



THE PARISHES OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE

35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL

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Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple:

0131 669 5447

Deacon – Revd Eddie White:

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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

***The Feast of Mary, Mother of God – Friday 1 January
and the Feast of the Epiphany – Sunday 3 January 2021***



*“Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter” (Mk, 10:15)
A new Year, a new World, a new Hope. So many opportunities to love and be loved....*

Fr Jock and Deacon Eddie and the parishioners of our two parishes would like to welcome all visitors to our sister parishes here for the festive season, and to wish everybody a New Year full of Hope.

With this newsletter, there is a Pastoral Letter from Bishop William Nolan, President of the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland Justice and Peace Commission. The Feast of the Epiphany is also a Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace. It is normally accompanied by a Second Collection for the work of Justice and Peace – but because of the monthly Tower Fund Leaving collection at St John’s taking place this weekend, it will be postponed to next Sunday.

Fr Jock writes: ‘Sadly, the new restrictions that kicked in last Saturday mean that **no Mass is allowed to have more than twenty participants.....**which means that **all Masses will now require booking** - please see later in the newsletter. **We suggest that no parishioner books more than one Mass each week and that our Sunday ‘regulars’ book in for alternate Sundays - so that as many people as possible who wish to attend Mass are able to do so, ...’**

NEW YEAR MASSES

31 December - 7pm – St Mary Magdalene’s (20 places – booking required)

1 January - 11.30am – St John’s (20 places – fully booked)

*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,
“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown”*

And he replied,

*“Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”*

*So, into His hand went mine, and into my heart came He,
and I walk in a light Divine the path I had feared to see.*

(Minnie Haskins)

Children’s Liturgy at Sunday Mass

Welcome to
Children’s Liturgy



Arlene Lauder writes: ‘**Sadly, due to unforeseen circumstances, there will be no Children’s Liturgy after all this Sunday, 3 January**, the great feast of the Epiphany, but there will be next Sunday, the Feast of the Baptism, starting around 11:15 am. To be included, please send your email address to Arlene at Lauder.82@btinternet.com by 4pm on Saturday 9 January. 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’.****

An Invitation from the Edinburgh L’Arche Community to St John’s and St Mary Magdalene’s Parishioners to a Celebration of Epiphany – 2.30pm – Thursday 4 January (by Zoom)

Kirsty McCrimmon, Community Leader of L’Arche, Edinburgh, writes: We have really enjoyed joining with you in St John’s Hall over the past few years to celebrate Epiphany with a meal and music. We obviously can’t get together in the same way in 2021, but we can do it on Zoom and we’d love you to join us on Thursday 4 January 2021 at 2.30pm.

If you would like to take part in some way, e.g. reading a part of the story or acting as one of the characters, or anything else you’d like to offer, please get in touch with me at Kirsty.MacCrimmon@larche.org.uk by 4th January. We won’t be able to do the conga to finish with, but we can still have a lot of fun together on Zoom! Even if you don’t want a “part”, you’re very welcome to join with us via this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83038939929?pwd=MnZabXdOV2MwZi8wN2o1Q3k3YS95QT09>
Meeting ID: 830 3893 9929 Passcode: gatherL’Arche

We would like to say a special thank you to all those who have so generously given of themselves and their gifts in these difficult and strange times – whether it has been helping prepare the churches or the liturgies, or livestreaming them, or decorating them with flowers, or assisting at them in many different ways, or sanitising after the Masses.....and **Fr Jock and Deacon Eddie and the Parish House Team would also personally like to express their gratitude** for the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes they have received.

THIS WEEK

Thursday 31 December - 7pm – St Mary Magdalene's - **Mass** (livestreamed – **booking required; few seats left**)

Friday 1 January 2021 - 11.30am – St John's – **Mass** (livestreamed – **fully booked**)

Saturday 2 January - 6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** (**fully booked**)

Sunday 3 January

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

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

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

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

Monday 4 January

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

4.30pm - Skype – **PEP meeting**

Tuesday 5 January – 7.00m – Prayer Room – **Mass** (livestreamed)

Wednesday 6 January

9.20 – St John's – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** (livestreamed)

10.00am – St John's – **Mass** (livestreamed – **booking required**)

Thursday 7 January

10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass** (livestreamed – **booking required**)

2.30pm – Zoom – **L'Arche Epiphany meal** (See below)

First Thursday of the month **Benediction** not allowed at the moment – postponed till February

Friday 8 January –

9.20 – Prayer Room – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** (livestreamed)

10.00am – Prayer Room – **Mass** (livestreamed, **booking required**)

Saturday 9 January - 6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** (**booking required**)

Sunday 10 January

9.30am – St John's – **Mass** (livestreamed - **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** (livestreamed – **booking required**)

NOTICEBOARD

A CHANGE IN BOOKING SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES

To help us to manage the numbers, if you wish to come to **ANY** of our Masses, please contact the parish house

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

Tuesday 10am to 1pm

Wednesday 10am to 1pm

Thursday 10am to 1pm

Or by email (stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com) until Thursday 1pm.



