

The week ahead 19—25 January 2025



SCAN ME

Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 18 January Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	1st Week 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	Intentions of John Smith and Laura Smith People of the Parishes
Monday 20 January	No Service		2nd Week of the Year	
Tuesday 21 January	St Columba's	9.30am	St Agnes Memorial	Brian Joseph McDonnell RIP
Weds 22 January	St Peter's	9.30am	2nd Week of the Year	Jacqueline Milne RIP
Thursday 23 January	St Columba's	9.30am	2nd Week of the Year	Intentions of Mr & Mrs Gallegos
Friday 24 January	St Peter's	09.30am	St Frances De Sales Memorial	
Saturday 25 January Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	Conversion of St Paul 3rd Sunday of the Year	
Sunday 26 January	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	3rd Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes Elizabeth Flynn, RIP

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: page 127

First reading: Isaiah 62: 1-5
Psalms: 96
Psalms response: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples
Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel: John 2: 1-11

Scan to make donations



St Peter's St. Columba's

The 2025 Diploma in Catechetics begins this coming week: 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, 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
Second Sunday of the Year —Year C
19—26 January 2025

Even though this is the year of Luke, we begin with a reading from John. The second Sunday of ordinary time respects an old liturgical theme of different epiphanies or manifestations of Jesus. At Cana in Galilee Jesus 'let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.'



The story must not be taken absolutely literally. What matters is not so much the story in itself but this symbolical significance the evangelist has given to it. (Biblical scholars argue that the miracle is more theological than historical.) The miracle is described as the first of the 'signs' given by Jesus. We have to see beyond the sign to the thing signified. The water turned into wine symbolises the old order yielding to the new.

What Jesus did at Cana was not a once-off thing. It symbolises something that happened throughout his ministry. The changing of water into wine is a symbol for what he was about. We note the same generosity here that we note in the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes.

John depicts Mary as involved at the beginning of Jesus's ministry, and again at the end of it when she is present at the foot of the cross. Mary is thus associated with the whole of his ministry. But her role must always be seen in relation to that of her Son.

Flor McCarthy SDB

Canon Kenneth writes ...

During the season of Lent this year we are going to look more deeply at the Holy Year theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'. This will be done through the newsletter, the Sunday sermon and four zoom meetings on Thursday evenings. The programme will look like this:

- Introduction to the Holy Year: Pilgrims of Hope
- A word of hope
- A journey of hope
- Signs of hope
- Anchors for hope
- The passion, death and resurrection of Jesus

I look forward to the journey together.

Parish Priest: Canon Kenneth Owens

frkenneth.owens@staned.org.uk 0131 447 2502

St Peter's: 77 Falcon Avenue EH10 4AN; www.stpeterrcchurchedinburgh.org.uk

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 19 January	Second Sunday of the Year—Year C Special collection for the White Flower, SPUC appeal Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in each Parish
Monday 20	7.30pm RCIA meeting, St. Peter's Parish room
Tuesday 21	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's 7pm, Parish Pastoral Council St. Columba's, Parish room
Friday 24	From 6.15pm St Columba's Men's Group Annual Mass, Meal, Hot buffet (Church Hall)
Sunday 26	Third Sunday of the Year—Year C Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today At 09.30 and 11.30 Masses today we celebrate the Rite of the Gospel* 10.30 St. Columba's: Sister Karin's Sacramental Preparation groups for First Holy Communion, First Confession and Confirmation Teas and coffees after morning Mass in each Parish



Special collection today for the White Flower, SPUC Appeal.

This 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.

A cheque for £1500 has been sent to SCIAF, from the Parishioners of St. Peter's for their Advent Appeal to help give mothers a safe and comfortable environment to have their babies.

The St Columba's Second Sunday Coffee Group (Katarina, Steph and Austin) would like to thank Parishioners for their generous support of the Sunday coffee mornings. Katarina, Steph and Austin have **donated, on your behalf, £250 to Maggie's, Edinburgh at the Western General and £250 to Fidora Court Community Kitchen** in Muirhouse. None of this would have been possible without your ongoing generosity.

Jacqueline Mary Milne RIP. The Rogerson Family would like to thank Parishioners for their Mass Cards, Prayers, Flowers and Messages on the very sudden death of Jacqui, niece & cousin. Mass will be said for their intentions.

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

St Columba's Men's Group Annual Mass & Meal. **Friday 24 January.** Rosary at 6.15pm; Mass at 6.30pm followed by a hot buffet in the Church Hall. BYOB. Cost £15 payable on the night. Further details from Frank on 0780 1 271 151.

General cleaning in St. Columba's: **Saturday 25 January 1-4pm.** More volunteers please to make easier work.

Next Sunday 26 January we celebrate the *Rite of the Gospel at the 09.30 and 11.30 Masses for those preparing for Confirmation.

