

## 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 – 08/09 November 2025

### (Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Year C)

#### Cluster contact details

Postal address: 2 Captain's Row, Edinburgh, EH16 6QP  
Phone number: 0131 563 8391  
Email address: [southedclust@btinternet.com](mailto:southedclust@btinternet.com)  
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           |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 10 <sup>th</sup>                                     | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 12 <sup>th</sup>                                     | 13 <sup>th</sup>                   | 14 <sup>th</sup> |
| SC – 10.00am<br>Funeral Mass<br>Mary (May)<br>Murray | No Mass          | SG – 9.30am<br>With pupils from<br>St John Vianney's | SG – 7.00pm<br>Bereavement<br>Mass | 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,*

*It may seem strange to be celebrating the dedication of a building today but let's see if the readings can help us. Jesus' words in today's gospel must have shocked his audience: rebuilding the Temple in just three days! He was speaking of his body as a temple - a place where God was truly present. St Paul's reading takes Jesus' words to their logical conclusion. If Jesus is the new temple where God lives then through the Death/Resurrection/Pentecost events, God now lives and breathes in human temples of the Holy Spirit. We are the face of Jesus for today's world. Our bodies have become tabernacles... The basilica of St John Lateran is a famous church and tourist attraction but if you were to visit it, the living temple would be - you. Perhaps it is our turn to be shocked. [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]*

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

Our RCIA programme continues to run fortnightly, and our fifth session will be on **Sunday 9 November**, 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 – Susan, Reuben, Liam, Kristof, Joseph, Brogan and Brannon - and for the RCIA Team who are journeying with them.

If you, or someone you know, couldn't come along to the earlier sessions, but is interested in RCIA, please do come and join us on Sunday 9 November.

### Upcoming Funerals

**Mary (May) Murray** – Monday 10 November 2025, Funeral Mass at 10.00am in St Catherine's.

**Mary Williamson** – Monday 17 November 2025, Funeral Mass 10.30am in St Catherine's.

**Laurence Loy** – Monday 24 November 2025, Funeral Mass 10.00am 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.

### Mass of Remembrance

This year's Mass of Remembrance Will be held on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November - St Gregory's – 7.00pm**. We have sadly lost over 83 family members and friends of the cluster since November 2024. A candle will be lit in memory of each loved one who has died that we know about and their names will be shown on the slide. You will be invited to light a candle in memory of your loved ones during the Mass on the night. We hope you can join us for Tea & Coffee served in the hall after Mass. Contact Jacinta : 0131 664 5581 for any questions.

### Monthly Prayer Group: What Child is this

On **Thu 13 Nov, 7.30pm** in St Catherine's church, our prayer group will be looking at the **Great O Antiphons**. During evening prayer, the Magnificat is always prayed by religious communities, priests and some lay people. From 17-23 Dec, the O Antiphons are read before the Magnificat. Each one describes an aspect of Christ and his role in our salvation. They convey our longing for Jesus and finish with the last, great antiphon, O Emmanuel. We will listen to each antiphon being sung, pray with them, and reflect on their meaning as we ready ourselves for His coming. Find out more here [https://youtu.be/W\\_mu1\\_RuiEM](https://youtu.be/W_mu1_RuiEM) All are welcome. *Mary Morrison*

### New prayer opportunity before Mass

The Prayer Foundation was launched on the First Sunday of Advent 2018 and its main role has been to pray for those in need of prayer as well as holding afternoons of prayer. Our team are now also available to pray in person with and for people who are in need of prayer. This ministry will start in St Catherine's church on the 1st Sunday of Advent (30 Nov, St Andrew's Day) from 10am to 10.30am before Mass and continue on the last Sunday of each month. All are welcome to come for silent prayer. If anyone wished to be prayed with/for, there would be members of the prayer team to facilitate this. It is hoped that this ministry would eventually also take place for St Gregory's and St John Vianney's.

### Cluster Walking Group: November 2025

Our final walk of 2025 will be on Saturday 15 November and will once again take us along a section of the John Muir Way, this time from Cramond to South Queensferry. It is a walk of around 5¾ miles and should take us 2½ to 3 hours. The terrain is mostly flat with some gradual inclines along the way, especially for the first ¾ mile. It is a mix of farm road and woodland paths. There aren't any drop-out points along the way. If you would like to bring a packed lunch, we can enjoy it along the way or when we arrive in South Queensferry. Alternatively, there are a variety of bars and cafes in South Queensferry that serve food. Everyone is welcome to join us, whether you have walked with us before or this is your first time. Please meet at the Queensferry Street bus stop (QE) at

10:30 to get the No. 43 bus to Cramond. If you have any questions, please email [southedclust@btinternet.com](mailto:southedclust@btinternet.com).

