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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: after the Vigil Mass (7.30pm on Saturday) or any time by appointment

Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris, and Chris Vinestock Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Parish 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



Feast of the Transfiguration and Nineteenth Sunday of the Year, 6-7 August 2022

'Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them on a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them ... And there came a voice from a cloud covering them in shadow: "This is my Son, the Beloved.

Listen to him".' (Mark 9:2-10)

We Continue to pray for Peace – 'Dear Lord, please grant the people of Ukraine and Russia, Your Peace, Your Justice, Your Reconciliation, Your Forgiveness, Your Love. Amen.'

Saturday 6 August is the Feast of the Transfiguration...there will be a Saturday morning Mass at St John's to celebrate the Feast...and Fr Jock will be available to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation after it (as he is after each Saturday evening Vigil Mass).

This Sunday, the 9.30am Mass at St John's will be a Children's Mass.

Our next **Baptismal Course** will take place on **Thursday 18** and **Thursday 25 August** at 7.30pm in the Parish House. **To enrol for the course, please make contact with Fr Jock**



An Emergency Appeal for the STEKA Children's Home in Malawi

Emma Wood, of the charity STEKASkills, writes: 'In Malawi, the poor depend on maize to feed themselves all year round. Maize is cheapest just after it has been harvested in May and then gets progressively more expensive as it becomes scarcer (a time known as the hungry season when people cannot afford to buy enough to eat). This year, the hungry season is coming early – caused by a drought which significantly reduced output in Malawi and the war in Ukraine which makes importing maize difficult and expensive. Last year, maize was 10,000 Malawi Kwacha (the currency) - £8.33 - per 50 KG, now it is 18,000 per bag and by the end of August it could be as much as 20,000 (in a country where the average monthly wage is 50,000). So people are already going hungry.

At the STEKA Children's Home in Blantyre, Godknows and Helen Maseko try to buy a year's worth of maize in May/June and store it to feed the 90+ children in their care (and families in need round about them). But the inflated prices mean that they haven't been able to buy what they need. They have had help from other well-wishers but still need £2,300 to buy enough maize to survive the year. We would never normally ask for help like this – our focus is on building sustainable futures for poor Malawians through skills training – but these are exceptional times. **So, we are appealing to anyone who would like to make a donation.** There will be baskets at the back of both churches at the end of Mass this weekend – or, alternatively, please either hand it in to Enrico at the parish house in an envelope marked STEKA or alternatively you can make a bank transfer using the following details:

Sort Code: 80-22-60 / Acc No.: 18555368 / Account Name: Stekaskills

The population of Malawi is 20.2 million – with, according to the World Bank, a national poverty rate of 50.7%, and – a year ago (the figure higher now) 1.1 million people facing 'acute food insecurity'.

(And we are pleased to report that, despite all the challenges of the last years, STEKAskills has made amazing progress thanks to the support of St John's and Mary Magdelene's and others in our community. We will soon finish our second building in the new rural Stekaskills complex, which will house an unique childcare and parenting institute (very much needed as many children and families are suffering due to the impact of covid and increasing poverty). We have also given voice to our girls about the illegal but still practiced ritual of 'removing the dust' and are launching a campaign to build a women and girls' hostel. You can find out about all this on the news section of our website www.stekaskills.com or by following our social media sites

https://www.facebook.com/STEKAskills or https://www.instagram.com/steka.skills/ We are so very grateful for your support of our grassroots, Malawian led, charity. God bless you all.')

