

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 –28 Feb/1 March 2026 (2nd 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
2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
No services this week – Fr Alex on holiday				

Next Weekend Mass times:

St Gregory's	St John Vianney	St Catherine's
Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
6pm	9.30am (in St Gregory's)	11.00am

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Transfiguration means to change and to fulfil the goodness that Jesus knows we are capable of, to let our goodness shine. To do this the apostles are told by God to (just) listen. Many of us find it very difficult to sit silently and listen, our heads are full of distraction. We are often on automatic pilot as we work our way through a timetable of tasks. Here Jesus takes the apostles away from the trouble and strife of this world to enable God to influence their thoughts. Perhaps the lesson of the Transfiguration is that we, like the apostles, need to withdraw and take time to really listen through prayer, meditation and silence. [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources]

Fr Alex

Fr Alex will be having a break this week and will be unavailable from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March. We wish him a peaceful break!

For any pastoral emergencies please contact the priests at St Mark's, Oxfangs – 0131 441 3915.

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**, at Church of Scotland Liberton Northfield, Gilmerton Road.

* **Wednesdays 1.30pm**, 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)

Restore Life-Saving Aid

This Lent, **SCIAF** invites you to stand with the world's poorest communities as UK aid faces further devastating international aid cuts. Life-saving support is now under threat including clean water provision, sanitation, healthcare, and recovery for families affected by conflict and climate change. As people of faith, we are called to act against injustice. Please visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox to take action and urge the UK government to protect life-saving aid.

BIG LENT WALK

Maureen Quinn and Carol Mulvenna will walk the BIG LENT WALK again this year. The distance this year is the full length of the Blue Nile - 1450 kilometres! While it is highly unlikely we will reach this distance - even between us - we would be grateful if cluster parishioners would consider sponsoring us.

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.

An Invitation to Pray and Reflect this Lent

Mary Morrison writes "The monthly prayer group are offering a Taizé Prayer Service in St Catherine's Church on **Thurs 12 March, 7.30pm-8.30pm** with **refreshments** afterwards. You are warmly invited to join us for some quiet, reflective prayer based on the Last Seven Words or Sayings of Jesus. What do these words mean for us today? How can we draw strength from them in our own struggles and how do they speak to us of the unconditional love of God? **Come and see.**"

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

Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Final Assisted Suicide Vote

Assisted Suicide Final Vote

This is your **last chance** to stop assisted suicide in Scotland. Please help us to protect vulnerable people. **Email** your MSPs today – see the poster on the noticeboard.

Happy 30th Birthday, Jamie!

Warmest congratulations to **Jamie Morrison**, a well-loved member of St Catherine's who celebrates his **Big 30th Birthday on 2 March**. Who wouldn't smile and feel uplifted by Jamie's infectious enthusiasm during the singing at Mass and the Christmas concerts? You bring a joy to our community that enriches us all. Have a blast, Jamie. God bless you abundantly and many happy returns from all the Cluster!

Ladies' Guild

The Cluster Guild resumes this week at 7pm in St Catherine's Hall on Wednesday 4th March and St Gregory's Guild resumes Tuesday 3rd March following Stations of the Cross, in St Gregory's.

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 2 (week beginning 23/2), Group 3 (week beginning 9/3).

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

Toilet rolls, shampoo, conditioner and deodorants. 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



Cluster Services in Holy Week

Everyone is welcome to participate in this celebration of the summit of our Christian faith.

Thursday 26 March @ 7pm. Reconciliation Service at St Catherine's church

Holy Thursday 2 April @ 8pm. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Catherine's church

Good Friday 3 April @ 7pm. Stations of the Cross with Veneration at St Catherine's church

Holy Saturday 4 April @ 8pm. Easter Vigil Mass at St Gregory's church during which 7 new members will be received into the church.

Easter Sunday 5 April: Easter Sunday Masses 9.30am at St Gregory's church and **11am** at St Catherine's church

SEECAT Holy Week events

Everyone welcome at these ecumenical events.

Mon 30 March @ 7pm. Passover Meal at St Catherine's. Tickets only.

Wed 1 April @ 7.30pm. Stations of the Cross at Liberton Northfield.

Good Friday 3 April. Prayer Walks leaving individual churches at **10am or 10.15am** for **Open Air Service@11am** at Morrison's.

Good Friday 3 April @ 3pm. Service at Gracemount High School.

You are held in prayer



Those who are unwell and in need of our prayers: Please remember in your prayers:

Those who are unwell

Isadoro Fulgencio, Margaret Hendry, 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

Patrick Breen and Carmelina McGregor.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Nellie McCole, Suga Thomas, Ada Bull, Kathleen Doherty, Robert Robson, Sean Quigley, Agnes Walker, James Laidlaw, John Barrett, Eileen Kelly, Kathleen Ann Coyle, Mary Agnes Ross, Charles Brehery.

May they rest in peace.