

| The two weeks ahead 20 April - 4 May 2025 | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Date | Church | Time | Feast | Mass intention |
| Saturday 19 April | St Columba's St Peter's | 8pm 8pm | Holy Saturday at the Tomb of Christ Easter Vigil in the Holy Night | |
| Sunday 20 April | St Columba's St Peter's | 9.30am 11.30am | Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord | Ros Macaskill |
| Monday 21 April | No Service | | Monday within Octave of Easter | |
| Tuesday 22 April | No Service | | Tuesday within Octave of Easter | |
| Weds 23 April | No Service | | Wednesday within Octave of Easter | |
| Thursday 24 April | No Service | | Thursday within Octave of Easter | |
| Friday 25 April | No Service | | Friday within Octave of Easter | |
| Saturday 26 April Vigil | St Peter's St Peter's | 12 noon 5.30pm | Saturday within Octave of Easter 2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy | Mary Josephine Anthonippillai RIP |
| Sunday 27 April | St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's | 9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm | 2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy | Dante Lannie |
| Monday 28 April | No Service | | 2nd Week in Eastertide | |
| Tuesday 29 April | St Columba's | 9.30am | St. Catherine of Siena | |
| Weds 30 April | St Peter's | 9.30am | 2nd Week in Eastertide | |
| Thursday 1 May | St Columba's | 9.30am | St Joseph the Worker | |
| Friday 2 May | St Peter's | 9.30am | St Athanasius | |
| Saturday 3 May Vigil | St Peter's St Peter's | 12 noon 5.30pm | St Philip and St James 3rd Sunday of Easter | |
| Sunday 4 May | St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's | 9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm | 3rd Sunday of Easter | |

</

God's invitation to relationship
A FREE 6 week prayer course online introducing you to ways of praying from the [Epiphany Group](#) Supporting you into a deeper prayer life with facilitators' input (trained spiritual directors with the [Epiphany Group](#)); guided prayer experience and sharing.
Participants have said 'I m forever changed due to the course.'
To register email invitation@epiphanygroup.org.uk
Course dates : **Wednesdays 7- 8.30/9pm - 7, 14, 21, 28 May & 4, 11 June**
See the flyers at back of Church.

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 at julietmmackellaig@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

Easter Sunday —Year C


20 April—4 May 2025

Almost every element in this Gospel story is charged with symbolism. The darkness of the 'first day of the week' evokes the darkness of Genesis 1, suggesting that Jesus' is death is the prelude to a new creation.

The burial clothes, and especially their arrangement, are a sign that Mary Magdalen's interpretation of the empty tomb is not the correct one. Jesus has not been 'taken' anywhere. Rather, he's left the things of mortality behind him.

However, only the beloved disciple correctly interprets the sign. He realises what has happened - and he believes. It is not what he has read in Scripture that convinces him that Jesus has risen. (Later, of course, the words of scripture would confirm him in his belief).

Flor McCarthy SDB




Canon Kenneth writes ...

We have reached the summit of the Christian year with the celebration of Easter. We have also welcomed new members into our parish community. Eastertide is that time in the Church's year when we prolong the celebration Sunday by Sunday until Pentecost.

It is the opportunity for us to deepen our faith. The Sunday liturgies take us on a journey of discovery. Inviting us to get to know Jesus better and to develop a deeper relationship with him.

Take that opportunity. Be attentive to the scripture. Notice the joyful hymns we sing in Eastertide. Make Eastertide this year a time of real learning and the chance to know the Lord better.

Christ has risen from the dead, alleluia, alleluia!



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.stcolumbasrcedinburgh.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@stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk
St. Columba's Hall hire:
James Meehan: Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com

This Week in our Parishes ...

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Sunday 20 April | Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord —Year C Teas and coffees after morning Mass in each Parish |
| Monday 21—Friday 25 | No services |
| Monday 21 All welcome. | 7pm, St. Columba's Justice and Peace Group monthly meeting, GP room. |
| Tuesday 22 | No service and therefore no teas and coffees at St. Columba's |
| Sunday 27 | 2nd Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday—Year C Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today Teas and coffees after morning Mass in each Parish 2.50pm Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion, St. Peter's * |
| Monday 28 | 7.30pm, RCIA meeting, St. Peter's Parish room |
| Tuesday 29 | Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's |
| Wednesday 30 | 7- 8.30pm, Catholic Teens Group, St. Columba's Middle room (first floor) |
| Saturday 3 | 1pm, Baptism, Alba Morgan Vadillo, St. Columba's |
| Sunday 4 | 3rd Sunday of Easter—Year C Teas and coffees after morning Mass in each Parish |

* For Pastoral emergencies while Canon Kenneth is away contact Jesuits, Sacred Heart Lauriston on 07935 855 175.