Saturday 6 August – FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD 9.30am-1.30pm – St John's Hall – Pamoja Fashion Sale 10.00am- St John's – Mass - livestreamed 6.30pm – St John's – Vigil Mass - livestreamed Sunday 7 August – 19th Sunday of the Year 9.30am – St John's – Children's Mass – livestreamed 11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – Mass 5pm – St Mary Magdalene's – Reception of Andrew Banks' body. Monday 8 August 9.45am – St Mary Magdalene's – Requiem Mass for Andrew Banks – livestreamed 8.00pm-9.15pm – Zoom - Gospel Sharing - shorturl.at/bJLPS Tuesday 9 August – Feast of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross 7pm – Parish House Prayer Room – Mass - livestreamed Wednesday 10 August – Feast of St Lawrence 10am – St John's – Requiem Mass for Inge Downey - livestreamed

Thursday 11 August - 10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – Mass - livestreamed

Friday 12 August - 9.20am-9.50am – St John's - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am - St John's – Mass – livestreamed

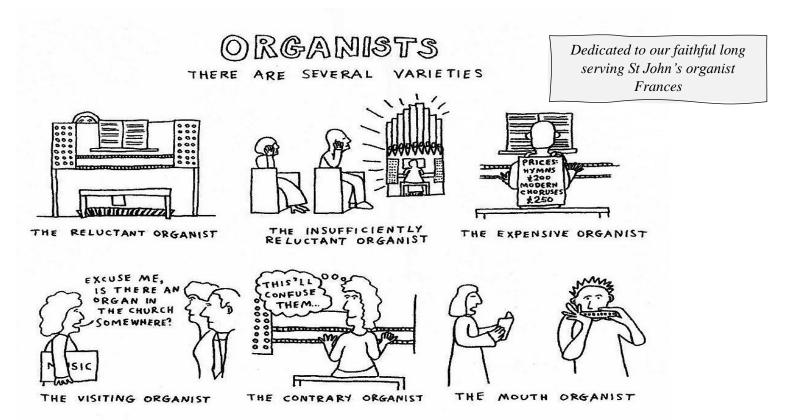
Saturday 13 August 6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** - livestreamed

Sunday 14 August – FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.30am – St John's – **Mass** – livestreamed 11.15am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass**

(and on Tuesday 16 August – 10am – St John's – Requiem Mass for Anne Lamb - livestreamed

W E E K



From Archbishop Leo's Weekly 'Ad Clerum'

Abortion Bill - The Catholic Parliamentary Office has produced a two-page briefing on Gillian Mackay MSP's proposal to introduce buffer zones around abortion facilities in Scotland. The briefing provides details on the proposal, highlights some concerns and shows how people can respond to the consultation, which closes on **Thursday 11th August.** Find it at https://rcpolitics.org/

Schola Cantorum sings MacMillan - This recital takes place at 7:30pm on Monday, 15 August, at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh. The event will include composer Sir James MacMilllan discussing the relation between faith and music with Michael Ferguson, Director of the Schola Cantorum. For details, visit http://www.edinburghsacredartsfestival.org/festival-2022.html

Annual Justice & Peace Mass - This takes place at 7pm on Monday 5 September at St Columba's, Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh. The lead celebrant is Canon Brian Gowans, the Vicar Episcopal for the Archdiocese's Caritas Justice & Peace Commission and there will be a homily from Fr David Stewart SJ. Buffet and refreshment served in hall after. Register at bit.ly/caritasmass

(AN ALMOST SCOTTISH) SAINT OF THE WEEK – AND THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN SAINT - MARY McKILLOP (1842 - 1909)

Foundress of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart -

Feast Day – 8 August

"The Cross is my portion – it is my sweet rest and support"



With her beatification in 1995, and canonisation in 2010, Mary McKillop, otherwise known as Mother Mary of the Cross, became the first recognized saint of Australia. She was the foundress of a remarkable congregation, the Sisters of St. Joseph, who devoted themselves to providing free education and other services to the poor and needy.

What is most remarkable about Mary McKillop, however, is not so much the charitable work by which she expressed her faith as the utterly uncharitable treatment she received at the hands of many priests and prelates in her time. Indeed, Mary McKillop might serve as the patron saint of all who have suffered the petty persecution of narrow-minded religious authorities, convinced they are acting in the place of God. That Mary remained free of bitterness, despite her ordeals, is considerable evidence of her sanctity and sufficient cause for honour.

