

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> April**

**Easter Sunday - 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. 04 April	<i>Easter Vigil</i>	8.00pm Mass	<b>St Kent</b>	<i>People of God</i>
Sunday 05 April	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Mary Taylor RIP
		11.30am Mass	St John	Greg McIntosh RIP
Mon. 06 April	Easter Monday	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tue. 07 April	Easter Tuesday	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	John Finlayson Sp. Int. (80 <sup>th</sup> birthday)
Wed. 08 April	Easter Wednesday	9.30am Mass	St John	Claire Bridgeman Sp. Int.
Thu. 09 April	Easter Thursday	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Paul McGinness RIP
Fri. 10 April	Easter Friday	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Fr. Paul Henderson Sp. Int.
Sat. 11 April	Easter Saturday	9.30 am Mass	St Kent	Maureen Reynolds RIP
Sat. 11 April	Divine Mercy Sunday (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Lydia McMahan 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

My dear People of God, as we celebrate the **Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday**, we stand at the heart of our faith. In the darkness of the Vigil, we began with a single flame, the light of the Paschal Candle piercing the night. From that one light, many candles were lit, until the whole church was filled with brightness. ***This is the meaning of Easter: Christ has conquered the darkness. The tomb is empty. Jesus is risen.***

At the Easter Vigil we listened again to the story of God's saving love—from creation, through the crossing of the Red Sea, to the promise of new life in Christ. We renewed our baptismal promises and, perhaps, welcomed new members into the Church. In doing so, we remembered that Easter is not only about what happened to Jesus two thousand years ago. ***Easter is about what God is doing in us now.***

The risen Lord still comes into the darkness of our lives. Many carry burdens: grief, illness, anxiety, loneliness, disappointment, or uncertainty about the future. Like the disciples, we can sometimes feel afraid and lost. ***Yet the message of Easter is that no darkness is stronger than the light of Christ. No sin is greater than His mercy. No sorrow is beyond His power to heal.***

The fire kindled at the Easter Vigil is meant to burn in our hearts long after these celebrations are over. ***We are called to carry the light of Christ into our homes, our workplaces, and our community.*** Through forgiveness, kindness, prayer, patience, and care for those in need, we become **witnesses to the Resurrection.**

As a parish family, let us go forward with renewed faith and hope. ***Let us live as Easter people, trusting that the Lord walks with us always.*** May our parish be a place where the light of Christ shines brightly and where every person finds welcome, peace, and love.

***Christ is risen! He is truly risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!***

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

**A BIG Thank You:** *I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who worked behind the scenes, to celebrate our Holy Week/Easter liturgies in a worthy manner. I thank the PPC, PFC, Sacristans of our both churches, Readers, Bidders, Florists, Altar Servers, Musicians, Pass-keepers, EMHC and other volunteers. May God bless you and your families. Yes, He is Risen, Alleluia!*  
- Fr. Binu Palakapally IC

**ST KENTIGERN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCH** – Tuesday 7th April, 12.30 pm – 2.00pm in the Parish Hall. It's a great opportunity to meet and socialise over soup, sandwiches, cake and refreshments (and there is a free raffle too!). Suggested donation £3.00.

**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 [srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk](mailto:srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk).

**ROSARY AND NATIONAL PRO-LIFE CHAIN IN EDINBURGH:** SPUC's annual Edinburgh Pro-life Chain is on Saturday 25 April on Lothian Road, Edinburgh. The day includes three simple opportunities to take part — come along for all of it or join in for whatever you can: 10:00am: Rosary for Life, Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston Road, EH3 9DJ, led by Archbishop Cushley. [Register here](#), or just come along on the morning. 11:00am: Pro-Life Chain. 1.15pm: Refreshments and social - Sacred Heart Church Hall.

**DIVINE RENOVATION:** Divine Renovation hosts a free event at St John the Baptist Church, Uddingston, G71 7AH on Saturday 25 April from 9:30am to 5:00pm. It's a chance to get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of parish transformation. Concludes with Vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Toal. Lunch provided. Registration and details at [divinerenovation.org/calendar/open-house-scotland](http://divinerenovation.org/calendar/open-house-scotland)

**CATHOLIC CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN:** All women are welcome to join the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma on Saturday 18 April, 3:45pm-4:45pm in St Andrew's Parish rooms at 77 Belford Rd, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS. Followed by a Holy Hour following with Adoration & Vespers from 5:10pm. Register at [edinburgh@almamercy.org](mailto:edinburgh@almamercy.org) or call 0131 343 3380.

**LOURDES SUMMER PILGRIMAGE:** There are some spaces available on the Archdiocesan Summer Pilgrimage to Lourdes for supported pilgrims and their carers, as well as nurses. Supported pilgrims are those who are ill, disabled or infirm, and they will fly out with the Archdiocese from Edinburgh and stay in the Saint Frai supported accommodation. Please email [ENQUIRIES@EDINBURGH-LOURDES.COM](mailto:ENQUIRIES@EDINBURGH-LOURDES.COM). Demand for spaces on the plane for hotel pilgrims is high, but they can still take part in the pilgrimage. Contact Tangney Tours to be placed on a waiting list or to ask about alternative travel arrangements. Visit [HTTPS://WWW.TANGNEY-TOURS.COM/](https://www.tangney-tours.com/)

**SAVE THE DATE:** The national St Margaret Pilgrimage will take place in Dunfermline on Sunday 14 June 2026. Save the date, details to follow.

**60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ST KENTIGERN'S CHURCH:** on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> September – Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop at 7.00pm followed by a get together – details will follow

**FEEL CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD?** If you have been wondering whether God could be calling you to become a priest, you are not alone. If you are considering this call, take that step and get in touch today. Contact our Vocations Director at [FRPATRICK.BURKE@STANED.ORG.UK](mailto:FRPATRICK.BURKE@STANED.ORG.UK). Come and see where the Lord may be leading you.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD:** A Rachel's Vineyard retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held in Glasgow on Friday, 24 to Sunday 26 April. This confidential, supportive retreat is helpful to anyone who has been affected by their own or someone else's abortion experience. For more information, please call or text Sr Andrea on 07816 942824 or email at [sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk](mailto:sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk). For more details, visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk)

**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 13<sup>th</sup> June 11.00am**
  - b. St John: **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 11.00am**
2. **Confirmation 2026 will be Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**