

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 – 13/14 September 2025

(Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year – C)

Cluster contact details

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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)

Weekday Services this coming week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th
SG – 9.30am	No mass	No mass	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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, also known as the Triumph of the Cross, encapsulates the purpose of Jesus's life, death and resurrection. Crosses come in many sizes. Crosses that are inflicted on us. Those we make for ourselves. Everyday choices between the easy way out and a path that will force us out of our comfort zone. Jesus' ultimate sacrifice of love, his Triumph of the Cross, tells us that facing our crosses is the better way, embracing what love asks of us, even if it comes at a cost. Jesus' way leads us to the resurrection, here and now. [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]

Our culture of welcome and hospitality

A big thank you to everybody who helped make last weekend's "name badge" masses such a great success. There was a real buzz in the church at all three masses, with people greeting each other by name, and it was wonderful that so many people stayed on to enjoy the delicious food and to start to get to know people they perhaps had never spoken to before. It's so important to be able to call

each other by name as we journey together in faith. We can do that whether or not we're wearing a badge. But name badges help, so we'll keep going with them, normally the first weekend of each month.

Stories, food and laughter

It wouldn't be like Jacinta not to take some photos of St Gregory's for Name Badge Weekend, so [take a look](https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/cluster-information/2025/life-of-the-cluster). <https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/cluster-information/2025/life-of-the-cluster>
People shared their stories, getting to know each other with lots of chat and laughter and the most delicious food. Our young Caritas volunteers were very enthusiastic to help. Thanks!

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

Our RCIA programme will run fortnightly, **starting on Sunday 14 September**. It will take place at **St Catherine's** (in the **side chapel**) starting at **12:30** and finishing at **14:00**, with **lunch provided**. We ask everybody to pray for our enquirers and for the RCIA Team who will journey with them. If you, or someone you know, couldn't come to the *Information Session* on 7 September, but is interested in RCIA, please do come and join us on Sunday 14 September.

SEECAT Retreat / Day of Recollection: Saturday 20 September

This will take place on **Saturday 20 September 2025** in **the hall** at **Liberton Northfield (280 Gilmerton Road)**. The day will **start with tea/coffee at 10:00** and **conclude by 16:00**.

It will be a mixture of prayer, worship, sharing (for those who wish to), short talks and reflecting – hopefully, something for everybody. The theme for this year is *"There was a man who had two sons..."* (a reflection on the characters in the parable of the Prodigal Son). Gerry Mulvenna will provide some input. **Everybody** is very welcome. There is no need to book, you can just come along on the day. If you are coming, can you please bring a pack lunch – tea/coffee will be provided.

September Monthly Prayer Group

Gaza. Sudan. Ukraine. Climate Change. Rising authoritarianism. If world events leave you feeling scared, helpless or angry, come to our Taizé prayer in St Catherine's Church, Wednesday 17th September, 7.30pm-8.30pm. Give your cares to the Lord, turn to Him, remember His goodness, mercy and justice. Refreshments served afterwards in the side chapel.

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/IHhvjYK4TBo?feature=shared>

Cluster Senior's Afternoon High Tea

Saturday 4 October 1-4pm - It's time again for our Senior Parishioners social and you are more than welcome to come along and enjoy an afternoon in the company of good friends (old and new), fun and laughter, and hopefully nice food. Please put your name down and let us know your choice of main and if you have any allergies or require transport. Please speak to: Carol/Susanne – SJV, Jacinta – SG, Suzanne/Linda/Janet – SC. As we only have 60 places, please remember if you can't make it, return your ticket and we can pass it on to someone else. Thank you

As they were such a great success last time, we might have the return of the Singing Waitresses! 😊
We are looking forward to seeing you there for a great afternoon. *The Cluster Social Team*

SEECAT Pilgrimage Walk

The local churches are joining together for a pilgrimage walk for the Season of Creation on Saturday 27 September, from St Catherine's Well to Bridgend Farmhouse Peace Garden. There will be prayer, silence and reflection and the opportunity to notice how God's ways are revealed in our urban greenspaces. It will be 6+ miles, 10.00 am start from St Catherine's Well in the grounds of the Toby

Carvery, 41 Howdenhall Rd EH16 6PG, bring a packed lunch and dress for all weathers. Do join us! Booking not essential but to give us an idea of numbers please email us at :

pilgrim@seecat.org. Full details <https://seecat.org/pilgrimage/>

SEECAT Justice and Peace Group

Acting for Justice in the Holy Land

Wed 17 Sept, 7pm-8.30pm, at the Gilmerton Hub (Tron Kirk Gilmerton, 6 Ravenscroft Street, Edinburgh EH17 8QJ). An evening of prayer, an update on what is happening and identifying actions we can take seeking a future of equality, security and justice for all in the land.

Upcoming funerals

Dorothy Gilhooly – Wednesday 17 September 2025, Funeral Service at 1pm at Mortonhall Crematorium.

Michael Boyle – Monday 29 September 2025, Funeral Mass at 12.30pm in St Gregory's.

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.

Gracemount Mansion – Doors Open Day

Doors open Day – Saturday 27th September 11am – 3pm. See poster on noticeboard. There will also be a **Mansion Market (New)** at £10 per table. Showcase your work in the Mansion! Booking deadline 19th September email jane@gracemountmansion.com. Gracemount Mansion belongs to us all – come along and be part of its future.

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 2 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 3 (week beginning 22/9).

Are you a catechist?

Learn about events and resources and collaborate with the Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission by registering for the *catechist contact list*. Go to bit.ly/archcatechists. This is for anyone involved in teaching the faith - such as RCIA, Children's Liturgy, First Holy Communion, Marriage prep, SPRED etc.

Save the date

A relic of Carlo Acutis, soon to be canonised by Pope Leo, visits the Archdiocese from 13-15 September 2025, by which time he will be a saint of the Church.

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>

Currently needed

Tinned custard, children's sweets, chocolate bars, Shampoo, conditioner, shower gel. 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



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, Berhane Shiker, Michael Doherty, David (Anne Carruther's cousin), Nilsa Camargo (Sandra Rodriguez' mum), Erin Colvin, Jorge Mario Gaitán, Josie McKeen, Teresa (sister of Maureen Henderson), Natalia, Paul Cronin, Hilary Fernandes, Berhane Shiker, Ethel Ferguson, 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, Special intention for healing.

We remember in love

Joe Callaghan, Michael Boyle, Dorothy Gilhooly, Patrick Boyle, Jack Laing, Jonathan (Jon) Savage, Kate Selby.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Marie Jones, Catherine Harrison, Eddie Conway, Tully Coll, Andres Arimbuyutan, John Kilbride, Jane McCauley, Ramsay Sibbald, Rose Murray, Elizabeth (Betty) Lovell, Catherine Regan.

May they rest in peace.