

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: Jennifer Morris and Christina Vinestock

Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, Edinburgh, EH15 1LP

Parish Administrator: Enrico Fertini

(Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10.00am to 3.00pm & Friday 11.00am to 4.00pm)

Web address:

<https://sites.google.com/view/stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes>

Joint Facebook page:

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

Joint e-mail address for our sister parishes:

stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - 14 JULY 2024



Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits... (Mark 6:7)

We continue to hold in our hearts those who are suffering – and all those who have lost their lives, or been held hostages – not only in Gaza, Rafah and Israel but also in the war in Ukraine, and indeed in all the wars and conflicts in our world...

This Sunday is Sea Sunday – there will be a Leaving Collection for Stella Maris (Star of the Sea) and their work with seafarers and their families. (*‘Stella Maris is the largest ship-visiting network in the world. We improve the lives of seafarers and fishers through our network of local chaplains and seafarer centres, expert information, advocacy, and spiritual support’.*)

A warm welcome to Fr Jim Smith, covering for Fr Jock, who will be away – with several parishioners – on pilgrimage in Lourdes till Saturday 20 July.

Portobello Holiday Club - Deep Sea Divers – 15-19 July

Heather Williams writes: ‘Please pray for our 7th ecumenical holiday club for primary school children in Portobello. This year, we’re preparing to welcome 78 children to our Deep Sea Divers club - where the children will get to dive into Matthew’s gospel, hearing about Jesus’ baptism, his healings, teachings about the kingdom of God, His life and resurrection. The children will join from 9am to 12.30pm each day from Monday 15 July to Friday 19 July.’

Please pray for the children and their families, that they might encounter Jesus and know His love for them. Please also pray for all the adult and youth volunteers, that their faith will also grow and energy levels be sustained over the

busy week ahead! Please pray for safety for all those involved, while we meet together at Portobello & Joppa Parish Church, St Mark's Episcopal Church and walk some groups of children there and back each day.

If you are a baker, we'd be delighted to receive any donations of cakes, biscuits or cookies for our amazing gang of around 60 adult and youth volunteers. If you wish to do this, please let Danni Glass (our parishes' co-ordinator – 07398 291304) know and provide a list of ingredients (so we can make sure any allergic reactions are avoided!). We'd be so grateful if any baking donations can be brought on Sunday 14 July to church, or otherwise let Danni know if you wish to offer baking later in the week

We would also be grateful for donations of any of the following items to help with the **gardening activities** at St Mark's church, which can be brought there on the afternoon of Sunday 14 July:

Plants with blue, yellow or orange flowers Foliage plants (green ones without flowers) Aquatic plants
Shells (not broken) Small stones (10x5cm) Thanks for your prayers!'

Next Sunday is the **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.....**

The next Baptismal Course for our two parishes will take place on **Thursday 15 and 22 August** in the Parish House at 7.30pm – if you would like a child baptised, please make contact with Fr Jock.

We pray, Lord, for the humble beasts who with us bear the burden and heat of the day, giving their lives for the well-being of others: and for the wild creatures whom you have made wise, strong and beautiful; we ask for them your great tenderness of heart for you have promised to save both us and all living creatures.

Russian prayer

THIS WEEK

Saturday 13 July

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

Sunday 14 July – 15th Sunday of the Year (Sea Sunday)

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

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

2.00pm – Sacred Heart Church – **Mass for Chinese Catholic Community**

Monday 15 July

9am-12.30pm – Portobello and Joppa Parish Church/St Mark's – **Deep Sea Diners (Holiday Club)**
– and each day till Friday.

