

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

Fr Binu Palakapally IC (Administrator)

Email: frbinu.palakapally@staned.org.uk

Website: <https://ssjohnbandkentigern.org.uk>

Facebook: fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern

Parish (Including SSVP and Hall Bookings)

Office Email: office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk

Telephone: 0131 334 1693 / 07415246288



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 January

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year – A

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 Jan. (Vigil) 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm Mass	St John	Dorothy Muir RIP
Sunday 18 th Jan. St Kentigern – Solemnity 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	St Kent	People of God
	11.30am Mass	St John	Jill and Glen Stachan RIP
Mon. 19 Jan. Week 2 Ordinary Time	No Public Mass		
Tue. 20 Jan. St Sebastian, Martyr	6.00pm Exposition 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	James & Mary McGaughran RIP
Wed. 21 Jan. St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr	9.30am Mass	St John	Tom Pearson RIP
Thu. 22 Jan. Week 2 Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Brendan Eban Spe. Int.
Fri. 23 Jan. Week 2 Ordinary Time	6.00pm Exposition 6.30pm Mass	St John	Carole Hastie RIP
Sat. 24 Jan. St. Francis de Sales	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Mary Taylor RIP
Sat. 24 Jan. (Vigil) 3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm Mass	St John	Marie Ramsay RIP
Confessions – on request at any time, as well as:	10.00am-10.30am – Saturdays	St Kentigern's	
	5.15pm-5.45pm – Saturdays	St John the Baptist	

My dear People of God, on this Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church invites us to fix our gaze on Jesus through the powerful testimony of John the Baptist: **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”** These words are so familiar that we may risk hearing them without wonder. Yet today, they call us to rediscover who Jesus truly is—and who we are in relation to Him.

John does not point to himself. His entire mission is to direct others toward Christ. In a world that often urges us to promote ourselves, John teaches us the humility of discipleship: to step aside so that Christ may be seen. This is not weakness, but spiritual clarity. True joy comes when our lives become signposts leading others to Jesus. The image of Jesus as the Lamb of God is deeply moving. A lamb is gentle, vulnerable, and offered in sacrifice. Christ comes not with force, but with self-giving love. He enters the brokenness of our world and carries its sin, its pain, and its fear. This reminds us that God does not save us from a distance; He saves us from within our human experience.

Saint Paul, writing to the Corinthians, reminds us that we are called to be holy. Holiness is not reserved for a few, but offered to all. It begins in ordinary life—our families, our work, our parish community—when we allow Christ to shape our words, choices, and attitudes.

Isaiah speaks of being called from the womb, reminding us that each of us has a purpose in God's plan. No life is insignificant. When we recognize Jesus as the Lamb of God, we are also invited to recognize our mission: to reflect His light in a world longing for hope.

As we continue this Ordinary Time, may we echo John's witness—not by drawing attention to ourselves, but by living in such a way that others can say, through us: **“There is the Lamb of God.”**

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

THANK YOU: at St Kent, we have raised £504 from our after-Mass tea/coffee for last six months!

STANDING ORDERS: A reminder that our Bank of Scotland Account will be closing in the new year. If you donate via standing order and have not yet moved your payments over to our Royal Bank of Scotland Account, please consider doing so soon.

Our new Bank Details are:

Royal Bank of Scotland

Account Name: St John Baptist & St Kentigern

Ac. Number: 21419411

S.C.: 83-06-08

Thank you.

Memorial Bench: Dear people of God, if you would like to have a memorial bench placed around the church gardens/surrounding/courtyard in memory of your loved ones – grab this opportunity!

4ft Bench - £750 - 6ft Bench - £1000

Price includes Memorial Plaque

Please contact Fr. Binu or/and Bert Demarco

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2026: White Flower Appeal 2026 - The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. SPUC exists to transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes unthinkable. The Society is actively leading the fight in courts, classrooms and culture to achieve this mission. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. This year's appeal postcards allow supporters to join the fightback campaign against the current threats in Parliament to expand abortion and allow assisted suicide. Your support means everything to us. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC at this critical time for our country.

BIG BREAKFAST: *All are welcome to join the Big Breakfast after the 9.30am Mass at St Kent!*

HOUSE MASSES: Once in a Month I am offering a House Mass, if you want a Mass to be celebrated in your home, please do let me know. First preference is for the housebound, elderly and sick.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
18-25 JANUARY

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Archbishop Cushley is

Bishop President for Ecumenism in Scotland and shares the following message: "In Scotland we are blessed to share friendships with Christians of other traditions, friendships rooted not in convenience but in a genuine desire to follow Christ more faithfully. The Catholic Church in Scotland has officially acknowledged friendship with the Scottish Episcopal Church; *The St Ninian Declaration* reminds us of our shared witness, charity and service. *The St Margaret Declaration*, meanwhile, encourages honest and warm dialogue grounded in truth with our friends in the Church of Scotland. These commitments do not gloss over sincerely held differences of the past or the present. Rather, we endeavour to see in each other a fellow disciple of Jesus of Nazareth, and to grow together in charity as brothers and sisters in Christ. We acknowledge real differences between our Churches, and we do so without fear, because friendship among Christians is not a threat to faith but a fruit of it. So, we pray for unity by placing ourselves before Christ, asking that He deepen our love for His Church, strengthen our respect for one another, and lead us, in His time and by His grace, closer to the unity He desires."

EXPLORE – DISCERNMENT GROUP FOR YOUNG WOMEN: The Archdiocese is running a series of monthly. EXPLORE meetings for young women interested in finding out more about the religious life and exploring God's will.

Includes talks, discussion, prayer and socialising.

It takes place on the last Sunday of the month at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, EH9 1SN on the following dates:

- 4pm-7pm, Sunday 25 January 2026
- 4pm-7pm, Sunday 22 February 2026
- 4pm-7pm, Sunday 29 March 2026
- 4pm-7pm, Sunday 26 April 2026

To register or find out more, please email Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE

1. First Holy Communion:

- a. St Kent: **Saturday 13th June 11.00am**
- b. St John: **Saturday 20th June 11.00am**

2. Confirmation 2026 will be **Thursday 14th May.**