

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

Fr Binu Palakapally IC (Administrator)  
 Email: [frbinu.palakapally@staned.org.uk](mailto:frbinu.palakapally@staned.org.uk)

Website: <https://ssjohnbandkentigern.org.uk>  
 Facebook: [fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern](https://fb.me/ssjohnbandkentigern)

Parish (Including SSVP and Hall Bookings)  
 Office Email: [office.ssjohnbandkentigern@staned.org.uk](mailto: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 24<sup>th</sup> May

### **Pentecost 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?



<i>Saturday 23 May Pentecost (Vigil)</i>	6.00pm Mass	St John	Sean Paul Drew RIP
<i>Sunday 24 May Pentecost Sunday</i>	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Benjamin Ho, Spe. Int
	11.30am Mass	St John	<i>People of God</i>
Mon. 25 May Mary, Mother of the Church	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tue. 26 May St Philip Neri	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	Andrew Allison, RIP
Wed. 27 May 8 <sup>th</sup> Week OT	9.30am Mass	St John	Steve, Spe. Int.
Thu. 28 May 8 <sup>th</sup> Week OT	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Tracey Philips, Sp. Int.
Fri. 29 May 8 <sup>th</sup> Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Jim Robertson, RIP
Sat. 30 May Memorial of the Bl. Virgin Mary	9.30 am Mass	St Kent	Mong. Jeremy Milne, Sp. Int
<i>Sat. 30 May The Most Holy Trinity (Vigil)</i>	6.00pm Mass	St John	Michael Pratchett 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, on this glorious **Solemnity of Pentecost**, the Church once again stands with the disciples in the Upper Room—waiting, praying, hoping. Then suddenly, the Holy Spirit descends like a mighty wind and tongues of fire rest upon them. Fear gives way to courage. Confusion becomes clarity. Weak hearts are transformed into hearts burning with divine love. *Pentecost is not merely an event of the past; it is the living promise of God for us today.*

So many people walk through life exhausted, anxious, and spiritually empty because they try to carry life alone. Yet Jesus never intended us to journey without help. He promised the **Advocate**, the **Comforter**, the **Spirit of Truth**. The Holy Spirit is not a distant force; He is God dwelling within us—*guiding, strengthening, healing, and renewing us every day.*

*When we walk with the Holy Spirit, our faith becomes alive. Prayer becomes more than words. Scripture speaks to the heart. Forgiveness becomes possible. Love becomes stronger than bitterness. The Spirit gives us courage to witness to Christ in a world that often forgets Him. Just as the apostles left the Upper Room filled with boldness and joy, we too are called to leave behind fear, discouragement, and spiritual complacency.*

Pentecost reminds us that holiness is not achieved by human strength alone. The saints became saints because they allowed the Holy Spirit to lead them. *Every parish, every family, every heart that opens itself to the Spirit can be renewed.* The Spirit still pours out gifts—**wisdom, understanding, peace, courage, and love—upon those who ask with faith.**

Today, let us pray deeply: **“Come, Holy Spirit.”** Come into our homes, our parish, our struggles, and our future. Rekindle in us the fire of Your love. Make us joyful disciples who carry Christ to others. And may this Pentecost become not simply a celebration we attend, but a transforming encounter that changes the way we live each day in the presence and power of God. **Let us all try to come together on this Pentecost Sunday from 6.00 pm to 9.30pm for a Pentecost Night Vigil at our parish church of St John the Baptist – for a new Pentecost in our personal lives!**

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 Terence (Terry) Boyce, Stephen Dunne and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and those who have no-one else to pray for.

**ST KENTIGERN'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY:** We are hoping to produce a short film and a display of the parish history as part of our celebrations this year so we would be grateful if you could let us see photographs or other records of your family's association with the church. If you would be willing to talk on camera for the film about your memories, please let us know. If you are a newer member of the parish, it would be good if you could add your thoughts about St Kentigern's in the present day. For more information you can talk to Marlene McCallum, Bert Demarco, Geraldine Donoghue, Beth Macleod, Steve Donegan or email [marlenemccallum9@gmail.com](mailto:marlenemccallum9@gmail.com)

**PENTECOST NIGHT VIGIL FOR ALL:** There will be a Charismatic night vigil from 6.00pm to 9.30pm at our church of St John the Baptist on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of May open to all – there will be Adoration, Renewal of Baptism, Praise and Worship, Laying of hands, Confessions, etc.. All are Welcome!!

**FIRST COMMUNION BREAKFAST ON 20TH JUNE, AT ST JOHN:** We are looking for a few people to help set up, make sandwiches and bake, serve tea and coffee and to clear up. If you can help with any of these please speak to Fr. Binu or Anne Simpson.

**ST ANDREWS FOX COVERT PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FOX COVERT Primary School** are holding a Summer Fair on the school grounds on 30 May, celebrating the grounds before construction begins. The fair will include a book stall (for all ages), a soft toy stall, and a puzzles stall. If possible, we would greatly appreciate donations of books, soft toys, or puzzles.

**CORSTORPHINE CHURCHES TOGETHER:** At the Corstorphine Fair this year on 6<sup>th</sup> June, Corstorphine Churches Together have agreed to provide the teas and coffees in the marquee. We are looking for a few volunteers to help maybe for an hour. If you can help can you give your names and the time it would - or would not - be suitable to Paddy Ferry at St Kent's or Anne Simpson at St John's. The plan is to make up teams from as many churches as possible to show our unity.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION:** The Archdiocesan Corpus Christi procession, led by Archbishop Cushley, will take place from Our Lady & St Andrew's, Stirling Street, Galashiels, at 3:00pm on **Sunday 7 June 2026**. Afterwards there will be Benediction in the Church followed by refreshments in the presbytery garden.

**ST MARGARET PILGRIMAGE:** This annual national Catholic event takes place on Sunday 14 June in Dunfermline. Schedule: 12:00pm Angelus at St Margaret's Cave; 1:00pm Prayer Service at St Margaret's tomb at Dunfermline Abbey; 2:00pm Procession from Glen Gates to St Margaret's Memorial Church, East Port; 3:00pm Mass at St Margaret's Memorial Church, celebrated by Archbishop Cushley.

**MASS FOR MARRIED & ENGAGED COUPLES:** Archbishop Cushley will celebrate Mass for Married and Engaged Couples at St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 19 June at 7:00pm with a reception afterwards in Coffee Saints. All welcome!

**ANNUAL CARITAS, JUSTICE & PEACE MASS:** The annual Caritas, Justice & Peace Mass takes place at St Peter's Church, 9 Carmondean Centre Road, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8PT on Thursday 18 June 2026. Guest speaker is Peter Diamond from Aid to the Church in Need.

**THE SEVEN HILLS OF EDINBURGH PILGRIMAGE** route is approximately 26km, taking in Castle Hill, Corstorphine Hill, Craiglockhart Hill, Braid Hill, Blackford Hill, Arthur's Seat and Calton Hill. Starts at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral at 9:00am on Saturday 13 June with a dedicated reflection at each peak from Monsignor Jeremy Milne. Details and registration at [bit.ly/sevenhills26](http://bit.ly/sevenhills26)

**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.

**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.**