

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, Edinburgh, EH15 1LP

Parish Administrator: Enrico Fertini

(Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10am to 3pm & Friday 11am-4pm)

Web address:

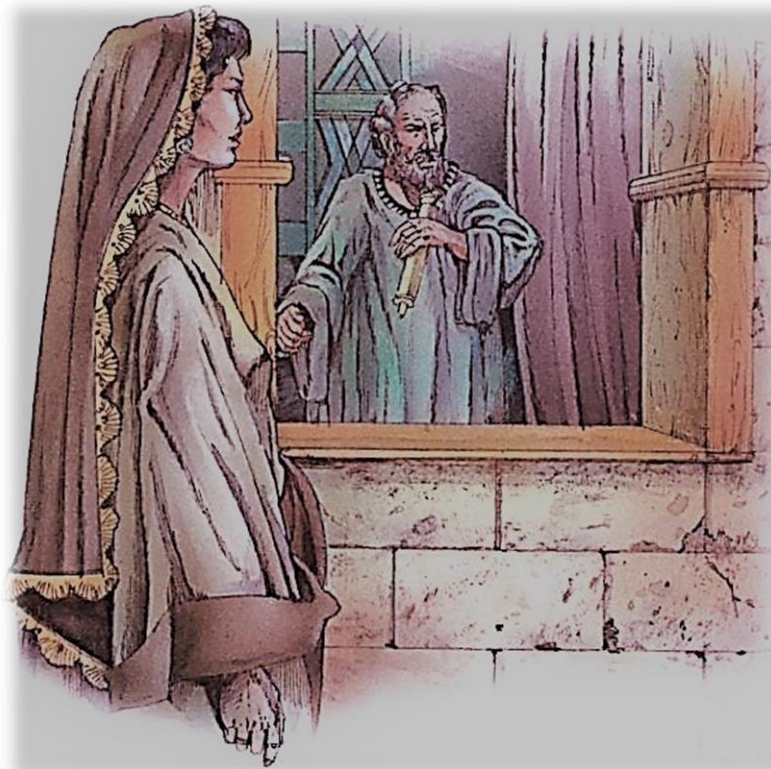
<https://www.stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com>

Joint Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsandStMaryMagdalenes>

Joint e-mail address for our sister parishes:

stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com



Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year 16 October 2022

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart.

“There was a judge in a certain town who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, ‘I want justice from you against my enemy!’. For a long time, he refused, but at last he said to himself, ‘Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.’” (Luke 18:1-5)

Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop on Euthanasia - Archbishop Cushey has written a pastoral letter about the dangerous impact on the possible legalising of assisted suicide in Scotland. It is available along with the newsletter. There is another chance to sign the petition which aims to stop plans to legalise assisted suicide at the back of both churches - or sign online at www.carenotkilling.scot

A Request For a Home to Rent – Veronica Kinane writes: ‘As many of you may know our Ukrainian family have been with us for almost 6 months. They would now like to live independently and they are therefore seeking a 2 or 3 bedroom rental property in the Portobello area or within a bus journey from St John’s primary school. We are so grateful for the welcome and support the parish and the school has given them over the past 6 months. If you know of any such properties in the area could you please contact me on 07902941675. We thank you in advance for your thoughts and we would ask you to pray that this family might find accommodation so they can start their independent life here in Portobello where they have felt so welcomed.’

A Warm Welcome, as always, to Fr Jim Smith, covering for Fr Jock from Tuesday to Friday, while the latter is away at Kinnoull, above Perth, on the annual diocesan midweek ‘Retreat for Priests’, given this year by the Benedictine monk, Fr Christopher Jamieson. Please pray for all involved...

Last Sunday’s visit by Hans and Michael Zaunbrecker and their friend Karl Schobben sadly had to be postponed as Hans had an infection and couldn’t travel. We sent Michael a copy of last week’s newsletter and a photo of his father’s statue *in situ* and he responded by email:

*‘It is a pity that we could not come. Just because you put so much effort into it.
My father is doing better now. The inflammation has subsided.
I showed the picture to my father, and he was very happy about it.
He thinks that Maria Magdalena is in very good hands there.
If the further treatment goes well, we will visit you in May.’*

Next Sunday is Mission Sunday, or officially ‘World Day of Prayer for the Missions’ – a second collection will be taken at all Masses.

