

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 – 22/23 August 2026

(21st Sunday of the 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
24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th
11.00am Mortonhall Funeral Marie Martin	No Service	SG – 1.30pm Funeral Mass Evelyn Davidson	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

Jesus appoints Peter because he recognises the voice of the Father in Peter's words. The church, guided by the Spirit, believes the voice of God continues to speak through its leaders, although not exclusively so. For those who witnessed the events of Vatican II (1961-65) there can be no doubt of the major influence of the popes - the true successors of Peter - in the years that have followed. Each pope is guided by the Spirit to be an authentic voice of God for his era. As with any big organisation, he must be assisted by his fellow bishops, but he is the shepherd of the people of God and they should always pay attention to what he has to say. In an ever-changing world, it is difficult at times to know what God wants of us. We can be sure that God speaks to us when we gather as a community in the sacraments and in our private prayer. But today's gospel is a timely reminder that we should make the effort to get to know at least some of what the last couple of popes have written. They are the true missionary disciples of modern times. All the major documents are on the Vatican website and there are short daily notices as well.

Becoming a Catholic/ RCIA - What's that got to do with you?

Are you, or somebody you know, thinking about becoming a Catholic? Perhaps a friend, neighbour, work colleague, or a member of your family? It might be someone who has no experience of church, or someone who wants to further explore their faith life. We will be starting RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) during September and are holding an initial meeting on Sun 30 August, immediately after 11am Mass in the side chapel at St Catherine's – lunch will be provided.

If you are inviting somebody to think about RCIA, it would be great if you could come along to that meeting with them – walking into a place they are unfamiliar with can be difficult for some people.

Please email us southedclust@btinternet.com if you'd like more information. There will also be leaflets at our Masses this weekend.

Welcome!

Today we welcome the families of **Avery Carmichael**, and **Michelle and Melody Itoya**, who will be baptised at the 9.30am mass in St John Vianney's, and **Maisie Wright and Ciara Graham** who will be baptised at the 11.00am mass in St Catherine's.

Upcoming Funerals

Marie Martin – Monday 24 August, Funeral Service 11.00am at Mortonhall Crematorium.

Evelyn Davidson – Wednesday 26 August, Funeral Mass 1.30pm in St Gregory's.

Cluster Walking Group - Midweek Walk - Wed 26 August

Our second midweek walk this year will take us through Dalkeith Country Park and along the River Esk, finishing at Fisherrow Harbour, Musselburgh. Approx. 4¾ miles and 1½-2½ hours. It is reasonably flat and on a decent path. For those who would like a shorter distance, you can walk from Dalkeith to Whitecraigs (2 miles) where there is a bus service to Dalkeith and Musselburgh. Please meet at 10am outside St Mary's Episcopal Church at the entrance to Dalkeith Country Park. Bus services 3, 48, 140 and 141 take you to Dalkeith. Please bring a packed lunch for when we reach Musselburgh. Several buses will take us back to the City Centre. Everybody warmly welcome, whether you have walked with us before or not. Email us southedclust@btinternet.com for further information.

SEECAT Retreat / Day of Recollection 2026

Sat 5 Sept, 10am - 4pm in the hall of Liberton Northfield (280 Gilmerton Road). Starting with tea/coffee, it will be a mixture of prayer, worship, sharing (for those who wish to), short talks and reflecting – hopefully something for everybody. The theme this year is "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you". Everybody is very welcome. No need to book, just come on the day. Please bring a pack lunch. If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please email us southedclust@btinternet.com

SEECAT Pilgrimage Walk Saturday 12 September

We will be continuing our annual Season of Creation pilgrimage walk with the theme of Water of Life, on Saturday 12th. We will start at Bridgend Farmhouse Peace Garden at 10.00 and our route will be 6+ miles, taking in Wells o'Weerie, Dunsapie Loch, and St Margaret's Loch, with opportunities for prayer, silence and reflection, noticing how God's ways are revealed to us in urban greenspaces. Bring a packed lunch and dress for all weathers! For full details and itinerary there will be posters soon, and see <https://seecat.org/pilgrimage/> or email pilgrim@seecat.org.

