

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 – 31 Jan/01 February 2026

(4th Sunday of the Year –A)

Cluster contact details

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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
2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
No service	No Service	SC – 10.00am Funeral Mass Carmelina McGregor	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,

In today's gospel of the Beatitudes, Jesus isn't recommending that we all get hungry or get persecuted. Suffering isn't the point. But those of us who imagine we count for something in this world had better make friends with those who don't count at all, since they inherit the earth and the kingdom. We had better stand with the voiceless and powerless, we had better champion their cause and be their comfort. Because if we don't use our every advantage to their advantage, how are we going to face the Lord who called the lowly his blessed ones? - Alice Camille, The Transforming Word [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]

Making the Vision a reality – from reflection to action

Over the past year, the Cluster Pastoral Council has been working on the actions required to help make the "Vision" a reality. Nobody can have missed our renewed focus on welcome, but there is a

lot else getting under way, if not always so visibly. Read more about this here [link to website <https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/cluster-information/cluster-pastoral-council/updates-2026> printed insert for paper newsletter]. More importantly, as we move from reflection to action, we invite you reflect on your own gifts and talents and the part you can play in helping to build God's kingdom here in South Edinburgh. We will say more about this when Council members make a short presentation at the masses this weekend and next.

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.

Parish Register – Annual Update 2026

Each year we review all the information held on our Parish Registers. Starting this year, we will do this at the beginning of the calendar year rather than at the end. To comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we are required to do everything we can to ensure that the data we hold is accurate and up to date. We would like to seek your help in doing this.

If, within the last twelve months, you have changed your name, postal address, phone number or email address, or had any additions to your family, or anyone has moved away from your family home, could you please email southedclust@btinternet.com with your new details. We will then make the required changes to the Parish Register.

If you are new to our Cluster of faith communities, we would ask you to consider registering with us so that we can keep you up-to-date. If you have internet access, the easiest way to do this is to click on this link - Parish Register Form - and complete the registration form. If you don't have internet access, please ask one of the Welcome Team at Mass for a paper copy of the registration form. Please then complete it and return it to: Cluster Administrator, St Catherine's Parish House, 2 Captain's Row, Edinburgh, EH16 6QP. If nothing has changed in the last twelve months, the good news is that you don't need to do anything!

If you aren't sure if we hold up-to-date details for you, it is very easy for us to check. Just drop an email to southedclust@btinternet.com and we will check and get back to you.

We are very grateful to everybody for their help with this.

Baptism in our Cluster During 2026

Our Cluster celebrates the sacrament of Baptism during our weekend Masses three or four times each year. In 2026, this will be in **April, August and November**. If you'd like to present your child for Baptism, please visit the baptism page - <https://www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/baptism-in-the-cluster> and complete the enquiry form.

Please **register well in advance of the baptism date** you are requesting, so that there is time to participate in our Baptism Preparation Course. Email us for more information – southedclust@btinternet.com.

Next Bereavement Service: Sat 7 February @ 9.30am in 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.

If you would like more information, email Jacinta or phone her on 664 5581.

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 1 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 4 (week beginning 26/01).

Beetle Drive ~ Fri 6 Feb

Two of our parishioners, Jacqui Phillips & Roseanne Allison, are taking part in the HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust) [Easter Lourdes Pilgrimage](#) with Group 88. You can have fun and raise funds to send children & young people with additional support needs to Lourdes.

First up is our Beetle Drive on **6 Feb, 7-9pm**, St Catherine's Hall. **Tickets £3**, tea/coffee £1. Also Raffle & Heads & Tails. Tickets on sale after Mass or from Jacqui or Roseanne.

Bingo Night

Come and join our Bingo in St Catherine's Hall at **7 pm this Monday 9th February**. Other dates for your diary are 9th March, and 13th April.

A braw Burns Night

Thanks to all who came along to a wonderful evening. We were treated to no less than the full Scottish experience: piping in the haggis, address to the lassies and laddies, recital of poems and songs, Highland dancing from four lovely young ladies from Mary Phelan's School of Dance and, to conclude, some Friday night fever... Thanks to the organisers, speakers, piper, dancers, songsters and, above all, the team of ladies who worked so hard on the night to deliver the most delicious three-course meal. Just couldn't have been done without them!