Saturday 15 October

12.30pm – St John’s – **Baptism of Milan Nasolini**

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

Sunday 16 October – 29TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass with baptism of Ezra Kane** – livestreamed

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

Monday 17 October

10.00am - St John’s – **Mass** - livestreamed

10.30am – St John’s Hall - **Coffee Morning (Donations to Mary’s Meals)**

Tuesday 18 October – FEAST OF ST LUKE

7.00pm – Parish House Prayer Room – **Mass** - livestreamed

7.45pm – Parish House – **RCIA Group – Enquiry 3**

Wednesday 19 October – 10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** - livestreamed

Thursday 20 October - 10.00m – St Mary Magdalene’s - **Mass** - livestreamed

Friday 21 October - 10.00am – St John’s – **Mass** – livestreamed

Saturday 22 October

12.30pm -St John’s – **Baptism of Maisie Aien**

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

Sunday 23 October – 30TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – MISSION SUNDAY

9.30am – St John’s – **Mass– with baptism of Nathan Mario** – livestreamed

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

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The next Baptismal Preparation Course will take place on **Thursday 27 October** and **Thursday 3 November** in the Parish House. If you would like to participate, please make contact with Fr Jock

Sunday 30 October – 9.30am – St John’s – **Mass celebrated by Archbishop Leo Cushley with presentation of diocesan medals**

From Archbishop Leo's 'Ad Clerum'

Workshop: The Psychology of Flourishing - A workshop on the psychology of flourishing, faith and spirituality will be led by Fr Roger Dawson SJ at The Edinburgh Jesuit Centre at Sacred Heart Parish in Lauriston, Edinburgh, on **Saturday 22 October 10am to 4.30pm**. Register at edinburghjesuit.org.uk/ejc

Music Day - Join fellow musicians and singers from across the Archdiocese for a Music Day at 10:30am on **Saturday 22 October** at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh. The event is for anyone interested or involved in music in the liturgy. Light lunch provided. Free parking onsite. Register now at bit.ly/musicday2022

Torchlight Procession - On **Thursday 27 October** a torchlight procession will take place in Glasgow to mark the 55th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Action. The event begins in George Square at 6:30pm with Rosary followed by a procession to St Andrew's Cathedral where Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm.

Divine Mercy - The annual Divine Mercy Conference takes place at St Augustine's, Dundyvan Road, Coatbridge, ML5 1DQ, on **Saturday 29 October from 9am-6pm**. Register online at www.divinemercury.scot/conference2022

All Souls' Day - Archbishop Cushley will offer Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, especially those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery. This will take place at **10am on Wednesday 2 November** (All Souls' Day) in the Mount Vernon Cemetery Chapel.

Special talk on family life - Professor Stephan Kampowski is a world renowned expert on marriage and the family in a Catholic context. He is visiting the Archdiocese from Rome next month to give a series of talks. He will speak at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, at 11am on **Saturday 5 November**. Register for this event on the Archdiocesan Eventbrite page: bit.ly/archeventbrite

Cost of Living - The Scottish Government has launched a new website that brings together in one place information on support, grants, benefits and advice, in order to help people find what support they may be entitled to. Please visit <https://costofliving.campaign.gov.scot/>

Job Vacancy with SPUC - The Scottish Society for the Protection of Children (SPUC) seeks an Executive Assistant (Public Affairs and Legal Services). It is an opportunity to use and develop your administrative, project management and communications skills in a dynamic, friendly, positive and fast-moving team committed to making abortion unthinkable. The role will be full-time (part-time considered) and have a salary of c.£25,000. For further information and to apply, please email jobs@spuc.org.uk

The Cross In My Pocket

*I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be.*

*This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm.*

*It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Saviour and me.*

*When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key*

*The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.*

*It reminds me, too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
in all that I do and say.*

*It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.*

*So I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be.*

(a poem by Verna Mae Thomas, 1923-1987)

SAINT OF THE WEEK I – St John XXIII (1881-1963)

Pope – Feast Day: 12 October

"The substance of the ancient deposit of faith is one thing, and the way in which it is presented is another."