PLEASE DO NOT BOOK BY EMAIL BEFORE TUESDAY – since it means that those who aren't on email and/or who book by phone are at a disadvantage in gaining places a place at Mass.

We are continuing to livestream some of our **Weekday Masses from the Prayer Room** in the Parish House (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 new COVID regulations we now have only 20 seats available at each Mass and therefore we advise early booking.

We are grateful for your patience and understanding in these difficult times.

From Archbishop Cushley’s recent Ad Clerum – ‘DIY’ Home Abortion

‘The Scottish Government has launched a consultation around this unsafe method of abortion. The Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office has produced guidelines on how to effectively answer the questions. For copies email Paul Atkin: prolife@staned.org.uk. Closing date for submissions is this Wednesday, 5 January.’

Information from the Justice & Peace Group

St Teresa’s Foodbank

The parish of St Teresa of Lisieux sends their prayers and love to our two parishes for all the acts of kindness that have been given them - ‘We thank you for all your donations to our parish. It has helped us to give to so many others in this very difficult year.’

St Teresa’s operates a foodbank for the needy in their area which our two parishes have supported for a while. Obviously, they would like to be a little more generous during this Christmas season so, if you would like to donate any non-perishable foodstuffs – or any games/toys for the children – please leave it at the back of the church (St John’s), the foyer (St Mary Magdalene’s) or at the parish house. The J & P Group will arrange to deliver it to St Teresa’s.

...and a reminder of ways you double the value of your Christmas giving

Mary’s Meals. For just £15.90 you can set a place at our virtual Christmas dinner table and feed a hungry child for a whole school year. And it gets even better! Thanks to Double The Love, your donation will now feed two children with Mary’s Meals.

Give until 31 January 2021 and your donation will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million – meaning we can reach even more hungry children in Liberia with life-changing school meals.

<https://bigfamilychristmas.marysmeals.org.uk/big-family-christmas-table/#set-a-place>

Water Aid If you’d like to help poor communities dependent on polluted water to gain access to the clean water that will help secure their future you can donate to our Future on Tap appeal. Until 4 February 2021, the UK government will match your donations, up to £2 million, making double the difference.

<https://www.wateraid.org/uk/donate>

Safe Passage Social distancing, online festivities, nationwide lockdowns. Christmas 2020 is going to be different to previous years. Unfortunately, for many of the child refugees living in Europe, festive periods separated from loved ones are a reality they face every year. We believe every child deserves to be with their families, and not just at Christmas. If you agree, this December you can Double Your Donation thanks to an aid-matching scheme


<https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/campaign/a051r00001fGxwSAAS>

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: Mary Neilson Smith and Alan Halliday

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: George Dougal, Elizabeth Marinello, Terry Delaney, Ed Collins and Ellen Baxter

St John's Jan.2:- Terry Delaney (2016); Monica Cubitt (2007); Anne Marie Phillips (2004); Elizabeth Stone (1992); Alexander Donnelly (1985); Thomas Mackay (1979); Annie Graham (1973); **Jan.3:-** Betsy Hogg (1981); James Lacey (1973); **Jan.4:-** Hedley Smibert (2007); Fr.Thomas Gaffney SJ.(1998); Lucia Maher (1994); John Brown (1984); Bernard McAllister (1981); John Browne (1977); **Jan.5:-** Jessie Handren (2009); James Bannon (1999); Douglas Shannon (1992); Joseph & Isobel Simpson (1989); Renee McMartin (1984); John J McWilliams (1958); Kathleen McGovern (1940); **Jan.6:-** Rita Scott (1997); James Huntly (1946); John Christie; Mary Gralton; James McNamara; James Meehan; **Jan.7:-** Kathleen Fusco (2010); William Turnbull (1995); **Jan.8:-** Brigid T Stuart (2005); Hugh Robertson (2003); William Birrell (2002); Charmaine McIntyre (1997); Alexander Gilroy (1974); **St Mary Magdalene's Jan.2:-** Mary Fairbairn (2019); **Jan.5:-** Ronald Forrester (2011); **Jan.6:-** Margaret Hay (2000); Jane Newman (1995); **Jan.7:-** Elizabeth Marinello (2013); **Jan.8:-** Daniel McGlynn (2003); Marco De Marco (1975);