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

No **Gospel Sharing** this week

Tuesday 16 July - 7.00pm – Prayer Room – **Mass** – *livestreamed*

Wednesday 17 July

9.15-9.55am – St John's – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

Thursday 18 July - 10.00am – St Mary Magdalene's – **Mass** – *livestreamed*

Friday 19 July

9.15-9.55am – St John's – **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

Saturday 20 July - 6.30pm – St John's – **Vigil Mass** – *livestreamed*

Sunday 21 July – 16th Sunday of the Year

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

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

View the **links for the Masses** by visiting our webpage: <https://bit.ly/StJStMM>



FROM ARCHBISHOP LEO'S "AD CLERUM"

Mass for the Chinese Catholic Community | 華人天主教團體彌撒 - Mass is celebrated on the second Sunday of each month in Cantonese and English at 2:00pm at Sacred Heart Church, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ. The next Mass in Cantonese and English will be on **Sunday 14 July** at 2pm. On Sunday 21 July, Fr Li Chi Yuen will celebrate Mass in Cantonese at 2pm. All welcome. 每月第二主日下午二時有粵語和英語雙語彌撒，有懂粵語的神父來訪時會另開粵語彌撒。彌撒後有茶聚。歡迎所有人參加。如有查詢，請聯絡劉偉明執事

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - To mark this day, Holy Mass will be celebrated at the National Marian Shrine, Carfin, on **Sunday 28 July** at 3:00pm. The Principal Celebrant will be Bishop John Keenan (Paisley Diocese), who is President of the Bishops' Conference Marriage, Family and Life Commission. The Café will be open for refreshments.

Events in the Archdiocese - For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit <https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/>

NOTICEBOARD

Contact details for the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP):
By phone or text: 07752682213 - email: svpedineast@gmail.com

WONDERFUL NEWS RE THE ST JOHN'S CHURCH AND PARISH HOUSE HEATING REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Chris Vinestock, chair of the St John's Fabric Committee writes: 'Last week we finally received approval from the Trustees of the Archdiocese to proceed with the work to replace the gas boilers in the church and in the parish house, and in addition, to replace the existing radiators within the church.

Dalziel Design Associates and Lothian Heating have now been appointed to undertake all the work that is required. The total cost will be around £246,320.80.

We hope to have the works completed by September/October. We will keep in touch with any further developments and thank all our parishioners for their patience over the winter months.'

THE PARISHES' ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – AN INVITATION

Colin Davey writes: 'The history of the parishes of St John's and of St Mary Magdalene's is deeply connected with that of the communities in which they are embedded, as reflected in the lives of their parishioners in all its diversity. The Oral History Project, which has been conceived by a small group of local parishioners, overseen by Fr Jock, aims to capture those every day and exceptional experiences of parish life, those key moments of the faith journey, gathering together a rich tapestry of stories and first-hand accounts of life in and around St John's and St Mary Magdalene's from across living memory.

That's where we need your help and contribution. By recording your unique memories in a relaxed, informal atmosphere of listening and discussion, based around a few guiding questions, we aim to produce resources, including a film, that celebrate our shared heritage. In doing so, the Oral History Project will preserve for future generations your recollections of the two parishes as they have grown together into their present vibrancy, strengthening our collective sense of inclusion, community and belonging.

To support the project, we would also be very grateful to receive copies of any archival material, such as commemorative brochures or photographs, that you might have that would help us to celebrate those treasured events in your family history and that of the parishes.

A fact sheet will be provided to all participants that explains more fully your part in the project, how we will record, share and preserve your valuable contribution, and who to ask if you have any questions.

If you're interested, please contact Diane Devlin (ddevlin2@icloud.com) or Enrico in the Parish Office. It's only through your contribution that the project will succeed. Thank you!'

One of the great fruits of suffering is compassion. When you have felt and experienced pain, it refines the harshness that may be in you. Tolstoy said that our great duty as humans was to sow the seed of compassion in each others' hearts.

An observation by the late John O'Donohue

SAINT OF THE WEEK – St Bonaventure

Franciscan, Doctor of the Church (1221-1274) – Feast Day: 15 July

"A spiritual joy is the greatest sign of the divine grace dwelling in a soul."



Little is known of the early life of St. Bonaventure. Apparently, he was born to a wealthy family in Orvieto in Italy and was inspired to become a Franciscan while studying at the University of Paris, sometime around 1238. St. Francis had died only some dozen years before, but already his order was rapidly changing the face of the church in Europe. To Bonaventure it seemed that the Franciscan order "*was not invented by human providence but by Christ. In it, the learned and the simple lived as brethren.*"

Bonaventure himself was most decidedly one of the learned. As such he would seem to contrast sharply with the simplicity of Francis. But in fact, Francis had held learning in great esteem, as long as it was subordinated to the pursuit of holiness. In this spirit Bonaventure received the support of the order to continue his studies. In 1257, along with his Dominican counterpart St. Thomas Aquinas, he received his doctorate in theology.

