

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 18th May 2025

5th Sunday of Easter, Year – 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?



Sat. 17	May (<i>Vigil</i>)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Catherine and Hugh McKenna RIP
Sunday 18	May – 4 th Sunday of Easter	9.30am	St Kentigern	Tom Farmer RIP
		11.30am	St John the Baptist	<i>People of God</i>
Mon. 19	May – Eastertide	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tue. 20	May – Eastertide	9.30am	St Kentigern	Megan Wilson Spe.Int.
Wed. 21	May – Eastertide	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Evelyn McKenna RIP
Thu. 22	May – Eastertide	9.30am	St Kentigern	Celia Christie Black GE
Fri. 23	May – Eastertide	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Nuala and Samantha Sodden RIP
Sat. 24	May – Eastertide	9.30am	St Kentigern	Claire Bridgeman Spe. Int.
<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	

On this Fifth Sunday of Easter, as the Church celebrates the Gospel message of love at the heart of Jesus' farewell discourse, the universal Church also witnesses the historic formal inauguration of Pope Leo XIV, a moment charged with significance and hope.

“Love One Another As I Have Loved You”. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers His disciples what He calls a “new commandment”: “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” (John 13:34) This commandment isn't simply about kindness or civility—it is rooted in sacrificial love, a love that gives itself fully for the other. It is a love revealed most powerfully in the cross, and one Jesus invites His followers to imitate. As Pope Leo XIV begins his pontificate, this command becomes not just the heart of Christian discipleship, but also a guide for the Church's mission under his leadership. His commitment to dialogue, humility, and global peace mirrors this Gospel call to self-giving love.

A Sign to the World: “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35) This Gospel verse carries a profound message in the context of a new papacy. The Church's witness is most credible not when it exercises power, but when it lives love—a love that is inclusive, forgiving, and just. Pope Leo XIV's emphasis on servant leadership, listening, and outreach to the marginalized echoes this identity of the Church as a community marked by love. In the early days of his papacy, Pope Leo XIV has already shown gestures of outreach, such as addressing Jewish communities with openness and pledging a focus on peace and synodality. These are not political gestures—they are Gospel gestures. They are expressions of the love that Christ commands.

Love That Shapes the Church's Future: This Sunday, the Church does more than look back to the upper room; it looks forward. The commandment to love challenges each of us to be active participants in shaping a Church that resembles Christ: inclusive, compassionate, and courageous. Pope Leo XIV's election is historic, but more importantly, it is evangelical—a call for renewal, unity, and bold witness. As we continue to walk through the Easter season, and now under the guidance of a new shepherd, may this commandment become our personal and collective mission as a parish – rooted and grounded in Christ – *to love as Christ has loved us!*

Fr. Binu Palakapally IC



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

PRAYERS FOR POPE LEO XIV

Pope Leo XIV presides over the Mass of Inauguration of his Petrine Ministry in St Peter's Square at 9:00am (UK) this Sunday morning. We all join in prayer that the Lord will give him the grace to be a true shepherd to us and an authentic witness to Christ in the world.

ST. KENT – FIRST COMMUNION

First Holy Communion Candidates. There will be an extra revision class on Sunday 1st June during Mass where readings and bidding prayers will be given to the children to practice before their Holy Communion on Saturday 7th June.

Reminder that we will have a rehearsal on Wednesday 4th June at 6pm in St Kent's where there will be the opportunity for the children to go to confessions

ST MARGARET'S PILGRIMAGE - SUNDAY 8 JUNE

All are welcome at the annual St Margaret's Pilgrimage in Dunfermline on Sunday 8 June. Join Archbishop Leo, clergy and people from across Scotland for the procession through the town centre with the relic of St Margaret at 2:00pm, followed by Holy Mass at 3:00pm in St Margaret's Church. Full schedule in the news-events section at archedinburgh.org

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION - SUNDAY 22 JUNE

Archbishop Leo will lead the Archdiocesan Corpus Christi Procession from St Patrick's Church in Kilsyth at 3:00pm on Sunday 22 June. This is a joyous occasion with the Blessed Sacrament being carried through the streets. First Holy Communicants in the Archdiocese are invited to take a special place in the procession wearing their formal clothes. Parking available at the Church. Contact St Patrick's to reserve disabled/minibus parking or to book a space on the free shuttle buses from Croy train station to the Church. priest.stpatrickskilsyth@staned.org.uk or 01236 822136.

LAUDATO SI WEBINAR

Bishop John Arnold of Salford Diocese is the guest speaker at a webinar to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Bishop John is the environment spokesperson for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It takes place at 7:00pm on Friday 30 May. Register at bit.ly/laudatowebinar

CALLING ALL RCIA LEADERS!

All RCIA leaders are invited by the Catechetics Commission of the Archdiocese for a morning workshop.

The day begins with Mass, includes a time of discussion and sharing, and ends with a brief consideration on *mystagogy* (post-baptismal instruction). It takes place on Saturday 31 May from 9:30am – 12:00pm at The Gillis Centre 100%StrathearnRoad,Edinburgh,EH91BB. Register at: bit.ly/4mgG764

JUBILEE YEAR PICNIC FOR FAMILIES

Join families from across the Archdiocese for a Jubilee Year picnic on Saturday 28 June, 11:00am – 4:00pm at The Gillis Centre, 100%StrathearnRoad,Edinburgh,EH91BB. There will be spiritual talks on the theme of Hope and talks and games for children. Includes Rosary at The Grotto and concludes with Holy Mass in St Margaret's Chapel. At 4:00pm there is the chance to walk to the Jubilee Cross at St Mary's Cathedral (optional). Childcare provided.

MASS FOR MARRIED & ENGAGED COUPLES

The annual Archdiocesan Mass for Married Couples (and those preparing for marriage) takes place at 7:15pm on Tuesday 27 May at St Mary's Cathedral. Archbishop Cushley will be the principal celebrant and will give a blessing to couples.

GENERAL ASSISTANT FOR IONA

The Catholic House of Prayer on Iona is looking to recruit a general assistant to help run the house from July this year for two or more months. Accommodation and good rate of pay provided. The role involves changeovers and cooking. More information from Jane Kindlen at mail@catholic-iona.com or call 01681 700369.

ST MARGARET'S DRAMA GROUP SUMMER PRODUCTION

Last Orders, a play about, family, community and some missing bagpipes. Friday 6th June and Saturday 7th June at 7:30pm in the St Margaret's church hall, Davidson's Mains. Tickets £12 adult/£6 child/£30 Family, available from Brian on 07860 648301

Easter Home Blessing: From Easter to Pentecost, I am available to visit homes and bless the house and family. It will be a time to visit, get know you and your family and bless your house with holy water and consecrate each home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus! Please do let me know and arrange a time with me that suits you, if you wish a house visit and blessing.

– Fr. Binu

