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 –15 Nov 2026

(33rd Sunday of the Year - A)

Cluster contact details

Postal address: 2 Captain's Row, Edinburgh, EH16 6QP
Phone number: 0131 563 8391
Email address: southedclust@btinternet.com
Website: www.southedinburghrc.org.uk

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
16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
SG – 9.30am	No service	No service	SG – 9.30am	SG – 9.30am

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 Sisters and Brothers,

In today's gospel we hear the master tell the lazy servant, "So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and I gather where I have not scattered?" It brought to mind a passage from Fr Richard Rohr who quotes an American farmer and theologian. "Every spring, my wife Edith and I kneel in the dirt of our ten-acre farm in Oregon's Willamette Valley and do something that looks, to the untrained eye, like nothing much. We plant seeds… That's what is ours to do. Not to solve everything, but to plant faithfully. Not to despair at the harvest we won't see, but to trust that the seeds are good, the soil is alive, and the Creator is still at work in the dirt and the mess of it all."

It means that, to the best of our abilities, we are all responsible for harvesting the work of those who have gone before us; and every one of us is expected to scatter the seeds of God's love - trusting the harvesting to God.

Upcoming Funeral

John Smyth – Thursday 19 November, Funeral Service 2.00pm at Mortonhall Crematorium.
Patricia Fallon – Wednesday 2 December, Funeral Mass 10.30am at St Gregory's.

Becoming a Catholic: Next RCIA session

Our RCIA programme continues this Sun 15 Nov at St Catherine's (in the side chapel) starting at 12.30pm and finishing at 2pm, with lunch provided. If you, or someone you know, couldn't come along to the earlier sessions, but is interested in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), please do come and join us.

St Catherine's Christmas toy collection

This year our collection date is **Sun 13 Dec**. Thanks to your amazing generosity over the years, we have been able to give the Social Work Department and the School hundreds of toys that will hopefully have brightened up some children's Xmas morning. If you can donate, please wrap any gifts individually and mark the age of the child and whether it is for a boy or a girl. Hopefully we can get close to, or even more than, our great collection last year. Thank you. Catherine & Brian.

Request for Help from our Cluster

We need a driver who would be willing to take items to Fresh Start (a citywide homeless project) every 2-3 months if required. If you can help, then please speak to Frank or Maureen Quinn. Thank you.

Deepening Our Appreciation of the Eucharist

You are invited to come to St Peter's, 77 Falcon Avenue, EH10 4AN, for the 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 final two sessions are from 1 – 3 pm on **Sunday 22 November –** *How the cross of Jesus is present at Mass? Can you be saved without the Eucharist?* and **Sunday 5 December** – *Transubstantiation. How the Mass prepares you to receive Holy Communion.* 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.

Reminiscence Afternoons – Southside Faith Care

Join us for refreshments and chat about your recollections of days gone by, with Memory Boxes and Guest Speakers on Tuesdays 1.30 – 3.30pm at Newington Trinity – Priestfield, 2 Marchhall Place, EH16 5HW. The final one this year is on *An Evacuee's Experience of WWII* – speaker Doreen Carmichael **Tuesday 17 November**.

Advent Evenings

Christmas has arrived! It's in the shops, in magazines, it's everywhere you look. Before Christmas, we have the beautiful season of Advent. This year, we are hosting our Advent Evenings in St Gregory's. They run every Monday evening, 23rd Nov-14th Dec, 7.30pm-8.30pm with refreshments served afterwards. If you would like time to be still, to listen and reflect on God's Word amidst the frantic Christmas rush, then come and join us as we focus on the real meaning of Christmas.

A time of waiting in Trust and with Hope in Advent

In this time of change and uncertainty in our churches (and in the world) the prayer foundation invites you to a time of silent prayer. A time of waiting in Trust and with Hope
This will be in St Catherine's Church on Saturday 5 Dec from 10.30am-12.30pm. The 2 hours will be broken into 20-minute slots. Each 20 minutes of silent prayer will start with a spoken prayer. Please come for as long or as short a time as you can manage. All are welcome.

More than a Tree – Bethany Christian Trust

Buy a Christmas tree from us and help us in ending homelessness in Scotland. See notice board for details.

