

24 - 31 May 2026



Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 23 May Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	7th week in Ordinary Time Pentecost Sunday	Mateus B Fiamenghi 30th birthday People of the Parishes
Sunday 24 May	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	Pentecost Sunday	KO: Dennis Dimney RIP
Monday 25 May	St Peter's	9.30am	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	Iain Lowe RIP
Tuesday 26 May	St Columba's	9.30am	St. Philip Neri	Intention of May Rogan 96th birthday
Wednesday 27 May	St Peter's	6pm*	8th week in Ordinary Time	Anthony & Joyce Stephens RIP
Thursday 28 May	St Columba's	9.30am	8th week in Ordinary Time	Special intention James Coxon
Friday 29 May	St Peter's	9.30am	8th week in Ordinary Time	Basil Stephens RIP
Saturday 30 May Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	8th week in Ordinary Time The Most Holy Trinity	Giuseppe Picciotto RIP
Sunday 31 May	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	The Most Holy Trinity	Joe Reilly RIP People of the Parishes

Confessions:
St Peter's: Saturday 11-11.45am (during Adoration) and 4.30-5.15pm.
St Columba's: Sunday 6-6.15pm
Adoration: St Peter's: Saturday 11am

Sunday 24 May readings: p288
 First reading: Acts 2: 1-11
 Psalm: 104 (103): 1ab, 24ac, 29b-30, 31, 34 R cf 30
 Response: Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth
 Second reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13
 Gospel: John 20: 19-23

Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living (GPRL).
 The course aims to help participants develop and deepen their experience of prayer and live more reflectively.

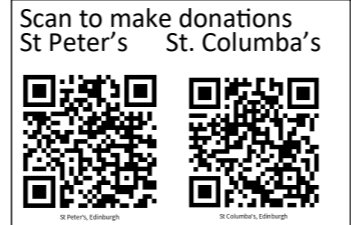


For more information visit <https://www.epiphanygroup.org.uk/training-courses/growth-in-prayer/> to download an application form. Apply early as places are limited. For more information: gprl@epiphanygroup.org.uk.

The Seven Hills of Edinburgh Pilgrimage, the route approx. 26km, taking in Castle Hill, Corstorphine Hill, Craiglockhart Hill, Braid Hill, Blackford Hill, Arthur's Seat and Calton Hill. Starts at St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral, Broughton Street, **9am, Saturday 13 June** with a dedicated reflection at each peak from Monsignor Jeremy Milne. Register [here](#).

Facilitated by the Epiphany Group, runs online on **Tuesday evenings 7-9pm from 3 November 2026 to 16 March 2027** with the addition of 3 in-person days in Edinburgh on Saturday 21 November 2026, Saturday 30 January 2027 and Saturday 6 March 2027.

Cost is £450; we're keen no one is excluded for financial reasons so if this is a consideration for you, please enquire about financial help.



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 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
Pentecost Sunday —Year A
 24 - 31 May 2026

John has the giving of the Spirit happening on Easter Day. However, we must avoid any impression of a two-fold initial solemn bestowal of the Spirit. Luke and John are saying the same thing: the risen Lord gives the gift of the Spirit, and inaugurates the mission of the Church. That they differ in their dating is due to theological concerns.

In our passage the risen Christ appears to his apostles, show them his wounds (these serve to identify him as the same one who died), and bestows peace on them. Then he entrusts his mission to them. The mission is the exact same mission he received from the Father: the reconciliation of the people with the Father (through the forgiveness of sins). To carry out their mission he gives them the gift of the Spirit and the power to forgive sin.

Flor McCarthy SDB



Canon Kenneth writes ...

As Pentecost approaches let's take the opportunity to remember what the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5: 22) is:

Love is the gift offered by God to all who accept it. It is the invitation to a life that is full and purposeful.

Joy is the shooshing of the waves. The excited cry of children. The joy of the fisherman landing his net. The delight of the dog in the play of the sea.

Peace is a fruit of the Spirit that our world needs desperately at this time as people and nations find it hard to live at peace with each other.

Patience, as Spring waits for Summer, so the unfolding of nature is a perfect example of the patience of the season, each having their own influence on what is created or grown.

Kindness. The beauty of kindness is birthed in the simple fabrics of life. The gift of kindness enlarges and enhances the life that is truly human.

Goodness. God is light. In God there is no darkness. May the Saviour of the world bring us out of chaos and the darkness of the night into the Morning Star.

