

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 –21/22 February 2026 (1st Sunday of Lent Year –A)

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
23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th
SG – 9.30am	No Service	SC – 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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In today's gospel, Jesus is tempted to get sidetracked from his call by the Spirit, by being offered self-gratification, power and material wealth. In what ways do we get sidetracked from our call by the Spirit, in our personal encounters and in our responsibility towards the most vulnerable and our planet?

As we begin Lent as a time of new growth and renewal, let us make time to reflect, trusting that Jesus has not only wrought our salvation but is ready to accompany us faithfully through every ordinary day towards the Resurrection, both in our efforts and our inevitable failings. [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]

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.

We have now entered the Season of Lent

A chance for us to draw ever deeper into relationship with the Father. Here are some online & in-person opportunities to pray and reflect this Lent:

- * Daily reflections - Lectio 365 –
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/26370352672567913>
- * Windows into Heaven - Praying with Icons –
<https://www.epiphanygroup.org.uk/event/windows-into-heaven-praying-with-icons-online/>
- * An Introduction to Ways of Praying - Epiphany Group -
<https://www.epiphanygroup.org.uk/training-courses/introduction-to-ways-of-praying/>
- * Through Lent with St Matthew - Ignatian Spirituality Centre –
<https://www.onlineprayer.net/l26-m/>
- * A Moment at the Well - 7 March Heart in Pilgrimage –
<https://heartinpilgrimage.org.uk/a-moment-at-the-well/>
- * Lent Day of Prayer - 14 March Ignatian Spirituality Centre –
<https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/dop>
- * Life before Death - 21 March Ignatian Spirituality Centre –
<https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/life-before-death>
- * Pilgrimage Retreat on Iona - 20-25 March –
<https://mullanotherway.co.uk/pilgrimage-on-iona>
- * Heart in Pilgrimage at-home retreat packages –
<https://heartinpilgrimage.org.uk/online-retreats/>

SEECAT Lent groups

Our neighbouring churches in SEECAT are running the following Lent groups on the theme of **Pilgrimage**, and all are welcome to join:

- * **Wednesdays 12.30-2pm**, starting on Ash Wednesday **18 Feb** at Church of Scotland Liberton Northfield, Gilmerton Road.
- * **Wednesdays 1.30pm**, starting on **25 Feb** at St Barnabas Episcopal Church, Moredun Park View. This follows on directly from the 12.30pm prayer group which everyone is also welcome to attend.

Stations of the Cross

Our Cluster parishioners will have two opportunities each week to pray the Stations of the Cross this Lent:

- * Mondays @ 2pm in St Catherine's (from 23 Feb)
- * Tuesdays @ 7pm in St Gregory's (from 24 Feb)

Wee Box Prayer

This Lent, let us unite in prayer, asking God to bring hope, healing, and the life-giving gift of water to communities in greatest need:

God of Life-Giving water, we give You our praise. We lift to you all those that seek water but do not find. Quench their thirst and provide all that they need. May we, the SCIAF family, continue to be a voice for those unheard; a pillar of hope for our sisters and brothers. We ask that You help us to play our part in building a world where justice flows like a mighty river. Amen.

If you don't yet have your WEE BOX, please pick one up today. Find out more here

<https://www.sciaf.org.uk/get-involved/appeals/902-wee-box-appeal> or call 0141 354 5555. In the short video, Bishop Brian McGee, Argyll & Isles, celebrates the Wee Box.

This Sun 22 Feb: New prayer opportunity

at St Catherine's church. The church will be open **from 10am for 30 minutes** of silent prayer. There will also be an option to be prayed with/for.

It is hoped that this ministry would eventually also take place for St Gregory's and St John Vianney's. For more information please Clare Roller clare.roller@icloud.com

Cluster Walking Group: February 2026

Our second walk of 2026 will take place on **Saturday 28 February**. It is a walk of around **4¼ miles**, starting at **Newhaven Harbour** and finishing in **Silverknowes**. We expect the walk to take **between 1½ and 2 hours**. The route is reasonably flat, with decent paths along the full route. There is a gentle climb from Silverknowes beach to the bus stop towards the end of the walk. If you would like to come on this walk, please **meet at Pier Place at Newhaven Harbour (outside Norah's Café) at 10.45am**. The 11, 16 and 17 buses all stop at Pier Place. If you would like to bring a pack lunch with you, we can enjoy that when we reach Silverknowes. In terms of getting home from Silverknowes, our walk finishes at the Silverknowes bus terminus where we can get the 16, 27, 29 and 37 buses back into town (or straight home for some). **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.

World Day of Prayer 2026

Fri 6 March @ 2pm. This year, the service for the [World Day of Prayer](http://wpdscotland.org.uk) (wpdscotland.org.uk) will take place in **Liberton Northfield Church**, 280 Gilmerton Rd, Edinburgh EH16 5TT. It has been prepared by the **Women of Nigeria**. The theme is "**I Will Give You Rest: Come**" from Matthew 11:28-30, and as always will be interesting and enjoyable. Please come along and join this gathering of all the local Christian Churches. The World Day of Prayer is a women-led, global, ecumenical initiative that aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions for this Day, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

Lourdes Charity Fundraiser Quiz

Sunday 8th March 2 – 4pm in St Catherine's Church Hall. We invite you to join us for an afternoon of funk, food, and fundraising to support our charity taking children with additional needs to Lourdes at Easter. All proceeds will go toward providing extra treats for the children. For more details, to sign up your team or for more details email Jacqui.phillips@blueyonder.co.uk or r.allison102@outlook.com

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 4 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 1 (week beginning 9/2).

Community lunch every Monday

@ **St Catherine's Hall**. We provide a bowl of soup, cake and a cup of tea/ coffee. Doors open at **11.30am** and lunch is served **from 12-1pm**. It's a great opportunity to catch up with friends & make new ones. If you've not been before, do come and join us.

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

Diluting juice, fruit juice, tinned fruit, 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



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 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

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

Bill Watt, Monika, Jeanette Bell, Baby Freya, Ralph, Carson, Chrisanne Dsouza, Baby Patsy, Geoff Brown, Baby Lana, 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, 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.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Anne Harvey Witte, Peter Sharkey, Helen Daly, Robert Quigley, Anthony Moran, Rose Taylor, Ally Logan, Patrick O'Neill, Tom Todd, Henry McGuinness, Patrick Murphy, John Gibbons, Jessie O'Connor, James O'Neill, Mark Munro, Patrick Delaney, Harry Thomson, Kevin Allen, Mary Mulhern, Mary Bird, James Wilson, Walker Kilkenny, Ellen Dickson, William Taylor, Betty Cant, Josephine Flanagan.

May they rest in peace.