Rather than pursue the life of an academic theologian, however, Bonaventure was immediately elected at the age of thirty-six to serve as minister-general of the Friars Minor. It was a critical time for the Franciscans.

Along with defending the order against its external critics, he had to contend with internal dissension between extremes within the community. On the one hand there were so-called Spirituals, who insisted on a strict adherence to Francis's spirit of poverty and who maintained a somewhat anarchistic approach to organization. On the other hand, there were those who desired a much more relaxed and "practical" attitude toward property and the requirements of institutional life. Bonaventure tried to steer a middle course, establishing a balance between the radical freedom of Francis and the disciplined order of a religious community. To reinforce his moderate interpretation of the Franciscan charism he composed an influential life of St. Francis. So successful was Bonaventure in establishing the direction of the Franciscans that he was later known as the Second Founder.

Although Bonaventure's career as a theologian was sacrificed to the government of his order, he managed to write a number of important works. Among these, his most influential book was *The Journey of the Mind to God*, written during a retreat on Mt. Alvernia in 1259. It was at this site that St. Francis had received the stigmata, the mark of his identification with the crucified Christ. Bonaventure's book was an attempt to translate Francis's experience into philosophical terms. It traces the soul's journey along the path of holiness, leading from contemplation of the created world to an ever-deepening contemplation of the spiritual order, and ultimately progressing toward the goal of mystical union with God.

By all accounts, Bonaventure himself was a model of humility and charity. In 1265 Pope Clement IV wished to name him archbishop of York, an appointment he respectfully declined. In 1273, however, Pope Gregory X ordered him to accept the title of cardinal-bishop of Albano. It is said that when papal legates were sent to present him with his red hat and other insignia of office, he kept them waiting while he finished washing the dishes. In a summary of his spirituality he observed, "*The perfection of a religious man is to do common things in a perfect manner, and a constant fidelity in small matters is great and heroic virtue!*"

Bonaventure died in 1274 during the Council of Lyons. He was canonized in 1482 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1588. In recognition of his angelic virtue, he is known as the Seraphic Doctor.

See: Etienne Gilson, The Philosophy of St. Bonaventure (Paterson, N.J.: St. Anthony Guild, 1965).

A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – MARK 6:7-13

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

If you're reading this in Europe, you may well be aware of the European Football tournament of the last few weeks. In 2021, a footballer named Bukayo Saka missed a penalty for England. How the crowd howled. He was 19 years old – yet no allowance was made for his tender years and there followed weeks of rampant racist abuse – for he was black. The fact that he was playing for England – or *Ingerr-rr-laaand* as some of a less intelligent persuasion love to chant, 'paled' somewhat (no pun intended!). They could not get past his blackness. What is it about some 'white' people? What makes them think that their perceived superiority anoints them with licence to be so base. Who needs Bond's licence to kill when they allow themselves licence to be vile? Bukayo Saka did not allow the boors to drag him to their level. This week his inner strength allowed him to rise above their baseness. He climbed above the chants and bananas hurled his way and coolly stepped up to score a penalty in the quarter final game. Chants rang out once more – but this time in acclamation: *Ingerr-rr-laaand. Ingerr-rr-laaand Ingerr-rr-laaand!* Some might argue it's not difficult to rise above dirt dwellers. Is that, perhaps, why God consigned Satan to forever crawl on his belly after their encounter in the Garden of Eden?

