

The week ahead 12—19 January 2025



SCAN ME

Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 11 January Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	Weekday of Christmas time Baptism of the Lord	Fr. Nicholas Hodgson (Christmas)
Sunday 12 January	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	Baptism of the Lord	David Mitchell RIP People of the Parishes
Monday 13 January	No Service		St. Kentigern	
Tuesday 14 January	St Columba's	9.30am	1st week of the year	Intentions of Mr & Mrs Mannheims (wedding anniversary)
Weds 15 January	St Peter's	9.30am	1st week of the year	Anne Mulherron RIP
Thursday 16 January	St Columba's	9.30am	1st week of the year	Maximilian Schiavo RIP
Friday 17 January	St Peter's	09.30am	St. Anthony Memorial	Ann Martin RIP
Saturday 18 January Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	1st week of the year 2nd Sunday of the Year	Tracey & Verity (Christmas)
Sunday 19 January	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	2nd Sunday of the Year	Holy Souls Intentions of John Smith and Laura Smith People of the Parishes

Confessions
St Peter's: Saturday 11am (during Adoration) and 4.30pm
St Columba's: Sunday before 6.30pm Mass

Adoration:
 St Peter's: Saturday 11am

Sunday's readings on page 120
First reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11
Psalm: 104 (103).
Psalm Response: Bless the Lord, O my soul! My God, how great you are!
Second reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7
Gospel: Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Scan to make donations
 St Peter's St. Columba's

Fr Jeremy Milne speaks about **'The Holy Year of Hope'** at The Young Adults Group (for those aged 18+) at St Mary's Cathedral House at 63 York Place at 7pm on **Tuesday 14 January**. Session concludes with Night Prayer and refreshments.

The 2025 Diploma in Catechetics begins Thursday 23 January 2025
 The Diploma is offered at a reduced cost and with additional scholarships and bursaries. Register now to embark on an ordered and rich exploration of the Catholic faith, centered in the person Jesus Christ. The thirty-six session course consists of weekly lectures (Thursday nights on Zoom - also recorded for catch-up), guided reading from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and regular 1-to-1 support. It is a crafted to help you deepen, renew, or even initiate your understanding of and participation in the Catholic faith - all from the ease of home.

Register at: bit.ly/diploma2025
The Scottish Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi takes place 5 to 12 September 2025, with four nights in Rome and three in Assisi. To register your interest, please contact Jim McKelvie j.mckelvie@holyyear2025.org.uk or on 07957 847290.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place 11 to 18 July, led by Archbishop Cushley. The theme is 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'. All welcome. If you would like to read more about the theme for 2025 you can download a document from the Lourdes Sanctuary. <https://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes25>
 Travel Package: In 2025, Tangney Tours will be providing the Travel Package. Tangney Tours will make the package available when it is ready and we will signpost you to the package details from this website.

Items for inclusion in the Newsletter to Sharon Kedney at office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk by Wednesday evening please. St Peter's website contact Juliet MacKellaig 447 4210 or julietmackellaig@gmail.com. * You can find our Privacy Notices on the websites * The Newsletter is posted on the parish websites * St Peter's and St Columba's are parishes of the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, a Charity registered in Scotland—number SC008540

St Columba's and St Peter's, Edinburgh
Baptism of the Lord —Year C
 12 - 19 January 2025

Baptism of the Lord

John the Baptist was clearly a prophet. Since the spirit of prophecy had long been absent from Israel, John's appearance raised expectations. The question arose: could he be the Messiah? John denied that he was the Messiah, but declared that the Messiah was at hand. The reading concludes with a brief account of the baptism of Jesus.

Baptism was a defining moment in the life of Jesus. It marked the beginning of his public mission, and was an investiture for that mission. That was the moment when he committed himself irrevocably to the work God had sent him into the world to do.

Luke always presents Jesus as praying before making major decisions. It's no surprise then that we find him praying during his baptism. In response to his prayer, the Holy Spirit descends on him in visible form (as a dove) at the beginning of his mission, just as the Spirit will come in visible form on the apostles at Pentecost at the beginning of their mission. The Father's voice puts the seal of divine approval on Jesus and on the mission he is about to begin.



Flor McCarthy SDB

Canon Kenneth writes ...

News from the Vatican:

Just two weeks after the solemn opening of the 2025 Jubilee year on Christmas Eve, already 545,532 pilgrims from all over the world have passed through the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. Hundreds of groups have already made their pilgrimage, starting from the new Piazza Pia, with the Jubilee cross leading them as they move prayerfully along Via della Conciliazione, to reach the Basilica.

"This is a very significant beginning, with a large turnout of people. The groups crowding along Via della Conciliazione give an important witness – they are a sign of the great sense of safety and protection that pilgrims experience in the city of Rome and in the areas around the four Papal Basilicas" said Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, who is in charge of the organization of the Jubilee.

In this Holy Year, how are you going to be a pilgrim of hope?



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 St Columba's: 9 Upper Gray Street EH9 1SN; www.stcolumbarcedinburgh.org.uk
Deacon: Rev John E Smith: johnesmith@blueyonder.co.uk
Parish Secretaries:
 St Peter's: Sharon Kedney Office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk (10-1 Thursdays)
 St Columba's: Sr Karin: sister@stcolumbarcedinburgh.org.uk
St. Columba's Hall hire:
 James Meehan: Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com

This Week in our Parishes ...

