

# Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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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 09<sup>th</sup> August**

**19<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. 08 Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)</i>      | 6.00pm Mass                     | St John | Oliver and Patricia Morahan RIP  |
| <b>Sunday 09 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</b>                 | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | <i>People of God</i>             |
|                                                                       | 11.30am Mass                    | St John | Spe. Int. Jack Hastie            |
| Mon. 10 Aug. St Laurence                                              | <b>No public Mass</b>           |         |                                  |
| Tue. 11 Aug. St Clare                                                 | 6.00pm Adoration<br>6.30pm Mass | St Kent | John Crean RIP                   |
| Wed. 12 Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup> Week OT                                 | 9.30am Mass                     | St John | Sp. Int. David and Margaret Edie |
| Thu. 13 Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup> Week OT                                 | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | Pvt. Int.                        |
| Fri. 14 Aug. St Maxmillian Kolbe                                      | 6.00pm Adoration<br>6.30pm Mass | St John | Katheleen Gallehar RIP           |
| Sat. 15 Aug. Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary                      | 9.30am Mass                     | St Kent | Pvt. Int.                        |
| <b>Sat. 15 Aug. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Vigil)</b> | 6.00pm Mass                     | St John | Joe Burke RIP                    |
| <b>Confessions – on request at any time, as well as:</b>              | 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 presents one of the most moving moments in the life of the disciples. Their boat is battered by the waves, the wind is against them, and they are overcome with fear. It is into this storm that Jesus comes walking on the water, saying those reassuring words: "Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid."

This scene reflects the reality of our own lives. Every family, every parish, and every individual experience storms—illness, grief, uncertainty, loneliness, financial worries, and moments when faith itself is tested. At times we may even wonder whether the Lord is near. Yet the Gospel reminds us that Jesus never abandons His people. He comes to us, often in ways we do not expect, bringing His peace in the midst of our struggles.

Peter's response is both courageous and deeply human. He steps out of the boat in faith, but when he focuses on the strength of the wind instead of the face of Jesus, fear overwhelms him and he begins to sink. How often this happens to us! We begin with enthusiasm and trust, but the difficulties around us distract us from the Lord. The good news is that Jesus does not condemn Peter. Immediately He stretches out His hand, lifts him up, and leads him safely back.

As a parish community, we are called to keep our eyes fixed on Christ. Our prayer, the Eucharist, the Word of God, and our life together in the Church strengthen us to face life's storms with confidence. Faith does not remove every difficulty, but it assures us that we never face them alone.

Today, let us ask ourselves: What storms am I facing? Have I allowed fear to replace trust? Am I willing to step out in faith when Jesus calls me? Let us hear once again His comforting words: "Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid." May we reach out to His outstretched hand, trusting that the Lord who calmed the sea is still guiding His Church and each one of us safely towards His 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.

**THE RUNCIMAN MURALS:** On Wednesday 12 August at 6:30pm there will be an evening of short talks at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, about the remarkable eighteenth-century murals by noted Scottish painter Alexander Runciman in the apse of the church. Features Professor Vicky Coltman, Dr Rory Lamb and Teresa Keenan (art historian and project manager), followed by tea and coffee.

**HELP BRING THE CHILDREN TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD:** Are you interested in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and want to learn more? Inquire about our training day for assistants - a day to prepare volunteers to be involved prior to undertaking the full training course. Register your interest here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/8RU6YraThh>

**MUSIC FOR THE HOMELESS JESUS:** *On Monday 17 August* with the Schola Cantorum choir of St Mary's Cathedral. This concert is inspired by Timothy Schmalz's 'Homeless Jesus' sculpture, located outside St Mary's Catholic Cathedral. Part of the Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts, the evening will contemplate homelessness and marginalisation through a programme of choral music that speaks of mercy, compassion, and hope. Tickets are £15 (£10 child) — book at [bit.ly/4wttcCd](http://bit.ly/4wttcCd)

**NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN:** Mass will be celebrated on the beach at 4:00pm on Sunday 30 August, by Bishop Frank Dougan (Galloway Diocese). For those unable to walk to the beach, there will be Mass at 4:45pm in St Martin and St Ninian's Church, Whithorn, celebrated by Bishop Joseph Toal.

**NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN:** Holy Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop William Nolan, joined by Bishops, Priests, Religious and Faithful from across the country. Together we will gather in prayer before Our Lady, asking her intercession for our

families, our communities, our nation, and for peace throughout the world. Sunday 6 September at 3.00pm.

### **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.

### **VENERABLE MARGARET SINCLAIR PILGRIMAGE:**

This year's pilgrimage takes place on Sunday 20 September at St Patrick's Church in The Cowgate, Edinburgh. Schedule: 12:30pm - Sale of candles & goods, refreshments; 1:30pm - Holy Hour (exposition and benediction); 3:00pm - Reflection from Canon Jock Dalrymple; 4:30pm - Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley (Homilist: Fr Michael John Galbraith).

### **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.

**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.