

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 – 12/13 September 2026 (24th 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
14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th
Fr Alex is on holiday and there will be no services For any pastoral emergencies, contact the local priests				

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,

Holding others bound to their sin poisons our love. Our unforgiveness reveals how far short we fall of the mercy God shows to us. When I'm in opposition to a sister or brother, I know it's for my sake, as much as for theirs, that I find my way to forgiveness. To the extent that I choke my neighbor with my wrath, that's how far the embrace of sin has choked the love out of me.

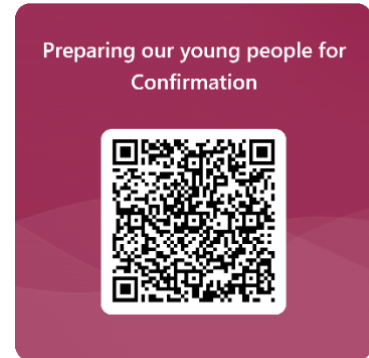
[From 'The Transforming Word' by Alice Camille]

RCIA 2026-27

Our RCIA programme will run fortnightly, starting on Sunday 20 September. It will take place at St Catherine's (in the side chapel) starting at 12:30 and finishing at 14:00, with lunch provided. We ask everybody to pray for our enquirers and for the RCIA Team who will journey with them. If you, or someone you know, couldn't come to the Information Session on 30 August, but is interested in RCIA, please do come and join us on Sunday 20 September.

Registering for preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation

As you will know, our parishes, families and schools work together each year to prepare our young people for the sacraments of First Reconciliation (Primary 3), First Holy Communion (Primary 4), and Confirmation (Primary 7). If you would like to register to enrol your child in the sacramental preparation program, please use one (or more) of the following QR codes:



In a change to previous years, you must register your child using this process irrespective of which school your child attends.

Please note that the **deadline** for registering is **Saturday 31 October 2026**.

Petitions for Lourdes

George and Teresa Muldoon going to Lourdes 24-29 Sep. If anyone would like petitions taken get them to George and Teresa by **Sun 20 Sep**.

Deepening Our Appreciation of the Eucharist

Over four Sunday afternoons you are invited to come to **St Peter's**, 77 Falcon Avenue, EH10 4AN, for a series on deepening our appreciation of the Eucharist. Discussion, reflection, prayer and worship for each session will be initiated by a short video from the *Aquinas Institute*. There will then be the opportunity to reflect further on the themes raised, all of which are linked to the Eucharist. The first session is entitled ***Is the Catholic Eucharist in the bible? The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist***, Sunday 20th September 1 – 3pm. Each of the sessions is stand alone but builds to an overall teaching on the Eucharist. Please email office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk to let them know if you wish to participate.

Israel- Palestine and this week's events

Tuesday 8 September was an auspicious date concerning Israel -Palestine and the UK. The UK committed to ban goods coming from the illegal settlements and to sanction goods and services to the settlements. The language used was significant: the Government named as ethnic cleansing the actions of the State of Israel in the occupied West Bank. We heard the Jewish Foreign Secretary condemn antisemitism, condemn the violence against Palestinians, reject the false arguments that confuse these and demonstrate that there is a diversity of views among British Jews. Sabeel-Kairos issued a statement which you can find here <https://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/sabeel-kairos-uk-statement-on-settlement-trade-ban/> It welcomes these steps, while also calling for haste and for further steps to be taken. It is good to be able to write to our politicians welcoming the steps taken, although calling for more. Finally, the video is an excellent discussion about Palestine-Israel between Rev Munther Isaac and the UN Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese.

There are so many special days in these weeks... look out for them!

World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel , Sunday 20 – 26 September

Nonviolence Days of Action 2026, 21 September to 2 October

St Gregory's fundraising Team

The **first Monthly Fundraiser** is on **Saturday 19th September – Family Quiz Night** 7.30-9.30pm (after the vigil Mass). Tickets cost £2.00 will be available soon from Jacinta at SG, Anne

Spence SJV and Roseanne Allison SC. Come and join us for a fun-filled evening. Thank you for your continued support.

