in Kingseat and the Caravan Project in Port Seton.

Annual Archdiocesan SSVP Mass - Everyone is welcome to attend the annual Mass to mark the charitable work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in our Archdiocese. It will be celebrated by Archbishop Cushley at St Patrick's in the Cowgate, Edinburgh, at **11am on Saturday 20 November**.

Prisoners' Week Launch Service - This takes place at **7pm on Monday 22 November** at St Mary's Cathedral, followed by refreshments in the Coffee Saints café. Please register to attend at <http://www.prisonersweek.org.uk/events> Downloadable resources for this year's Prisoners' Week can be found at www.prisonersweek.org.uk

NOTICE BOARD



Parishes' Christmas Fayre



Save the date!!

On **Saturday 04 December 2021 from 10am to 1.30pm**, we're having a Christmas Fayre! This is the first social, in-person, fund-raising event in the sister parishes for 26 months.

The proceeds of the event will be shared between the St John's Tower Project and the St Mary Magdalene's Wi-Fi Fund. Please put this date in your diary and spread the word!

Plans are well underway, and we'd love to hear from people who can contribute to these stalls:

-  bottle stall
-  home baking stall
-  plant stall
-  book stall
-  jam & chutney stall
-  other stalls are planned (raffle, competitions and child-friendly activities)

Please support us – enquiries and donations gratefully received at the Parish House.

Is anybody willing to help out with helping serve tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass at St John's on Sundays? ... if so, please contact Enrico, our Parishes' Administrator.

Holyrood RC High School Autumn Newsletter

Joad Daly, Headteacher, writes: 'We would like to share with you the link to our Autumn Newsletter so you can gain a flavour of life in and around school and share in this celebration of the fabulous experiences offered to our young people in Holy Rood. Our wonderful staff who go above and beyond to provide the best quality learning and teaching experiences for our pupils. Please click on the link to see what we have been up to:

<https://bit.ly/HSAuNL> - hard copies can be requested to the Parish House office

Duddingston Craft Fair 2021 - Saturday 6 November 2021, 12-4pm at

Duddingston Kirk Hall - Jewellery, paintings, Fairtrade goods, handbags and many more lovely, handcrafted items. Teas, coffees and filled rolls available throughout the afternoon. Proceeds to support humanitarian aid in Afghanistan through Christian Aid. For further information, contact Anne 07974382206 or anne@parametersevents.co.uk

REFLECTIONS FOR COP 26

*When people ask me what I pray for, I say sometimes that I don't pray for anything in particular - **I pray because God is.** I sit before the living Spirit open like an empty bowl, like a flower and also like a wound. I give to the Creator my joy and uncertainties, the planet's future, my concerns for others, for deeper awareness and understanding of what now faces our beautiful planet Earth. I just lay it all there. In silence, and in the knowledge that many others are doing the same. Deep within my heart I know that this moving Spirit, working every moment through all creation, will accept my fragile offerings and yours.*

(Sheila Cassidy – adapted)

To become aware of the sacramental nature of the cosmos, to be open to the sacramental possibilities of each moment, to see the face of Christ in every person, these things are not novel, but their rediscovery is the beginning of our health

(Ron Ferguson, writer and former leader of the Iona Community)

Not all are guilty, but all are responsible. ---- Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

An Evening Prayer by John L. Bell of the Iona Community

(included in his recent book - 'Living Faithfully in the Time of Creation')

Tonight, let us be grateful for changing things: for cloud patterns and seasonal landscapes, for the restless sea and multi-coloured earth, for branch and leaf and fruit and flower, for rocks, weather-carved like an old face which could tell stories, for wind and water and all that was never meant to stand still, for the lilies waving in the field. That is your economy, Lord. Teach us its value.

