

17 - 24 May 2026



SCAN ME

Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 16 May Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	6th week in Eastertide 7th Sunday of Easter	Catherine Noble
Sunday 17 May	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	7th Sunday of Easter	KO: Edemonte Ferry RIP DM: Archie Cairns RIP People of the Parishes
Monday 18 May	St Peter's	9.30am	7th week in Eastertide	Marie Perchard RIP
Tuesday 19 May	<b>St Peter's*</b>	9.30am	7th week in Eastertide	Special intention Mackellaig
Wednesday 20 May	St Peter's	<b>6pm*</b>	7th week in Eastertide	KO: Heather Bremner RIP
Thursday 21 May	<b>St Peter's*</b>	9.30am	7th week in Eastertide	
Friday 22 May	St Peter's	9.30am	7th week in Eastertide	Duncan MacPherson RIP
Saturday 23 May Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	7th week in Eastertide Pentecost Sunday	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

**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 17 May readings: p275**

First reading: Acts 1: 12-14

Psalm: 27(26): 1, 4, 7-8a R13

Response: I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living

Second reading: 1 Peter 4: 13-16

Gospel: John 17: 1-11a

**Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living (GPRL).**

The course aims to help participants develop and deepen their experience of prayer and live more reflectively. An opportunity to explore faith, discover meaning and come to a deeper, closer relationship with God. Provides space to examine hopes and desires; to move towards the fullness of life we long for in ourselves, in those around us and in the global community.

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.

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](mailto:gprl@epiphanygroup.org.uk).



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



Items for inclusion in the Newsletter to Sharon Kedney at [office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk](mailto:office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk) by Wednesday evening please. St Peter's website contact Juliet MacKellaig at [julietmackellaig@gmail.com](mailto: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  
Seventh Sunday of Easter —Year A  
17 - 24 May 2026**



This solemn prayer is part of the farewell discourse of Jesus at the Last Supper. In the first part (vv.1-5) Jesus talks about the 'hour', that is, the hour of his death and resurrection. During his life on earth Jesus' whole concern had been to make the Father known. Now it is the Father's turn to glorify him.

The second part (vv. 6-19) is the opening part of Jesus' prayer for his disciples. He prays for those whom he leaves behind to carry on his work. He had made the Father known to them. Now he commits them to the Father's care and prays that they may know among themselves the warm communion of Father and Son.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

**Canon Kenneth writes ...**

**An extract from The Herald newspaper, Wednesday 13 May 2026 - an interview of John Swinney by Brian Taylor**

On Sunday following a gruelling election campaign, Mr Swinney and his wife visited St. Peter's Church in the Morningside district of Edinburgh. It is the Church where the couple married in 2003 and they regularly attend when in the city.

At mass that Sunday morning, the local priest opened the service by welcoming him personally as first minister.

Emotional, Mr Swinney reflected:

"And this is utterly precious to me, and assured me that I would always be in the prayers of the people of St. Peter's.

"It was one of these moments for me, an absolute landmark moment of the election, where after all is said and done, in the peacefulness of St. Peter's in Morningside, I got the assurance that there are people out there who are quietly, patiently praying for my wellbeing and for the success of what I do on behalf of Scotland. That is incredibly precious to me."

**Parish Priest:** Canon Kenneth Owens

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**Assistant Priest:** Father Daniel Magaji

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St Peter's: 77 Falcon Avenue EH10 4AN; [www.stpeterccchurchedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stpeterccchurchedinburgh.org.uk)

St Columba's: 9 Upper Gray Street EH9 1SN; [www.stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk)

**Deacon:** Rev John E Smith: [johnesmith@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:johnesmith@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Parish Secretaries:**

St Peter's: Sharon Kedney [Office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk](mailto:Office.stpeteredinburgh@staned.org.uk) (10-1 Thursdays)

St Columba's: Sr Karin: [sister@stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk](mailto:sister@stcolumbasrcedinburgh.org.uk)

**St. Columba's Hall hire:**

James Meehan: [Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com](mailto:Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com)

**This Week in our Parishes ...**



Sunday 17	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter —Year A</b> Children's Liturgy at St. Peter's (NOT at St. Columba's) Teas and coffees after the morning Masses; and this week after 09.30 Mass at St. Columba's is the Justice & Peace Breakfast for Mbare (fresh cooked breakfast rolls with your tea or coffee). Sale of Preserves for SCIAF at St. Peter's after 11.30 Mass
Monday 18	7pm, St. Columba's Justice and Peace monthly meeting, Parish room 7.30pm, RCIA meeting, St. Peter's Parish room ( <u>final meeting</u> )
Tuesday 19	09.30 Mass today is at <b>St. Peter's</b> (whilst work takes place in St. Columba's) 7pm, St. Columba's Parish Pastoral Council, Parish room
Wednesday 20	Mass at St. Peter's has moved to 6pm
Thursday 21	09.30 Mass today is at <b>St. Peter's</b> (whilst work takes place in St. Columba's) 7pm, St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Council, Parish room
Friday 22	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Peter's
Sunday 24	<b>Pentecost Sunday —Year A</b> Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today 10.30 St. Columba's: Sr. Karin's Sacramental Preparation group: Rehearsal First Holy Communion Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in both Parishes

**Thanks to all** who helped the St. Columba's Justice and Peace lunch go so well. Your generosity means we raised **£701.59** to provide food vouchers for local schools.

