

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

Fr Binu Palakapally IC (Administrator)

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Parish (Including SSVP and Hall Bookings)

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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 17th August 2025

XX 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. 16 Aug. (Vigil) 20 th Sunday Ordinary Time	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Kathleen Boyle RIP
Sunday 17 Aug. – 20 th Sunday Ordinary Time	9.30am	St Kentigern	People of God
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	Hilda Rego RIP
Mon. 18 Aug. – St John Mary Vianney	No public Mass		
Tue. 19 Aug. – 20 th Week Ordinary Time	9.30am	St Kentigern	Harrison's Family Spe. It.
Wed. 20 Aug. – St Bernard	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Margaret Mawdsley
Thu. 21 Aug. – St Pius X th	9.30am	St Kentigern	
Fri. 22 Aug. – Our Lady, Mother and Queen	9.30am	St John the Baptist	
Sat. 23 Aug. – Memorial of Bl. Virgin Mary	9.30am	St Kentigern	Calum Macleod RIP
Sat. 23 Aug. (Vigil) 21 st Sunday Ordinary Time	6.00pm	St John The Baptist	Kevin & John Costello 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

My dear People of God,

in today's Gospel, Jesus declares: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" He continues: "Do you think that I have come to bring peace? No, I tell you, but rather division" — even within households. This startling message invites us to contemplate the transformative power of Christ's presence. The "fire" He speaks of symbolizes both purifying passion and the forging of a new spiritual reality. Just as fire refines precious metal, Jesus desires to purify our hearts, removing what hinders full devotion to God.

Yet this holy fire is not gentle—it brings division. When we commit wholly to Christ, we may face misunderstanding or conflict, sometimes—even—within our closest relationships. Families may be torn between loyalty to tradition and the pull of the Gospel, as Jesus Himself foretold.

This Gospel challenges us: are we ready to let Christ's fire ignite us, even if it means division or discomfort? True discipleship may demand courage—choosing the way of love, justice, and truth even when it alienates us from those we love. It's a call to stand firm, to be refined even at personal cost.

Ultimately, though division may come, the fire Christ brings leads to deeper faith, stronger character, and closer union with God. It burns away fear, indifference, and complacency—preparing us to share in His transforming mission.

Thanks for your wishes and prayers- I am having a good time in India. This morning (16th Aug.) was the Priestly Ordination of one of my Seminarians, Deacon Daniel, I am privileged to have been his Rector during his philosophical/ theological studies and be able to be at his Ordination

Keep me and the Rosminians in India in your valuable prayers.

HEARTY WELCOME: Dear Family, I am going to be away for next four Weekends and in my absence Rev. Fr. Nick Welsh, the Vice-Rector of Scots College in Rome will be with us. With joy and gratitude, let's extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to Fr. Nick, I am sure most of you may already know him, he is one of our Archdiocesan priests and I had the privilege to work with him at our Cathedral when I had lived there while I was pursuing my Masters. *Fr. Nick, welcome to our parish! We are blessed to have you with us, and we look forward to sharing these weeks together in faith, worship and fellowship. May your time among us be fruitful, joyful and filled with the grace of Holy Spirit.*

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.

SACRAMENT REGISTRATION FORMS:

Registration is now open for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation for the Year 2026. The Registration Forms are available at the Back of the Church. Please do fill the forms and hand them back before the end of September.

CATHOLIC CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN

Women who are recent converts, those considering Catholicism, and those desirous of faith-focused discussion all warmly welcome to this event. It takes place at St Andrew's Parish rooms, 77 Belford Rd, EH4 3DS, on Saturday 30 August, 3:45pm-4:45pm. Optional Holy Hour with Adoration and chanted Vespers from 5:10pm with the Religious Sisters of Mercy. Register at edinburgh@almamercy.org or call 0131 343 3380.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN

The National Pilgrimage to Whithorn in honour of St Ninian will take place on Sunday 31 August. Mass at St Ninian's Cave will be celebrated at 4:00pm by Bishop Frank Dougan. Event information is in the news section at [HTTPS://RCDG.ORG.UK/](https://RCDG.ORG.UK/)

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**.

SEASON OF CREATION CONFERENCE

The Bishops' Office for Care of Creation invites you to its National Season of Creation Conference on Saturday 6 September 2025 in St. Margaret's, Raploch, 10:00am – 3:00pm. Special guest is Lorna Gold, the Executive Director of the global Laudato Si Movement. Registration and details at WWW.BCOS.ORG.UK/SCC25

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

The Month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfil the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of Your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to You, all the people of our country and all the world.

Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as You wish to accomplish Your designs in the world.

O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to You, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed Your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes Your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen