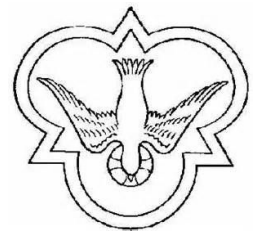




# St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

*Home of the Edinburgh Oratory Project  
and the Shrine of the Ven. Margaret Sinclair*



Served by Father Gerard Hatton (Parish Administrator) and Father Ninian Doohan (Assistant Priest)

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23RD MARCH 2025 | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

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**MASS TIMES** Sunday: 9am | 11am | 4.30pm with Vespers & Benediction at approx. 5.30pm  
Monday: 5.45pm  
Tuesday - Saturday: 12.30pm

**ADORATION** Friday & Saturday: 11.30am, ending with Benediction at before Mass

**CONFESSION** Before every Mass, everyday  
Friday & Saturday: 11.40am-12.10pm  
*(and during or after every Mass, and on request, when a priest is available)*

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## ORDO

### 25th March

The Annunciation  
of the Lord

### DEVOTIONS AFTER MASS

*Monday:* St Philip Neri

*Tuesday:* The Cause of  
Venerable Margaret Sinclair

*Wednesday:* Our Lady of  
Perpetual Help

### SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS

The Maughan Family

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

A brief **Latin lesson for Mass responses** will take place on **23rd March after the 11am Mass** in the Memorial Room. *From 30th March, all responses will be in Latin, readings remain in English.*

We are seeking some **volunteers to assist with the floral arrangements for Easter**. Experience not necessary, just enthusiasm and a pair of secateurs or scissors. We will meet in the church at 12pm on Holy Saturday. We are also looking for help with the flowers on an ongoing basis, with a commitment of one Saturday a month. Contact Madeleine Gilbey for more details: [madeleinegilbey@hotmail.com](mailto:madeleinegilbey@hotmail.com)

**A new Catholic mothers' group** for those with babies and young children meets **weekly after the 12.30pm Wednesday Mass** at St Patrick's Church (Memorial Room), starting **Wednesday 26th March**. Enjoy social and spiritual time over tea, coffee, and snacks, with space for little ones to play. The Fathers at St Patrick's provide regular spiritual support, and we plan talks on family life. Our aim is to support mothers raising faithful Catholic families. New members welcome—contact [frc.oneill@gmail.com](mailto:frc.oneill@gmail.com) for more info.

Would you like to **sponsor a sanctuary lamp** for a special intention? Lamps burn for one week (except from Holy Thursday evening to Holy Saturday night), with donations supporting sacristy costs (£8 minimum recommended). Leave an envelope with your intention and lamp preference (Blessed Sacrament, Lady Chapel, Sacred Heart Chapel, St Patrick, or St Joseph) or send us an email.

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## LENTEN DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK

**FRIDAY:** Litany of the Passion after 12:30pm Mass

5:45pm Stations of the Cross with a sermon and Benediction with a relic of the True Cross

**SATURDAY:** 7pm - 9pm Adoration and Benediction with confessions available

**SUNDAY:** 10:20am Stations of the Cross with meditations from the Maxims of St Philip Neri

Dear Friends,

During Lent, on Saturday evenings, we have two extra hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. But I realised that most people do not know the practice of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Of course, that's fine; our duty in the parish is to help faith grow. Without guidance, we can easily become bored and lose sight of what Adoration is all about. We can forget that this precious time with the Lord is more about Him, who longs for our company more than we long for Him. He asks us again this Lent, "Could you not watch with me one hour?" (Mark 14:37).

In order to understand what is happening, we need to swing back to the Holy Mass, where the bread and wine, through the action of the Holy Spirit and the help of the priest, who is the conduit of Jesus Christ, become His full presence on our altar.

In the monstrance, the vessel that holds the Blessed Sacrament for exposition, is the same Jesus who was born in Bethlehem, who lived among his people, taught them, died and rose again, and went back to heaven to welcome us. He did not leave us alone but left us His presence in the Holy Eucharist. This is what our faith is all about; it's why we come to church on a Sunday.

So, Adoration is an extension of the Mass without all the actions and words. St John Henry Newman says it better than me: "Heart speaks to heart." However long you stay doesn't matter, but it's a chance to listen, to be ourselves, and to allow Him to speak to us. This is a time when we can tell Him everything about how we are and how we feel and ask for His help in the ways we need it. Above all, it is a time to thank the Lord for His presence and His action in our lives so that we can adore Him for His goodness, truth, and mercy. It is also an opportunity to present to Him the things we don't understand—our doubts, sins, failings, and the worries that burden us. We might also pray for persecuted Christians, for the victims of sin, and for an end to conflicts, for the Church, for the Holy Father, for his health, and for the restoration of faith in Scotland and beyond. This is a time to thank God for His beauty revealed in creation—for the sun, moon, and stars that were made through His Word, present before us in the Eucharist.

In Adoration, we are free to say the Rosary, to read the Scriptures and other sacred books, to say other chaplets and litanies, or just to be there in quiet.

One of the Lenten challenges is to renew our prayer. Prayer is not always easy. A friend of St John Henry Newman offers this insight: "It is the infrequency of prayer which makes prayer so difficult." (Edward Pusey). Dr Pusey is right. We have to pray as often as we can. This builds a habit and makes it easier to want to be in and to enjoy being in the presence of the Lord. Sometimes it can be amazing, and sometimes it can be dry. We have all faced discouragement, but as long as we are faithful, God and His awesome presence will do the rest.