Mary was born in Melbourne in the colony of southern Australia on January 15, 1842. Her parents were poor Scottish immigrants, from Roybridge, Lochaber. (The church there now has a shrine to her)

While working as a governess she met a charismatic young priest, Julian Woods, who inspired her to consider a religious vocation. Together they conceived the idea of a congregation dedicated to the needs of the poor. In 1866 Mary put on a plain black dress as a sign of her dedication to religious life and the next year she took religious vows. It was the start of a new congregation, the Sisters of St. Joseph From the beginning Mary had given much thought to the type of congregation suited to the needs and rugged conditions of Australia. The Constitutions she devised for her community had several important features In the first place, as a congregation devoted to the poor, she felt it was essential that her Sisters themselves adhere to a strict vow of poverty. Her preference was that the congregation did not own any property all. There were also to be no social distinctions within the community between "choir" and "lay" Sisters, as she insisted on radical equality.

Most important of all, however, was her insistence that the congregation be subject to "central government." This meant that instead of allowing each of her far-flung communities to be administered under the authority of a local bishop, they would be governed by an elected mother general who would answer directly to Rome. This provision proved to be the source of extreme tension between the congregation and the Australian bishops.

In almost no time Mary had attracted scores of young women to her congregation, and houses were established in a number of cities and out back missions throughout the territory. At a time when almost no public services were available for the poor, the Sisters of St. Joseph won the admiration and gratitude of Australians of all classes and religious persuasions. Many bishops were initially eager to welcome the Sisters. But inevitably they tried to interfere in the management and direction of the Sisters' work. To this Mary put up spirited resistance.

When Mary remained adamant in her commitment to central government, the bishops' support gave way to a shameless campaign of harassment and vilification. In one dramatic episode she was actually excommunicated by her local bishop. Though he later, on his deathbed, rescinded the order, she continued to operate under a cloud. Another bishop had her expelled from his diocese and refused to allow the Sisters to do any fund-raising. The bishop of Queensland sent damning letters to Rome claiming that the Sisters were "infected with fanaticism and insubordination to authority," and that Mary's aim was "to subvert the whole system here."

To shore up her position, Mary travelled to Rome and spent two years seeking authorization for her constitutions. Eventually she found an audience with Pope Pius IX. He was personally intrigued by the story of "the nun who was excommunicated." When she returned to Australia she held a papal document formally approving her congregation. Still, the persecution did not cease. A team of bishops and clerics, claiming falsely to be authorized

by Rome, subjected her community to a rigorous "visitation" seizing financial records and interviewing the Sisters under a supposed "vow of secrecy" to discover scurrilous information about Mother Marv Afterward the bishop of Adelaide leaked the slanderous story that Mary was an alcoholic and that she had misappropriated funds belonging to the congregation.

It turned out that the "visitation" had no authority from Rome. An official inquiry by Rome, provoked by this incident, completely exonerated Mother Mary. Still the harassment continued. The Australian bishops voted to overturn the constitutions of the congregation and subject the Sisters once more to diocesan control. Once more, Rome came to the rescue, nullifying the bishops' authority in the matter. The congregation would remain under central government. Mother Mary had won at last.

Although she suffered terribly from the constant attacks on her virtue and her faith, Mary never disdained the occasion to endure injustice or injury. She referred to such ordeals as "presents from God." Innocent suffering, she believed, was an opportunity to shoulder the cross and so to grow closer to God. Those who caused this suffering were thus "instruments in the hands of God"; they were, indeed, her "most powerful benefactors." Nevertheless, she acknowledged that "God's presents were often hard to understand," and that she was "too often cowardly in accepting them."

Mother Mary lived on to see her congregation firmly established throughout Australia and New Zealand. After many years of painful illness, she died on August 5, 1909. Her passing was mourned throughout Australia.