On October 28, 1958, a new pope greeted the church from the balcony overlooking St. Peter's Square. There stood the smiling, rotund figure of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, the son of peasants and recently the patriarch of Venice. "I am called John," he said.

In appearance and in almost every other respect Pope John XXIII stood in contrast with his predecessor. Whereas the late Pius XII had seemed gaunt and otherworldly, John was gregarious and open. He exuded an enthusiasm for life and an enjoyment for human company that in itself set a positive tone for his pontificate and raised hopes for a season of change. But hopes were modest. At seventy-seven, it was widely supposed that Pope John would be no more than a transitional pope, filling the chair of Peter until the next papal conclave. In the end he proved to be transitional in quite a different sense. In four and a half years he managed to bridge two utterly different eras in the history of the church. He broke with the fortress mentality of what Karl Rahner called the "Pian era" and initiated a new era of openness and positive dialogue between the church and the modern world.

The decisive initiative came only three months after his election when Pope John casually mentioned his intention to convene an ecumenical council at the Vatican, the first such council since 1870 and only the second since the sixteenth-century Council of Trent. Despite the novelty of this announcement (which caught the Vatican curia off guard), there was little expectation of just how significant this event would be. But Pope John spoke of the need to "open the windows" of the church, to let in fresh air. The church was badly in need of what he called *aggiornamento*, or "updating."

In October 1962 [**60 years ago this month**] Pope John addressed an assembly of twenty-five hundred bishops from around the world in words that set the tone for the sessions to come.

In the daily exercise of our pastoral office, we sometimes have to listen much to our regret to voices of persons who, though burning with religious zeal, are not endowed with too much sense of discretion or measure. In these modern times they can see nothing but prevarication and ruin.... We feel we must disagree with these prophets of gloom. In the present order of things, divine providence is leading us to a new order of human relations which, by human effort and even beyond human expectation, are directed toward the fulfilment of God's higher and inscrutable designs; and everything, even human differences, leads to the greater good of the Church.

Unfortunately, it was the curial "prophets of gloom" who were largely responsible for setting the council's agenda. These Vatican bureaucrats, long accustomed to running the church, had prepared a series of documents that simply reiterated the standard Catholic "truths" in the age-old language of ecclesial documents. Conservative bishops, meanwhile, were eager to pronounce the condemnation of a whole new syllabus of modern errors.

But Pope John, as he made it clear, had a different agenda. *"The Church has always opposed... errors,"* he said. *"Nowadays, however, the Spouse of Christ prefers to make use of the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity."* What he envisioned was a pastoral council, especially concerned with the cause of Christian unity, the promotion of peace, and his hope that the church might realize its true identity and vocation as a "church of the poor."

Otherwise, Pope John spoke little during the opening session. But he did intervene at what became a critical point in the proceedings. The first proposed document on Revelation was rejected by a majority of the bishops, but not by a sufficient number to table it definitively. Pope John personally directed that the document be returned for complete revision. This strengthened the resolve of the progressive majority of bishops to set aside the entire set of

draft documents and start from scratch. They were aided by a team of theological experts, many of whom had only recently been subject to Vatican censorship, including Karl Rahner, Yves Congar, Henri de Lubac, and John Courtney Murray.

Having launched the council, Pope John did not live to see it completed. Already he was suffering from a terminal cancer. His final months were spent in terrible agony. Nevertheless, he retained until the end his gracious humour and humility: "*My bags are packed,*" he said, "*and I am ready to go.*"

From his deathbed he dictated a final message to the church he loved:

Now more than ever, certainly more than in past centuries, our intention is to serve people as such and not only Catholics; to defend above all and everywhere the rights of the human person and not only those of the Catholic Church; it is not the Gospel that changes; it is we who begin to understand it better.... The moment has arrived when we must recognize the signs of the times, seize the opportunity, and look far abroad.

