

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> July**

**16<sup>th</sup> 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. 18 July 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)</i> | 6.00pm Mass                     | St John | John Crean RIP                                     |
| <i>Sunday 19 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</i>            | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | Esther Caldeira RIP                                |
|                                                                  | 11.30am Mass                    | St John | John Crean RIP                                     |
| Mon. 20 July 16 <sup>th</sup> Week OT                            | <b>No public Mass</b>           |         |                                                    |
| Tue. 21 July 16 <sup>th</sup> Week OT                            | 6.00pm Adoration<br>6.30pm Mass | St Kent | Fr Brian McGrath OFM<br>100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday |
| Wed. 22 July St Mary Magdalen, Feast                             | 9.30am Mass                     | St John | <i>People of God</i>                               |
| Thu. 23 July St Bridget of Sweden, Feast                         | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | Pvt. Int.                                          |
| Fri. 24 July 16 <sup>th</sup> Week OT                            | 6.00pm Adoration<br>6.30pm Mass | St John | Pvt. Int.                                          |
| Sat. 25 July St James, Apostle, Feast                            | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | Gilbert R, Spe. Int.                               |
| <i>Sat. 25 July 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)</i> | 6.00pm Mass                     | St John | Michael Walters, GE                                |
| <i>Confessions – on request at any time,<br/>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, today's Gospel offers three powerful images of the Kingdom of God: *the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, and the yeast*. Together they reveal that God's Kingdom is already present among us, yet it is still growing towards its fullness. As disciples of Christ, we are called not only to belong to the Kingdom but also to live as its faithful citizens.

The parable of the wheat and the weeds remind us that good and evil exist side by side in our world and even within our own hearts. We often wish God would remove all evil immediately. Yet Jesus reveals the *extraordinary patience of God*. He gives sinners time to repent and allows grace to work quietly in every human heart. As members of the Church, we must resist the temptation to judge others or to lose hope because of the darkness around us. Instead, we are called to persevere in holiness, trusting that God alone will bring about perfect justice at the final harvest.

The mustard seed teaches us that *the Kingdom often begins in small and seemingly insignificant ways*. A simple act of kindness, a sincere prayer, an invitation to Mass, a word of forgiveness, or a quiet sacrifice made for love of Christ can bear fruit far beyond what we can imagine. God delights in using humble beginnings to accomplish great things. The yeast hidden in the dough reminds us that *Christians are called to transform society from within*. We are not meant to withdraw from the world but to be its leaven, bringing the values of the Gospel into our families, workplaces, schools, and communities. Wherever charity, truth, mercy, and justice flourish, there the Kingdom of God is taking root.

As a parish community, let us renew our commitment to be people of the Kingdom. May we grow as good wheat through daily prayer, the Eucharist, and faithful discipleship. Let us never become discouraged by the presence of evil, nor underestimate the power of small acts of love. In God's hands, even the smallest seed of faith can become a shelter for many, and the quiet witness of holy lives can transform the world. *May Christ, the King of the Kingdom, make our parish a living sign of His grace, mercy, and hope.*

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:** 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)

### 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](mailto: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.

**MARCH FOR LIFE - TRAVEL OFFER** -Travel to the March for Life in London for just £40 return. March for Life is the UK's largest pro-life event, bringing together thousands of people for Mass, inspiring speakers, family and youth activities, and a peaceful march through central London. The Archdiocesan Pro-

Life Office is offering a limited number of big-discount return train tickets to this year's event on Saturday 5 September. Book early to secure your discounted ticket. Go to [bit.ly/archtravel](http://bit.ly/archtravel)

**BRECBANNOCH PILGRIMAGE 2026:** A pilgrimage to pray for the renewal of the Faith in Scotland, from 31 July to 3 August, with a walk across the Isle of Mull, returning the relics of St Columba to Iona. Discounts are available for students and under-22s, and under-5s go free. Visit [brecbannoch.co.uk](http://brecbannoch.co.uk)

The Music group in St Kents is still looking for new members, in particular anyone who can accompany the hymn singing at 9.30 Mass on some Sundays. If you would like to know more please speak to one of us after Mass. – Music Ministry

**60TH 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.

**PILGRIMAGE TO GLASGOW CATHEDRAL:** It is fitting that we make a Parish Pilgrimage to the Tomb of St Kentigern (St Mungo), at the Glasgow Cathedral during the Anniversary Year – Please do let us know whether you would like to be part of this as soon as possible (**before the 20th of JULY**) to allow us to book the coach and decide the date! Signing sheets are available at the entrance of the Church.

**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.