

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

Fr Binu Palakapally IC (Administrator)

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Parish (Including SSVP and Hall Bookings)

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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 02nd August

18th Sunday 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?



<i>Sat. 01 Aug. 18th Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)</i>	4.30 Adoration 6.00pm Mass	St John	Decesed members of Komorniczak fly
Sunday 02 18th Sunday Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Sp. Int. of Sr Dhanya OSB
	11.30am Mass	St John	David & Margaret Edie, Silver Wedding Avviversary
Mon. 03 Aug. 18 th Week OT	No public Mass		
Tue. 04 Aug. St John Mary Vianney	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	<i>People of God</i>
Wed. 05 Aug. 18 th Week OT	9.30am Mass	St John	Ben Gregson, GE
Thu. 06 Aug. The Transfiguration, Feast	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Norman Philips RIP
Fri. 07 Aug. 18 th Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Cillian, Sp. Int
Sat. 08 Aug St Dominic	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Mario Pacitti, GE
<i>Sat. 08 Aug. 19th Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)</i>	6.00pm Mass	St John	Oliver and Patricia Morahan 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, the Gospel this Sunday presents one of the most beautiful signs of Jesus' compassion. Having heard of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus withdraws to a lonely place. Yet the crowds follow Him, carrying with them their hunger, pain, and hope. Instead of sending them away, Jesus is "moved with compassion." He heals the sick and, as evening falls, He feeds the multitude with five loaves and two fish.

This miracle reveals the heart of Christ. Jesus does not ignore human need. He sees our physical hunger, our emotional wounds, and our spiritual emptiness. His compassion is never passive; it becomes action. He takes what seems small and insufficient, blesses it, breaks it, and satisfies thousands.

The disciples see only scarcity. "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish," they say. Jesus, however, sees possibility. In His hands, even the smallest offering becomes a blessing for many. This challenges us to stop focusing on what we lack and instead offer to God whatever we have—our time, our talents, our faith, and our willingness to serve. God can accomplish extraordinary things through ordinary people who trust Him.

The miracle also points to the Holy Eucharist. Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to the people—actions that anticipate the Last Supper and every celebration of the Mass. Each Sunday, Christ continues to feed His people, not only with bread but with His very Body and Blood, strengthening us to become His presence in the world.

As a parish community, we are called to imitate the compassion of Christ. Our world is filled with people hungry for love, hope, forgiveness, and belonging. We cannot solve every problem, but we can offer what we have with generous hearts. When our gifts are placed in the hands of Jesus, they become instruments of His grace. May this Eucharist deepen our trust in the Lord who never abandons His people. As we receive the Bread of Life, may we also become bread broken and shared for others, so that through our love, many may experience the abundance of God's Kingdom.

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

ST KENTIGERN'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY: Filming for our short 60th anniversary documentary will start soon. We have professional help and the plan is to record parishioners who are willing to share their memories **on a couple of Sundays after 9.30 Mass**. If you are willing to talk on camera, please let us know. We would like to hear from those who have been part of the community for many years and from those who have joined us more recently. We would like more photos from parishioners and maybe you also have some video footage that could be incorporated into the film. For more information you can talk to Marlene McCallum, Bert Demarco, Geraldine Donoghue, Beth Macleod, Helen Robinson or Steve Donegan.

ST KENTIGERN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCH – Tuesday 4th August, 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.

Special Collections 2026 Jan-July

Justice and Peace	-	£855.79
SCIAF & Episcopal Charities	-	£927.48
SCIAF Wee Boxes	-	£976.44
Ecclesiastical Students	-	£1201
Communication	-	£875.19
Day for Life	-	£945.04
Peter's Pence	-	£815.72

We also raised £760 from teas & Coffees at St Kent, as well as £300 from community lunch. This will go to *Aid to Church in Need* for *Venezuela Earthquake relief*. THANKS a lot for your generosity in helping others who are in need. Please continue to be generous. *"God love a cheerful giver" 2 Cori. 9:7*

NATIONAL YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

The National Youth Pilgrimage (for ages 18–35) will take place on Saturday 26 September 2026 at Pluscarden Abbey. This year's pilgrimage will focus on religious and monastic life and will include a tour of the Abbey, a Q&A with the monks, talks on vocation, and a Vigil Mass with Archbishop Cushley. Young people are invited to travel with the Archdiocese. To register or enquire, please contact youth.office@staned.org.uk.

ALTAR SERVERS: The Annual Day for Altar Servers takes place on Saturday 5 September from 10:30am to

3:00pm at The Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. Please speak to Fr Binu for details.

EDINBURGH FOOD PROJECT 2ND AUGUST:

Next weekend is the first of the month when we traditionally donate, if able, to the Food Bank. They are always in need of non-perishable food to hand out to those who simply don't have enough money to live on. The most urgently required items at present are tinned fruit/vegetables, cereals, tinned fish, baked beans, tinned spaghetti in sauce, quick meals e.g. cheesy pasta. Toiletries and household cleaning products are also always needed. Please leave donations in the baskets provided in both churches. Thank you.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST KENTIGERN'S

CHURCH: on Friday **the 18th 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. Come and see where the Lord may be leading you.

YOUNG WOMEN INVITED TO COME AND SEE:

On Saturday 8 August 2026, from 11:30am-2:30pm, single Catholic young women aged 18-35 are invited to spend a few hours at the convent at 77 Belford Road, Ravelston, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS, discovering more about the vocation of a Religious Sister of Mercy. Includes lunch and a walk around Edinburgh.

For more information and to RSVP, please email the Sisters at edinburgh@almamercy.org

DONATIONS: As part of our Diamond Anniversary, we would like to renew/upgrade our liturgical articles, such as – Liturgical Vestments, Chalice, patterns, cruets, altar cloths, candle sticks, etc. ...it's an opportunity for you to contribute financially or/and to sponsor one or more items. Please speak to Fr. Binu or Rita /Anne at the Sacristy.

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.