

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 24th August 2025

XXI 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. 23 Aug. (Vigil) <i>2nd Sunday Ordinary Time</i>	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Kevin & John Costello RIP
Sunday 24 Aug. – <i>2nd Sunday Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am	St Kentigern	Martin Demarco RIP
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of God
Mon. 25 Aug. – 21 st Week Ordinary Time	No public Mass		
Tue. 26 Aug. – 21 st Week Ordinary Time	9.30am	St Kentigern	Malachy Woods RIP
Wed. 27 Aug. – St Monica	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Daniel O'Donnell RIP
Thu. 28 Aug. – St Augustin	9.30am	St Kentigern	
Fri. 29 Aug. – The Beheading of St John the Baptist	9.30am	St John the Baptist	
Sat. 30 Aug. – Memorial of Bl. Virgin Mary	9.30am	St Kentigern	
Sat. 30 Aug. (Vigil) <i>22nd Sunday Ordinary Time</i>	6.00pm	St John The Baptist	Mervin & Neethu, 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

My dear People of God,
today's readings invite us to see salvation as both a gift for all nations and a personal call to discipleship. In the first reading, Isaiah proclaims that God will gather people from every nation to witness His glory and share in His service. This vision shatters boundaries of culture, language, and origin—reminding us that the Church is truly universal, meant to embrace everyone God calls.

Yet, the Gospel (Luke 13:22–30) challenges us with the image of the narrow gate. Salvation is offered to all, but entering requires more than casual acquaintance with Jesus; it calls for commitment, humility, and the willingness to let go of whatever burdens keep us from Him. Pride, resentment, selfishness—these make the way feel narrow. But as our hearts widen in love, mercy, and forgiveness, the path broadens toward joy and life. Hebrews reminds us that God's discipline, though sometimes painful, is a sign of His care—training us to walk upright, strengthening what is weak, and healing what is broken. Discipline, in this sense, is not punishment but formation; it makes us ready to enter the Kingdom.

In our parish, these readings invite us to ask: Are we living our faith as a living relationship with Christ, or just as familiarity with His name? Do we see ourselves as part of God's global mission—welcoming the stranger, honouring diversity, and building bridges of mercy? What burdens must we release so we can pass through the narrow gate with freedom?

May we strive to live not only as invited guests but as true disciples, embracing God's universal call and walking the path of love that leads to His eternal feast.

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.

TEA AND COFFEES available in the hall after 9.30am mass every Sunday at St Kentigern's. All are welcome.

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.

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.

PEACE WITH CREATION

The national Care of Creation Office has organised a series of Zoom sessions with the theme *Peace with Creation*, 7:00pm-9:00pm each Thursday, beginning on 4 September. Each week features a guest speaker. Register at <https://forms.gle/JXUWYtjidlzeqSQ9>.

MARY'S MEALS: PILGRIMAGE WALK OF HOPE: Mary's Meals warmly invites you to join its Pilgrimage Walk of Hope event.

This event will take place on Saturday 30 August from 10.30am to 3.45pm at Craig Lodge House of Prayer, Dalmally, Argyll. In this Jubilee Year when we are called to become Pilgrims of Hope, join members of the Mary's Meals team and supporters from around the country as we walk together, reflecting on stories of hope and praying for our mission.

This event will include Mass and times of prayer during the walk, but people of all faiths and none are very welcome to attend. If you have any questions about this event, please

contact Sarah.Mallon@marysmeals.org or call the Mary's Meals office on 0800 698 1212.

Please note that this event is organised by Mary's Meals.

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