Inner strength: we all possess it, but don't always call upon it. Sometimes the effort is just too much. I have been thinking a great deal about inner strength this week. One of Adrian's clients at our small Pilates Studio here in Northumberland, a man called Nick, comes all the way from California, or as his father intones it: *Kal-eye-four-nigh-'ay*. He spends six months in the UK and six months in the US. A horrendous motor accident left him with severe brain damage and partial paralysis of his body. Despite the brain damage, damage which makes speech slow, ponderous and often indecipherable, he retains a sharp sense of humour. His text messages and his observations which he puts on social media are charming and insightful. He told me on Tuesday that he likes the rain – which is just as well given recent precipitation levels. His parents, who are his main carers, travel with him even though they are in their 80's. His father's take on US political life is worth listening to. They 'discovered' Adrian by chance – we don't know how, as we don't exactly advertise in the USA. Nick considers it a most fortunate accident – unlike the motoring accident that befell him. Using Pilates and something called Muscle Activation Technique, Adrian has helped Nick to achieve so much by way or progress but the bulk of the improvement is down to Nick's dogged determination: his inner strength - something Adrian knows only too well. He himself found Pilates after being dogged by back pain that had been masked by medical experts and their prescribed medication. Only as he learned about his own body and how it works, was Adrian able to achieve drug-free relief and improve his movement and strength. The happenstance between Nick and Adrian is yet another one of those random encounters that defy planning and logical explanation – almost as if there is a God, a force, directing our lives. We come into the orbit of all sorts of events and people throughout our lives. Sometimes situations arise which make us despair: *Why is this happening to me?* Years later we look back. *Now, I see why that occurred* – the dust clears, we see more clearly, and we understand

Last Sunday, we read of Jesus' rejection by his own village-folk, his friends from his youth, the adults in the village; they had probably asked favours of Mary and Joseph. They couldn't see past his lowly status as a carpenter. How can a mere carpenter pretend to know so much? His disciples witnessed this rejection. And now, he is sending them out in pairs where they will probably experience this same level of rejection. We're still only in chapter 6 of Mark's gospel. It was the early days in their relationship with him: they had only recently answered his calling. Why did He choose them? Why on earth have they left their steady employment – and for what? How have they ended up in his orbit? To wander off into environments that could well be hostile, full of prejudice – and yes, even racial prejudice: the wrong tribe, the wrong accent, the wrong background. Despite the negativity that Jesus experienced and they witnessed, collectively they rose to the challenge. Jesus believes in them and they believe in him. Now jump to 2024. The same lesson applies. We possess inner strengths, previously untapped, blessings hitherto undiscovered. Nothing will overcome us, because He is our constant companion.

PARISH REGISTER

Welcome to the world, Mia Sorcha Suominen, born on Thursday 11 July, a first child for Hannah and Dominic, and first grandchild for Sheila and Geoff Dobson.

Many Congratulations to Enrico Fertini and Corinna La Rocca, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on Wednesday 10 July.

Please pray for those who have died recently:

*Simon Love - Irene Flynn
Pat Gilmartin*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

*Maureen Brogan
Willie Montgomery - Armand Volpe
Pat Hunter - Paddy McCafferty
Inge Downey - John Sandham
Cardinal Gordon Joseph Gray*

Anniversaries:

St John's:

July 13: Maureen Brogan (2023); Alastair Dewar (2013); Heather Clydesdale (1994); Mr and Mrs. Delaney (1981);
July 14: Kate Laurie (1937); Bridget Daly; Philomena Hughes; Jane B Ritchie; **July 15:** Armando Volpe (2013); Patricia Pringle (2002); James Hamilton (1989); **July 16:** Pat Hunter (2021); Paddy McCafferty (2019); Kathleen McColl (2006); Philomena Donnelly; Maria Howieson; **July 17:** Inge Downey (2022); Patrick Dourley (2005); Joseph O'Brien (2000); Margaret D'Inverno (1988); John Sandham (1985); **July 19:** Cardinal Gordon J Gray (1993); Eileen Walsh (1975); Domenica Andreucetti;

St Mary Magdalene's:

July 13: Walter Tanchuk (1999); **July 14:** Cathie Tosney (2007); Colin McKenna (2002); **July 15:** Hannah Halliday (2007); Frederick Burns (1970); **July 16:** Thomas Dewar (2008); **July 17:** Owen Barrett (1997); **July 19:** James Harvey (1996); Mary McQueen (1996); Angelina Risi (1968);

