

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

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year - C
23rd March 2025
 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?



Sat. 22	March (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Catherine Storie McCue RIP
Sunday 23	March	9.30am	St Kentigern	Bert Demarco RIP
		11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of God
Mon. 24	March - Lent	No public Mass		
Tue. 25	March – The Annunciation of the Lord - <i>Solemnity</i>	9.30am	St Kentigern	Valerie Gillon RIP
Wed. 26	March – Lent	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Special Intention
Thu. 27	March – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Gabriel Reynolds (Spe. Int.)
Fri. 28	March – Lent	9.30am	St John the Baptist	John McKendrick
Sat. 29	March – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Johnie Reid (G.E.)
<i>Confessions – on request at any time, as well as:</i>		10.00am-10.15am – Saturdays		St Kentigern's
		5.15pm-5.45pm – Saturdays		St John the Baptist

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Way of the Cross: Thursdays and Fridays – after Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions: After Mass on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays (half an hour)

“Lent: A Time To Reflect, Repent and Restore”

My dear people of God, in this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 13:1-9), Jesus challenges us to reflect on our lives. He speaks of tragedies and a barren fig tree, reminding us that life is fragile, and repentance is urgent. Yet, His words are not meant to instil fear, but hope. The parable of the fig tree reveals God's patience—He does not give up on us but nurtures us, giving us time to bear fruit.

Lent is that time. It is a season of renewal, where God, like the gardener, cultivates our hearts through prayer, fasting, and charity. But we must respond. Are we growing in faith? Are we bearing the fruit of love and mercy?

Let us not wait another season to turn to God. His grace is here, now, inviting us to deeper conversion and a life that flourishes in His love.

“If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” (Luke 13:9)

Fr. Binu Palakapally IC



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The sick and the housebound of the parish: that the Lord will grant them healing, comfort and strength.
- All those who died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have no one else to pray for them.

23 rd Sunday	24 th Monday	25 th Tuesday	26 th Wednesday	27 th Thursday	28 th Friday	29 th Saturday
3rd Sunday of Lent "This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations" Exodus 3:15	Pray one of the penitential Psalms (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143) and give thanks for God's Mercy.	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Today we celebrate the beginning of our salvation in the Annunciation of the Lord, and full of joy we pray a decade of Rosary.	"In Baptism nothing other than the Paschal Mystery is recalled and accomplished, because in it human beings pass from death of sin into life.	As Lent nears its halfway point, recommit yourself to prayer, fasting and almsgiving for the Paschal feast.	Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? – Pope Francis (Day of Fast)	"Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner" Try to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation today.

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS:



Lord, we lift up our Pope Francis to You, asking for your healing touch upon his body and spirit. Grant him strength, comfort, and restoration, as he continues to serve Your Church with faith and love. May Your peace surround him, and Your grace guide his recovery. We trust in Your mercy and ask that You bless him with health and vitality, so he may continue to lead us in Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

CHANGE of STANDING ORDER for BANKING: Please note that the changes to Standing Orders are for all Parishioners who donate via S.O., not only those who Gift Aid. You can do this on-line using the following information:

Royal Bank of Scotland, Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh - St John the Baptist and St Kentigern

Sort code 83 06 08 Account 21419411

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP CUSHLY: "On Sunday 30 March there will be a special collection at all parishes for Papal & Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF). 75 per cent of the collection goes to SCIAF and 25 per cent to the Archdiocesan Care Fund. Last year £38,000 was raised from this collection; £28,500 went to SCIAF and £9,500 went to the Archdiocesan Care Fund. With your kind donations Care Fund grants went to: Bethany Care Trust (Homeless support), Ukraine Project (rehabilitation centre in Ukraine), Across (Pilgrimages for people with severe disabilities) and FAFCE (Promoting Family Life at the UN, EU and Council of Europe). We pray for all those involved in charities which help those in need in the Archdiocese and across the world, including the good work of SCIAF. Thank you for your generosity in almsgiving this Lent."

THANK YOU: Fr Paul would like to express his sincere thanks to all who contributed to his Farewell Evening

and present. He is also very grateful for all the kindness and support he received while he was here in the Parish.

HELP STILL NEEDED:

1. At St John's we are still looking for two to three new Passkeepers. This involves half an hour before Mass on Saturday or Sunday to put out hymn books and welcome Parishioners and visitors and then half an hour after Mass to put the hymn books back or prepare them for the next Mass.
2. We also need two or three people to join the Cash counting Team. This is usually done after Sunday Mass but can be done at another time by arrangement e.g. after Wednesday Mass. Again, it takes about one hour.

EASTER CHARITIES FAIR: We will be having our Charities Fair on 30th March, after 9:30 mass at St Kents Church Hall. Come along and enjoy a hot cross bun with a tea, coffee or a soft drink, whilst you check out our stalls, including tombola, Easter crafts and much more! Donations for tombola greatly appreciated. Youth for Lourdes will also be running their popular Chocolate Tombola and donations for this would be most welcome. All donations should be handed into parish room. Thank you.

PALM SUNDAY YOUTH DAY: Let your children know about this day of games and inspiring talks hosted by the Archdiocese at The Gillis Centre, [100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB](https://www.google.com/maps/place/100+Strathearn+Road,+Edinburgh,+EH9+1BB) on Saturday 12 April from 11am-3pm. Includes sessions for primary school pupils (8+) and sessions for high school pupils. Register at bit.ly/youthpalm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Monday, 24 March, 7:45pm with a reflection from John Deighan, CEO of SPUC. Join John and Catholics from across Scotland to pray for the unborn, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register: bit.ly/Stations25

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday and Friday 9.30am-1.30pm. Please send any enquiries, or items for the newsletter, to the e-mail address above.