Songs Of Unity Workshop & Concert

Sat 29 Aug, workshop 11.30am - 5pm, concert 7pm. Join Kim Edgar (choir leader at Sacred Heart church Lauriston St) for a day of uplifting singing at Stockbridge Parish Church (bring your own lunch). No experience or music-reading required. Learn hopeful community songs around themes of peace, justice, and our shared humanity, then perform in the evening concert as part of the Fringe at 7pm. Email Kim to join in kimtedgar@hotmail.com Participation is on a "pay what you can" basis. This event is being publicised by SEECAT.

Thank you for your generous donations

We continue to be very grateful to all who support our faith communities financially through the weekly offertory collection, fundraising efforts and one-off gifts and donations. Heartfelt thanks to all our generous donors.

Bollywood Night Fundraiser!

Sat 29 Aug @ 6pm in St Catherine's Hall (please note the earlier time). Enjoy a fantastic evening of an Indian buffet, Bollywood dance, entertainment, bingo, and music by DJ Annu. Come along for a great night. Tickets £10 per adult and £5 for children under 12. Bring your own bottle & extra cash for games. Fundraiser for St Catherine's. Tickets on sale at the back of the church after 11am Mass at St Catherine's from Sun 9 August or contact Vidya on 07880 325830.

St Gregory's fundraising Team

We would like to thank the cluster parishioners for their support to boost our funds!! So far, the **weekly bonus ball** has raised £200 and is available after Mass each week. If you would like a number please speak to Jacinta, Susan or Anne. Many thanks to those who donated their winnings back.

The **monthly quiz sheet** raised £36 and thanks also for a very kind **donation** of £40.

Our **monthly fundraisers** begin on **Saturday 19th September** with a **Family quiz Night** – 7.30-9.30pm. Tickets £5 per team. Further events include Lourdes HCPT Fundraiser, Halloween Family Fun Night, Sottish Family Night and Christmas Raffle night. Further information on these in due course.

CAFOD

Suffering in the Holy Land

CAFOD (Catholic Aid For Overseas Development) writes: "One of the greatest obstacles to building peace in the Holy Land is the ongoing expansion of (Israeli) illegal settlements which displace Palestinian families...settlers are using this land to grow and export produce – such as dates and wine... We must stop the trading of all goods and services produced on land that has been illegally occupied. Write to the trade secretary today demanding that the UK follows... countries such as Spain and Ireland and bans trade with illegally occupied Palestinian land."

<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/196290/action/1?j=1077164>

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 they will arrange for a priest on the hospital chaplaincy team to visit you.

Cluster Parishes Cleaning Rota

St Catherine's - Group 5 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 2 week beginning 31/8.

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 veg, tomato sauce, 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; **please note the new email address:** southeastedinburghfoodbank@gmail.com



Urge your MP to Reject Westminster Assisted Suicide Bill

Please contact your MP today and urge them to vote no to assisted suicide in the UK Parliament. Vulnerable people must be protected, proper care strengthened, and compassion, dignity and support prioritised over assisted suicide. Find your MP at:

<https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons>

From the Archbishop's Ad Clerum

Events are listed at archedinburgh.org/events

You are held in prayer



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

Those who are unwell

Peter Monkhouse, Mary Moschini, Evan McKay, Jackie Flockhart, baby Jack, Sam Munro, Keith, Stephen Addison, Audrey Scott, Alla Pisotska, Maria Patyna, Marion Brydon, Baby Darling, John Coll,

Martin Coll, David Fenwick, Val McAndrew, Kevin Devlin, Olive, Isadoro Fulgencio, Margaret Hendry, Bill Watt, Monika, Jeanette Bell, Ralph, Carson, Liliam Rivero, Jimmy Love, 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, Linda Anderson, 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, 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

Marie Martin, Sr Rosemary Bayne, Evelyn Davidson, Mary Campbell, Betty McKendrick, Jane Creedon, Moira Cosgrove.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Margaret Young, Tom Stewart, Catherine O'Neill, Francis Murphy, Hector Gallagher, Anne Prior, John Gallagher, Beatrice MacDonald, Thomas Mann, Michael Cullen, William Gallagher, Catherine McVey, Ann Stokes, James Thomson, Scott McDonald, William Learmonth, Annie Boner, Mary Boyle, Charlie McGeever, Kathleen Delaney, Keith Stuart Rogers, Mary McEwan Martin, Jim Reilly, William Moir, Dorothy Gilhooly, Phil Boyle, Dick Perry.

May they rest in peace.