St Catherine's Orchard - Can you help?

We are still hoping to plant an orchard but we need help to achieve our vision of the church garden complete with orchard, wild flowers and fruit bushes, as well as places to sit and relax. **Calling all** gardeners, would-be gardeners, garden designers, would-be garden designers, and anyone who would like to be part of this venture. We have been promised help and advice by the Gracemount Community Gardens and by a resident in the Inch experienced in low maintenance, ecological gardening. **We would love to hear from people** and you can [contact us here](#)

St. Catherine's School New Build - The next steps

On **Tue 10 Feb, 3.30 to 5pm, in the school hall**, the architect and landscape designer will focus on School Layout/Design and Playground/Landscape Design. All welcome.

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 rice/ custard, fruit juice, toilet rolls, baby wipes.

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



Financial Help for Scots in 2026

Don't Miss Out: As households across Scotland continue to feel the pressure of the cost-of-living crisis, many people may be missing out on vital financial support they are entitled to. To find out more about benefits that may be available visit [mygov.scot/benefits](https://www.mygov.scot/benefits) or use the **QR code** for the Social Security Scotland benefits page.

Stations of the Cross

The Archdiocese hosts online Stations of the Cross each Monday in Lent. The first one is on Monday 23 February at 7:45pm and will feature a reflection from Archbishop Leo. The annual event is to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/stations26

Valentine's Day afternoon retreat

This Valentine's Day (Saturday 14 February) couples are invited to join the Archdiocese's afternoon retreat reflecting on the Gift of Marriage. It takes place 2pm-5pm at St Kentigern's Church, 26-28 Parkgrove Avenue, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR and is led by renowned Scottish Catholic playwright Stephen Callaghan and wife Rachel. Details and registration at bit.ly/archretreat26

Catechists for Special Needs

SPRED (Special Religious Development) groups need more catechists! Your role will be share the Lord with adults with special needs at fortnightly term-time meetings. Catechists are trained by the Archdiocese and meet fortnightly for preparatory sessions. Interested? Contact Sr Mary Benedicta Maier RSM, SPRED Coordinator, at srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk to serve.

SPRED: Sacramental Prep & Faith Formation for Children and Adults with Special Needs

Children and adults with special needs are invited to participate more fully in the life of the Church by being welcomed into a SPRED (Special Religious Development) group. If you are interested in your child or adult son or daughter participating, Sr Mary Benedicta Maier RSM, SPRED Co-ordinator, would love to hear from you at srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk.

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, Ralph, Carson, Chrisanne Dsouza, Baby Patsy, Geoff Brown, Baby Lana (3 months old), Liliam Rivero, Jimmy Love, Ronnie Doig, Betty, Jesus Camargo, Susana Sanchez, Victor

Trupcic, David, Daniel Philips, Bryan Hawthorn, Graciela Camargo, Berhane Shiker, Michael Doherty, 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, 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, Dave Lynch, Erin, Karin Rivero, Anton, Wesley Winder, Bette Boyle, Alexis Spence, Michelle Falconer, Maureen Christie, Sr. Clare Wilson, James Nolan, 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, Edison Villabona, 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.

We remember in love

Carmelina McGregor, Miroslawa Kruczynska, Irene Turnbull, Alesandra Inglis, Mary Brogan, Chris Hampton.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Jim Cahill, John McCole, Irene McNulty, Christopher Abbot, Ellen Malone, Harold MacMillan, Ann Nolan, George Klimzack, James Lee, Mary Korotkich, Ellen McPartlan, Margaret Livingstone, Michael McCabe, Marion Mitowski, Yves Froude, Kenny Monkhouse, Andrew Millar, Alice Geoghegan, William Cairnie, Helen Simpson, Mary Birdsall, James McNulty, George Milligan, James Carrigan, Agnes Manderson, Francis Cassidy, Matthew Rodgers, Margaret Lewis, Anthony Lawson, Maria Christina Stewart, William Watt.

May they rest in peace.