

## South Edinburgh Cluster

The faith communities of St John Vianney's, St Gregory's and St Catherine's

*Journeying from maintenance to mission*

## Cluster News –23/24 August 2025

(21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year – C)

### Cluster contact details

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Website: [www.southedinburghrc.org.uk](http://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk)

### Cluster Team:

Fr Alex Davie – Parish Priest; Maureen Wallbanks – St Gregory's Parish Coordinator;  
Sr Ninian Duffner - St John Vianney's Parish Coordinator

### Cluster Administrator:

Carol Mulvenna: available on **Mondays and Friday mornings** (0131 563 8391 or [southedclust@btinternet.com](mailto:southedclust@btinternet.com))

### Weekday Services this coming week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>
SG – 9.30am	No mass	SG – 9.30am	SG – 9.30am	SG – 9.30am

### Next Weekend Mass times:

**St Gregory's**

**Saturday**

6pm

**St John Vianney**

**Sunday**

9.30am (in St Gregory's)

**St Catherine's**

**Sunday**

11.00am

### Welcome!

Today we welcome the families of **Jaime, Christopher, Gael and William** who will be baptised at St John Vianney's 9.30am Mass in St Gregory's and **Amarah** who will be baptised at the 11am Mass in St Catherine's.

### Cluster Pastoral Council

Since Fr Alex's return to parish life, the Cluster Pastoral Council (CPC) has met a couple of times, with Fr Alex, to discuss his priorities and what we all need to do to help make his Vision for the cluster parishes a reality. We are pulling this together into a pastoral plan, on which more will come to you soon. Meanwhile look out for a particular emphasis over the next few weeks on our culture of welcome and hospitality. There will be another particular opportunity to get to know each other better, with name badges and food after Mass, the weekend after next (6/7 September). All are welcome - don't miss it!

## Registering for preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation

As you will know, our parishes, families and schools work together each year to prepare our young people for the sacraments of First Reconciliation (Primary 3), First Communion (Primary 4), and Confirmation (Primary 7). Families whose children go to St Catherine's or St John Vianney's Primary Schools will be advised by the school regarding when the preparation programs are starting and what they will involve. If your child attends another primary school, you can register to have your child enrolled in the sacramental preparation program. Please use the following links to access the registration forms:

**First Reconciliation:** <https://forms.office.com/r/VcTnDdt05n>

**First Holy Communion:** <https://forms.office.com/r/7TDAzJRDDC>

**Confirmation:** <https://forms.office.com/r/pT92mHhcLC>

## RCIA - What's that got to do with you?

Are you, or somebody you know, thinking about becoming a Catholic? Perhaps a friend, neighbour, work colleague, or a member of your family? It might be someone who has no experience of church, or someone who wants to further explore their faith life. We will be starting RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) during September and are holding an **initial meeting on Sunday 7 September, immediately after 11am Mass** in the **side chapel at St Catherine's** – lunch will be provided. If you are inviting somebody to think about RCIA, it would be great if you could come along to that meeting with them – walking into a place they are unfamiliar with can be difficult for some people. Please email us if you'd like more information. There will also be leaflets at the weekend Masses of 20/31 August.

## Monthly Prayer Group

Resumes on **Thurs 28 August from 7.30pm - 8.30pm** in St Catherine's church. This month we will be looking at **lamenting as a way of praying honestly to God**. There is a whole book in the Bible devoted to lamenting. It is a way to express deep pain, sorrow and complaint to God and can be a pathway to hope and healing. Given the situations facing the world right now, it seems a good time to explore this prayer more. For more information

<https://youtu.be/UduqyYy2954?feature=shared>

## Lectio Divina for SEECAT

is running again and this time it is being offered to the whole SEECAT community. This is a great opportunity to join our fellow Christians in exploring scripture prayerfully. Meditating on God's word can make scripture more personal and meaningful as we start to discern and listen more. The 5-week course will run **every Tuesday from 2nd - 30th Sept, 7.30pm-8.30pm, at Liberton Northfield Church**, 280 Gilmerton Rd EH16 5TT. Refreshments will be served from 7pm. For more information <https://youtu.be/lHhvYK4TBo?feature=shared>

## Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing)

If you have a **planned admission to hospital** and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick (anointing) before you go into hospital, please approach Fr Alex in the sacristy, before or after Mass. If you are **admitted to hospital** and would like to see a priest, please speak to the nurse in charge on your ward and he/she will arrange for one of the priests on the hospital chaplaincy team to visit you.