See: Lesley O'Brien, Mary McKillop Unveiled (Victoria, Australia: Collins Dove, 1994

NOTICEBOARD

Young new teacher in East Lothian looking for spare room in Portobello/Musselburgh (near 26 bus). 6-8 weeks considered. Any contacts please email rowanjkramers@gmail.com

A Message – and Invitation - from Bethany Christian Trust Bethany Overnight Welcome Centre re-opening

Jim Roarty writes: "Bethany Christian Trust has advised that the Welcome Centre (for homeless who would otherwise be sleeping rough) will re-open for the winter season on 5 October and will run through to the end of April. They have asked us how many nights we can commit to, so I have emailed the people presently on our volunteer list to check on their availability.

For those of you not familiar with the Welcome Centre, volunteers from our two parishes, along with church groups from all over Edinburgh, provide a hot meal every night for the homeless using the Centre. The meal is prepared off-site and brought to the Welcome Centre, housed in the Haymarket Hub hotel (directly opposite Haymarket Station) where we serve it in the dining area.

Basically, for each of our nights, we only need two volunteers to report to the Welcome Centre around 7.30pm to make sure preparations are in hand for the food coming, to serve it and then clear up after – usually finished before 11pm. Two is an adequate number as the dining area is small.

If anyone would like to join our volunteer team and offer one or two evenings for this worthwhile – and, surprisingly, enjoyable - work, please contact me at <u>jimroarty4@gmail.com</u> or on 07719952472."

Garden Open for Charity

Mike and Susan Burns write: 'KEEP weeding! Our garden at 39 Nantwich Drive, EH7 6RA, is now open to all under Scotland's Garden Scheme this Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August, 2pm-5pm. Just £5 entrance, children go free, for charities SGS, The Henry Doubleday Research Association and Garden Organic. Teas, coffees and a nice chat on gardening will be offered'

Fringe Show - Love, Loss & Dating

Jeremy Thorp, leader of the St John's Sunday Mass music group, writes: 'In the last Festival Fringe before lockdown, in 2019, I took part in a jazz cabaret entitled "Love, Loss & Cake", with my friends Malcolm (singer) and Nick (guitar). Both Malcolm and I have lost our partners in recent years, and the show told the story of our

gradual recovery through words and music. That show sold out every night, and we are happy to be putting on a different show this year on a similar theme, reflecting our journey over the three years since then...

"Love, Loss & Dating" is on at the Hilton Highland hotel on North Bridge, 7 pm from the 15th until the 20th of August. Box office details are here:

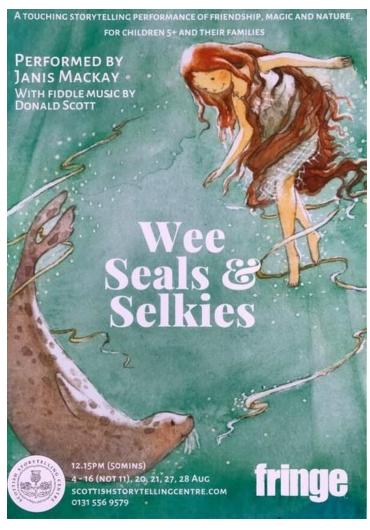
https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/love-loss-and-dating'

New Every Sunday on BBC Radio Scotland at 7.30am

Following on from last Sunday's second programme, for the next 2 Sundays (7 and 14 August), **the weekly Radio Scotland religious service will feature Fr Jock, Alice Codling and Anne Jabir**. The theme of the homilies are as follows:

Sun 7 Aug – The Feeding of the Five Thousand and a reflection on a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Sun 14th Aug – Jesus, the parable of the debtors and Rosie, an inspiring pilgrim.

EVENTS FROM THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL



featuring St John's Pastoral Council Chair **Donald Scott** on the Fiddle



and from St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral

Help me believe that the pain of life, accepted with courage, awakens love, stirs compassion, melts my hardness, frees my creativity, opens my mind.

