

**18 February 2024**  
**First Sunday in Lent.**  
**Year B**

Holy Mass  
9.00am, 11.00am & 4.30pm  
Stations of the Cross 10.30am  
Vespers & Benediction 5.30pm

Readings begin **page 152**

**1st Reading:**

Genesis 9: 8 - 15

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Psalm 24: 4 – 9

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness  
and love for those who keep your  
covenant.

**2nd Reading:**

1 Peter 3: 18 -22

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Matthew 4: 4

Praise to you, O Christ,  
king of eternal glory!

Man does not live on bread alone, but  
on every word that comes from the  
mouth of God.

Praise to you, O Christ,  
king of eternal glory!

**Gospel:**

Mark 1: 12 - 15

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Church open 8.00am - 7.00pm daily  
Monday - Saturday

**Monday 19 February**

Holy Mass 5.45pm  
with Devotions to St Philip Neri.

**Men's prayer group** meets in the  
parish house after Mass 6.30pm.

**Tuesday 20 February**

Holy Mass 12.30pm  
with prayers to Venerable Margaret  
Sinclair for her cause

**Wednesday 21 February**

*St Peter Damian*

Exposition 11.30am : 12.15pm  
Confessions 11.40am : 12.10pm  
Holy Mass 12.30pm with Litany  
to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**Thursday 22 February**

*The Chair of St Peter*

Holy Mass 12.30pm

**Friday 23 February**

*St Polycarp* Holy Mass 12.30pm  
Veneration Relic of True Cross after  
Stations of the Cross 6.30pm

**Saturday 24 February**

Lenten Talk 10.45am  
Exposition 11.30am : 12.15pm  
Confessions 11.40am : 12.10pm  
Holy Mass 12.30pm

**St Patrick's RC Church Edinburgh**  
National Shrine of Venerable Margaret Sinclair

**Served by**

Fr Gerard Hatton, Administrator  
Fr Ninian Doohan, Assistant Priest

**Contact:** 0131 556 1973  
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Dear Friends,

On this first Sunday of Lent, the spiritual reflection, self-discipline, and renewal is slowly taking shape and it is also a struggle. Lent invites us to embrace fasting, prayer, and almsgiving to deepen our relationship with God and grow in our faith.

I was reminded recently of St Teresa of Calcutta who embodied the virtues of fasting and self-sacrifice. She would be tormented by the devil for the rich foods and comfortable beds of her former life as a teacher at Loreto Convent School in Entally Kolkata.

The act of fasting demands that we confront our own weaknesses and take away our earthly comforts. The emptying of ourselves, and the denial of the things we really like to eat, gives us the chance to fill that space with the things of God. In fact, He fills it.



In our world, where abundance and instant gratification abounds, the practice of fasting presents a challenge. This gives us a chance to reevaluate our relationship with our material possessions, to let humility grow inside us, and to open ourselves to the needs of others. It is an opportunity for introspection, and a means of drawing closer to God.

As we navigate the challenges of fasting during this Lenten season, may we find inspiration in the life of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, embracing the call to selflessly love and care for those who are most in need, and in doing so, discovering the profound blessings that fasting can bring to our lives.

In Jesus and Mary  
Fr Gerard

At Christmas, we were blessed with the **presence of two seminarians** from Uruguay who are studying in Pamplona in Spain. I would very much like for them to assist during Holy Week here in our parish. It would be a wonderful gesture if we could cover the cost of their travels to Edinburgh. If you are able to do so, please leave a donation in an envelope marked *Seminarians for Holy Week* in order to help make this happen.

**A notice to university students**, if you have not yet been confirmed or would like more catechesis, please let Fr Gerard / Fr Ninian know.