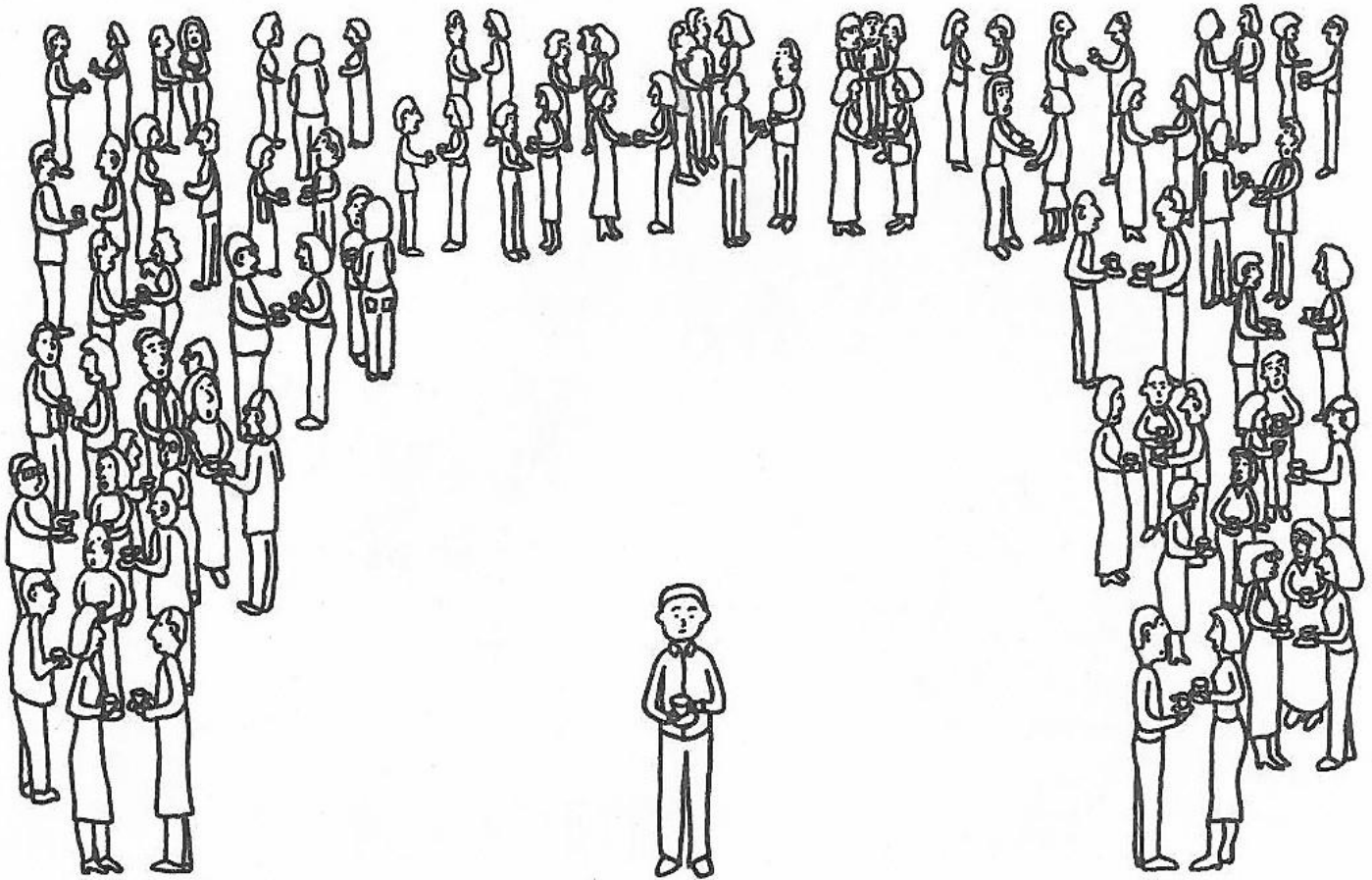
Pope John XXIII died on June 3, 1963. In a few brief years he had won the hearts of the world, and his passing was universally mourned. His beatification followed in 2000.

See: Peter Hebblethwaite, *Pope John XXIII: Shepherd of the Modern World* (Garden City, NY.. Doubleday, 1985).

(from Robert Ellsberg's wonderful book 'All Saints')

AFTER MASS TEA AND COFFEE

THIS IS THE TIME WHEN NEWCOMERS CAN GET TO KNOW THE PARISH ...



(a cartoon - by Dave Walker - perhaps with a little message for us all .. !?!)