Please pray for those Parishioners who are sick:

St. John's:

Eddie Clark, Prisca Kemp, Maureen Clark, Mary Slight, Barbara Durkacz, Mike Noonan, Mike Fox, John McLaughlin, Celia Stone, Betty Dougal, Robert Clark, John Lawler, Jimmy Curnyn, Charlotte and Fred McGregor, Mike and Patricia Lawler, Anne Thomson, David Reid, Ann O'Brien, Kathie Gallagher, Diane McCarthy, Margaret Duffy, Mike Burns, Harry Allan, May Thomson, Carol Simpson, Kenny O'Connor, Rose Thornton, John Whyte, Maria Pacitti, Ann Dobie, Chloe Sutherland, Ruth Vizor, Mary Grady, Pauli Walker, May Flynn, Vincent Knowles, young Saoirse Golden, Frances Cunningham, Sarah McManus, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Maureen Low, Norman Telfer, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers and Marie Angela Crolla.

St Mary Magdalene's:

Bill McGeachie, Norrie Gibson, Monica Gorman, Aisha Montgomery, Tom Kay, John Flanagan, Eleanor Campanile, Mary McGovern (jnr), Carolyne McCann, Tom Bauld, Jacqueline Marinello, Sandra Watt, Chris English, Andrew Farmer, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Julie Keegan, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell,

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of our Parishioners:

Mike Foy, Jean Cooper, Kirsty McCrimmon, Ann Thorp, Noel Power, Chris Frost, Lynda Young, Mary McCormack, Ann Watt (Mgr Rae's sister), Helen Bird, Sheila Laughlin, Diana Williams, Tommy McPake, Helen Campbell, Coralie Isherwood, Mr Mega, young Zachary Cowie, Edith and Bill Edgar, Shirley Robertson, Catherine Princess of Wales, King Charles, Jennifer Lackie, Monique Kopp, Mary Lyons, Elizabeth McKenzie, Jim Gray, Michael McKean, Steven Thornton, Ann Fleming, Marna Clarke, Eugene Feehan, Mag Farnon, Ann Currie, Jacob Green (aged 13), Pat Campanile, Jill Harvey, Stephen Hirt, Mireille McNab (aged 13), Michelle Lee, Michael Daly, Roger Bromley, Richard Reid, Douglas Edington, Anne Morris, Dr Grier Gordon, Rose May Mattison, Brian Gurney, John Curran, Saramma Samuel, Peter Robinson, Peter Hanley, Kate Titterington, Helen Robertson, baby Josh Simpson, Shona Killin, Tom Heaney, Mary Whyte, Tish Deacon, Elizabeth McGrath and Granny Elizabeth, Andrew Muldoon, John Havard, Ellen Green, Sophie Robinson, Louise Young, Tricia Scott, Harriet Wingfield Digby (aged 11), Alan Proudlock, Evelyn Walsh, Grace Stuart, David Fenwick, members of the McGrath Family, Hans Zaunbrecher, Judith Franklin, Clare Johnston, Mary and Derek Lamarque, Keiran Smart (aged 16), Michael Doherty, Jean Wylie, Angela Khan, Tara Kuppinger, Charlotte O'Brien, young Martha Moyes (aged 6), Jennifer Kay, Seval and Kazim Kazimoglu, Jan Meise, Tony Rigg, Stuart Falconer, Elizabeth and Gordon Marron, Katie McAnenny, John Kellagher, Dani Miniette, Peter Millar, Joan Murray Hamilton, Sr Margaret Mary, Betty Blyth, Lauren Fitzpatrick, Michael Igoe, Clare Richardson, James O'Rourke, James Shepherd, Andrew Franklin, Jamie Mitchell, Edward Caulfield, Igor Rekowski, Mary Turnbull and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory 7 July 2024

St Mary Magdalene's, £282.42 total, including £111.32 Offertory and £171.10 Gift Aid.

St John's, £1249.40 total, including £372.20 Offertory, £119.20 Gift Aid, and £758.00 average weekly online donations.