

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 –09/10 May 2026 (Sixth Sunday of Easter –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
11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
	SG – 11.00am Funeral Mass Frances McConnell	SG – 9.30am	Feast of Ascension SC – 10.00am SG – 7.00pm	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,

Jesus gives us a wonderful picture here, of belonging, a Helper, and the promise we will never be alone. One way we can develop this relationship is to ask God to show us our day through His eyes of love and compassion. Look for the times when you felt gratitude and the times when you felt particularly alive.

God knows us better than we know ourselves and wants us to know peace and joy. So we can come to him with our difficulties too. The times when we lost our temper, said the wrong thing... These also we can turn over to God. And with his love and his compassionate light shining on us, these stumbling blocks can be transformed. With God with us, through each situation, we can live life in all its fullness and with others bring about the Kingdom of God.

St Gregory's Open Parish Meeting 13 June

I would like to invite all parishioners of St Gregory's to an Open Parish Meeting to discuss the parish's finances. It will take place **immediately after the 6pm St Gregory's Parish**

Mass on Saturday 13 June.

This is a very important meeting, and I hope that as many St Gregory's parishioners as possible will be able to participate in it. *Fr Alex*

Confirmation ~ Tue 12 May @ 7pm

Our young people from the three parishes will be confirmed in St Catherine's by Archbishop Cushley, completing their sacraments of initiation. We extend a warm welcome to the Archbishop. Please pray for our young people and their families as they take this significant step in their faith journey. We deeply appreciate the catechists across our three parishes and the staff at our Primary Schools for generously sharing their time, talents and faith to guide and prepare our children.

Feast of the Ascension ~ Thu 14 May

All are welcome at our two Cluster Masses for the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) on Thursday:

- * 10am at St Catherine's (together with the children and staff of St Catherine's Primary)
- * 7pm at St Gregory's

Celebrating the Feast of Pentecost: 23/24 May

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the first Pentecost when people gathered from many nations, and they all heard the apostles speaking in their own language. Our three Cluster faith communities are blessed and greatly enriched by cultural diversity, by people who have come from many nations to make their home here with us in Southeast Edinburgh.

At Mass, we will celebrate and honour that richness and diversity in three complementary ways:

1. The reading from St Luke's Acts of the Apostles will be read in multiple languages.
2. Fr Alex will invite us to pray the Our Father together but in our own native language.
3. Everyone is invited to bring a small plate of food of their native country to share after each Mass.

For planning purposes, it would be helpful to let us know what dish you are bringing: Jacinta (SG) on 07791 332753 or Maureen Quinn (SJV) on 07752 722502. A contact from St Catherine's will be available next week.

Alpha Week 5: Why and How do I Pray?

This Tuesday 12 May in St Gregory's at 7pm. You can still join us for a film and a chat on the big questions of life and faith. We meet **every Tuesday, 7-8.30pm, usually in St Catherine's church.** Why not come along and give it a try? We'd love to see you. All welcome. For more information, email us cluster.alpha@outlook.com

Monthly Prayer Group

The monthly prayer group is back and will be meeting on Thursday 21 May in St Catherine's Church, 7.30-8.30pm. This month we will be looking at how labyrinths can aid prayer. There is a labyrinth in George Square Gardens, inside Polworth Parish Church and at St James Church in Peebles. You can find out more about labyrinths by clicking <https://beingbenedictine.com/2017/06/27/many-ways-to-prayer-walking-a-labyrinth/> Why not come along and discover more about this ancient meditative prayer practice? All welcome.

Novena to Our Lady

Will be held in the Cluster through the month of May.

* In **St Catherine's** every **Monday** at **2pm** from **4 May**

* In **St Gregory's** every **Tuesday** at **7pm** from **5 May**, followed by the Ladies Guild.

Please note: There will be no **Novena** or **Guild** on **12 May** at **St Gregory's** to allow the Alpha team to use the hall as the Confirmations take place at St Catherine'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.

Communications Sunday

There will be a special collection for the apostolate of communications on Sunday 17 May. Your donation supports the work of the Office of Communications and Evangelisation (led by Bishop Frank Dougan of Galloway Diocese).

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's - Group 4 week beginning 18/5.

