

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 8th February

6th Sunday in O. 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. 14 Feb. (<i>Vigil</i>) 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm Mass	St John	Tommy O'Shea RIP
Sunday 15 Feb. 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Joe McEnaney GE
	11.30am Mass	St John	Ian Gillies RIP
Mon. 16 Feb. 6 th Week O. Time	No Public Mass		
Tue. 17 Feb. 6 th Week O. Time	10.30 Mass	St Kent	<i>Requiem Mass of Eillen Lyall</i>
Wed. 18 Feb. Ash Wednesday	9.30am Mass	St John	People of God
	6.30pm Mass	St Kent	Mitchell & Fly. Spe. Int.
Thu. 19 Feb. Thursday after Ash Wed.	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Hazel Tait GE
Fri. 20 Feb. Friday after Ash Wed.	6.00pm Exposition 6.30pm Mass	St John	Joan Guerrieri RIP
Sat. 21 Feb. Saturday after Ash Wed.	9.30am Mass <i>Lenten retreat 9.30 – 2.00</i>	St Kent	Donor's Thanks Giving
Sat. 21 Feb. (<i>Vigil</i>) 1 st Sunday of Lent	6.00pm Mass	St John	Pat Ford RIP
<i>Confessions – on request at any time, as well as:</i>	10.00am-10.30am – Saturdays		St Kentigern's
	5.15pm-5.45pm – Saturdays		St John the Baptist

Lent 2026

Ash Wednesday: Mass – 9.30 - St John
(18th Feb.) 6.30 – St Kent

Retreat: 21st Feb. 9.30-2.00

Way of the Cross: After Mass, Thursdays
and Fridays

**Eucharistic Adoration
and Confessions:** Before Mass on
(half an hour) Tuesdays, Fridays

My dear People of God, on this Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the liturgy places before us a clear and urgent choice. In Sirach we hear: ***“Before man are life and death... whichever he chooses shall be given him.”*** God does not force our hearts; He invites our freedom. The Psalm rejoices that those who walk in the law of the Lord are blessed. Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5), deepens that law: it is not enough to avoid killing; we must root out anger. It is not enough to avoid adultery; we must purify the heart. **Discipleship is interior**, it is indeed **cultivating a new attitude!**

As we approach **Lent**, beginning with **Ash Wednesday**, 18th February, the Church gently urges us to examine what we are choosing. **Are we choosing habits that lead to life, or compromises that slowly dull our love?** Jesus calls us beyond minimal obedience toward wholehearted righteousness — **a conversion that reaches thoughts, desires, and intentions.**

Lent is not merely about giving things up; it is about choosing life more deliberately. Through **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**, we allow the Holy Spirit to reshape our hearts from within. This Sunday stands like a threshold: today we decide again whom we will serve. May we choose the narrow path that leads to life, and enter Lent ready for deeper transformation. **Let us all come together for our Lenten Retreat on the 21st to begin this transformative journey!**



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 Alexander Boyle and Eileen Lyall, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and those who have no-one else to pray for them

Lepra Charity Appeal 14/15th FEBRUARY : This weekend there will be an appeal on behalf of Lepra, who fights against leprosy around the world – see the notice board for further details

CATECHISTS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS: SPRED (Special Religious Development) groups need more catechists! Your role will be share the Lord with adults with special needs at fortnightly term-time meetings. Catechists are trained by the Archdiocese and meet fortnightly for preparatory sessions. Interested? Contact Sr Mary Benedicta Maier RSM, SPRED Coordinator, at srmay.benedicta@staned.org.uk to serve.

Funeral Details of late Eileen Lyall: Requiem Mass on Tuesday 17th February at 10.30am at St Kent's Church followed by Cremation at 12.00 noon at Warriston Crematorium

SPRED: SACRAMENTAL PREP & FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: Children and adults with special needs are invited to participate more fully in the life of the Church by being welcomed into a SPRED (Special Religious Development) group. If you are interested in your child or adult son or daughter participating, Sr Mary Benedicta Maier RSM, SPRED Co-ordinator, would love to hear from you at srmay.benedicta@staned.org.uk.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED ABUSE: This annual day of prayer is observed on the first Friday of Lent (20 February). Please pray for the healing of all those who have suffered abuse.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Archdiocese hosts online Stations of the Cross each Monday in Lent. The first one is on Monday 23 February at 7:45pm and will feature a reflection from Archbishop Leo. The annual event is to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/stations26

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MASS: Mass is the climax of Catholic life. Join the Archdiocese's Catechetics Commission to explore what we are ultimately doing with God at Holy Mass. *What's Happening at Mass* takes place at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road,

Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 14 March, from 9:30am-4:00pm. Register: bit.ly/archmass

COURAGEOUS HEART: A DAY TO GROW IN FAITH FOR GIRLS S3-S6: Girls in S3-S6 are invited to 'Courageous Heart,' a day of faith and friendship on Saturday 28 February 2026 from 10:00am-3:00pm. Consists of prayer, opportunity for Confession, Mass, lunch, a craft, and time with new friends. St Andrew's Catholic Church and Convent, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh (sponsored by the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma). Please RSVP and request a parent permission form by emailing edinburgh@almamercy.org (or call 0131 343 3380) by 24 February.

REMEMBERING SERVICE: A prayer service those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support. Ecumenical and open to all. *Sunday 22 February at 5.00pm in St John the Baptist Church*, Corstorphine, 37 St Ninian's Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8AL.

Lenten Retreat: Saturday 21st February

The Parish is hosting a Retreat for all the parishioners during this Lent. All are encouraged to attend this time of spiritual renewal, especially all those who have involved in any kind of ministry in the parish, such as EMHC, Readers and Bidders, PPC & PFC members, Pass-keepers, Catechists, Sacristans, Children's liturgy leaders, cleaners, helpers, etc.

are expected to attend the retreat.

9.30-2.00pm at St Kent's; Retreat Preacher: Fr. Francis Utoto, Dean, St Gile's Denery. Please check the notice boards for more details.

NB: Please sign in the sheets provided if you are attending for catering purpose

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.

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**