Set up your cross in the marketplaces of our world, to remind us of your love for the unproductive, the imperfect and the lost, and of the malice of human greed. Redeem our souls, redeem our peoples, redeem our times.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, through whose passion and death the treasure house of the kingdom was opened to all. Amen

Please pray for those who have died recently:

**Mary Murphy
Philippe Fraser
Agnes Malone**

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

**James John McGreavy - Margaret Leydon - David Thom - Sean Martin
Helen Harrison - Anne Zoltie
Canon Laurence Glancy – Con McConville – Mike Roddam - John Murphy**

Anniversaries:

St John's

Oct.30: David Thom (2019); Euphemia Meehan (1996); Angelo Morga;
Oct 31: Helen Harrison (2016); John Reid (1990); Eileen Alexander (1984); Umberto Demarco (1979);
Nov. 1: William Turnbull (2019); Dorothy Scambler (2012); John McWilliams Jnr (1998); James Coyle (1997); Henry McCluskey (1986); Rose Henery (1981); Mr and Mrs Scally;
Nov. 2: Leonora Pelosi (1978); Joseph Dykes [Somme] (1916); Honor Gardner;
Nov. 3: Sandy Begg (2009); Anne Zoltie (1996); Carol Holligan (1989); Agnes McDevitt (1973); Julia Connelly;
Nov. 4: Sarah Thomson (2019); Sean Martin (2010); Bridget Hanlon; James Hannavy; William McKenzie;
Nov. 5: Margaret Laydon (2012); Hugh Taylor (2006); Mark Laydon (1976); Albert Hancock (1961); Mr Donlevy;

St Mary Magdalene's

Nov. 1: Gerry Pelosi (1972);
Nov. 2: Teddy Banks (1983);
Nov. 4: Canon Lawrence Glancy (2002); Hilda M Smith (1981);
Nov. 5: James Harvey (2018); Pauline Dewar (2003);

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's: David Dowie, Anne Polson, Fiona Connel, Catherine Walker, John Freeman, John Waugh, May Thomson, Sheila and George Service, Margaret Campbell, Ann Dobie, Kim O'Neill, Frank Logan, Sheelagh Dobson, Ernie Moran, Bob Kelly, Jean Bonnar, Mike Iannarelli, Chloe Sutherland, Norah Bruce, Mike and Patricia Lawler, Ruth Viso, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, Anna Butler, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, John Cregan, young Saoirse Golden, John Whyte, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Mary Slight, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Alf MacNamara, Maureen Lawrie, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Sam Burns, Mary Cole, Denis Davidson, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, Ray Donnelly, Clive Davis, Isobel Phillips, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Newall, 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 and James Muir.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Mary Thomson, Fr Raymond OCSO, Ian Henderson, Stuart Falconer, John Allen, Tom Sutcliffe, Nan Doig, Ant Ridge, Garrett French, Claire Johnston, Emma Bromet, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Lewis White, Baby Alfie McDevitt, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Una Johnston, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie McAnenny, John Kellagher, Murdo Tait, Niamh McDougall, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Annie Ross, Christopher MacKinnon, Jaroslav Icina, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, baby Josh Simpson, Helen McCann, Rhoda Tumboli, Dani Miniette,, Peter Millar, Leo Stone, Sr May Lewis, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Michael Igoe, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, John Walsh, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, Gloria Crolla, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, James Shepherd, Peter Hanley, Jennifer Kay, Ranier Carpo, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Frank Palmer, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Kathleen Cawley, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull and young Ray Donovan Syme

Offertory Collections – 24 October 2021

Thank You!

St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
£125.70 total including Offertory of £105.70 and Gift Aid of £20.00	£ 1156.42 total including Offertory of £252.02, Gift Aid of £114.40 and £790.00 Online Donations
World Mission Sunday Special Collection	
£104.60	£300.45

Pamoja Fashion team raised £176.50 last weekend at their first sale since March 2020 - many thanks to all who supported them.

A REFLECTION FOR THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS - CELEBRATED ON MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER

In 1843, Karl Marx gave the throw-away remark: 'Religion is the opium of the people.' He said it at a time when organised religion was a very powerful force in the world. Nowadays, the world is a much more secular place, but the people remain dependent on its opiates. Some argue that rampant consumerism is the new opium of the people, but this is tempered by a recognition that we need to de-toxify ourselves. The earth is being ravaged and plundered; the atmosphere is suffocating from an excess of carbon gases. Forests are being cleared to make way for animal grazing and the indigenous people of those forests look at our standard of living with running water, electricity and mains sewage; they see our computers and smartphones; our fast cars, our intelligent fridges that know which foods to order, they see our electronic gadgetry, our air-conditioning and the like and want their share of the world's wealth. It's understandable, and equally understandable that our planet is reaching breaking point.