### Day of the Poor special collection 8/9 Nov

For this year's [Day of the Poor](#) a special collection will be taken up this weekend for the [Mercy Centre](#), run by the Sisters of Mercy at St Catharine's Convent of Mercy, 4 Lauriston Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 9HH. It offers friendship and practical support to homeless and disadvantaged people, with meals, toilet & shower facilities, and a warm welcome and a listening ear. Watch the short video.

<https://d.interchurchhub.com/help-and-support-projects/listing/st-catherines-mercy-centre/>

### Wedding Anniversaries

**Clare and Wolf Roller** recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding and **Anne and Tommy Spence** celebrated their Golden Wedding. We rejoice with you at reaching the momentous milestones of 60 and 50 Years respectively! May your hearts continue to overflow with love and joy for many more years to come.

### Can we make our Cluster parishes greener?

Can we act together to **challenge climate change** and also make ourselves into **a stronger community**? We hope to begin to answer this question on **15 Nov** at a meeting in **St Catherine's Hall from 10am - 12pm**. Following from the Eco Circle announcement in September, we invite you to come along and share your ideas.

### 200 Club

The winning number for St Gregory's 200 Club October draw was No 30. Winner received £78 as did church funds. 1 more draw to go this year before I start taking monies for 2026! Thanks again to all our supporters. Ann Callaghan

### Cluster Christmas Concert - Singers 🎤🎵

Would you like to be part of another Christmas concert this year? We are a group of parishioners who like to have some **fun and sing** at the same time. If you'd like to join the merry band, please speak to me at church or [email me](#). Rehearsal dates: **Tuesdays 18 Nov, 25 Nov, 9 Dec**, possibly also **Fri 5 Dec, all 7-9pm** in St Catherine's church. Concert: **Tue 16 Dec @ 7.30pm** in St Catherine's. Come and join us. *Catherine*

### St Catherine's Christmas toy collection

Last year you surpassed yourselves with your generosity. We had a record collection of toys which went to the School and local Social Work Department. Details about this year's collection date to follow. Please mark your gift either '**boy**' or '**girl**' and also the **age group**. Hopefully, we will again manage to brighten up some children's Christmas. Thanks, *Catherine & Brian*

### Christmas Raffles

#### St Gregory's Traditional Christmas raffle

A hamper has kindly been donated to help us raise funds for the parish. Donations of prizes (i.e. bottles, chocolates, toiletries etc) would be most welcome. To join in, put your donation of what you can afford into an envelope marked 'St Gregory's raffle', with your name & contact number. Drop off in the basket in the porch or hand to Jacinta at Mass. Community has always been at the heart of what we do - thank you in advance for your donations. Draw: Sat 20 Dec after 6pm Mass with teas, coffee and treats. Jacinta

#### St John Vianney Christmas Raffle

Sun 21 Dec after 9.30am Mass. Raffle tickets are on sale now at £1 per strip. We will have the usual great variety of prizes including a lovely hamper provided by Maureen & Frank Quinn, toiletries, bottles, chocolates and lots more. Tea and coffee will be served along with mince pies and other Christmas goodies. All welcome 🎄

### St Catherine's School

Here is the link to the completed November e-newsletter ready to go out to all families.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/WZ8vvxVE75RQprCE?ref=Link>

### Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's - Group 3 (week beginning 17/11).

### 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](#) on our website for all the details you will require to proceed.

<https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/marriage-in-the-cluster>

### Currently needed

Tinned meat, instant mash, tinned soup, custard, toiletries. 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, Francis Reilly, Victor Trupcic, David, 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 McKeen, Teresa (sister of Maureen Henderson), Natalia, Paul Cronin, Hilary Fernandes, Ethel Ferguson, Luke, 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, 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

Mary Williamson, Laurence Loy, Dorothy Jackson, Philip Sheppard, Mary (May) Murray, Maureen Boyle, Kevin Laporte, Patricia Simmons.

#### *Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:*

Maria Stewart, Peter Finney, Craig Wilkie, Betty Forbes, Francis Geoghegan, Ann Watson, Nora Dennison, Maria Elisa Stewart, David B Marshall, Rose Walker, Anthony Milligan, Mary Phillips, Kate Coll, Guiseppe Rosano.

*May they rest in peace.*