Trustfulness. Truth teller, seeker of justice and integrity, be born again in me and in our world today.

Gentleness. O gentle God come in the quiet of the breeze! O gentle Master return to the vineyard! O gentle Saviour pour out your redeeming love!

Self control is the fruit of an integrated life. To live out the gift of self-control is to blossom in the spiritual life.

Canon Kenneth, Pismo Beach, California, March 2015

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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 24 May	Pentecost Sunday —Year A Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today 10.30 St. Columba's: Sister Karin's Sacramental Preparation group: Rehearsal for First Holy Communion Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in both Parishes
Tuesday 26	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's
Wednesday 27	Mass at St. Peter's has moved back to 6pm 7 - 8.30pm Catholic Teens Group, St. Columba's hall
Thursday 28	7pm, 'Eat and share', St. Peter's Parish room, Our Lady', speaker Fr. Ray Warren OMI
Friday 29	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Peter's
Sunday 31	The Most Holy Trinity —Year A Children's Liturgy at St. Peter's today (NOT at St. Columba's) Celebration of the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, during 09.30 Mass St. Columba's Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in both Parishes



Last weekend's sale of home baking, homemade preserves at St. Peter's raised **£410**. Thank you for your generosity - all proceeds to St. Peter's **SCIAF project**.

The St. Columba's Justice and Peace Breakfast last Sunday raised **£224.13** for **Mbare**. Thank you all for your generosity and for helping to support our sister parish in Zimbabwe.

£4000 has been donated by parishioners of St. Peter's to the **SCIAF Lenten Appeal "Water for Life"**. Sincere thanks to all who contributed in any way and those who fund-raised. We're grateful to **St. Peter's school** who donated £433.91 they had raised - a welcome boost to our efforts.

Congratulations to Fr. Daniel who passed his driving theory test this week.

Mass at St. Peter's on Wednesdays has moved to **6pm**.

Wednesday, 27 May, 7pm is the next monthly meeting 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. Ask your parent/guardian to register interest at teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk.

'**Eat and share**', St. Peter's Parish room, **Thursday 28 May, 7pm**, our topic is 'Our Lady'; we welcome as our speaker: Fr. Ray Warren OMI (Oblate of Mary Immaculate), Parish Priest of Our Lady Star of the Sea. Bring a plate to share!

St. Peter's Finance Committee. Many parishioners will recall that when the new St. Peter's Primary School was opened in 2006 two buildings were returned to the parish and sold. The income from that was invested in the diocese and the parish received interest from that capital. At the May meeting of St. Peter's Finance Committee it was decided to donate £200, 000 from that sale to the Aged and Infirm Clergy fund to assist priests in their retirement. Canonically that fulfils the required parish consultation but in the interest of openness and transparency we are sharing this with the wider parish. We have sufficient resource to complete the church renovation and bring the Caretaker's Flat up to letting standard. Should you wish any further information please speak to the Finance Committee: Canon Kenneth, Chris McGill (Chair), Anne-Marie Douglas, Catherine Gray, Cahal Dowds and George Dunwoodie.

St. Peter's sanctuary renovation. We reached another significant landmark last week with the arrival of the Blessed Sacrament Pedestal and the gradines around it. The green marble on the walls has also been cleaned. Items outstanding on the sanctuary:

- the black railings, modelled on the balcony in the music area, for the right and left hand side of the sanctuary
- 2 gold pillars for the ambo
- 2 small and 2 large pillars for the Blessed Sacrament Pedestal and gradines
- K-grip for the steps to define them
- the altar centre piece of grapes and wheat
- the repository for the relics in the altar

SCIAF 200 Club. We are still short of 200 so if you are not a member please do consider joining. Just £12 a year and you could be a monthly draw winner of £25 & £15. Forms are at the back of Church or speak to Anne-Marie Douglas. Still time for those who have not yet renewed to do so.

We welcome Fr. Damian Kikta SAC, a newly ordained Pallottine priest (here the summer of 2024 to learn English). Fr. Damian arrives from Poland joining us **Thursday 28 May—Tuesday 2 June**. He'll celebrate Mass in St. Peter's on Saturday 30 May and Sunday 31 May and in St. Columba's on Tuesday 2 June.