Help me listen to the quiet voice within, the unheard voices around me. There are voices speaking to me, teaching me, reminding me who it is I am, where it is I am going.

(from "Stillness" by Sr Stan Kennedy, an Irish Sister of Charity)

A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR THE 19TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – LUKE 12: 32-48

I never inherited the personality trait displayed by my late father of being a stickler for routine. It infuriated my mother that he lived by the clock, but you really could set your watch by following his routine. I remember once reading that the Indian Railways of yore were so reliable, and the timetable so accurate that many would call into Delhi station and set their timepieces by the train departures. My father would have loved it. Ten past six on a Saturday evening would see him taking the bus to St Mary's in the town centre for weekly confession, five to ten on every evening he would wind the clock on the mantlepiece before retiring to bed. Television schedules, such as they were, would never be permitted to change his routine. He would have stood no chance against an American Hellfire missile. Ayman al-Zawahiri, the head of Al-Qaeda had s similar commitment to routine, and it would be his downfall. Each day, after morning prayer, he would go out to stand on his balcony in Kabul, at exactly the same time, as he watched street life unfolding below. From hundreds of miles away, a drone missile launch would leave him dead. An instant death – but amazingly his wife and daughter would remain unscathed in the flat behind him. There's nothing romantic in war. Not for him the chance to be surrounded by family and loved ones as he took his last breath. I imagine that he was all too aware of his eventual end, but he could never know the 'when'. Did he hear the approaching missile or did the sound of the traffic below disguise his imminent demise?

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus warns us to be on our guard, to be ready, to be prepared. This passage follows on from last week when we were told of the rich man who built bigger and better barns to accommodate his wealth. Despite that wealth he could add nothing to his life span - and nor can we. Being in a state of readiness should come naturally but can leave us full of dread. Mortality is not an issue that can be avoided. Be ready, be prepared - don't assume you will see 90 years just because you come from a line of long-livers! Deadlines focus the mind. A trip to the other side of the world is planned, itineraries prepared, accommodations and visits to relatives arranged. Then there is a lull. The planned trip is still a long way off, we can relax and focus on the more immediate. Time disappears and before we know it, the ordeal of Heathrow looms, like an approaching Hellfire missile. Procrastination is our enemy, putting things off until later is never the realistic option for us.

The challenge is straightforward. Be ready! What is it that we need? We need nothing more than a life well-lived, a heart that is generous and open, accepting and forgiving. Is there a nicer compliment that we can make or receive other than 'He was always large-hearted!'. A large heart looks outward rather than inward; it looks for opportunity to bring hope and encouragement rather than dwelling on self-pity and self-idolatry. See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit.....get yourselves treasure that will not fail you, in heaven, where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Nearly all of us would want to know that partners and family will be cared for when our time is called. It would be irresponsible not to. We have a wider responsibility. We are citizens of the world. Are we happy to leave the world of greed, rampant consumerism, and massive inequality to someone else to sort out? Jesus' teaching dictates that we can't. Is it sufficient to throw our arms in the air, shrug our shoulders and hide behind 'There has always been corruption and greed!' Jesus would say in reply: 'It doesn't have to be this way' as he hands us the baton. Being ready involves action and activity. It's not a comfortable place to be. My discomfort because of my recent broken humerus continues. The physiotherapy is slow and painful. I have the option of giving in and adapting to life using predominantly one arm - or I can persevere through the discomfort. That is what I know I should do. Doing nothing has its appeal, just as leaving problems to someone else to sort out, promises a quieter life. It's not a realistic option, nor the option borne of a living conscience. See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit.....get yourselves treasure that will not fail you, in heaven, where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(The author of this article is a friend of Fr Jock living in Northumberland).