Sunday 12 January	The Baptism of the Lord—Year C Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in each Parish
Monday 13	7.30pm RCIA meeting, St. Peter's Parish room
Tuesday 14	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's 6pm P3 Parents meeting, Reconciliation, St. Peter's Parish room
Saturday 18	10.30am Peter Diamond, Aid to the Church in Need, speaks at St. Columba's Middle hall, tea and coffee from 10am
Sunday 19	Second Sunday of the Year—Year C Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today Special collection for the White Flower, SPUC appeal Teas and coffees after morning Mass in each Parish



Today at **11.30am Mass** we welcome Victoria Groom as she is accepted into the Order of Catechumens, and offer up our prayers for her as she continues her journey of faith to receive the sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, at Easter Vigil 2025.

The Breakfast for Zimbabwe on 29 December 2024 at St. Columba's raised £187.57 to send to Mbare. Thanks to all who supported and for your generosity. Now is the time to renew your subscription for the 100 Club - for St. Peter's Zimbabwe. Subscription of £20 for the year - please speak to Agnes Watson.

A donation of £100 has been received from the St. Peter's coffee team for the SCIAF Advent Appeal to help give all mothers a safe and comfortable environment to give birth to their babies. Thank you to all those who serve tea and coffee and those who support it.

Fr. Peter Krakowiak will celebrate the liturgy on **Saturday morning 18 January**. Canon Kenneth has a family funeral.

There will be a special collection next week at the Vigil (18) and Sunday Masses (19) for the White Flower, SPUC Appeal. The White Flower Appeal is dedicated to protecting unborn children and promoting the right to life in society. Donations allow SPUC to continue their tireless work to build a culture of life. SPUC work to educate youth, lobby politicians, mobilise pro-life activities in the community, provide support to students facing crisis pregnancies and much more. The White Flower Appeal is inspired by the courage of the White Rose Movement during World War II, which opposed the tyranny of the Nazi regime when so many lives were lost. Today, we need similar courage to stand for the vulnerable among us who are also losing their lives. Your support can change that.

Save the date: 10.30am, Saturday 18 January, Peter Diamond of Aid to the Church in Need will speak on current programmes and initiatives - with particular reference to India. In St. Columba's Middle Hall with tea

and coffee from 10am, talk begins at 10.30.

Service of Union of 'Newington Trinity': **7pm Monday 20th January 2025:** (merged Church of Scotland) This replaces the normal 'Christian Unity Service' this year.

Cleaning in St. Columba's: **1-4pm Saturday 24 January**. Please come with your aprons and enjoy good company with tea/coffee and biscuits.

Save the date: 7.30pm Friday 31 January, St Peter's Church, Concert by Candlelight for Mary's Meals. A family friendly and highly entertaining evening. Entry is free of charge but donations are invited towards feeding 100 new Marys Meals children. Please give it your support.

Wednesday 29 January, 7pm is the first meeting of 2025 of our Catholic Teens Group (for P7- S4). Meeting monthly 7pm — 8.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month at St. Columba's Hall to have fun and learn more about our faith. A good number of young parishioners joined our sessions last year—if you are interested in coming along ask your parent/guardian to register your interest by emailing: teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk.

The Newington area 'World Day of Prayer' 2025: **2pm Friday 7 March:** his year be held in St Columba's. **Volunteers are needed** for organisation, please contact Agatha Kai-Kai (07711796916).

Book donations needed for May 2025 Holy Corner book sale, raising funds for Christian Aid. Donations to Morningside Parish Church from **Wednesday 22 January** (for details see poster at back of Church).

Congratulations to St. Peter's SCIAF Christmas Draw winner: India McGill £50 and to SCIAF 200 club December Winners: Lesley McGill £25; Mary Lugton £15

Magi Quiz: How many did you get right?

Answers below:

- How many Wise Men (Magi) visited Joseph, Jesus and Mary in Bethlehem?
C) The Bible does not say
- Which King of Israel wanted to kill the baby who would grow to become the Messiah?
C) Herod
- Who wrote the text of the Epiphany carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are"?
C) John Henry Hopkins Jr.
- The story of the visit of the Wise Men (Magi) appears in the Gospel according to whom?
D) Matthew
- Which of the following is not a kind of Three Kings Cake?
B) Kulitch
- Whose poem "The Journey of the Magi" begins "A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year for a journey, and such a long journey"?
D) T.S. Eliot
- What is the origin and meaning of the word 'epiphany'?
A) From the Greek, meaning "to show forth"
- What are/were the three traditional names assigned to the Wise Men (Magi)?
A) Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar
- "The Adoration of the Magi" commissioned in late 15th Century as an altarpiece for the Augustinian monks of San Donato a Scopeto in Florence. Unfinished and now hangs in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Who painted it?
B) Leonardo da Vinci
- What is myrrh?
D) The dried sap of an African tree used anciently in embalming ointments, burned at funerals.



Reflection

Baptism was not over and done with the day we were taken to the font.
We are baptised by all that happens to us in life.
We are baptised by hardship; in its turbulent waters we are purified of all that is false and useless.
We are baptised by suffering; in its murky waters we grow in humility and compassion.
We are baptised by joy: in its gurgling waters we experience the goodness of life.
We are baptised by love: in its singing waters we blossom like flowers in the sun.
Baptism is like the planting of a seed.
It will take a lifetime for this seed to grow and ripen.



Are you a charity or community group looking for space in Morningside?

The Open Door Edinburgh ground floor former cafe space is available. They are seeking expressions of interest from charities and community groups, especially a charity that would like to run a joint venture charity shop. Email: hello@theopendoor.org.uk or phone 0131 447 9757 to speak to Simon or Lynnette. 420 Morningside Road.

The Open Door aims to reduce loneliness in our South Edinburgh community with a focus on older people, many living with dementia, physical disabilities and other challenges.

Running four weekly Day Service groups for older people - 60+, and their families and carers. For more information: email hello@theopendoor.org.uk or phone 0131 447 9757 and ask for Simon or Lynnette.