SSVP Caravan, Seton Sands. St. Peter's Conference has been allocated the Society's caravan for the week from **Saturday 5 September**. The caravan sleeps up to six. If you know of a parishioner/family who'd benefit from a holiday at the caravan, please speak to a Conference members.

Dates for the diary:

- **Saturday 13 June, 2-4pm**, St. Columba's feast day social. Bring a starter, a main or a dessert.
- **Thursday 18 June, 7pm**, Caritas Justice and Peace Mass, St. Peter's Livingston.
- **Saturday 20 June at the 5.30pm Vigil Mass:** Dedication of the new Altar at St. Peter's by Archbishop Leo Cushley (approx 1.5 hours). Followed by Prosecco and cake in St. Peter's courtyard and Parish room.

Save the date: St. Columba's Parish. There will be a pastoral visit by **Archbishop Leo Cushley** on **Sunday 11 October at 09.30am**. He will celebrate Mass and join the community for coffee in the hall afterwards.

Parish news continued overleaf...

From Fear to Fire: How the Holy Spirit Makes You a Disciple Today—Fr. Daniel

Pentecost reminds us that God does not wait for us to be perfect before He uses us. He fills ordinary people with extraordinary grace through the Holy Spirit.

As young people, many of us believe in God, attend Mass, and want to do what is right. Yet living our faith openly can sometimes feel difficult. Fear, doubt, distractions, or busyness often hold us back. We may love God, but still struggle to live consistently as His disciples.

The early disciples experienced the same struggle.

Before Pentecost, they were afraid. Even after witnessing Jesus' miracles and resurrection, they hid behind closed doors. Peter denied Jesus. Others scattered in fear. They were uncertain, weak, and confused.

But then Pentecost happened.

When the Holy Spirit came upon them, everything changed. Fearful followers became bold witnesses. The same disciples who once hid now preached publicly, spoke with courage, and gave their lives for Christ.

What changed them?

They received the Holy Spirit.
That same Spirit is still at work in us today.
How Can We Live as Disciples Today?

1. Stay Connected – Pray

Prayer keeps us connected to God. It does not need to be long or complicated. Even five quiet minutes a day can make a difference.

A simple prayer like:

"Lord, help me today." can open our hearts to God's presence.

2. Be Led – Listen

The Holy Spirit often speaks through quiet promptings:

- Forgive someone
- Encourage a friend
- Be patient
- Choose kindness
- Discipleship is often lived in these small daily decisions

3. Step Out – Witness

Witnessing is not always preaching publicly. Often it is simply:

- Living with integrity
- Offering to pray for someone
- Inviting someone to Mass
- Showing kindness when it is difficult
- Faith becomes visible in ordinary life.

A Simple Reflection

Ask yourself:

- What is holding me back from living my faith fully?
- Fear? Doubt? Inconsistency? Busyness?
- Where do I need the Holy Spirit most today - courage, clarity, strength, or peace?

The Pentecost Invitation

Pentecost is not only something that happened 2,000 years ago—it is an invitation for us today.

This week, pray one simple prayer daily:

"Come, Holy Spirit."

Pray it in the morning.

Pray it before difficult moments.

Pray it when you feel unsure.

The same Holy Spirit who transformed fearful apostles into courageous disciples can transform us too—from fear to fire.

Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with Your presence. Give us courage where we are afraid, clarity where we are confused, and strength to live as Your disciples each day. Amen.



... Parish news continued

St. Peter's Primary School annual summer fair

Saturday 13 June, 11am- 2pm. Open to the community, free to attend. We'd love to see you there.

- Toys, games, school clothing, unwanted gifts can be **donated for tombola by Fri 12 June** to St. Peter's school office. Home baking gratefully received on the day.
- The **annual auction**, raises vital funds for the school to support its Equity Fund and provide essential

equipment for sports, IT and literacy. Last year we purchased 10 bikes to teach children road safety and 10 violins to support the school orchestra.

- We're seeking donations for our auction from local residents and businesses: products, services, vouchers or experiences are all welcome. Names donors will be published in our school newsletter (read by 350 local families) and publicly acknowledged on the day. Please email: ptastpetersprimary@gmail.com if you can donate.

Reflection

St. Paul warns us of self-indulgence.

Self-indulgence leads to fighting, jealousy, cruelty, meanness and revenge.

Things such as these make life miserable.

Paul urges us to allow ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

If we do then our lives will be characterised by love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

These are beautiful things and make life joyful. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