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Bill Laidlaw, Ian Thompson, 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, 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: Jim Gallagher, 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 McPhilipps, 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: Evonne Taylor, Peter Von Schenk, Anthony Finnerty, Angela McGuigan Sr May Lewis, Sarah Horsley, Jean Nelson, Margaret Anne Marton, Anne Harty, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Fr Christy Fox, Joe Greenan, Martin Carr, Michael Igoe, baby Josh Simpson, Katie McAnenny, Robert Shaw, baby Kinsley McMillan, baby Francesca Horwood, John Walsh, Linda McKean, Moira McConville, Kathleen Kay, Margaret and Victoria Roddam, Hazel Yeoman, John Williams, Clare Richardson, Karen MacKay, Laura Anderson, 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, 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
27 December 2020	£178.00 offertory and £450.00 Gift Aid - £628.00 total	£964.40 (including Gift Aid of £643.00) and £600.00 Standing Orders – £1564.40 total
Tower Fund Collection		£270.00
Legho Collection		£164.00

If anyone missed the annual Tanzania Collection for Legho Village and the Young Christian Communities, please make contact with the Parish House if you wish to make a contribution. Thank you.

St Mary Magdalene 200 Club Prize Draw Fund Raiser

Jean McNally, Chair of the St MM Finance Council, writes: ‘People will be aware that we have run a 200 Club in the Parish for many years as a way of raising some additional funds for the church. The basic rule with such a fund raiser is that monies raised have to be split, with half going to the church and the other half being paid out as prizes. We normally hold a large draw in June and another in December for £200 each and in addition have 12 small draws, one each month, the value dependent on prize funds available.

With the enforced closure of our church buildings back in March 2020, due to COVID19, our prize draws were suspended. However, as many of the club participants pay their full annual dues at the beginning of each year we have much of the money in our funds and are therefore obliged to pay out the half share of said funds in prizes.

In view of this, the Parish Finance Council have agreed that a draw will take place on Sunday 24 January 2021 with a total of six tokens being drawn to determine the winners of 2 X £200 and 4 X £50 prizes. In doing this we will have fulfilled the rule of paying out half of funds received, even if the method is a little different from the norm. Good luck to all concerned.

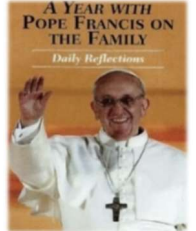
SIGN UP FOR 2021 - As they say “you’ve got to be in it to win it”! If you would like to continue your subscription for another year or if you would like to join for the first time we would be very glad of your support. Every participant has a

unique number allocated to them at the very reasonable cost of £1 per month (£12 for the year). This payment entitles you to be included in each draw for prize money. You can own as many numbers as you wish as long as you pay for each - this obviously raises your chance of winning as all your allocated numbers will be included for each draw.

We recognise that due to COVID restrictions not everybody is able to attend church on a Sunday and therefore may find it difficult to pay their subscription up front. We are happy to consider various options on how we collect the funds so don't be put off from participating. Please contact Madge Moyes on 0131 657 2744 to confirm your continuation for 2021 or to become a new member and agree how payments will be made. You can still commit even if you cannot pay on the day, we trust you to get the funds to us at some point in 2021. To alleviate the pressure of time constraints in launching the 2021 Draw we propose to extend the sign up period to late February and draw the January and February prizes both at the end of February so nobody need miss out on being included in the January draw.

Thanking you all for the support you have shown in the past and look forward in anticipation of your continued support for the future.'

"The Magi (Wise Men)'s example helps us to lift our gaze toward the star and to follow the great desire of our heart. They teach us not to be content with a life of mediocrity, of 'playing it safe', but to let ourselves be attracted always by what is good, true and beautiful... by God, who is all of this, and so much more"



‘WHERE I FIND GOD’ – Fr Willie Teehan

Willie Teehan is from Dunkerrin, Co. Offaly, where he attended the local national school and went then to the C.B.S., Roscrea. He studied for the priesthood in St Patrick's College, Carlow and was ordained for the Killaloe Diocese in June 1984. He serves as parish priest of Templederry in Co. Tipperary.

At 2.30am on Saturday, 14 February 2015, my brother Con rang me to say that our nephew Brian was missing in Galway after a night out with college friends. The following day, with family, neighbours, classmates and teammates, were spent searching the city for him and we found his body early on Sunday morning.

It was the most painful experience that shattered our lives, and we still struggle to come to terms with a loss of a "gentle giant" who was a treasured member of our family. He pursued a career of journalism because of his sense of justice and wanting to be a voice for the poor.

His funeral took place on Ash Wednesday and throughout the 40 days of Lent I too asked the question of God that Jesus asked on Good Friday: "My God, why have you abandoned me?".

