

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

Fr Binu Palakapally IC (Administrator)  
Email: [frbinu.palakapally@staned.org.uk](mailto:frbinu.palakapally@staned.org.uk)

Website: <https://ssjohnbandkentigern.org.uk>  
Facebook: [fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern](https://fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern)

Parish (Including SSVP and Hall Bookings)  
Office Email: [office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk)  
Telephone: 0131 334 1693 / 07415246228



*Church of St John the Baptist*  
37 St Ninian's Road  
Edinburgh, EH12 8AL

*Church of St Kentigern*  
26 Parkgrove Avenue  
Edinburgh, EH4 7QR

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year – C

*Laetare Sunday*

**30<sup>th</sup> 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. 29	March ( <i>Vigil</i> )	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Donor's Intentions
Sunday 30	March	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of God
		11.30am	St John the Baptist	Cathy Thomson RIP (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anni.)
Mon. 31	March - Lent	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tue. 01	April – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Kathleen Ford RIP
Wed. 02	April – Lent	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Margaret Bruce RIP
Thu. 03	April – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Stella Reynolds (Spe. Int.)
Fri. 04	April – Lent	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Rosemary Bambrick RIP
Sat. 05	April – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Agnes Coia RIP
<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”

Dear People of God, on this Laetare Sunday, the Church invites us to rejoice, even in the midst of Lent! Today's Gospel (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) presents the Parable of the Prodigal Son—a story not just of sin and repentance, but of a Father's boundless love.

The younger son represents all of us when we turn away from God, seeking fulfilment in the world. Yet, when he returns in humility, his father runs to embrace him,

restoring his dignity. The elder son reminds us of the danger of pride and resentment, forgetting that God's love is freely given, not earned. This parable challenges us to reflect: *Do we trust in God's mercy, even when we feel unworthy? Are we willing to forgive as generously as the Father forgives?*

Lent is a time to return to God, confident that He welcomes us with open arms. No matter how far we have strayed, His love is greater than our failures. Today, let us rejoice—not in our own perfection, but in the mercy of a Father who never stops loving us.

*“This son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.” (Luke 15:24)*

Let us celebrate the joy of being found!

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.

30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	31 <sup>st</sup> Monday	01 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	02 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	03 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	04 <sup>th</sup> Friday	05 <sup>th</sup> Saturday
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> "But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; was lost and has been found" Luke 15:32	"Gentile and merciful God, who are revealed in pardoning and who delight in making holy, graciously wipe away the stain of sin from us who are penitent and restore our hearts to life"	If possible, spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	"It is time to act, and in Lent, <i>to act also means pause</i> . To pause in <i>prayer</i> , in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan <i>in the presence of a wounded brother or sister</i> " - Pope Francis	Pray for peace in all the troubled parts of our world in our communities and in our families	Pray the Stations of the Cross, either in your parish or on your own!  <b>(Day of Fast)</b>	In Lent we are called to renew our baptismal commitment. We recall those waters in which we were baptised into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ!

#### CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING NOMINATED:



Guy Strachan, one of our parishioners, has been nominated as one of the Trustees of our Archdiocese, he is a Chartered Surveyor with 40 years' experience in the Scottish and UK commercial property markets. He qualified in 1987 whilst working for Standard Life Property Investments (now ABRDN). In 1996, Guy graduated from the University of Edinburgh Business School with an MBA. During a varied career, he has held several senior positions with large & small real estate advisory practices. Since 2008, he has been an equity partner and co-founder of Smolka Strachan LLP, a niche practice of chartered surveyors. He advises institutions, pension funds, and private investors on their property investment activities in Scotland and the UK.

**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

#### HELP STILL NEEDED:

1. At St John's we are still looking for two to three new Pass-keepers. 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.

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 4.30-5.45 – Adoration, rosary, confessions, etc... at St John the Baptist.

**St Kentigern's Monthly Community Lunch – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April:** 12.30 pm – 2.00pm in the Parish Hall. Don't miss this month's Community Lunch. It's a great opportunity to meet and socialise over a light lunch of soup and sandwiches, cake and refreshments (and there is a free raffle too!). Suggested donation £3.00.

**EDINURGH FOOD PROJECT: 6<sup>th</sup> April:** Please leave your donations in the baskets provided in both churches next weekend. Urgently required items: tinned cold meat, tinned hot meals (e.g. tinned stew, hot dogs, Fray Bentos pies), UHT milk, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, coffee, tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, tinned spaghetti in sauce, rice, tinned custard/rice pudding, ready meals (e.g. pot noodles), sweets/chocolate/crisps. Thank you.

**MENS GROUP MEETING:** There will be a Men's Group meeting on Saturday, 5 April at 10.30 am in the large ground floor Cafe of the National Museum of Scotland in Chambers Street. For new parishioners, this is a fun meeting for men of the parish to enjoy coffee/breakfast and to catch up and support one another. Afterwards you are able to enjoy a visit around this esteemed museum. Men from St Kentigern and St John's are very welcome.

**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.gilliscentre.org.uk/) 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](http://bit.ly/youthpalm)