Bingo Date

The next **bingo date** is Monday 11th May, 7pm in St Catherine's Hall. There will also be a **tombola** after 11am Mass in St Catherine's on 17th May.

Southside Faith Care

are hosting **Reminiscence Afternoons** in Newington Trinity - Priestfield Church, 2 Marchall Place, EH16 5HW, (down from Commonwealth Pool) fortnightly on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.30pm - 19th May and 2nd, 16th and 30th June - memories of the Southside, Edinburgh, tea and a chat.

Digital Frauds and Scams Talk - Thursday 14th May - 1.30-3.30pm Newington Trinity - Priestfield Church - How to stay safe online - with Police Scotland and Barclays Bank.

Service of Healing Sat 23 May @ 3pm

The local SEECAT churches will be holding their annual service of healing at the ancient Balmwell, revered in medieval times for its healing water. There will be prayer, hymns, and a short talk, with the opportunity to be prayed with if wished, all in a beautiful leafy setting. Entrance through the Toby Carvery, 41 Howden Hall Road, EH16 6PG, then make your way across the garden, to the well.

Lay Led Services in Care Homes

Fr Alex mentioned last weekend that the Rev David Dixon would like to encourage us in this ministry and that he would run a couple of sessions to help people feel confident in this kind of ministry. He is offering Wed 20th and Wed 27th May at 1.30pm or 7.00pm in St Barnaba's depending on the time that suits those participating. If you feel drawn to this, please speak to Fr Alex.

Camp Out for Hope Bulletin Notice

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Scotland are excited to invite you to the Camp Out for Hope!

This will be a powerful event to show solidarity with our suffering and displaced Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Join us for an all-night prayer vigil, opportunities to learn more about ACN and our work, time to socialise and build new friendships, and more!

Saturday, 30th May - Sunday, 31st May, Carfin Grotto, 8pm - 8am. Space is limited, so make sure to sign up now!

Head to trybooking.com to sign up for free, or scan the QR code. Participants are encouraged to fundraise, with £50 as a target. Sign-ups will receive a fundraising pack to support their efforts. You must be aged 16+ to participate. Contact ACN Scotland at scotland@acnuk.org or 01698 337 470 for more information.

Annual Concert 2026

Sat 23 May @ 7.30pm at Greyfriars Kirk, EH1 2QQ. Come along for a varied and popular programme by the [Edinburgh Kevock Choir](http://www.kevockchoir.org.uk/), <http://www.kevockchoir.org.uk/> including the Phantom of the Opera choral suite. Tickets £16/£14, available online or at the door. *Hilary Stokes*

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 carrots, chocolate bars and sweets, custard, toilet rolls, shampoo and conditioner. 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



From the Archbishop's Ad Clerum

Pentecost event for young adults

Join young adults from across the Archdiocese to celebrate Pentecost at St Andrew's Church, 77 Belford Road, Edinburgh on Saturday 23 May, beginning at 4:00pm. There will be a talk, Eucharistic Adoration & opportunity for Confession, Holy Mass and a barbecue. Organised by the Archdiocese along with youth ministry at Edinburgh Jesuit Church, St Mary's Cathedral and St Albert's Chaplaincy. Register at bit.ly/pentecost26. Come, Holy Spirit!

You are held in prayer



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

Those who are unwell

Baby Darling, John Coll, Martin Coll, David Fenwick, Val McAndrew, Kevin Devlin, Olive, Betty, Isadoro Fulgencio, Margaret Hendry, Bill Watt, Monika, Jeanette Bell, Ralph, Carson, 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, Damian Mulvenna, 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

Maire McDonald, Frances McConnell, Elaine, Neil McKendrick, Georgina Grassick, Irena Kaluza, Alan Charles Mitchell.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Patricia (Pat) Hogg, Alec Spence, Rita Gibbons, Catherine Brennan, Angela Stewart, James McQueenie, Thomas Harris, Kennedy McCallum, James Malone. Pat Riley, David Cheape, Isabella Ritchie, Anne Reilly, Kenneth Scott, Antonio De Marco, Margaret Ford, Rob Cowe, Ann Hunter-Calder, Sarah Taylor, Patrick Fogarty, Patrick Martin, Jean Macarthur, May Ross, Mary Barr, Mary Manderson, Eileen Weir.

May they rest in peace.

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