‘SAINT’ OF THE WEEK II – CARYLL HOUSELANDER

*Billy Fulton
looks at the
life of*

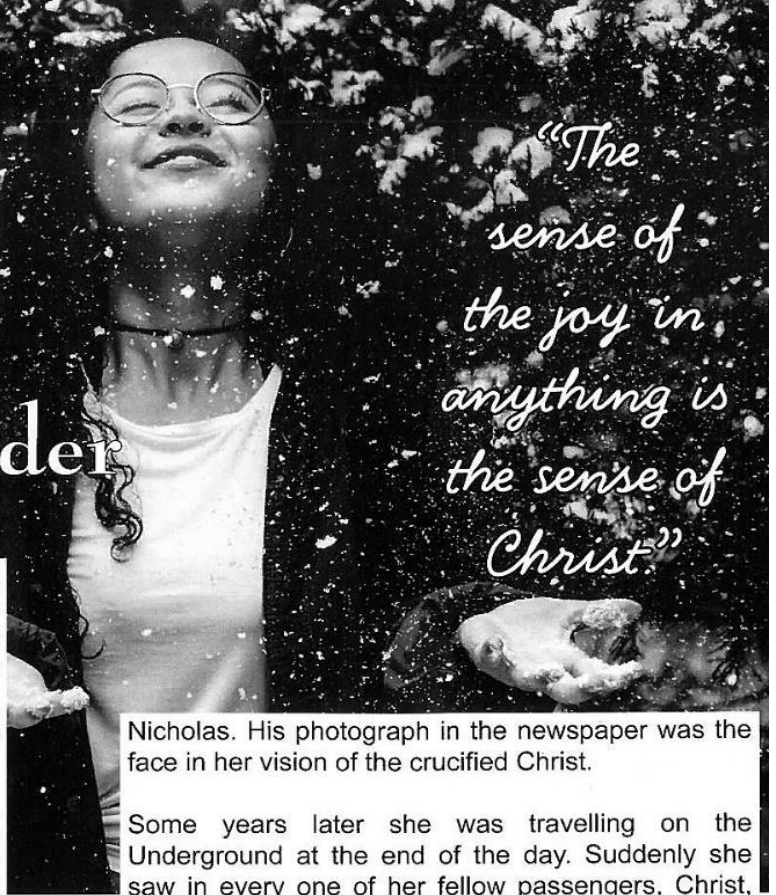
Caryll Houselander (1901–1954)

Caryll Houselander was born in Bath, England, on the feast of St Michael the Archangel, 29th September 1901, and died of breast cancer on 12th October 1954. So Caryll had a relatively short life but the quality of her life means that she'll be remembered long after most of us are dead and gone.

I heard of her for the first time in 1977, when I read what she wrote on *Prayer on the Passion*. I found it remarkable and I suppose I was piqued that I'd never heard of her. In her autobiography she describes herself as a "rocking horse Catholic". That is because she was received into the Church when she was six years old, the age when one would be using a rocking horse. She took Michael for her confirmation name a few years later as she was born on his feast. Caryll had a very chaotic childhood, because she and her sister were educated in boarding schools, after the rupture of her parents' marriage. She had periods of severe psychological disturbance and we would wonder how one who was so predisposed to chaos would become the finest spiritual writer of her generation.

Three events took place in Caryll's life which most observers would describe as mystical. The first at boarding school, when she entered a room and saw a Bavarian nun weeping and polishing shoes. Because of the First World War there was a lot of anti-German sentiment in England. As she stared, she saw the nun's head pressed down by a crown of thorns. She told the religious "I wouldn't weep if I was wearing a crown of thorns."

Then one night in July 1918, on an errand for her mother, she saw a huge Russian style icon spread across the sky. The icon was of Christ crucified, brooding over the world. Shortly afterwards, she read in a newspaper of the assassination of Tsar



*"The
sense of
the joy in
anything is
the sense of
Christ."*

Nicholas. His photograph in the newspaper was the face in her vision of the crucified Christ.

Some years later she was travelling on the Underground at the end of the day. Suddenly she saw in every one of her fellow passengers, Christ,

living and rejoicing in them, suffering in them, dying in them. When she left the train, this experience continued for several days. From this she became absolutely convinced of Jesus' self-identification with all of humanity, and that the only solution to loneliness and the human condition was the unity of life in Christ.