Keep up the good work and get yourself to Adoration.

In Jesus, Joseph, and Mary,  
Fr Gerard



## MAXIMS OF SAINT PHILIP NERI

### 25th March

Our sweet Christ, the Word Incarnate, has given Himself to us for everything that was necessary for us, even to the hard and ignominious death upon the cross.

### 27th March

To be without pity for other men's falls, is an evident sign that we shall fall ourselves shortly.

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## An English Tribute to Saint Joseph, by Father Frederick William Faber

The mysteries of Saint Joseph rise up like a beautiful cloud of incense from the Sacred Infancy. He belongs wholly to it. It seems the one end for which he was created and so wonderfully sanctified, the one work which God gave him to do. He is altogether detached from the Passion. It does not even cast shadows over him beforehand as it does over the Mother of Sorrows. Nay, even before Jesus has left the Holy House for the toil of His Three Years Ministry, Joseph has been taken to his rest. Worn out with divine love, he has died in a sweet ecstasy, pillowed on the bosom of Jesus, and, with Mary by his side, in the very lap of all that was most beautiful and most holy and most heavenly on earth. No thought of violence mingles with the memory of his peaceful though anxious offices. The Blood of the Circumcision was his Gethsemane and his Golgotha.

His early life is lost in obscurity, and of his boyhood we can form no idea, beyond what is supplied by a vision of Sister Emmerich. But who can doubt that all was a preparation for the great office to which God had appointed him? Who can doubt that all was forming and consecrating him as the Foster-father of the Word made flesh? Belonging, as he does, exclusively to the Sacred Infancy, we shall not be surprised to find that the spirit of devotion to him is the spirit of devotion to the Sacred Infancy; and that with two additions of the most touching sort. First of all, he seems to represent ourselves in the Cave of Bethlehem, the Sojourn in Egypt, and the House of Nazareth. All the intimacy and familiarity to which the infant Saviour vouchsafes to give us right and title by His Incarnation, all the minute ministries of tenderness and devotion which He condescends to receive from us, all the daring joy which His infantine infirmities cause in our hearts, and all the trembling adoration which the nearness of His hidden Divinity demands from us, all these things Joseph is there to receive and to pay, to feel and to show, as it were on our behalf. He is there as the representative of all the future generations of the faithful, especially of those whose hearts are drawn by a singular attraction to these first mysteries of Jesus.

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**Rachel's Vineyard** is a safe place to renew and rebuild your life after experiencing the trauma of abortion. Healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non- judgemental environment to help deal with painful emotions. Participants can experience forgiveness, find peace and restore their life. The next Scottish retreat is 21st-23rd March in Glasgow. Contact Sr Andrea at [sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk](mailto:sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk) or on 07816942824

**Abortion Recovery Care Helpline (ARCH)** provides free, confidential, compassionate post-abortion support to anyone in the UK. The helpline is open 365 days a year: 9am-5pm Mon-Fri and 7pm-10pm every day, contact number: 0345 603 8501. ARCH also offers counselling and support groups, more info here: <https://www.archtrust.org.uk/arch-post-abortion-support>

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## FINANCE

### Cash Collection

*Gift Aid*

*Non Gift Aid*

**16th Mar** £347.00

£354.19

£70.00

**St Patrick's Day** £99.87

### Contactless Machines

### Donate by Bank Transfer

*St Patricks Church*

Sort Code: 80-02-09

Account Number: 00687306

BIC: BOFSGB21219

IBAN: GB65 BOFS 8002 2900 6873 06

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## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

For all news and events from the Archdiocese, please visit [archedinburgh.org/news-events](http://archedinburgh.org/news-events)

### Young Adults' Holy Week event

The Archdiocese invites young adults (18+) to prepare for Holy Week and Easter on Saturday 12 April at St Margaret's Chapel at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB from 11:30am-3:00pm. There will be talks from speakers including Fr David Stewart SJ and the event concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley. Recollect, pray and celebrate your Catholic faith. Register by emailing [frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk](mailto:frrobert.taylor@staned.org.uk).

### Stations of the Cross

Monday, 24 March, 7:45pm with a reflection from John Deighan, CEO of SPUC. Join John and Catholics from across Scotland to pray for the unborn, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register: [bit.ly/Stations25](http://bit.ly/Stations25)

### Talk at Carmelite Convent

A series of Holy Year talks take place on the last Sunday of each month at the Carmelite Convent, Hot Pot Wynd, Dysart, KY1 2TF. The next one is on Sunday 30 March at 4:30pm when Canon James Tracey discusses Reconciliation - Forgiveness. The one-hour event includes evening prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and has been organised by the Fife Deanery. All welcome.

### Mass for Married & Engaged Couples

The annual Archdiocesan Mass for Married Couples (and those preparing for marriage) takes place at 7:15pm on Tuesday 27 May at St Mary's Cathedral. Please join us for this special occasion when we celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Archbishop Cushley will be the principal celebrant and will give a blessing to couples.

### 'Courage to be Catholic' national conference

This conference, hosted by Aid to the Church in Need, takes place on Saturday 29 March at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, 9:30am - 4:00pm. Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EHSR>

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St Patrick's, 5 South Gray's Close, Edinburgh, EH1 1TQ

0131 556 1973 | [stpatricksedinburgh.com](http://stpatricksedinburgh.com) | [stpatricksparish@outlook.com](mailto:stpatricksparish@outlook.com)



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