

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 27th July 2025

XVII Sunday Ordinary Time

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. 26 July (Vigil) 17 th Sunday Ordinary Time	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Donor's Intention
Sunday 27 July – 17 th Sunday Ordinary Time	9.30am	St Kentigern	The Dowling Family, Spe. Int.
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of God
Mon. 28 June – 17 th Week Ordinary Time	No public Mass		
Tue. 29 July – Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus	9.30am	St Kentigern	Norman Philips RIP
Wed. 30 July – 17 th Week Ordinary Time	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Son Mai Quamg Family, Int.
Thu. 31 July – St Ignatius of Loyola	9.30am	St Kentigern	Alicia Henderson RIP
Fri. 01 Aug. – St Alphonsus Liguori	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Donor's Int.
Sat. 02 Aug. – Memorial of Bl. Virgin Mary	9.30am	St Kentigern	Donor's Int.
Sat. 02 Aug. (Vigil) 18 th Sunday Ordinary Time	6.00pm	St John The Baptist	Alicia Henderson 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

“The Heart of Prayer: Trusting the Father’s Love” My dear People of God, The Gospel today is a profound invitation into the very heart of Christian life: prayer. It opens with a beautiful request that echoes the desire of every sincere disciple: *“Lord, teach us to pray.”* Prayer is not automatic. It must be learned, and it is best learned not through technique but through relationship. The disciples saw Jesus pray—not as duty, but as intimacy—and they wanted to enter that same communion.

The Our Father – A Radical Prayer of Trust: Jesus answers their request by giving them a model—what we call the “Our Father.” In its simplicity, it contains a radical trust in God as Abba, Father: *“Father, hallowed be your name”*. Prayer begins with reverence and relationship—not with ourselves, but with God. *“Your kingdom come”*. The first request is not for our needs but for God’s reign to be present in us and through us. *“Give us each day our daily bread”*. A plea for simple, daily trust—not for abundance, but for enough. *“Forgive us...for we ourselves forgive...”*. The heart of prayer is mercy received and given. *“Lead us not into temptation”*. A cry for protection in the face of trials. Jesus teaches us to pray not as beggars trying to manipulate a distant deity, but as beloved children speaking to a tender Father.

Perseverance in Prayer – The Friend at Midnight: Jesus continues with a parable about persistence: a man knocking at his friend’s door at midnight. The story encourages us not to give up in prayer. But its deeper point is this: if even reluctant human friends will respond, how much more will God, who is our loving Father, listen? This is not about badgering God into submission. It’s about understanding the goodness of the One we are asking.

Ask, Seek, Knock – A Promise, Not a Formula: Jesus then gives a threefold invitation: *“Ask... seek... knock.”* These are not empty promises. But they are also not mechanical guarantees. They require: **Humility** (Ask), **Desire** (Seek), **Perseverance** (Knock) And Jesus makes the astonishing claim: *“How much more will the Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”* This is the key. The greatest gift the Father wants to give us is not merely things—it is Himself, in the person of the Holy Spirit. True prayer opens our hearts to receive God’s presence, which transforms everything else.

Practical Questions for the Heart: Do I truly believe that God is a loving Father who wants to hear me? Is my prayer life consistent and heartfelt, or rushed and routine? Do I ask for the Holy Spirit regularly—the gift above all gifts?

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 especially for Ann Henderson, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have no-one else to pray for them.

TEA AND COFFEE: *There will be after the 11.30 Mass* there will be tea/coffee at St John's Hall arranged by the Philipino Community, all are welcome to join.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA: **Saturday 2nd August 4.30-5.45** – Adoration, rosary, confessions, etc... at St John the Baptist. All are welcome to join this beautiful Devotion, which helps one to grow closer to Jesus through Mary. All are Welcome!

OUR MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP for St John's and St Kentigern will have a catchup breakfast at The Toby on St John's Road, Corstorphine on Saturday, 2 August at 10.15 am. All new parishioners are especially welcome or bring someone along.

SAVE THE DATE:

1. The Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage Day is on **Sunday 21 September 2025** at St Patricks in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. More details coming soon.
2. **National Pilgrimage to Carfin: September 7 @ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**. The National Pilgrimage at the National Shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes, Carfin, will take place on Sunday 7th September. As we are in the midst of the Jubilee Year the theme for this year's Pilgrimage will be Pilgrims of Hope. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine at 3pm, the main Celebrant and Preacher being Archbishop Leo Cushley, of St Andrew's and Edinburgh, who is celebrating his 40th Anniversary as a Priest. Pope Leo XIV recently announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, will be canonised on this day in Rome, so it seems an ideal day for the Scottish Catholic Community to come together to joyfully celebrate our faith in
3. **CONFIRMATION 2026 will be Thursday 14th May**.

STUDY CATHOLIC THEOLOGY IN EDINBURGH: Registration is now open for the MA in Applied Catholic Theology at St Mary's University Scottish campus in Edinburgh. Details at bit.ly/catholictheology. Watch the preview webinar on the YouTube channel of the Archdiocese. Queries: stephen.dolan@stmarys.ac.uk
EDINBURGH FOOD PROJECT: **3rd August**. Please leave your donations in the baskets provided in

both churches next weekend. The most urgently required items at present are: tinned cold meat, tinned hot meals (e.g. tinned stew, hot dogs, Fray Bentos pies), tinned fish, pasta sauce, curry sauce, UHT milk, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit and cereal. Thank you.

FAITH IN THE FOOTLIGHTS: August 12 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm **£18**. Join renowned author Ian Bradley and the Schola Cantorum of St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, for a concert exploring the spiritual resonances of musical theatre.

Includes music from *The Sound of Music*, *South Pacific*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables* and much more.

You will never hear these musical shows in quite the same way again! Book here: bit.ly/FaithFootlights
Event organised by St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

THE MARGARET SINCLAIR STORY: The inspiring true story of the cheerful Edinburgh factory girl with a big heart for Jesus and for helping others, who could be Scotland's next canonised Saint.

Stephen Callaghan's funny and moving play was first performed at the 2016 Fringe in the Edinburgh church where the venerable Margaret's body is interred and he directs the revival marking 100 years since her death.

Venue 6, C Aurora Studio (Lauriston Halls, Lauriston Street). Tickets from 0131 581 5555 or www.CtheArts.com. Dates: 1 August & 2 August 2025 at 7:25pm (50 mins). £13/£11

PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

In the Catholic Church, the month of JULY is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus. This devotion encourages Catholics to reflect on the profound sacrifice of Jesus and the significance of His blood in the redemption of humanity.

CONSECRATION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

In the presence of my dear Mother Mary, my guardian angel, my patron saint, and of the whole company of heaven, I dedicate myself voluntarily with a sincere heart, O dearest Jesus, to Thy Precious Blood, by which Thou hast redeemed the world from sin, death and hell.