Caryll was a remarkable writer. Her prose is lean and fluent, her poetry rich and clear. She was a talented artist and illustrated some of her own books. Though untrained she had a tremendous gift of empathy and doctors who knew her, used to send her their patients who were severely disturbed. These encounters left her exhausted as she seemed to absorb the clients' suffering.

I regard Caryll as a saint, but of no plaster variety. She chain smoked, she drank, she cared nothing for her appearance, but her books, the *Reed of God*, the *Stations of the Cross*, etc are so rich, so incredibly insightful, that I unhesitatingly recommend them to anyone who wishes to get to know Jesus and to spend their life in his company. That's what Caryll did and so many people have benefitted from this. I hope you may do so too. ■

*Every ordinary
thing in your life
is a word of God's
love: your home,
your work, the
clothes you wear,
the air you breathe,
the food you eat....
the flowers under
your feet are the
courtesy of God's
heart flung down
on You! All these
things say one
thing only: 'See
how I love you.'*

Caryll Houselander

Fr Billy Fulton, after ministering for many years in Nigeria and South Africa, is now based in Baltinglass, Co Wicklow.

A REFLECTION ON THE READINGS FOR THE 29th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Psalm 120 - Luke 18: 1-8

(The author of this reflection is a friend of Fr Jock who lives in Northumberland)

I am booked in for my Autumn Covid Booster Vaccination on Friday, November 4th. I was first invited by the NHS at the beginning of August. I was eligible for the booster and I duly logged on to the NHS booking site. Initially, I was offered an appointment some 32 miles away. No, Thank you! I knew that there was a site here in Hexham just 5 miles away, but this latter site was not yet open to bookings. My experience from previous vaccination appointments told me that patience and determination was called for. I declined the initial appointment and logged in again and was offered the same location. I logged in again.... and again, and again. I changed fingers, used a different browser. I called it a day and repeated the process the following day, and the next, until success! Persistence had won. I had an appointment nearer home, against one involving a 64-mile round journey. I can expect a substantial saving of both time and money, given the current price of petrol.

Today's Gospel speaks of the persistence of the wronged widow who demanded justice from the corrupt official. The latter eventually relents and gives in to the demands of the widow before "*she worried him to death*". Jesus goes on: "*Will not God see justice done to his chosen, who cry to him day and night, even when he **delays** to help them?*" Prayer is about perseverance, patience, and resolve. Prayer is about building our relationship with God and that relationship is rooted in and on trust. Note that Jesus warns of potential delays! By and large, we don't take kindly to delay. The other day I had cause to correct one of the records in my credit rating. I thought I was taking control of the situation but was advised that I wouldn't be able to see any correction for 24 hours 'to allow the system to update itself overnight'. I didn't take kindly to being told by the 'system' that I would have to bide my time. In Isaiah, the prophet warns that God's ways are not our ways -and this is sometime difficult to take. Few of us like handing over, we much prefer to be in charge of our own destiny, our own future – but the reality is that God knows best. In the responsorial psalm today, we read: *The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming, both now and forever.*

This is why we persist in prayer - even when it seems our prayers are not heard. There are times when prayer is answered by a "No" and this can be hard to accept. Parents quickly learn that it's never a good idea to answer in the affirmative every request that comes from their child. "No, you cannot play with the kettle!" "No, you cannot climb into the tumble drier!" We give a child what is good for them and decline requests for whatever is bad. The God we believe in would be an extremely scary God if he answered every request. We often ask for things that are not for our good. God would be extremely sadistic if he answered such prayers. The acid test? Am I asking for something I need - or something I want?

I learned when my journey into recovery commenced that I had spent far too long, telling God what I wanted – never once looking at what I needed. Too much alcohol would see me making a fool of myself or causing real hurt and damage. God would be summoned in prayer. *God, have mercy on me in your kindness, blot out my offence* almost as if a coat of white emulsion would clear things up. What I wanted was much different to what I needed. Then came the light bulb moment when I asked his help in my search for what I needed. Perhaps when we feel that God is delaying in his response to our prayers, we may be asking for what we want – instead of what we need...The widow in today's Gospel knew what she needed – she needed justice and nothing was going to distract her.