**Confessions** take place before, during and after Holy Mass whenever there is a priest available.

The **Patronal Feast of St Patrick** is transferred to 12.30pm Mass on Saturday 16th March. After Mass, celebrations will move on to Lauriston Hall, at Sacred Heart Church where we will have a light lunch and entertainment from 2.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community with old friends catching up and new friendships being made! Sign-up sheets are now available at the shop. The list will close on Saturday 9 March. Tickets £5.00 each with free entry into the prize draw available from the shop from next weekend.

## Finance: Collections

11 February

GA: £ 204.50

NGA £ 453.70

Details of donations received via the bank during December 2023 and January 2024 will be included in next week's newsletter.

Sincere apologies for the delay in sharing this information.



Donate online by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for your support.

### Making a donation:

You may wish to consider taking out a standing order for your weekly / monthly contribution, in this case, the parish account details are:

St Patricks Church  
Bank of Scotland  
Sort code: 80-02-29  
Account No: 00687306

### Legacies:

A gift in your will can support your parish, assist retired priests after a lifetime of service, help train our seminarians, or help the Church prosper in many other ways. train our seminarians, or help the Church prosper in many other ways. For more information visit <https://archedinburgh.org/legacies>

Please pray for **the people of Bethlehem** and the **Holy Land**.

**SCIAF Lenten Wee Box** packs can be collected from the shop.

The Edinburgh Jesuit Centre is offering a retreat in daily life for Lent, '**Pathways Through the Desert**', in partnership with St Paul and St George Episcopal Church, York Place. It begins today, 18 February and runs for five weeks, finishing on Sunday 24 March. Participants are asked to set aside some time each day for prayer (usually 20 to 30 minutes) and to meet once a week with their individual prayer guide. For more information, email [ejcretreats@jesuit.org.uk](mailto:ejcretreats@jesuit.org.uk)

Join people across the Archdiocese each Monday throughout Lent for our annual **Stations of the Cross**. It takes place on Zoom at 7:45pm, beginning on 19 February, and lasts around 30 minutes. We will be praying for unborn children, their mothers, and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/lentstations](http://bit.ly/lentstations)

Join Canon Hugh White each week in Lent as he reflects on the '**Challenge of the Gospel**', in weekly videos posted each Monday on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel: [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](http://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

**Retreat for young adults:** The **ARISE** retreat on Saturday 24 February is for 16-35 year-olds across Scotland to gather for a day of faith, fun and friendship at St Albert's Chaplaincy, Edinburgh. The day includes Mass, Adoration, talks, small group discussion, opportunities for Confession and more. Tickets £15 which includes lunch & dinner. Register at <https://www.youth2000.org/events/Edinburgh>

Join other young Catholic women to chat and **explore God's will** in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the next meeting takes place on Sunday 25 February, 4-7pm at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street. To register / for more information email [religiousvocations@staned.org.uk](mailto:religiousvocations@staned.org.uk)

**A Remembering Service** for those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. Sunday 3 March, 5:00pm at St John the Baptist RC Church, Edinburgh.

If you are involved with RCIA, children's liturgy, sacramental preparation, or any other catechist role: **Day for Catechists** at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 9 March from 10:30am-3:00pm. While the day is aimed at Catechists, all are welcome. Visit <https://bit.ly/dayforcatechists>

**Pro - Life White Flower Appeal** takes place in a fortnight, 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**The Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** will take place from 5-12 July 2024. Details at <https://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes24>

If you have started coming to Sunday Mass regularly at St Patrick's, please complete and return a **Parish Registration Form** (at the shop).

If you are a visitor from another part of the United Kingdom and pay income tax, please consider using the **blue Gift Aid collection envelopes** to be found in the foyer. These envelopes should only be used by the very occasional visitor.

Should you come regularly to St Patrick's and pay income tax you may make your donation/contribution via

- Gift Aid envelopes** (new envelopes available from April 2024) or
- Standing Order** through your bank (parish bank details can be found in the newsletter)

Those involved in the Ministry of **Liturgical Readers**, and anyone interested in becoming a reader are invited to a meeting in the Memorial Room at 2.00pm on Saturday 9 March.

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