## Annual St Columba's Justice and Peace Mass

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 7 pm in St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street. The main celebrant and preacher is Canon Kenneth Owens. The Justice and Peace Group warmly invite you to join them in the upstairs hall afterwards for some hospitality! No booking required.

## Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 1 (week beginning 25/08).

## Date for your Diary – Quiz Night

There will be a parish quiz night in St Catherine's Church Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> September 7 for 7.30pm. Teams of four or more for the quiz with bingo at the interval at £1 per game, BYOB. Tickets at £5 (includes quiz and nibbles) will be on sale. **Numbers are restricted to 60 so no entry without a ticket!**

## Cluster Walking Group: September 2025

Our next walk will take place on **Saturday 6 September**. This walk, which is around **5 miles**, will take in the **Braids and Hermitage of Braid**. We expect it to take **between 2 and 2½ hours**. For those who might prefer a shorter walk, roughly halfway through the walk, just before we turn to come back through Hermitage of Braid, there are bus services close by. If you would like to come along, please **meet outside the Post Office at Liberton Drive at 10:15**. Given that the walk will finish at Liberton Brae, there probably won't be a need to bring a pack lunch on this walk. Those who wish could continue to Cameron Toll to get something to eat at the end of the walk. **Everybody** is welcome to join us, whether you have joined us for a walk before, or this is your first time. If you have any questions, please email [southedclust@btinternet.com](mailto:southedclust@btinternet.com).

## Fresh Start

Fresh Start thank our cluster for our continuous support of their work. However, they are currently in need of donations of food items (see noticeboard) as well as Starter Pack Items. At the moment they are desperately short of:

- Small electrical items (especially toasters)
- Towels
- Cleaning items
- Toiletries
- Glass tumblers

Please ensure donations are in good reusable condition. If you are able to spare these items, please donate to 22-24 Ferry Road Drive Edinburgh, EH4 4BR, between 9am and 4pm Monday to Thursday and 9am to 1pm on Fridays.

Thank you for your generosity, *The Fresh Start Team*

## Edinburgh Branch of SPUC

There will be a meeting to establish a new Edinburgh Branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children on Wednesday 10th September at 7pm in the Ravelston Rooms at St. Andrew's Church, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3DS. Please feel warmly invited to attend. Come along to find out how you can help SPUC to build a culture of life locally and nationally. For further details, please contact Terry Graham, SPUC Youth & Grassroots Manager, on 07549 068226 or by email at [terrygraham@spuc.org.uk](mailto:terrygraham@spuc.org.uk)

## The World Day of Prayer Scottish Committee

Invites you to the World Day of Prayer Gathering on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 in Park Church Stirling, Park Terrace, Stirling FK8 2NA from 10.30am – 3.30pm. The theme is United in Prayer. All are welcome, no matter your age, come and join in Christian Fellowship on this special occasion. To register email: [treasurer@wdpscotland.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@wdpscotland.org.uk), phone 07711 924144, or post to Suzanne Foster, 4 Gateley Avenue, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 3HG.