That powerful question, asked by so many people in similar tragic situations, reminds me that I am not alone on the journey, that there is a bigger picture and that the light ultimately overcomes darkness. I have glimpsed the love of God in the Easter Scriptures and in the support of colleagues, family and friends at these very challenging times. One friend was most helpful when she said, "It is a mystery to be lived with, not a problem to be solved."

As I look out from my home here in Templederry to the hills of Hantsgrove, Chalkhill and Garryglass, I often reflect on the following prayer, which I find inspirational – *'Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further. Strengthen our faith that we may see beyond the horizon.'* (Bede Jarret OP)

A PRAYER FOR 2021

***Father,** I know the most important reality of my life
is that you love me and that you look at me this moment
with such tenderness and love as no one ever could:
I am your child.*

*You desire to forgive me and to heal me where I want healing
so that this day will be a brand-new beginning with
"a future full of hope."*

*Whatever I have to face today, one thing I know, is that
you will be there with me as my best friend, helping,
consoling, strengthening, healing and guiding me*

*There is absolutely nothing I have to be afraid of.
All this I know because your Son has told us so. AMEN*

A Summary of the work accomplished by Justice & Peace, Scotland, in 2020

Refugees, Asylum and Migrants

- *Organised a Zoom webinar 'Conversation on Migration' in October with speakers sharing their experiences in Calais nearly four years after the demolition of 'the jungle'*
- *Campaigned to 'Lift the Ban' to allow people to work whilst navigating the asylum system in the UK, calling for an end to 'no recourse to public funds', and for an end to detention.*
- *Arranged for Catholic chaplaincy at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre, Scotland's only Immigration Detention Centre*
- *Attended a peace witness event at Dungavel with Mother's Day gifts*
- *Organised the sending of Christmas cards to detainees held at Dungavel*
- *Continued to work as a member of SFAR (Scottish Faiths Actions for Refugees) to raise awareness and coordinate actions related to asylum, integration and resettlement with other faith groups. This year they produced "Sanctuary in Scotland" resource. Secured funding from the Bishops' Conference to help ensure SFAR's future*
- *Secured funding from the Bishops' Conference to help pay for bus passes for vulnerable pregnant asylum seekers and refugees in the Bumps to Babies scheme*

Care For Creation

- *Worked in collaboration with SCIAF and Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES) to deliver training for teachers across Scotland to participate in Laudato Si Schools*
- *Continued to work with partner agencies such as SCIAF and Eco-congregations to plan for the UN Climate Conference (COP26) in Glasgow 2021*
- *Provided Care for Creation resource sheets to help parishes, schools and families with ideas for practical suggestions to become more environmentally friendly*

Working towards Peace

- *Produced podcasts exploring a faith perspective on peace building and the arms trade*
- *Marked the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima with a Peace Statement signed jointly by Bishop Nolan and Bishops of England and Wales*
- *Developed resources with Campaign Against the Arms Trade highlighting Scottish companies breaching international law in the arms trade*
- *Hosted a Zoom webinar 'Reflection on Bethlehem' in December highlighting the current situation in Palestine as experienced by Christian families*

Alleviating Poverty

- *Produced a short video in support of Challenge Poverty Week in October*
- *Campaigned to Cancel the Debt of the poorest nations*
- *Called on our Government to make changes in the social security system to stem the rising tide of poverty*

Website and Social Media

- *Improved our presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube to reach more people*
- *Produced weekly blogs reflecting a wide range of issues across the country and beyond*
- *Shared weekly Catholic Social Teaching quotes*
- *Improved the Justice and Peace Scotland website with resources and links to related articles and events*
- *Produced resource sheets on Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis' latest encyclical*

Mary, Mother of God

*I seek your grace, Oh Mary my Mother!
You are the fruit of Anna and Joachim.*

*You are a vine tree
Oh Mary!*

*You are like the alphabet.
You gave birth to the gospel.
You gave us the Cross.*

*You are like the heavens.
You gave birth to the son.
You gave us the Saviour.*

*You are like a banquet.
You gave birth to the star.
You satiate the hungry.*

*You are like the tabernacle.
You gave birth to the altar.
You gave the heavenly.*

*You are like the cloud
You gave birth to the Eucharist.
You gave us health.*

*You are like fragrance.
You gave birth to the Saviour.
You heal the sick.*

*You are like the East.
You gave birth to the thunder.
You clothe the ragged.*

*You are the bride of the Father.
You are the mother of the Son.
You are the dwelling of the Holy Spirit.*

*You bless those who eat
The body of your Son and
Drink the blood of your Son.*

Ancient Ethiopian hymn



Mary gave birth to her Son
and wrapped him
in swaddling clothes
HE IS THE CHRIST