

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

**Parish Priest: Fr Jeremy Milne**

Resident at St John the Baptist

Email: [frjeremy.milne@staned.org.uk](mailto:frjeremy.milne@staned.org.uk)

Telephone No: 0131 334 1693

Website: <https://ssjohnbandkentigern.org.uk>

Facebook: [fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern](https://fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern)

Parish Office Email: [office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk)



**Church of St John the Baptist**

37 St Ninian's Road  
Edinburgh EH12 8AL

**Church of St Kentigern**

26 Parkgrove Avenue  
Edinburgh EH4 7QR

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent, Year B  
A warm welcome to Mass today

Parish Offertory donations can now be made online. Scan the QR code to go to the parish online giving page. Please Gift Aid if you can. Thank you so much!

> About to make/change a Will? Have you considered leaving a legacy to your parish?



Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December ( <i>Vigil</i> )	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Jim Barry RIP
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of the Parish
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	Elizabeth & Barney McFeely RIP
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>Advent Candlelit Mass</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>St Kentigern</b>	Ritchie & Hamilton Fms RIP
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	St Kentigern	Fin Harrison S.I.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December ( <i>St Lucy</i> )	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Mary Fitzgerald RIP
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December ( <i>St John of the Cross</i> )	9.30am	St Kentigern	John Carroll S.I.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Steve Harrison S.I.
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	St Kentigern	Tess Jennings RIP
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December ( <i>Vigil</i> )	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Johnny Faherty RIP
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of the Parish
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	Geoff Harrison S.I.
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday 10.00am-10.15am – St Kentigern's; Saturday 5.15pm-5.40pm – St John the Baptist		
<b>Adoration &amp; Rosary</b>	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December, 7pm, St Kentigern, Glorious Mysteries		



## Advent and Christmas at St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

- **Family Coffee and Connect:** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December after 9.30am Mass at St Kentigern's. Games and crafts and more ... See 'Christmas Prayers' notice below.
- **Brunch at St John's:** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December after 11.30am Mass. Bacon rolls and bake in the church hall. See 'Christmas Prayers' notice below.
- **Advent Candlelit Mass** followed by Adoration and Confession at St Kentigern's on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm
- **Parish Children's Nativity:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm, St Kentigern's. Children who wish to participate in telling the story of Christmas, please arrive at 6.00pm to receive a costume and some instructions.

- **Christmas Eve Masses:** 6.00pm, with carols at 5.30pm in St John the Baptist; 8.30pm, with carols at 8pm in St Kentigern's.
- **Christmas Day Masses:** 9.30am St Kentigern's; 11.30am St John's.

### Please pray for:

- Children preparing for first Reconciliation who celebrate the preparatory Rite of Illumination in both churches on Sunday. We pray that the light of Christ may burn always brightly in their hearts.
- Keith Sandison and Jeremy Dowling who died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Keith's funeral takes place at Mortonhall Crematorium on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm. Jeremy's funeral is at 9.30am on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at St Kentigern's and onwards to Warriston Crematorium.
- The sick and the housebound of the parish, that the Lord may grant them comfort and strength.
- All those who died recently, Mirella Giulidori, John Reynolds, and all those whose anniversary occurs around this time including Mary Ferry whose 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is on Wednesday.

# PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD. MAKE HIS WAYS STRAIGHT!

## PARISH

**Christmas Prayers:** TODAY all parishioners are invited into the hall after Mass to write prayers and dedications on pieces of paper which will be joined together to make a Christmas wreath in St Kentigern's and paper chains in St Johns. Wreaths and the links of a chain symbolise God with no beginning and no end and the everlasting life brought by Jesus. As an added incentive there will also be bacon rolls, treats and good company in the hall.

**Christmas Food Hampers and Children's Gifts:** This year especially will mean more families than ever will be struggling to celebrate Christmas as they have in the past. St John's SSVP and St Kentigern's SSVP are appealing for non-perishable items of food for family food hampers and donations of Children's Gifts, wrapped and clearly marked with age range and gender (if appropriate). **The deadline for donations is this weekend 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> December.** Please leave your donation in the Parish Room at St Kentigern's and the Church foyer at St John's. Thank you!!

