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 25th October

30th 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.24 Oct 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Private Intention
Sunday 25 Oct. ***30th Sunday in Ordinary Time***	9.30am Mass	St Kent	People of God
	11.30am Mass	St John	Finn Harison, GE
Mon. 26 Oct. 30th Week OT	***No public Mass***		
Tue. 27 Oct. 30th Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	Private Intention
Wed. 28 Oct. Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles	9.30am Mass	St John	Michael Feeney
Thu. 29 Oct. 30th Week OT	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Private Intention
Fri. 30 Oct. 30th Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Private Intention
Sat. 31 Oct. Memorial of Bl Virgin Mary	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Private Intention
Sat.31 Oct All Saints (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 we see a teacher of the law asks Jesus, "Which is the greatest commandment?", Jesus gives an answer that lies at the very heart of our Christian faith: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." Then He adds, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

These two commandments are inseparable. We cannot truly love God while refusing to love the people He has created. Equally, our love for others finds its deepest meaning when it flows from our love for God.

To love God is to give Him the first place in our lives. It means trusting Him in our difficulties, thanking Him for His blessings, listening to His Word, and seeking His will in our decisions. Our love for God must not remain only in our prayers or Sunday worship. It must transform the way we speak, act, forgive and serve.

Jesus invites us to love our neighbours as ourselves. Our neighbour is not simply the person we like or the one who agrees with us. It includes the lonely person, the struggling family, the difficult colleague, the stranger, and even someone who has hurt us. Christian love becomes authentic when we reach beyond our comfort and recognise Christ in others.

As a parish community, we are called to become a living witness to these commandments. A parish is not merely a place where people gather for Mass; it is a family where people are welcomed, encouraged, forgiven and supported. Every kind word, every act of kindness, every visit to someone who is lonely, and every effort to reconcile with another person becomes an expression of our love for God.

Let us ask ourselves today: ***Does my love for God make me more loving towards others? Is there someone I need to forgive, encourage or reach out to?***

Dear brothers and sisters, let our Eucharistic celebration strengthen us to live these commandments every day. May our love for God be visible in our love for one another, so that our parish becomes a community where Christ is loved, recognised and encountered in every person. Amen!

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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 Francis Boyle, Frances Todd, Oresto Tuzi, Sandy Aitkenhead, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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.

Last week's collection for Missio Scotland raised a total of £1015.26. Many thanks to all who contributed.

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.

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 and handover as soon as possible, the last date is the end of October.

EDINBURGH DAY FOR LIFE SPUC Edinburgh West is holding its first Day for Life on Saturday 31 October, 9.30am–3.30pm, at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB. Include talks from Dr Calum MacKellar, Margaret Akers and Chris McEleny. Register for this free event at bit.ly/dayforlife

EDINBURGH FOOD PROJECT 1st November: Next Sunday 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. Tinned items such as fruit, vegetables, meat and fish are required as are cereals and quick meals e.g. cheesy pasta. Toiletries and household cleaning products are always needed. Please leave donations in the baskets provided in the churches. Thank you. Volunteers from both churches deliver the collected food to the Food Bank in Broomhouse. St Kentigern's is currently in need of another volunteer to help with this. If you have a car and can load the donations on a Sunday after Mass and deliver to the Food Bank during the week, please speak to Marlene McCallum.

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

MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED Archbishop Cushley will offer Holy Mass for the repose of all the faithful departed who have died in the Archdiocese in the last year, especially those buried at Mount Vernon Cemetery in Edinburgh. This will take place on All Souls' Day, Monday 2 November, at 10:00am in the Cemetery Chapel at Mount Vernon Cemetery, 49 Mount Vernon Rd, Edinburgh, EH16 6JG.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY COMMEMORATION SERVICE 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.

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

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.