

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 – 04/05 October 2025

(27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C)

Cluster contact details

Postal address: 2 Captain's Row, Edinburgh, EH16 6QP
Phone number: 0131 563 8391
Email address: southedclust@btinternet.com
Website: 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)

Weekday Services this coming week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
No Masses				

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

Fr Alex

Fr Alex will be on holiday and unavailable from 6 – 11 October inclusive. We wish him a well-earned break

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In today's gospel, Jesus' reply sounds strange when the apostles ask him to increase their faith. Perhaps the apostles were expecting, as do we often, that the strength of our faith should translate into immediate, visible results - the greater our faith, the greater the miracles worked. The real leap of faith is to carry on labouring in God's vineyard without seeing any instant fruit, and to trust that God will use our efforts in his own time.

[Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]

Our culture of welcome - called by name

We need to be able to call each other by name as we journey together in faith. Following September's very successful "name badge" masses we said we'd keep going with them, normally the

first weekend of each month. So there'll be name badges this weekend at St Gregory's and St John Vianney's. At St Catherine's we'll have name badges next week (12th), to coincide with the "Rite of Acceptance and Welcome" for our cluster RCIA candidates which will be taking place at the 11am mass that day. Whichever mass you attend, do try to chat with somebody whose name you didn't know before, and carry on the conversation over tea/coffee afterwards if you can."

Upcoming funerals

Bridget Bonnar – Tuesday 14 October 2025, Funeral Mass at 10.30am in St Gregory's.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 2025-26

Our RCIA programme continues to run fortnightly, and our third session will be on Sunday 12 October, at St Catherine's (in the side chapel), from 12.30pm to 2pm, with lunch provided. We ask everyone to please continue to pray for our enquirers and for the RCIA Team who will journey with them. If you, or someone you know, couldn't come along to either of the first two sessions, but is interested in RCIA, please do come and join us on Sunday 12 October.

Cluster Walking Group: October 2025

Our next walk will be on **Saturday 11 October**. It is a **circular walk**, starting and finishing at Birkenside (Powdermill Brae) in Gorebridge and taking in the **Gore Glen and Arniston House**. The tracks we follow over the course of **5¾ miles** are mainly beaten earth or grassland, with some short muddy sections. There are some steps and inclines along the way. We expect it to take **2-3 hours**. If you would like to come on this walk, please **meet at 10:05** at the **Gilmerton Crossroads bus stop on Drum Street (outside Iceland)** where we will get the No.29 bus (at 10:15) to its terminus at Birkenside. If you are joining us, you might like to bring a packed lunch which we can enjoy somewhere along the route, or when we finish.

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.

SEECOS at Liberton Northfield Church

Coffee morning Saturday 11th October 10 – 12. £3 entry and unlimited tea/coffee and treat! Profits to Parkinson's UK (Scotland).

Missio

The month of October is dedicated in a special way to promoting and supporting the Church's missionary work. The annual collection for the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith (Missio) is on **Mission Sunday, 19 October**. At masses this weekend you are invited to take a Missio magazine.

Day of Prayer for peace Tuesday 7 October

Catholics are being encouraged to say a prayer and light a candle for peace on Tuesday 7 October. In a pastoral letter, Bishop John Keenan writes: "Our world today is troubled by so many wars and conflicts; it is appropriate that we as Catholics pray individually and together on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary for the Holy Land, Gaza and Israel." Pope Leo has also asked all Catholics to pray the Rosary during the month of October for peace in our world.

A prayer for peace

God of peace and justice,

We pray for the people of the Holy Land:

Israeli and Palestinian, Jew, Christian and Muslim.

We pray for an end to acts of violence and terror.

We lift to you all who are fearful and hurting.

We ask for wisdom and compassion for those in leadership.

Above all, we ask that Jesus the Prince of Peace,

Establish lasting reconciliation and justice for the Holy Land and all nations.

Amen.

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.

October Novena

Every week during October there will be two opportunities to pray the Novena:

- * Mondays @ **2pm** in **St Catherine's**.
- * Tuesdays @ **7pm** in **St Gregory's**.

Fair Trade Fortnight

Begins on the 22nd September until the 5th October. We will be adding a Fairtrade flavour to mass this weekend 4/5th October at St. Gregory's and St John Vianney. There will be a FT stall at both St Gregory and St John Vianneys 4/5th October. Fairtrade producers need your support more than ever at this time of climate emergency. *Thanks for all your support and we look forward to sharing our belief in Fair trade with you.*

Bereavement Services in October

The next service will be 11th October at St Gregory's. Candles are lit for family and friends of the Cluster who have died in the last month, or if there's an anniversary of a loved one, please say when you arrive. Teas and coffees will be available after the service. For more information, [email awaywiththeangels@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:awaywiththeangels@yahoo.co.uk)

Cluster Ladies' Guild

The guild meets this Wednesday 8th October 7pm. Please bring scissors and a needle/pin for the craft!

Recycling Stamps

Collecting stamps for RNIB can make a difference to blind and partially sighted people. For every kilogramme of stamps RNIB receive they raise £20. As a cluster we must all receive cards and letters through the post, could you save the stamps and place in the collection box at the church. Stamps are sold by weight and RNIB turn them into much needed funds to help people living with sight loss. RNIB accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. They do not accept large gold Post Office labels or pre-printed postage marks as these have no value to RNIB.

I will regularly empty the collection box and send the stamps off to the RNIB.

Thank you in advance for any donations.

Further information can be found at <https://www.rnib.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/do-your-own-fundraising/save-your-stamps-for-rnib/>

Anne-Marie Weston

Thank You

At the Retiral Collection at Joe Callaghan's Funeral Mass £524 was raised for SVDP. Many thanks.

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's - Group 4 (week beginning 6/10).

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.

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 carrots, Tinned custard, Fruit juice, Diluting juice, Multipack crisps, Toilet roll. 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, Daniel Philips, Brian Phillips, Bryan Hawthorn, Graciela Camargo, Elizabeth Black, Berhane Shiker, Michael Doherty, David (Anne Carruther's cousin), Nilsa Camargo (Sandra Rodriguez'

mum), Erin Colvin, Jorge Mario Gaitán, Josie Young (McKeen), Teresa (sister of Maureen Henderson), Natalia, Paul Cronin, Hilary Fernandes, 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.

We remember in love

Jeffrey Sogovia, Joseph Alphonso D'Souza, Bridget Bonnar, Joe Callaghan, Michael Boyle, Dorothy Gilhooly, Patrick Boyle, Jack Laing and Janet Cuthil.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Charles H Kivlin, Annabella Tait (or Keenan), Francis Nixon, Jennifer McGeever, Laurence Friel, Mary Deane, Grace Cooney, Mary Gilhooly, George Carr, Maggie Oliver, Catherine Clark, Agnes Wilson, Walter Smith, Elizabeth Coyle, Reg Walker, John Fyvie, Anne Doig, Rose Reynolds, Thomas Ferry, Mary McFadden.

May they rest in peace.