

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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Sunday 1st December 2024

1st Sunday of Advent, C

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 November (<i>Vigil</i>)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Katherine Boyle RIP
Sunday 1 December	9.30am	St Kentigern	Intention of the Donor
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of the Parish
Monday 2 nd December	N.B. 7.00pm	St John the Baptist	Fiona Crolla RIP
Tuesday 3 rd December	11.00am	St John the Baptist's	Funeral of Brian Quinn, RIP
Wednesday 4 th December	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Intention of the Donor
Thursday 5 th December	9.30am	St Kentigern's	George Morgan (Special Intention)
Friday 6 th December	9.30am	St John the Baptist's	Deceased of McKenna, McGregor, Qureshi Families
Saturday 7 th December	9.30am	St Kentigern's	Karen Qureshi (Thanksgiving)

Confessions

St Kentigern's: Saturdays 10.00am-10.15am
St John the Baptist: Saturdays 5.15pm-5.40pm

A message from Fr Jamie: Friends, Advent is one of my favourite seasons of the year – in these weeks running up to Christmas the Church focusses our attention on encountering Jesus – as he comes to us as a baby at Christmas time, as he comes to us in glory at the end of time and as he comes to us in the in-between in his Word and his Sacraments. I've been reading recently the Advent sermons of the German Jesuit priest Fr Alfred Delp, executed for his opposition to Nazism – he says that “when the Church puts on purple vestments, she asks us to think about serious things!” This notwithstanding, may these preparations for Christmas be full of joyful hope and rich in blessings for all of us! As you know, this weekend we're using the new lectionary for the first time. Bishop Hugh Gilbert, the outgoing president of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, said that the new lectionary might feel, at first, a little like a new pair of shoes: smart and shiny, but maybe a little stiff and uncomfortable while we get used to it. My own hope is that it will spark our curiosity and help us to hear the word of God in a new way! You might be interested in taking part in a Zoom series I'm doing for the Archdiocese's Commission for Catechetics, which will take 'a closer look' at the language of the new translation: sign up at bit.ly/lectionaryadvent

Please pray for:

- The sick and the housebound of the parish, especially Terry Boyce: that the Lord will grant them healing, comfort and strength.
- All those who died, especially Brian Quinn who died recently, those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have no-one else to pray for them. Brian Quinn's funeral will be celebrated on Tuesday 3rd December at 11am at St John the Baptist (please note that the 9.30am Mass at St Kentigern's is cancelled this week). May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

Welcome to the parish...

... to Leonore Kurilov who is to be baptised this Sunday at 2.00 pm – thanks be to God! Prayers for her and her parents, Vitalij and Laur, and to all her family and friends who celebrate this joyful moment together.

CLOTHING APPEAL AT ST JOHN'S: CAN YOU HELP?

The Edinburgh Clothing Store which provides clothing for people in general need such as those on low incomes or people vulnerable through personal circumstances particularly at such a cold time of the year. Please leave in the hamper at the back of the church are: Warm indoor and outdoor clothing (especially gents); underwear, socks, gloves and hats; bedding and towels. If you are able to help please bring new or good quality used items to St John's on Saturday 30th November or Sunday 1st December.

NATIVITY BLESSING: TODAY AT 1PM

Archbishop Cushley will bless the Nativity Scene at Mound Place, Edinburgh, at 3.00pm on Sunday 1 December.

ST ANDREW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NATIVITY PLAY

All welcome to St Andrew's Fox Covert Nativity Play, 10.30 am, this Friday at St Kentigern's. Refreshments after.

VISIT OF LATIN PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM: TONIGHT AT THE CATHEDRAL

Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzabella will be at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh on Sunday 1st December. His Eminence will preach at the evening Mass that will be presided at by Archbishop Cushley. Mass begins at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

RORATE MASS BY CANDLELIGHT: MONDAYS IN ADVENT AT 7PM

The Church has an ancient tradition of celebrating Mass by candlelight during the season of Advent in honour of our Blessed Lady. These beautiful Masses will take place on Monday evening at 7pm on Monday 2nd December (St John's), Monday 9th December (St Kentigern's), Monday 16th December (St John's) and Monday 23rd December (St Kentigern's). Please note that these are now the correct and final locations and dates – disregard the error last week!

THE ROUGHCAST CHRISTMAS PANTO: 5TH-7TH DECEMBER AT ST MARGARET'S

The Roughcast Christmas Panto - Thursday 5th, Friday 6th and Saturday 7th December at 7:30 in St Margaret's Church hall, Davidson's Mains. "The funniest and most uplifting panto you will see in St Margaret's church hall this festive season." Tickets from Brian or Rachel Murray (07860 648301).

CHRISTMAS APPEAL FROM THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (ST KENT'S & ST JOHN'S)

Dear parishioners, it is that time of year again when we ask you to help less fortunate families have a better Christmas. We need wrapped presents with a label stating the age and gender the present is suitable for. Toiletries as well as non-perishable foodstuffs are also welcome as usual. We are also seeking strong Supermarket bags! Please leave donations and bags in the parish room at St Kentigern's and the back of the church at St John's and we will make sure they reach the intended families. Thank you!

MEN'S GROUP

There will be a Men's Group meeting on Tuesday, 3 December at 7 pm in St John the Baptist's Parish House. All men, of all ages from St Margaret's, St Kentigern and St John's Churches are very welcome. Topics will include Advent, Synod and the changing role of the Group.

EXODUS 90: STARTING IN JANUARY!

Fr Paul is wondering if any men would like to start the 90-day spiritual discipline known as 'Exodus 90'. Starting on 20 January next year and ending at Easter, this involves a commitment to spiritual exercise and discipline designed for men. Contact Fr Paul to find out more.

ST KENTIGERN'S BIG CHRISTMAS CLEAN: 23RD DECEMBER

This will take place on Monday 23rd December from 10-11am. All are welcome to pitch in and once again prepare the church for the wonderful celebration of Christmas. Hope to see you there!

DIPLOMA IN CATECHETICS

Take the Diploma in Catechetics starting in January and make the Holy Year 2025 a time of discovery in your life of faith. It consists of a weekly lecture on Zoom, guided reading from the Catechism and regular 1-to-1 support. To mark the Holy Year the course is being offered at £125 (normally £200). Find out more and register at bit.ly/diploma2025

EXPLORE: DISCOVER GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE!

The Archdiocese is running EXPLORE for young women interested in finding out more about the religious life and exploring God's will. Includes talks, discussion, prayer and socialising. It takes place on the last Sunday of the month at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, EH9 1SN: 26 Jan, 23 Feb, 30 Mar, 25 May. Includes a retreat: 4-7 April. To register, email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO_religiousvocations@staned.org.uk