## Marriage in the South Edinburgh Cluster

Planning to get married? Whether you plan to get married in one of the Cluster parishes (St Catherine, St Gregory, St John Vianney), another church or abroad, there are certain criteria that need to be met and things you need to do well in advance of the wedding ceremony. Please go to the [Marriage page](https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/marriage-in-the-cluster) on our website for all the details you will require to proceed. <https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/marriage-in-the-cluster>

## Pilgrimage Walk of Hope for Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals warmly invites you to join their Pilgrimage Walk of Hope. This event will take place on Saturday 30 August from 10.30am to 3.45pm at Craig Lodge House of Prayer, Dalmally, Argyll. In this Jubilee Year when we are called to become Pilgrims of Hope, join members of the Mary's Meals team and supporters from around the country as we walk together, reflecting on stories of hope and praying for our mission. The day will include Mass and the opportunity to see The Shed where Mary's Meals began. Find out more and book your place at: <https://MMWalkOfHope.eventbrite.co.uk>

## St Catherine's School August Newsletter

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/Jg4abnY20WVCn2WI?ref=Link>

## Currently needed

The only thing the foodbank is short of this week is **TOILET ROLLS**.

Thank you so much for your continued support! We really appreciate it. Normal opening hours for the Food Bank are **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 am to**

**1.30 pm**. The relevant food bank for the Cluster is: 47 Southhouse Broadway

EH17 8AS. Phone number 664 9353; Email: [edinburghfoodbank@blythswood.org](mailto:edinburghfoodbank@blythswood.org)



You are held in prayer



Those who are unwell and in need of our prayers: Please remember in your prayers: *Those who are unwell*

Fr Nick, Joe Callaghan, Erin Colvin, Jorge Mario Gaitán, Josie Young (McKeen), Teresa (sister of Maureen Henderson), Natalia, Paul Cronin, Hilary Fernandes, Ethel Fergusson, Luke, Dorothy Jackson, Bekka and family, Geraldine Rodrigues, Vincent McCann, Sr Rosemary Bayne, Linda Anderson, Kevin Theile, Damian Mulvenna,

Irena Kaluza, Belta Fernandes (Christina Fernandes 'aunt) and her daughter Ida, Catriona Darling, Ken McIntosh, Stephen, Annabelle Colquhoun, John McConnell, Andrew Woodstock, Evelyn Welsh, Jacqui Phillips, Annette Sibbald, Paula Smith, Joe MacDonald, Victoria, Dylan Joseph, Pauline Aylott, Dave Lynch, Erin, Karin Rivero, Maria Eugenia Rodriguez (Karin's Mum), Anton, Wesley Winder, Bette Boyle, Alexis Spence, Michelle Falconer, Maureen Christie, Sr. Clare Wilson, James Nolan, David Harvey, Alejandra Porres, Marco Fidel Porras, David Cole, Patricia Simmons, Derek & Fiona O'Farrell, Maureen Love, David Spence, Ronnie Libang, Michael Rodrigues, Bruno, Catherine, Melissa Longmore, Gerrard Salvona, Andrzej Patyna, Hannah McGinley, Michael Bell, Margaret Adams, Bridie Addison, Tracey, Valerie Anderson, Zoila Melgarejo, Susie Hay, Rose Ross, Camilo Rodriguez, Edison Villabona, Gloria Camargo, Anne-Marie Davie, Joe McConnell, Ellen Salvona, Rudy Deras, Mary, Verdiana Kweka, Sr. Veronica, John, Jennifer, Maureen Lawson, Catherine Hart, James Duffy, Ronan Boyle, Catriona McAuley, Marie, Roney Fernandes, Christopher Browne, Xaverina Rodrigues, Anne and Helen, Sacred Heart sisters in Uganda.

## We remember in love

Patrick Boyle, Jack Laing, Jonathan (Jon) Savage, Kate Selby.

*Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:*

William Moir, Phil Boyle, Dick Perry, Francis Murphy, Hector Gallagher, Anne Prior, John Gallagher, Beatrice MacDonald, Thomas Mann, Michael Cullen, William Gallagher, Catherine McVey, Anne Stokes, James Thomson, Scott McDonald, William Learmonth, Annie Boner, Mary Boyle, Charlie McGeever, Dan Quigley, Patrick Duffy, Maria Evita Iarriella, Kathleen Delaney, Mary McEwan Martin.

*May they rest in peace.*