PARISH REGISTER

Welcome to the world Francesco and Matteo Di Sotto, twin sons for Jenny and Giancarlo, and younger brothers for Leonardo, born on Friday 7 October

...and Warm Birthday Greetings to Moira McAfferty, 80 on Saturday 15 October.

Please pray for those who have died recently:

*Nan Doig
Christopher MacKinnon*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

*Mgr James Rae - Frank O'Reilly
Kathy Bloomfield - Drew Donoghue
Audrey Burgess - Frances Smith
Mgr Tom Connolly
Michael Bruno Massaro
Fr Jimmy Henry - Michael Connolly*

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's:

Alex Cranston, John Cregan, Frank Logan, Rose Thornton, Carol Simpson, Kathleen Brown, Mike Noonan, Jean Bonar, John Whyte, Maria Pacitti, Kim O'Neill, Frances Connelly, Fiona Connel, John Freeman, May Thomson, Ann Dobie, Sheelagh Dobson, Ernie Moran, Bob 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, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Anne Carruthers, Isobel Philipps, Mary McGovern (jnr), Carolynne McCann, Tom Bauld, Sam Burns, Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Mary Cole, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, 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.

Anniversaries:

St John's:

Oct.15: Mgr James Rae (2015); George Gilhooley (1997); Robert Nelson (1959); Collins Family; **Oct.16:** Catherine Jeffrey (1986); Elizabeth Burns; **Oct.17:** Michael Connolly (2018); Kathy Bloomfield (2008); Mina Hanlon (1987); **Oct.18:** Michael Richards (2017); Nan McCreadie (1995); Frances Smith (1991); John Young; **Oct.19:** Joseph Gracie (2010); Mrs Kelly; **Oct.20:** Roseanne Sangster (2006); Gerald A Strong (1998); Hamilton Scott (1995); Isabella Duffy (1990); Mary Breen (1973); **Oct.21:** Francis Fusco (2013); John Rae Jun. (2013); Arthur Patterson (2012); Mary T Kimber (2003); John Donnelly (1983); Arthur Scott (1983); **Oct.22:** James Scott (1991); John Walsh (1991); John O'Brien (1987); Jim McMartin (1941); Francis J Sweeney; **Oct.23:** Franco Cupo (2004); Vera Headspeath (1997); Peter Ferrier (1993);

St Mary Magdalene's:

Oct.16: Daniel Sweeney (2004); Fr. Jimmy Henry (1987); **Oct.20:** Hamilton Scott (1995); **Oct.21:** Alex. McKenzie (1996); **Oct.23:** Sadie Craig (1994);

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Hans Zaunbrecher, John O'Donnell, Judith Franklin, Fr Edward Corbould, Baby Jamie McBride, Mary Thomson, Joy Allan, Clare Johnston, Tony Doherty, Mary and Derek Lamarque, Anne Morris, Baby Josh Simpson, Keiron Smart, Michael Doherty, baby Tommy Moran, Carol Turnbull, Ethan Slaney, Paul Madden, Francis Joseph Palmer, Jean Wylie, Mary Conefrey, Angela Khan, Marlene Bonnar, George and Ann McDermott, Lalee Martin, Suzanne O'Callaghan, Ellen Dow, Lucille McFadden, Tara Kuppinger, Sheila White, Jessica Haggerty, Lauren Sutherland, Charlotte O'Brien, Gwen Cullimore, young Martha Moyes (aged 5), Jennifer Kay, Margaret Troupe, Seval Kazimoglu, Ann Watt (Mgr Rae's sister), Jan Meise, Melanie Ford, Mary Taygarth, young Niamh McDougall, Bridget Bonner, Roger Bromley, Tony Rigg, Jozefine O'Connell, Robin Butler, Henrietta Fraser, Stuart Falconer, Elizabeth, Baby Percy Keiran McShane, Colin Sandham, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Dawn Clarke, William Kinsley, Katie McAnenny, John Kellagher, Colin Raasch, Annabelle Cervantes, Emily Buchanan, Ann Thorp, 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 9 October 2022

St Mary Magdalene's, £211.40 total, including £112.40 Offertory and £99.00 Gift Aid

St John's, £1479.23 total, including £501.83 Offertory, £222.40 Gift Aid and £755.00 online donations

*Thank
You!*