Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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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 18th October

29th Sunday Ordinary Time

Year -A

A very 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.17 Oct 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Celine Harrison, GE
Sunday 18 Oct. ***29th Sunday in Ordinary Time***	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Paul & Pauline Davies
	11.30am Mass	St John	People of God
Mon. 19 Oct. 29th Week OT	***No public Mass***		
Tue. 20 Oct. 29th Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	Finn Harrison, GE
Wed. 21 Oct. 29th Week OT	9.30am Mass	St John	Carol Hastie, 1st Death Anni.
Thu. 22 Oct. St John Paul II	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Private intention
Fri. 23 Oct. 29th Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Bill McCallum, RIP
Sat. 24 Oct. St Antony Mary Claret	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Private intention
Sat.24 Oct 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Private intention
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 is asked a clever question: "Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" His opponents hope to trap Him, but Jesus responds with divine wisdom: "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar—and to God what belongs to God." Jesus reminds us that while we have responsibilities towards society, our families and our communities, our first and deepest responsibility is to God, who is the source of our life and every blessing we receive.

The image of Caesar on the coin identifies its owner. But whose image do we carry? The Book of Genesis tells us that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, we belong to God! Giving to God what belongs to Him means offering Him not merely our money, but our whole lives—our hearts, our time, our talents, our relationships and our future.

As a parish community, this Gospel invites us to ask ourselves some challenging questions. Do we give God the first place in our daily lives, or do we give Him only whatever time remains after everything else? Do we offer our gifts generously in the service of the Church, or do we keep them for our own comfort? Do our words and actions reflect the image of God in which we were created? Giving to God is not simply about financial contributions or fulfilling religious obligations. It is about living a life of faith, love, justice and generosity. We give to God when we forgive someone who has hurt us, visit a lonely neighbour, care for the vulnerable, serve our parish faithfully and share the Gospel with courage.

This week, let us make our faith visible through practical action. Give God time in prayer, offer your talents to the parish, support those in need and become instruments of peace in your family and community.

Dear friends, Caesar may have a claim on a coin, but God has a claim on our hearts. Let us not give God merely what is left over. Let us give Him what is rightfully His: our whole selves, offered in love. May our parish become a community that belongs entirely to God and reveals His love to the world.

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

If any parishioner is in need of a parish priest during Fr Binu's absence in October, please contact Fr Henry on 07913 925001, in the first instance.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – 18 OCTOBER 2026: This Saturday/Sunday there will be a second collection next Saturday & Sunday (17th & 18th) as we have the annual special collection for the 100th World Mission Sunday. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Leo XIV, is *One in Christ, united in mission*. Our prayers and donations will support missionaries and communities in need, including Missio Scotland's projects in Albania and Ukraine. Please pray for missionaries throughout the world and give what you can. Donations can also be made online at missioscotland.com/donate. A letter from Fr Vincent Lockhart is available at the rear of the church.

POPE LEO Please keep the Holy Father in your prayers as he recovers from surgery. May the Lord may give him strength and peace as he continues his ministry.

HALL RENOVATION:A large number of miscellaneous items have been found stored in the loft above the Hall. Some of the smaller items will be put in the porch at St John's for people to claim or to have! There is also a buggy which was handed in last week if anyone needs one or knows someone who does.

CELEBRATE WITH THE SISTERS OF MERCY: The Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Michigan, are celebrating 10 years in our Archdiocese. Join them on Tuesday 20 October, 6:30pm–8:00pm at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB for a short documentary about the Sisters and their community life, Q&A, pizza and conversation Register at bit.ly/dinnerdoc.

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.

REMEMBRANCE COMMEMORATION SUNDAY 8TH NOV 2026: A Remembrance and Commemoration Service that parishioners might like to attend will take place on Sunday 8th November at the War Memorial next to Corstorphine Old Kirk. Details are tbc but people usually gather from 10.30 am with the Service commencing just before 11 am that includes the laying of wreaths on behalf of the Armed Services and by many local organisations. A wreath will be laid on behalf of our Parish – if anyone would like to do this, please let Aleks know on 07899951401. Our Mass timings ought to make attendance from either Mass within the Parish possible, although tight. Wrapping up warm and arriving a little early is recommended as Kirk Loan is closed for the morning and the Service is usually well attended. The wearing of poppies is encouraged.

ST KENTIGERN'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY FILM TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER: The short documentary film, which has been produced as part of the 60th anniversary celebrations of St Kentigern's Church, will be shown for the first time at 7.15pm on Tuesday 3rd November following the 6.30pm Mass. Come to our premiere in St Kentigern's Hall. Everyone who is part of St Kentigern's history is welcome, along with our fellow parishioners from St John's and anyone who has ever had a St Kentigern's connection. Invite people you know who have memories of the church. Popcorn, tea, coffee and cake will be served. The film will also be shown in the hall after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 8th November for those who are unable to come to the evening showing

Dates to Remember in 2027
First Reconciliation:
Wednesday 24th February at 6.00pm
First Holy Communion:
Saturday 12th June at 11.00am – **St Kent**
Saturday 19th June at 11.00am – **St John**
Confirmation: Thursday 20th May at 7.00pm at St Kent

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 (srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk) if you are interested.

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.