

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 30th August

22nd 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?



Sat. 29 Aug. 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Thanksgiving, the Houghian Fly.
Sunday 30 Aug. 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Fr Jock Darlymple, Sp. Int
	11.30am Mass	St John	People of God
Mon. 31 Aug. 22 nd Week OT	No public Mass		
Tue. 01 Sep. 22 nd Week OT	6.00pm Adoration	St Kent	Mario Pacitti RIP
	6.30pm Mass		
Wed. 02 Sep. 22 nd Week OT	9.30am Mass	St John	Mary McCormack, GE
Thu. 03 Sep. St Gregory the Great	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Daniel Mac Lean RIP
Fri. 04 Sep. 22 nd Week OT	6.00pm Adoration	St John	Joe McPherson, GE
	6.30pm Mass		
Sat. 05 Sep. St Theresa of Calcutta	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Paddy Lavelle RIP
Sat. 05 Sep. 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Patrick Conboy 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, in today's Gospel, Jesus speaks words that are challenging but profoundly life-giving: **"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me."**

Jesus does not promise His disciples a life without suffering. Instead, He invites us to walk the same path that He Himself walked—the path of self-giving love. To follow Jesus means more than believing in Him; it means allowing His way of thinking, loving and living to become our way.

"Renounce yourself." These words do not mean rejecting who we are or losing our dignity. They mean putting God before our ego, our comfort and our selfish desires. It means learning to say, "Lord, not my will, but yours be done." Every day we are invited to surrender our pride, resentment, selfishness and need to control everything.

"Take up your cross." Every Christian has a cross. It may be a difficult relationship, illness, disappointment, loneliness, responsibility, sacrifice or a burden that nobody else sees. Jesus does not ask us to carry it alone. He carries it with us. When united with Christ, even our suffering can become an offering of love.

"Follow me." Christianity is not simply about carrying a cross; it is about following a Person. Jesus walks before us. He leads us through suffering towards resurrection, through sacrifice towards life, and through death towards eternal glory. Our world often tells us: "Choose comfort, protect yourself, put yourself first." Jesus tells us something radically different: **"Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."** (Mt 16:25)

This Sunday, let us ask ourselves honestly: *What am I unwilling to surrender to Jesus? What cross am I trying to escape? Am I truly following Christ, or merely asking Christ to follow my plans?*

May our parish become a community that does not run away from the cross, but carries it with faith, love and hope—keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus. For the cross is not the end of the journey. **Beyond the cross stands the glory of the Resurrection.**

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

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA: Saturday 5th September 4.30-5.45 – Adoration, rosary, confessions, etc... at St John the Baptist. All are welcome to join this beautiful Devotion, which helps one to grow closer to Jesus through Mary. All are Welcome!

ST KENTIGERN'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCH

–Tuesday 1st September, 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.

PILGRIMAGE TO GLASGOW CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER:

There are four spaces left on the coach, which will leave St Kentigern's at 10.15am after Mass at 9.30am. We will split into two groups at 12noon for a volunteer-led tour of the Cathedral and visit the shrine of St Kentigern (Mungo) in the crypt. The tour will last approximately an hour. Then we will have free time to find lunch locally and visit the Museum of Sacred Life and Art. If the weather is kind, some may want to walk in the Necropolis, the Victorian garden cemetery on a hill next to the Cathedral which has great city views. We will return in late afternoon. Please speak to Marlene McCallum or email marlenemccallum9@gmail.com if you would like to book one of the remaining coach spaces.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SENIOR CITIZENS: OUTING TO PEEBLES:

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER AT 1PM FROM MAGNET ON ST JOHN'S ROAD:

Please sign up for our outing to Peebles for High Tea at the Green Tree hotel on the above date. Signup sheets are now available at the back of both churches. Please complete all the details requested in Capital Letters with your phone number clearly visible in case we need to contact you at any point. We are looking forward to another successful day. If you have any questions, please speak to a St Vincent de Paul member at the back of the church.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS 2026:

Registration forms for the Sacraments of first Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are available at the Church – please take the relevant forms, fill them in handover as soon as possible, the last date in end of October.

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.

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).

VOLUNTEER TO SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH

SPECIAL NEEDS IN EDINBURGH: Three new adult volunteers are needed for the newly forming Children SPRED (Special Religious Development) group meeting at George Square in Edinburgh on Fridays from 3pm-4pm. The spiritual programme for children with special needs fosters communion with Jesus Christ within the Catholic community of faith. Please contact Sister Mary Benedicta Maier, RSM (srmmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk) if you are interested.

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

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.