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 08 November

32nd 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. 07 Nov. 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)	4.30pm Adoration 6.00pm Mass	St John	Ordination Anniversary, Fr. Binu
Sunday 08 Nov. ***32nd Sunday Ordinary Time***	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Helen De Pellette, RIP
	11.30am Mass	St John	Thanksgiving Mass – Fr. Binu
Mon. 09 Nov. Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	***No Public Mass***		
Tue. 10 Nov. St Leo the Great	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St Kent	William & Charlotte Wilson, RIP
Wed. 11 Nov. St Martin of Tours	9.30am Mass	St John	Carol Hastie, RIP
Thu. 12 Nov. St Josaphat	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Mr . Mrs. Abraham & Ruby Abraham, RIP
Fri. 13 Nov. 32nd Week OT	6.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Mass	St John	Finn Harrison, GE
Sat. 14 Nov. Memorial of Bl Virgin Mary	9.30am Mass	St Kent	Jean Curran, 90th Birthday
Sat. 14 Nov. 33rd Sunday Ordinary Time (Vigil)	6.00pm Mass	St John	Deceaced Menbers of Boyle and O'Donnell Families
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, the Gospel today presents us with the parable of the ten virgins who went out to meet the bridegroom. Five were wise and carried extra oil for their lamps, while five were foolish and failed to prepare. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. But when the cry rang out, "The bridegroom is here! Come out to meet him," only those who were prepared could enter the wedding feast.

Jesus concludes with a powerful instruction: "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

What does it mean to stay awake as Christians? It does not mean that we should never sleep, but that we must never allow our hearts to become spiritually asleep. We can easily become distracted by the worries of life, our work, ambitions, possessions and daily routines. We may continue to attend Mass, pray occasionally and call ourselves Christians, yet gradually lose our enthusiasm for God and our responsibility towards others.

The oil in the lamps represents the personal faith, love, prayer and good works that sustain our relationship with God. Nobody can borrow another person's faith at the last moment. Our relationship with Christ must be cultivated personally, through daily prayer, participation in the Eucharist, listening to God's Word, forgiveness and acts of charity.

The bridegroom's delay also reminds us that Christian life requires patience and perseverance. It is easy to be enthusiastic when everything goes well, but true discipleship means remaining faithful even when God seems silent, prayers appear unanswered and life's journey becomes difficult.

Dear brothers and sisters, the Lord comes to us not only at the end of our earthly life but also in the ordinary moments of every day: in the Eucharist, in His Word, in the poor, in the suffering and in the people who need our love.

Let us not allow our lamps to go out. Let us keep the fire of faith alive through prayer, love and service. May we always be ready to recognise Christ, welcome Him and enter with Him into the eternal wedding feast.

Stay awake, keep your lamps burning, and live every day prepared to meet the Lord!

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

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!

SECOND COLLECTION ON 14/15 NOVEMBER: Our parish will hold a special collection at Mass on Sunday 14/15 November to mark World Day of the Poor. This year's collection will support the Care Van, run by Bethany Christian Trust and Edinburgh City Mission, which provides food, hot drinks and practical support to people experiencing homelessness and hardship in Edinburgh city centre. You can also donate online at bit.ly/dayforpoor.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY FAYRE AT ST KENTS: will be held on 22nd November in church hall after 9:30 Mass. Craft stalls, tombola, cake and candy and much more. Join us for refreshments and a browse, all welcome. We would appreciate donations for tombola prizes, please hand them into parish rooms please.

CHRISTMAS FAIR TOMBOLA AT ST KENTIGERN'S ON SUNDAY THE 22ND OF NOVEMBER. Every year our Tombola is a great success but only by your wonderful donations of bottles etc so please any donations that you can hand in to Rita at St K or Anne at St J would be gratefully accepted and appreciated.

WORSHIP NIGHT: There will be a Worship Night on Saturday 14th November at St John the Baptist Church lead by young people from 7.00 to 9.00 pm – all are welcome!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS 2026:

First Reconciliation Parents' Meeting – Tuesday 10th November at 7.00pm at St Kentigern's Church

First Holy Communion Parents' Meeting – Tuesday 12th January at 7.00pm at St Kentigern's Church

TRAVEL WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE TO WORLD YOUTH DAY IN SEOUL Young adults aged 19–35 are invited to join the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, from 1–9 August 2027. The approximate cost is £3,000 per person, including flights, accommodation and meals. Registration closes on **Friday 6 November**. To register, visit bit.ly/archwyd. For enquiries, email youth.office@staned.org.uk.

GODTALK: THE BOOK OF JOB GodTalk is a new venture from the Edinburgh Jesuit Centre which begins on Tuesday 3 November. This first short course will explore the Book of Job in which is found the greatest poetry and the most challenging theology of the Hebrew bible. Participants will be guided through selections of the text and explore the challenges of biblical criticism and the theology of evil and suffering that Job raises. No prior knowledge is assumed but GodTalk aims to go beyond the basics. Tuesdays 3, 10 and 24 November and 1 December at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston, led by Fr Adrian Porter SJ. All welcome.

RED WEDNESDAY MASS – ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: Archbishop Leo Cushley will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 18 November at 7:00pm to mark Red Wednesday, an annual initiative organised by Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). The Mass will be an opportunity to pray for Christians around the world who face persecution and discrimination because of their faith, and to show solidarity with those who suffer for their beliefs.

YOUNG ADULTS MASS: The Archdiocesan annual Mass for young adults takes place on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday 22 November, at 7:00pm in Sacred Heart Church, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ. Celebrant: Archbishop Cushley. Social afterwards.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES New dates for 2027 Marriage Preparation Courses are now available from the Archdiocese. Couples planning to marry in the Catholic Church should speak to the parish priest before booking. For dates and booking details, visit archedinburgh.org/administration/marriage-preparation-courses/.

SAVE THE DATE: LITTLE LITURGIES An evening presentation from The Mark 10 Mission on *Little Liturgies* will take place on **Wednesday 11 November 2026** in the Islay Room at the Gillis Centre, Edinburgh. The event will be of interest to anyone involved in teaching the liturgy to children. Time and further details will be confirmed shortly.

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.