Parish Register



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Margaret Thomson
Paula Ranaghan
Jim Gaffney - Clive Davis
Fr Thomas Hood OCSO (of Nunraw)
Michael Johnston

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Susannah Bauld - Peter Wilson Rob Moyes - William Gillespie Pat Gilhooley - Kathleen Defty Mary Phair - Jeannette Knight Christopher Laurie

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's: Carol Simpson, Shay Graham (aged 5), Kathleen Brown, John Cregan, Mike Noonan, Jean Bonar, Baby Archie Williams, John Whyte, Maria Pacitti, Kim O'Neill, Sheila Service, Frances Connelly, Fiona Connel, John Freeman, May Thomson, Ann Dobie, Frank Logan, Sheelagh Dobson, Ernie Moran, Bob Kelly, Lorraine Kelly, Chloe Sutherland, Norah Bruce, Mike and Patricia Lawler, Ruth Viso, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, Anna Butler, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, young Saoirse Golden, Frances Cunningham, David Reid, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Sarah McManus, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Mary Slight, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Mary McGovern (jnr), Carolynne McCann, Tom Bauld, Sam Burns, Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Mary Cole, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, Isobel Phillips, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, Michael McPhillips, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Jude Ferguson, and Mary and James Muir.

Anníversaríes: St John:

Aug.6: Tina Cupo (2018); Denis Ford (1993); Christopher McD Laurie (1955);

Aug.7: Michele Gradone (2015); Adam Black (2014); Kathleen Innes (2002); Arthur Lonie; William Murray; Gerrardo Ranaldi;

Aug.8: Mary Thornton (1969); Andrew McGovern;

Aug.9: Mary Treasurer (2000); George Kirk (1987);

Aug.10: Veronica Schmelter (1995); Elizabeth Garland (1994); Domenico Demarco;

Aug.11: McMullan Family;

Aug.12: Mary Phair (2021); Martha Anthony (2001); Eddie Cullen (1941);

Aug.13: Hugh Ward (2001); Eleanor Gracie (1999); Catherine Lowe (1987);

Aug.14: Leslie Berry (1995); Philip Brady;

St Mary Magdalene's:

Aug.6: Susannah Bauld (2021);

Aug.7: Jim McKaill (2001);

Aug.10: William Gillespie (2004); Michael A Atkin (2000);

Aug.11: Amedeo Alonzi (2004); Barry Ledden (1968);

Aug.12: Rob Moyes (2021); Pat Gilhooley (2013);

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Christopher MacKinnon, Angela Khan, Marlene Bonnar, George and Ann McDermott, Lalee Martin, Suzanne O'Callaghan, Ellen Dow, Lucille McFadden, Tara Kuppinger, Margo Law, Sheila White, Michael Durkin, Jessica Haggerty, Lauren Sutherland, Charlotte O'Brien, Gwen Cullimore, young Martha Moyes (aged 5), Bill Henderson, Kit McCormick, Jennifer Kay, Margaret Troupe, Anne Lauder, Seval Kazimoglu, Ann Watt (Mgr Rae's sister), Jan Meise, Melanie Ford, Mary Taygarth, young Niamh McDougall, Bridget Bonner, Roger Bromley, Mary Thomson, Fr Raymond OCSO, Tony Rigg, Jozefine O'Connell, Robin Butler, Henrietta Fraser, Stuart Falconer, Nan Doig, Clare Johnston, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie McAnenny, John Kellagher, Joy Allan, Colin Raasch, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, baby Josh Simpson, Dani Miniette, Peter Millar, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr. Margaret Mary, Jean Nelson, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Michael Igoe, Clare Richardson, Laura Anderson, Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Tommy Muir, James Shepherd, Peter Hanley, Andrew Franklin, Ellen Green, Jamie Mitchell, Peter Bromley, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Diana Hibbert, Joan Brooks, Mary Turnbull and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory 31 July 2022

St Mary Magdalene

£253.08 total including Offertory of £126.28 and Gift Aid of £126.80

St John the Evangelist

£1418.43 total including Offertory of £476.43, Gift Aid of £200.00 and online donations of £742.00



Thank You!