**Christmas Tree Star Remembrance for loved ones:** If you would like to remember a loved one on our Christmas Trees please email Mary Strachan with name(s) and indicate which church. Donations raised will be for Friends of the Holy Land (see below). Please Email mks@marystrachanevents.com **no later than 17<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Donations for Holy Land:** Archbishop Cushley is encouraging us to consider making a donation to Friends of the Holy Land in Advent. He said: "It is a non-political Christian charity and the donations will be used to provide aid and support for our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land at this difficult time." A donation page has been set up for the Archdiocese at [bit.ly/archholylnd](http://bit.ly/archholylnd). Find out more about its work at [www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/about-us](http://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/about-us). **Our parish crib collection, Christmas Stars etc** will be donated this year to Friends of the Holy Land. Please be as generous as you can!

**St Kent's Big Christmas Clean:** There will be 2 opportunities for any volunteers to help clean the church for our wonderful Christmas celebrations. The first will be on **Monday 18th Dec at 9am** and the second will be on **Thursday 21st at 7pm**. All volunteers will be greatly appreciated. Additionally we are welcoming new volunteers to join existing teams for our cleaning rota for 2024. The commitment is only once every 5 weeks for approximately one hour. Please let Fr Jeremy or Karen Birnie know if you are interested.

**Let's Be Heard: Sharing Scotland's COVID Experience:** Response Forms are available at the back of the church.

## ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

**'Buffer Zone' Bill:** A new bill proposes criminalising prayer and offers of help to women in designated 'buffer zones' around abortion centres in Scotland, including inside private homes within a 200m zone. Please respond to the government consultation which ends on 20 December at [bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey](http://bit.ly/f2pshortsurvey). Please also write to your MSP to express your concerns. Visit <https://rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones> for more information on what you can do to stop this disproportionate and intolerant law being introduced, including help with responding to the consultation and writing to your MSP. Copies of a Briefing Note from the Catholic Parliamentary Office are available at the back of the churches.

**Christmas Mass times:** Christmas Day and Vigil Mass times for our parish and all churches in the Archdiocese can be viewed at [www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/](http://www.archedinburgh.org/christmas-day-mass-times/)

**Lourdes Hospitalité Carol Service:** The Lourdes Hospitalité Committee is hosting a Carol Service at 3pm **TODAY Sunday 10 December** at St Margaret's Church, Main Street, Davidson's Mains, Edinburgh, EH4 5AD. All are welcome to come along and join the festivities. Refreshments in church hall afterwards.

**Advent Rosary:** The Advent Pro-Life Rosary continues on Monday (**11 December**) at 7:45pm and includes a reflection from Fr Gerard Hatton (St Patrick's, Cowgate). Join people from across the Archdiocese to pray for the unborn, mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/archprolifeevents](http://bit.ly/archprolifeevents)

**Advent talk series:** Canon Hugh White continues his Advent talk series 'Time with God' **each Monday** on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel. Visit [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](http://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

**Edinburgh Jesuit Centre: Marking the Advent Time:** Fr Adrian Porter SJ will explore the prayers, customs and traditions of the Advent liturgy at 7pm on **Monday 11 December** at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston Street, Edinburgh EH3 9DJ. This is a free, one-hour session. All welcome.

**St Paul's Bookshop:** For Christmas gift ideas, cards, bibles, rosary beads, holy images calendars and lots more, visit St Paul's Bookshop at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh (beside John Lewis). It is open seven days a week from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

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### Parish Contacts and Communication details:

Newsletter – [office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk) before 5pm on Thursday for inclusion in the Sunday newsletter.

Safeguarding: St John's – Mary Strachan; St Kentigern's – Michael Balfour [michael.balfour@staned.org.uk](mailto:michael.balfour@staned.org.uk)

SSVP St John's & St Kentigern's – see parish contacts. Hall Bookings – St John's [office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk); St Kentigern's [stkenthall@gmail.com](mailto:stkenthall@gmail.com)

Parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, registered Charity No: SC008540