

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

**Parish Priest: Fr Jeremy Milne**

Resident at St John the Baptist

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**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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Feast of The Holy Family**

**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 30 <sup>th</sup> December (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Mhairi Cairns RIP
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	9.30am	St Kentigern	Moyra Scully RIP
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of the Parish
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 (Mary, Mother of God)	<u>11.00am</u>	St John the Baptist	Philomena Kelly RIP
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January (St Basil & St Gregory Nazianzen)	9.30am	St Kentigern's	Jacquie Kilkerr S.I.
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Harrison Family members RIP
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am	St Kentigern	McCauley Family members RIP
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Evelyn van der Vossen RIP
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	9.30am	St Kentigern	Richard Moore S.I.
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> January (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Peter Shields RIP
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> January (Epiphany of the Lord)	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of the Parish
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	Joe Parker RIP

<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>	There will be <u>no</u> Holy Hour on Wednesdays 27 <sup>th</sup> December & 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024
<b>First Friday Devotions</b>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January, after 9.30am Mass at St John's, Divine Mercy Prayers
<b>First Saturday Devotions</b>	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> January, 4.30pm – 5.30pm, St John the Baptist



**Feast of the Holy Family:** When Mary and Joseph present their son to God at the temple in Jerusalem, Simeon and Anna receive the child with joy because they recognise in Jesus the fulfilment of Israel's long-awaited hope of a Messiah. The wonder of a new-born child is the hope for the future that it signifies, for humanity and for every family that welcomes a new life. The new generation conceived, nurtured and schooled in the ways of God's love within a secure family founded on the indissoluble marriage of a man and a woman is the hope for our future.

**Mary, Mother of God:** There is no greater title than this for any person past, present or future. It is the unique title held by Mary who through her obedience to the will of God became *Theotokos*, 'God-bearer', in the flesh. By our willingness to cooperate with the will of God made known to us in our daily lives by the Holy Spirit we too are called to be bearers of God's love to the world.

**Blessed New Year!** Thinking about resolutions? Have you considered volunteering in your parish? We are always in need of people who are willing to give some of their time to helping the parish run smoothly. Commitment of time doesn't have to be huge. For example, if you join the rota for cleaning in either church you'll only be on duty once every few weeks. We also need passkeepers at St John's to join that rota and also for counting (which takes place at St John's). Perhaps you could make known that you would be available to help at some social functions in either church. Children's Liturgy at St John's also needs some new volunteers (all training provided). We'll highlight these and other opportunities periodically and hopefully many of you will be resolved to respond!

I'll be away Tue-Fri. I'm grateful to Fr Alex Anandam who will cover Tuesday and Friday Masses and Fr Peter Kelly for Wednesday and Thursday. Any urgent pastoral matters can be referred to Mgr Gerry Hand at Holy Cross – 0131 552 3957

**Praying you all a happy and healthy New Year!**



### **Please pray for:**

- The sick and the housebound of the parish, that the Lord may grant them comfort and strength.
- All those who died recently, Bertha Rudden, Jeremy Dowling, Keith Sandison, and all those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

### **PARISH**

**St Kentigern's Feast Day: Volunteers Needed For Big Breakfast:** **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January** will be the nearest Sunday to St Kentigern's Feast Day (13<sup>th</sup> January) and, as always, we will celebrate the life of one of our parish's patron saints. After 9.30am Mass there will be the traditional Big Breakfast in St Kentigern's Hall. Volunteers are needed to make it a great community occasion. Last year's team were stars and, hopefully, you are all available again. New volunteers will also be very welcome. Help is needed for set up on the Saturday evening and on the Sunday we need people to keep the bacon rolls, sausages, croissants, tea, coffee etc topped up to satisfy our hungry parishioners of all ages. Please speak to Marlene McCallum or email [marlenemccallum9@gmail.com](mailto:marlenemccallum9@gmail.com) if you can help.

**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!

**Foreign Currency:** During the year we have managed to raise £161.77 from the sale of foreign coins. Thank you to all who have donated their coins. Keep them coming!! The money raised will be donated to Friends of the Holy Land.

**Justice and Peace Sunday:** There will be a special collection for the National Commission for Justice & Peace **next Sunday**.

### **ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND**

**YOU CAN Scotland:** On behalf of YOU CAN Scotland, a Catholic networking group for ages 18-45, I am organising a coffee/lunch after 12.00 Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January**. Anyone interested can either meet at Mass or at Coffee Saints, right next to the Cathedral on Little King Street. Please contact me (Marie) to confirm attendance, on 07963788087 or email [travelmapisland34@hotmail.com](mailto:travelmapisland34@hotmail.com)

**Catholic Families for Life:** The first issue of the newsletter from the Bishops' Commission for Marriage, Family & Life can be downloaded at [www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk](http://www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk)

**Save the date I - The Archdiocesan Music Day is on Saturday 27 January 2024** at The Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. It is for those who contribute to the liturgy in their parish through music and/or singing, as well as for anyone interested in finding out more about sacred music. Details to follow soon.

**Explore God's will:** Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the **first one takes place on Sunday 28 January**, 4-7pm at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. The series continues same time/venue: 25 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 12 May and 22 June. To register email [religiousvocations@staned.org.uk](mailto:religiousvocations@staned.org.uk)

**Save the Date II: The Archdiocesan Valentine's Retreat for Married and Engaged Couples** will take place at St Kentigern's Church, Parkgrove Avenue, Barnton, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR on **Saturday 10 February 2024**. Details to follow soon.

**Archdiocesan Directory:** The 2024 Archdiocesan Directory is now available for sale. It includes a liturgical calendar and key contacts for churches, schools, organisation and religious orders in the Archdiocese. Cost is £3.

**Job vacancy:** The Archdiocese is looking to recruit an Estates Surveyor (full-time). The role holder should have significant property related experience and ideally be RICS qualified. For details and how to apply visit [archedinburgh.org/vacancy-estates-surveyor](http://archedinburgh.org/vacancy-estates-surveyor). Closing date for applications is Monday 13 January.

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### **Parish Contacts and Communication details:**

Newsletter – [office.ssjoahnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjoahnbandkentigern@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.ssjoahnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjoahnbandkentigern@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