Remembering our Recently Deceased in the newsletter

Losing a Loved One is a very painful time for all their family and friends and as a faith community we keep them in our prayers and in our hearts. In both versions of the Cluster newsletter, we endeavour to promptly acknowledge the names of any Recently Deceased and include them continuously for six weeks. Also, all funerals in our three parishes are recorded in our deceased list and so their anniversaries appear each year.

Please be assured, that even after your Loved One's name no longer appears in the newsletter, we continue to hold them in our prayers. Please also be reminded that you can have your Loved One included in our Remembrance Gallery. Simply complete a Remembrance Notice www.southedinburghrc.org.uk/remembrance-notice with a photo, dates and a short tribute, or alternatively, email us the details and photo.

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 2 this coming week; St Gregory/St John Vianney's – Group 3 week beginning 23/11.

Last Fundraiser of the year

St Gregory's Fundraising team would like to say thank you for supporting their fundraising efforts. The October weekly bonus ball total was £179.00 and will help boost the funds, thanks to those who donated their prize money back. The **next event is a Scottish Family Fun Night on Friday 20th November 7-10pm.** Tickets £5.00 includes - Food Live Music; raffle on the night. The winner of the current Scottish Quiz sheet (£1) announced on the night. The prize is a "Wee Scottish Hamper!" Please come along & support this event! Tickets on Sale from Jacinta Flockhart at St Gregory's, Anne Spence at St John Vianney's, Janet Logan at St Catherine's.

St Gregory's 200 Club

200 club winning number for end October was 8 with £74 going to the lucky holder and £74 to church funds. One more draw before the Christmas raffle and then we start all over again - how did that happen!

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

Cereal, small jars of coffee, fruit juice. 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

Catholic education special collection

There will be a second collection at all masses next weekend 21/22 November.

Archdiocesan events

#RedWednesday Masses 18 Nov

Our Scottish cathedrals will join Aid to the Church in Need in celebrating Mass to remember Christians across the world who suffer for their faith. 80% of all religious persecution in the world is

directed against Christians. In St Mary's RC Cathedral, Edinburgh, Mass will be at 7pm. Support and unite in prayer with our Christian sisters and brothers.

St Columba's Justice and Peace Group
Faith Behind Bars
Sat 21 Nov @ 10.30am. Talk by Canon Brian Gowans, VE Caritas Justice & Peace/President International Commission of Catholic Prison Pastoral Care. There is not much that Canon Gowans doesn't know about prisons having spent a lot of time in them - for all the right reasons! @ St Columba's Church Middle Hall (1st floor), Upper Gray Street EH9 1SN. Tea/ coffee available from 10am. All welcome. Admission free. Donations welcome to cover costs.

Other events are listed at archedinburgh.org/events

You are held in prayer



Please remember in your prayers:
Those who are unwell

Kimberly Papirio, Liz Napier, Darlene Guthrie, Julie, Jorge Rodriguez, Roberto Rivero, Angela Gallagher, Bernie Ameno, Derek Boult, Lynn Gallagher, John Moore, Vivian Murphy, Peter Monkhouse, Evan Mackay, Jackie Flockhart, baby Jack, Sam Munro, 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, Bryan Hawthorn, Graciela Camargo, Berhane Shiker, Michael Doherty, Erin Colvin, Jorge Mario Gaitán, Josie McKeen, Teresa (sister of Maureen Henderson), Natalia, 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, 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

Hugh Roarty, Alexander Hart, John Smyth, Daniel Philips, Allison Downie, Janet McGeever, Hilary Fernandes.

Those whose anniversaries occur around this time
Marie Stewart, Dennis Charleston, Sheila Mullen, Mary Phillips, Kate Coll, Brian Phillips, Yvonne Finlay, Sister Elizabeth (Betty) Howat, Benny Haynes, Dinah Porteous, Margaret Kerr, James Kelly, Mabel Jane Scott, Juliana Veronica Carrigan, James Scally, Matthias Smith, Catherine Pressland, Sister Hannah Leahy, Connel Joseph McFadden, Patricia Geater, John Berrick, Catherine Gannon Stanton, Ann Mellon, John McCarron, Margaret McDonald, Thomas Phillips, James Devers.

May they rest in peace