

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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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 7th January 2024

Solemnity of the
Epiphany of the Lord

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 6 th January (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Peter Shields RIP
Sunday 7 th January (<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>)	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of the Parish
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	Joe Parker RIP
Monday 8 th January (<i>Feast - Baptism of the Lord</i>)	11.00am	St Kentigern	Christina Aitken RIP
Tuesday 9 th January	9.30am	St Kentigern's	Martin & Carol Black S.I.
Wednesday 10 th January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Michael McKenna RIP
Thursday 11 th January	9.30am	St Kentigern	Anne McDonald S.I.
Friday 12 th January	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Jim Gray RIP
Saturday 13 th January (<i>Feast - St Kentigern</i>)	9.30am	St Kentigern	Michael McKenna RIP
Saturday 13 th January (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Margaret & John Farmer RIP
Sunday 14 th January (<i>Second Sunday of the Year</i>)	9.30am	St Kentigern	Anne Farmer RIP
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of the Parish

Confessions	Saturday 10.00am-10.15am – St Kentigern's; Saturday 5.15pm-5.40pm – St John the Baptist
Adoration & Rosary	Wednesday 10 th January, 7pm, St Kentigern's, Luminous Mysteries

Epiphany of the Lord: We welcome the wise men from the east to the stable in Bethlehem where they come to do homage and offer gifts to the Holy Child. Incense points to his divinity, gold to his kingship and myrrh to his death. Wisdom lies in the pursuit of truth and love and these wisdom seekers, led by a star, find journey's end in Jesus, our divine king who died for us that we may live in God's grace. Through this child who was with God in the beginning and through whom all things came to be, God will gather all of creation once more into glorious union with himself. Men and women, nations of the earth and stars of the heavens will be drawn to him and, through him, be recreated in the eternal kingdom.



Please pray for:

- Jean McAvoy who died this week. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. A funeral service will be held at Warriston Crematorium on Thursday 11th January at 11.30am.
- 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

Justice and Peace Sunday: There will be a special collection for the National Commission for Justice & Peace **this weekend**. There is a brief summary of the Commission's activities in 2023 available at the back of the churches.

Volunteering! 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!

Big Breakfast Volunteers' Meeting: There will be a quick get-together in the hall after 9.30 Mass **today** at St Kentigern's to finalise plans for **next Sunday's Feast Day Big Breakfast**. Anyone who would like to lend a hand is very welcome to come and find out more.

First Holy Communion at St Kentigern's: Ahead of next Sunday's Rite of Commitment and first parish class for children beginning preparation for first Holy Communion at St Kentigern's, there is a parents' meeting on **Tuesday 9th January**, 7.30pm in St Kentigern's church.

Men of Faith Group: Why not try something new this new year? There will be a Men of Faith Group meeting in the Parish House of St John the Baptist on **Tuesday, 9 January** at 7 pm. All are welcome.

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 from this and our crib collection will be donated to Friends of the Holy Land (www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/about-us).

Thank you! 1. From Society of St Vincent de Paul for your extremely generous donations of Christmas presents and food for distribution to families in our local area. We were overwhelmed by your kindness and thoughtfulness at what can be a very difficult time for some people. We continue to have calls for assistance throughout the year so thank you very much for your support through donations to our SSVP boxes after Masses and non-perishable food items. Your generosity is appreciated especially when there can be so many calls for this support. 2. From Mary Cummings to everyone who purchased my handmade Christmas items in December. Thanks to your kind donations, £600 was raised which has been sent to Mary's Meals. 3. From Margot Donoghue for your cards and kindness.



Parish Faith Renewal Course: Looking to renew your faith during Lent? We are running a Sycamore faith renewal course in the parish during the weeks of Lent, on Tuesday evenings, 7.00-9.00pm, St John's Hall, **beginning on 13th February**, the eve of Ash Wednesday. The focus of these six sessions is on knowing God and the salvation he offers in Jesus Christ and on our response to this offer of salvation in faith, freedom and love. Each week we will come together to share some food, watch a short video and share our thoughts in small groups. The first session invites us to ask ourselves and each other – 'Why bother thinking about religion?' – and explores five reasons not to believe in God!

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 14th 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

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 (A few copies available at the back of the Church)

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

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. Closing date for applications is Monday 13 January.

Almond & Western Voluntary Sector Activity Programme for January 2024 is available on the website (*Links, Community*)

Parish Contacts and Communication details:

Newsletter – 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

SSVP St John's & St Kentigern's – see parish contacts. Hall Bookings – St John's office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk; St Kentigern's stkenhall@gmail.com

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