There is also the opiate of populism. Have you noticed how politicians seem to be fixated with the notion of convincing themselves that country X is world beating? So, we have things like 'world-beating vaccination programme', 'world-beating g-gnome sequencing capability'. I think the hope is that if they do keep speaking in this way, then some of their optimism will wear off onto us. If we are of a more questioning disposition, we might think: 'So what? My friend's mother has just died with COVID, and her family weren't allowed by her bedside to say their goodbyes'. Marx might have been correct in his remark in 1843, but we can substitute many different words in place of 'religion' and the sentiment remains equally valid.

No matter the rhetoric, day to day living is much more nuanced and subtle. Often it's no more than a case of just putting one foot in front of another as we plot our path through the daily grind of life. Along that path we sometimes encounter impressive people, those who inspire us or who help us. We wish we had their strength of character, their fortitude. We wish we had their faith. We might say, aloud or 'sotto voce': 'He or she has been an absolute saint!' -particularly after some act of unexpected kindness. We recognise sainthood many times. I have met many saintly people in my life. On Monday I will treasure them all – or as many as I can remember – for, as I age, I seem to have more friends who have died than the number of those living. It's a very humbling realization!

What is more humbling is the honest recognition that when it comes to Christian witness, I cannot hold a candle to them. On Monday however, I will be lighting a candle **FOR** them, for their light shines forever in my life and in my soul. I will be going to the quiet part of the house where I can be at my most peaceful, where I can dwell a while in the presence of God. I will light a candle and watch the flickering flame and I will live through the simple truth that even as it gives light, the flickering flame will eventually die. The wax will melt, the candle will burn out. This does not mean that the light never existed – it did, it always did – just as the lives of my deceased relatives and friends will forever stand as a witness and an example to me. And, hopefully, I will honour them by making my life an equally loving example to others in return. This is what makes up the communion of saints, this is the simplicity of today's Feast. Being of Irish descent and living near Hexham in Northumberland, it always gives me a little frisson of pride that in the early 8th century the Churches of Ireland, Bavaria and Northumbria were instrumental both in fixing the date of November 1st and its eventual worldwide adoption. In our private space with our candle and our memories we remember that we are part of something both ancient and universal and something eternal in majesty and awe. We close our eyes, and we are at one with all those we love who are now living in the presence of God. As John reminds us in the Book of Revelation:

After that, I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands.....

FINDING THE HIDDEN TREASURE by Benignus O'Rourke

Chapter 42 – Facing Our Shadows



The search for the real self is central to our journey, wrote Daniel O'Leary, a priest of the Diocese of Leeds. And finding our real self means we have to face our shadows. *'In facing one's shadows, one begins to know truly the light of one's soul.'*

'We resist the call into our own mystery,' he writes, *'our own depths. We fear further hurt by unknown demons in the barren places. We rightly suspect that our wounds are deeper than we think - and often hitched to each other all the way back to childhood. It truly is the uncomfortable place we would rather not go. But something tells us it*

is necessary.'

And he quotes Henri Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest, who tells us we must live our wounds through instead of thinking them through. *'It is better to feel your wounds deeply than to understand them, to let them into your silence. You need to let your wounds go down into your heart. Then you can live them through and discover that they will not destroy you. Your heart is greater than your wounds.'*

'Instead,' says Father O'Leary, *'we cover the hurts of our hearts with the bandages of the mind. We bury our painful emotions and think that they are dead. We forget that our presence and personalities are profoundly influenced and shaped by these underground and often violent realities. We live and act out of the invisible shadow-world that turns silently, within us. Pain needs light. Nothing heals in the dark.'*

We grow by dying, he writes. *'There is no other way. In this dying we recognise the false face we've grown used to, the daily lies we tell, the thoughts and deception that crowd our minds, the infidelities we do not commit only because we might get caught, the lovelessness of our lives parading as shallow compassion, our collusion with conformity, our fear of beauty and big dreams.'*

We die to self, he says, when we sacrifice the ego of our vanity for the essence of our truest being. *'This is the dying that daily scrape the self-renewing fat of pride from the ribs of our soul, bringing a fearless inner lightness and clarity. When the eye is unblocked, the Buddhists tell us, the vision is sure.'*

'This is the liberating dying that puts the truth in our eyes, the resonance in our voice, the power in our presence, the depth in our listening. Since we are now all connected up inside, our heart is no longer divided. Rinsed and cauterised, all that is unauthentic is zapped from our infected being. When the small gods go, God arrives. Heaven, in the end, is where we belong.'