Wednesday 29 January, 7pm—the first meeting of 2025 of our Catholic Teens Group (for P7- S4). Meeting monthly 7-8.30pm (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 last year. If you're interested in coming ask your parent/guardian to register interest emailing: teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk.

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

Conversations in the Spirit Saturday 1 February 11am - 3pm: a synodal event with Fr Matthew Nunes from Liverpool Archdiocese - on how to participate in Parish synodality - will be held at the Gillis Centre in Strathearn Road. Mass at 10am. Bring a packed lunch. Details and registration from bit.ly/inthespirit25.

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

Please check the [St Peter's website pages](#) for your ministry (or hand on to someone who has taken over from you) and please reply with any changes or suggestions before the end of January to Juliet (julietmmackellaig@gmail.com or <https://stpetersrcchurchedinburgh.org.uk>).

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).

At the recent St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Council it was suggested that we donate all the books in the Parish Room to the Christian Aid sale. If you have any favourites please take them this Sunday. It was further suggested that if any families have children friendly books, bibles or prayer books we could have a basket for them at the back of the church which would be available when families needed them.

Getting to know the Gospel of Luke better

Luke presents a historical framework to get to know the truth of the Christian tradition. Luke presents the story of Jesus in terms of redemptive history which took place at a particular time and a particular place. Luke is writing in the knowledge that Judaism has rejected the person of Jesus and his message of salvation. His Gospel is given to the Gentiles.

The third Gospel does not disclose his name, but early Christian testimony from the second century, affirms the author to be Luke, a physician from Antioch in Syria, and a travelling companion of St. Paul. The exact date of composition is not known but was probably around 70 AD.

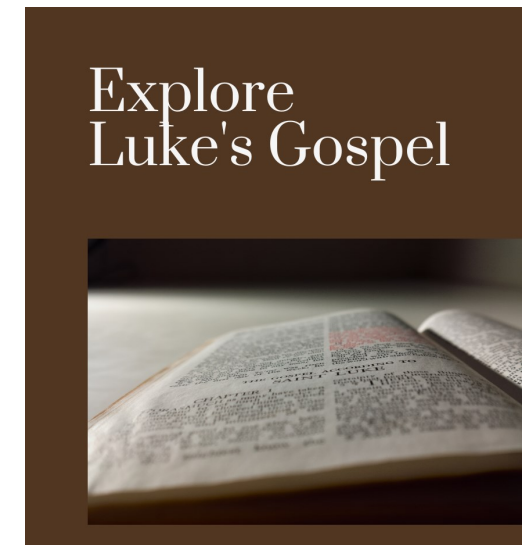
About half of Luke's Gospel has no parallel in Mark or Matthew. These include the infancy narratives, fourteen parables, and some thirty narratives, miracle stories such as the bent women and the ten lepers and sections of the passion and resurrection narratives like the Good Thief, the Emmaus story and the resurrection appearances near Jerusalem.

Theological themes include:

- the central Easter theme
- infancy narrative where the Holy Spirit moves people to proclaim
- the graciousness and kindness of Jesus changes people's attitude and moves them to praise God with joy

- the idea of salvation supplies the key to the theology of Luke
- a particular concern for the outcast, the stranger, the poor, the sick, sinners
- the importance of prayer
- the role of woman, are presented as touched by the word of God
- The Holy Spirit moves people to praise God in a spirit of joy
- renunciation is the Gospel's precondition for joy

(Researched from Denis McBride CSsR, *The Gospel of Luke, a reflection Commentary, Dominican Publications, 2003*)



Prayer/Reflection

The changing of water into wine is a symbol of what Jesus was about. He changed beyond recognition the lives of those who came into contact with him. Lord, touch our hearts with your love, and strengthen our wills with your grace, so that we may persevere in goodness, and in your great mercy, bring us to the wedding feast of the Kingdom of heaven.



Parish notices continued:

Grateful thanks to one of our Parishioners who recently left a bequest to both St. Columba's and St. Peter's for £35,000 each. As the new calendar year begins this may be a time when you review your financial affairs. Please remember both Parishes and thank you for your generosity.

Would you like to know how to hear God's voice more clearly?

God's invitation to relationship is a six week online prayer course to introduce you to ways of praying. It will support you into a deeper prayer life through facilitators' input (trained spiritual directors with the Epiphany Group); guided prayer experience and sharing.

The next course takes place Tuesdays 7pm-8.30/9pm; 25 Feb - 1 April 2025 and is offered free by the Epiphany Group of Spiritual Directors.

For more information visit www.epiphanygroup.org.uk To register email waysofpraying@epiphanygroup.org.uk Flyers at the back of the church. Participants have said: 'I am forever changed due to the course and very excited to grow deeper in my spirituality through prayer'.

Bright and spacious flat to share in a quiet area of Morningside. Large double room with ensuite. Preferably female applicant. Available from Mid February. For more details please contact Jacqueline_heron@yahoo.co.uk