Thanks to all who contributed to the liturgies over Holy Week, it was a great occasion to celebrate the Triduum in both communities. Thanks also to all who did so much preparation and work to celebrate the liturgies worthily. **Welcome to Victoria Groom and Joss McDonald** who were received into full communion at St. Peter's at the Easter Vigil.

Canon Kenneth is away returning Saturday 26 April for 11am Confession/Adoration and 12 noon Mass. There will be no weekday Masses Tuesday 22 – Friday 25 April inclusive. For Pastoral emergencies while Canon Kenneth is away please contact the Jesuits, Sacred Heart Lauriston on 07935 855 175.

Today's newsletter covers two weeks, the next newsletter will be Sunday 4 May.

Forthcoming RCIA meetings:

- No meetings Monday 21 April or 5 May
- Next meetings: Monday 28 April and 12 May, 7.30pm, St Peter's Parish room.

St. Columba's Justice and Peace Group monthly meeting, Easter Monday 21st April at 7pm in the GP room. This is an open meeting and all parishioners are welcome.

***Divine Mercy Sunday, 27 April 2.50pm, St Peter's Church.** Adoration, confessions and prayer. All welcome.

Wednesday 30 April, 7pm. Next week is the fourth meeting this year of our **Catholic Teens Group** (for P7-S4). Meeting monthly (7 - 8.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month) at St. Columba's Hall to have fun and learn

more about our faith. If you're interested in coming ask your parent/guardian to register interest emailing: teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk.

Parish Pilgrimage dates for your diary, in celebration of the Jubilee year of Hope:

- **Saturday 17 May 10am - 3pm: St. Columba's Parish Pilgrimage to Nunraw Abbey**, outside Haddington. We'll leave St. Columba's at 10am arriving for Mass at 11am. Please bring a picnic lunch. We'll leave the Abbey at 3pm. All welcome. More details to follow. Please note there will be no exposition, Confession or 12 noon Mass at St. Peter's on Saturday 17 May.
- **Saturday 21 June. St. Peter's visit to St. Mary's Cathedral.** Starting with 12 noon Mass at St. Peter's, then meeting at St. Mary's Cathedral at 1.30pm for a service, followed by teas and coffees in the Saints café at St. Mary's Cathedral.

SCIAF. New members urgently needed for the St. Peter's '200 Club' - as we no longer have 200. Annual cost is just £12 with a monthly draw for prizes of £25 and £15 and an annual prize of £50. Reminders for existing members are being distributed now. Contact Anne-Marie Douglas 445 4337 email amdhillaire@aol.com

Books! Books! Books! All the out-of-date Mass books at the back of St. Peter's are going for recycling. If anyone would like a complete set of them please speak to John Wastle at the back of church. We're also disposing of the books on the shelves in St. Peter's Parish Room – novels etc. Please have a browse and take any you would like.



A number of years ago I wrote a series of fifteen reflections for Eastertide called Stations of Resurrection.

In this Octave of Easter I share two:



Resurrection

The Morning Star that never fades.
Bring light in our shattered world.
Touch us with the power of your
Resurrection and new life.
Renew us in your love, that we in our
turn, may becoming loving.
Enable us to be refreshed by the power
of your grace and nourished by your word.
Help us to reach out into the world today.
So that those who feel alone and isolated
May be touched by your saving love that
finds concrete expression by our actions.

**Risen Lord, be a source of inspiration and
new hope, alleluia**

Mary of Magdala meets the Risen Lord

Mary represents all believers.
She is seeking the Lord but she
does not know where to find him.
She has been converted by Jesus
and wants to experience newness of
life in his kingdom.
She is graced with recognizing his
voice and being invited not to
cling to him but to let the work of
the Father be done.

Like Mary, help me:

To seek the Lord in my daily life so that I may be
more docile to God's grace and more open to God's
plan for me.

Give me a humble spirit so that I may be open to
conversation in my life and may experience the
fruits of living according to the gospel.

Enable me Lord to recognize God's voice when you
speak to me in those quiet moments of life.

May I be docile to your will and open to your spirit.



Reflection

It is impossible to exaggerate the value of hope.
Hope is to the Spirit what bread is to the body.
Our disappointments may be many, our joys may be small, but our hope is great.
The resurrection of Jesus is the basis of our hope.
Go to power and love, through the resurrection of your son
You have kindled in our hearts the hope of eternal life.
God this hope with your grace, and bring it to fulfilment in the Kingdom of Heaven.



Parish news continued....

Pro-Life Rosary: Saturday 26 April. This prayerful event marks the anniversary of the implementation of the Abortion Act in April, 1968. Sacred Heart Church, 26 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ. Register at <https://bit.ly/proliferosary25>

Assisted Suicide: the proposed Bills at Westminster and Holyrood pose a grave threat to the dignity of life, especially for elderly, disabled, and vulnerable. Please raise your voice to preserve proper care at the end of life. Contact your MP and MSPs asking them to oppose this legislation. It takes a few minutes at: <https://writetothem.com>