

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 –28/29 March 2026 (Palm Sunday 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
30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
SG – 9.30am SC – 7.00pm Passover Meal	7.00pm Cathedral Christm Mass	7.30pm Liberton Northfield Ecumenical Stations	SC – 8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper	10-10.15am from Church to Open Air Service 11am 3.00pm Gracemount School Good Friday Service 11.00am

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,

Imagine that you know you are close to death. All pretence of future years ahead is gone. Your priorities in life will rearrange themselves very quickly. You realise that life – that precious gift which has been given to you – is not for holding onto but for giving away. Life is for giving away to others in love, and in that 'for-giving' comes for-give-ness. Let's put ourselves with Jesus in Holy Week and look for fresh ways of following him (daily gospel readings free here <https://universalis.com> [Adapted from this week's Prayer Resources])

Reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil

For the past seven months Brannon, Brogan, Joseph, Kristof, Liam, Reuben and Susan have been preparing to be received into the Church. They have been accompanied on this journey by the RCIA Team and their Sponsors and supported by the prayers of the people of our three parishes. At our Easter Vigil on Saturday 4 April at 8pm in St Gregory's they will be received into the Church. Reuben, Liam, Joseph and Brannon will be Baptised, Confirmed and receive Eucharist for the first time. Susan, Kristof and Brogan will be Confirmed and receive Eucharist for the first time. The Easter Vigil is the most important Mass in the church year, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, marking the victory over death and the foundation of our Christian faith. It would be great if as many parishioners as possible from across our three faith communities could be at our Easter Vigil to welcome Brannon, Brogan, Joseph, Kristof, Liam, Reuben and Susan into our faith family, the church, the Body of Christ. There will be a celebration in the hall after the Mass. Please keep them all in your prayers over the coming week.

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.

Sun 29 March: 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 email [Clare Roller](mailto:Clare.Roller)

SEECAT Lent groups

- * **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

- * Mondays @ 2pm in St Catherine's

Please note no stations at St Gregory's on Tuesday to give the opportunity to attend the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral.

WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE

With your support, a fairer and more peaceful world is possible. In this final week of Lent, please continue to pray for SCIAF's work – and keep using your WEE BOX to make BIG CHANGE.

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 invite anyone from the cluster who walks** to add their miles and we might reach that target! Sponsor sheets available at each mass if you would like to sponsor us.

SEECAT Passover Meal, Monday 30 March 7.00pm at St Catherine's

This year it will be at St Catherine's Church Hall, 7 pm, Monday 30 March. Entrance is by ticket only, suggested donation £6, and tickets are available from Jacinta Flockhart at St Gregory's, Maureen Quinn at St John Vianney's, Melanie Whitlock at St Catherine's. All are welcome, come and join us.

Alpha is back

Whether you are new to the church or would simply like to take some time to explore your faith more deeply, Alpha is for you. We meet **every Tuesday from 14 April-16 June, 7-8.30pm in St Catherine's church**. Come and join us for some food, a film and a chat. No pressure. No judgement. Just a relaxed, friendly evening considering those big questions of life and faith. **All welcome**. Contact us at cluster.alpha@outlook.com

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 4 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's - Group 1 week beginning 6/4.

Drop-in lunch – come along for a blether and a bite to eat

You are warmly invited to our drop-in lunch.

It takes place on a **Monday** in the **hall at St Catherine's**. **Doors open at 11.30am**, and the free lunch is served from 12 to 1pm.

Please do come along and join us for a blether and a bite to eat.

SEECAT Justice and Peace

Seeking a Just Peace in the Middle East

Sat 11 April, 11am - 2pm in St Catherine's Church Hall. Come for whatever part of the time works for you. Craft activities; conversation; prayer. Hadeel stall of fair traded Palestinian produce, with news from their producers across Palestine/Israel.

Talk at 11.30am-12pm: "Apartheid or Peace?" Mike Mineter will speak about his recent visits to South Africa and Palestine/Israel. Light snacks provided - bring sandwiches for **lunch together at 1pm**.

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

Sponge puddings, instant mash, pasta sauce, instant noodles, UHT milk, diluting juice. Thank you to the Parishioner for their cash donation. 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.

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.

Strong Arms needed to carry the Cross on Good Friday

On Good Friday we carry the big Cross from St Catherine's down to join the SEECAT Open Air Service at Morrisons, setting off at 10.00 am. It is a powerful symbol of the meaning of Good Friday - and we need strong people to help carry it. Some of our stalwarts have left the parish and we need new people to come and join the cross-bearers. It's a great thing to do as a family, too. Please come and speak to Monica Thompson or Melanie Whitlock if you can help.

Christmas Masses

As you will know, for a long number of years our Masses on Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday and other feast days have been what we call "Cluster Masses". While **every** Mass that is celebrated is open to everyone who wishes to participate, we introduced the term "Cluster Mass" to describe a Mass that was organised by and served by (ministry exercised by) by parishioners from all three parishes. Representatives of our three Parish Pastoral Councils met recently and agreed that, going forward, the three Masses we celebrate at Christmas (6pm and 8pm on Christmas Eve, and 10am on Christmas Day) will be Cluster Masses – i.e. they will be organised by and served by (ministry exercised by) by parishioners from all three parishes.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 2.00pm 4 April: **Easter Play – Unbroken** – West Princes St Gardens, free and unticketed. Further info www.easterplay.org

Sunday 7.30pm 5th April: **Resurrection** celebrate the greatest event in history – Usher Hall, Edinburgh. Tickets (free but suggested donation) available from www.originscotland.org or call 0131 541 0117

You are held in prayer



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

Those who are unwell

Kevin Devlin, Olive, Neil and Betty, 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, 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

Margaret Sclater, Margaret Martindale, Gavin Flynn, Patrick Breen.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Kathleen O'Keefe, McCole family, McKelvey family, Steven Lynch, Bridget Metcalf, Terry Gilhooly, Mary Costello, Bill Jamieson, Peggy Scott, Betty Byrne, James Tracey, Andrew Millar, Catherine Millar, Bridget McDonald, Francis Forsyth, Scott Kelly, Owen Prior, Elizabeth McKelvey, Lilian Bull, Mr Ward, Patrick Brock, Norman Stanley Watson, Pope John Paul II, Patrick Keenan Monaghan, Owen Donnelly, Josephine Marshall, James McPartlin, Philip Erasmuson, Richard Calvey, Richard Bull, Bridget Stodley, Jim McGuire, Elizabeth Byrne, Alex Thomson.

May they rest in peace.