**Justice and Peace Breakfast for Mbare. TODAY, Sunday 17 May after 9.30 Mass** at St. Columba's. Come and help support our sister parish in Zimbabwe - by eating a delicious, fresh cooked breakfast rolls with your tea or coffee. Eat well and help out!

**Sale of Preserves for SCIAF.** Before and after Mass at St. Peter's this **Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May** there will be a sale of home-made jams, marmalade, chutney - and featuring wild garlic pesto. All proceeds to the Parish SCIAF Project.

**St. Columba's Justice and Peace monthly meeting. Monday 18 May, 7pm,** Parish room. This is an open meeting, everyone is welcome - especially prospective new members!

**St. Columba's Church will be closed this week** to allow the painters to work on the sanctuary and the arch. **Mass on Tuesday and Thursday will be in St. Peter's at 9.30am.** The church will be **open as usual at the weekend.** The following week the sacristy, the parish room and the corridor to the toilet will be painted but weekday Mass will be as usual.

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

Join young adults from across the Archdiocese to **celebrate Pentecost at St. Andrew's Church, 77 Belford Road, EH4 3DP, Saturday 23 May, 4pm start.** There'll be a **talk from Fr. Daniel Magaji,** Eucharistic Adoration & opportunity for Confession, Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley and a barbecue. Organised by the Archdiocese along with the young adult ministries at Edinburgh Jesuit Church, St. Mary's Cathedral and St. Albert's Chaplaincy. Register [here](#) or at [bit.ly/pentecost26](http://bit.ly/pentecost26)

**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](mailto:teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk).

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

**SSVP Caravan at Seton Sands.** St. Peter's Conference has been allocated the Society's caravan for the week commencing **Saturday 5 September.** The caravan can sleep up to six people. If you know of any parishioner or family who would benefit from a holiday at the caravan, please speak to one of the members of the Conference.

**The Seven Hills of Edinburgh Pilgrimage** - route is approximately 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](#).

Dates for the diary:

- **Saturday 13 June, 2-4pm,** St. Columba's feast day social. Main hall
- Caritas Justice and Peace Mass at St Peter's Livingston, **Thursday 18 June, 7pm**
- **Saturday 20 June at the 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.

*Parish news continued overleaf...*

**The Message of Fatima**

The public message of Fatima recalls that of Lourdes. Through the children Mary urges prayer for sinners, recitation of the Rosary, and works of penance. On October 13 she said: *"I have come to exhort the faithful to change their lives, to avoid grieving Our Lord by sin; to pray the Rosary. I desire in this place a chapel in my honor. If people mend their ways, the war will soon be over."*

But Mary also confided several "secrets" to the children, some of which Lucy subsequently transmitted. Presumably there was prediction of another war in the near future and a request for special veneration of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The final secret Lucy is thought to have entrusted to Pope John XXIII.

As at Lourdes, the "apparitions" of Fatima have brought crowds of visitors. Pilgrimages, which began in the summer of 1917, have experienced growing success, not

only among the Portuguese themselves but also among people from other countries, including the United States. The national pilgrimage following ecclesiastical recognition of the apparitions (May 13, 1931) is said to have drawn more than a million participants.

Popes have shown exceptional favor toward Fatima, Pius XII, Paul VI, and John Paul II in particular making a visit to the shrine. The papal interest and the basilica built at the site of the apparitions has helped to swell the summer pilgrimages to Fatima. Crowds comparable to, and sometimes larger than, those at Lourdes are not uncommon.

In a rustic setting, pilgrims hear the message repeated that Mary spoke to the children: prayer, works of penance, recourse to her Immaculate Heart.

**Excerpted from Dictionary of Mary, Catholic Book Publishing Company**



**Reflection**

Our spirit is our greatest source of energy, However, while it can be very strong, it can also be very brittle, What is it that enables the spirit to soar, and what is it that causes it to sink? Sadness weighs it down; joy lifts it up. Criticism erodes it; praise builds it up, Failure shrinks it; success enlarges it, Despair causes it to wilt; hope breathes new life into it. Rejection wounds it; acceptance heals it. Hatred poisons it; love purifies it. Fear cripples it; solitude calms it; prayer strengthens it.



**Parish news continued...**

**St. Peter's Primary School annual summer fair Saturday 13 June, 11am- 2pm.**

Open to the whole community, free to attend. Bringing together families, friends and local residents. We'd love to see you there.

- Toys, games, school clothing or unwanted gifts can be **donated for the tombola by Friday 12 June** to the St. Peter's school office. Home baking also gratefully received on the day.
- One of the biggest fundraisers on the day is the **annual auction.** Raising 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 of all donors will be published in our school newsletter (read by 350 local

families) and also publicly acknowledged on the day. Please email: [ptastpetersprimary@gmail.com](mailto:ptastpetersprimary@gmail.com) if you can donate. Thank you so much!

**Care Conversation Series:** Talking about care can be an emotive topic and **it helps to be well prepared for the care conversation.** A partnership between Southside Faith Care, Home Instead and Morningside United Church are hosting a series of relaxed and informative care conversations **at Morningside United Church, 15 Chamberlain Rd, EH10 4DH.**

- Power of Attorney: **Thurs 21 May 2.30-4pm**
- Bereavement Support with William Purves Funeral Directors: **Thurs 18 June 2.30-4pm**

Whatever your interest in care **join us** for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. Listen, share your experiences and ask questions. Just come along on the day or **contact us** for further details at **Home Instead 0131 300 0599** or **Southside Faith Care 07478 543510.** For other events **organised by Southside Faith Care** please see poster at the back of Church.