HCPT Lourdes Easter Pilgrimage 2027

Jacqui and Roseanne are once again taking part in the HCPT Lourdes Easter Pilgrimage 2027 and are hoping you will support them in their fundraising ventures. **NEW GOODS SALE** on Saturday 26th September 2026 2-4pm St Gregory's Church Hall, Walter Scott Avenue. We have Christmas Cards and Decorations, Sunglasses and much more at very reasonable prices.

Litter Picking Morning Sat 26 Sept

10am–12 noon at Burdiehouse Burn Local Nature Reserve. Meet at Lasswade Road gate (Parking at Gracemount Leisure Centre). Even an hour of litter picking can make a real difference. Bring your kids along! Everyone is welcome. It's a great opportunity for the whole family to get involved, meet other people, enjoy the outdoors, and help keep our local environment clean. Afterwards, stay for lunch and enjoy Fr Alex's delicious soup at St Catherine's Hall. See you there! All materials supplied! This is a private initiative by a few Cluster parishioners.

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 3 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's - Group 3 week beginning 14/9, group 4 week beginning 28/9.

Season of Creation (SOC): 1 Sept to 4 Oct

Tree Planting Event ~ Sat 3 Oct morning. We want to plant some fruit trees in St Catherine's gardens (near the cherry tree located away from the church entrance). Recently, we have seen the destruction wrought by fires, particularly on our trees. Replenishing and planting trees seems to be a good way to say "let's protect creation." However, we need your help to start our planting, digging etc. We'd also love to hear from people keen on hospitality. It'd be great to end with a simple shared lunch. If you are interested, please email me or just turn up on the day. More details soon. To find out more please email Frank Meehan – frankmeehan_uk@yahoo.co.uk

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

Crisps, small jars of coffee, tinned tomatoes, chocolate treats, savoury biscuits. 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



From the Archbishop's Ad Clerum

Events are listed at archedinburgh.org/events

Mass with the African community

Celebrate Mass with the African community in Fife at 2:00pm on **Sunday 20 September** at St Margaret's Catholic Church, East Port, Dunfermline. Light refreshments will follow in the parish hall after Mass. All welcome.

Poverty in Scotland: can we do more?

An event to dive into the reality of poverty in Scotland. We'll hear from a range of speakers working on the frontline, discuss what's being done and explore ways we can do more to help. It's a chance to connect, share ideas, and spark change. It takes place on **Saturday 3 October**, 10:30am-4:00pm at, The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. Register at bit.ly/povertyinscotland

Volunteer to Support Children with Special Needs in Edinburgh

Three new adult volunteers are needed for the newly forming Children SPRED (Special Religious Development) group meeting at George Square in Edinburgh on Fridays from 3pm-4pm. The spiritual programme for children with special needs fosters communion with Jesus Christ within the Catholic community of faith. Please contact Sister Mary Benedicta Maier, RSM (srmary.benedicta@staned.org.uk) if you are interested in learning about becoming a SPRED volunteer catechist for this new Edinburgh children's group.

You are held in prayer



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

Those who are unwell

John Moore, Vivian Murphy, Peter Monkhouse, 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, Andrew Woodstock, Evelyn Welsh, Jacqui Phillips, Annette Sibbald, Paula Smith, Victoria, Dylan Joseph, 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

John McConnell, John Mattocks, Patrick Maher, Chris Ovenden, Mary Moschini, Marie Martin, Sr Rosemary Bayne, Evelyn Davidson, Mary Campbell.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Annie McGregor, Edward (Eddie) Ward, Bridget Bonner, Catherine Harrison, Eddie Conway, Tully Coll, Andres Arimbuyutan, John Kilbride, Jane McCauley, Elizabeth (Betty) Lovell.

May they rest in peace