

19—26 April 2026



Date	Church	Time	Feast	Mass intention
Saturday 18 April Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	2nd week in Eastertide 3rd Sunday of Easter	Jim Gray RIP The Walker family
Sunday 19 April	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	3rd Sunday of Easter	Alasdair Buchanan RIP People of the Parishes
Monday 20 April	<b>No service</b>			
Tuesday 21 April	St Columba's	9.30am	3rd week in Eastertide	Cassie and Michael Doherty RIP
Wednesday 22 April	St Peter's	9.30am	3rd week in Eastertide	Archie Cairns RIP
Thursday 23 April	St Columba's	9.30am	3rd week in Eastertide	Francis Kinsler RIP
Friday 24 April	St Peter's	9.30am	3rd week in Eastertide	People of the Parishes (Thank you from Pat Cairns)
Saturday 25 April Vigil	St Peter's St Peter's	12 noon 5.30pm	St Mark 4th Sunday of Easter	Intentions of Fr. Sean Bradley
Sunday 26 April	St Columba's St Peter's St Columba's	9.30am 11.30am 6.30pm	4th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parishes Archie Cairns 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 19 April readings: p258**  
**First reading:** Acts 2: 14 22-33  
**Psalm:** 16 (15): 1-2a 5 7-8 9-10 11 R11a  
**Response: O Lord, you will show me the path of life**  
**Second reading:** 1 Peter 17-21  
**Gospel:** Luke 24: 13-35

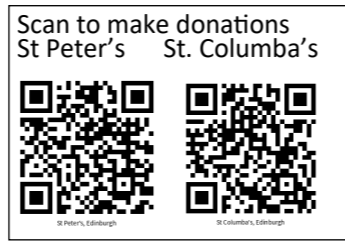
**Care Conversation Series:** Talking about care can be an emotive topic and **it helps to be well prepared for the care conversation.** A partnership between Southside Faith Care, Home Instead and Morningside United Church are hosting a series of relaxed and informative care conversations at **Morningside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

- Navigating the Care Maze: Thurs 23 April 2.30-4pm
- 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**

**Volunteer to Support Adults with Special Needs** in Edinburgh. Five new faithful adult volunteers are needed to commit to our George Square Thursday evening SPRED (Special Religious Development) group. The spiritual programme for adults with special needs fosters communion with Jesus Christ within the Catholic community of faith. Contact Sister Mary Benedicta Maier, RSM, at [srmary.benedicta@stened.org.uk](mailto:srmary.benedicta@stened.org.uk) if interested in learning about becoming a SPRED volunteer catechist for this Edinburgh group.

**Camp Out for Hope.** Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Scotland invite you to the Camp Out for Hope. **Saturday, 30 May - Sunday, 31 May, Carfin Grotto, 8pm - 8am.** A powerful event to show solidarity with our suffering and displaced Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Join us for an all-night prayer vigil, opportunities to learn more about ACN and our work, time to socialise and build new friendships, and more. Space is limited, so sign up now. Go to [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) to sign up for free, or scan the QR code. Participants are encouraged to fundraise, with £50 as a target. Sign-ups will receive a fundraising pack to support their efforts. You must be aged 16+ to participate. Contact ACN Scotland at [scotland@acnuk.org](mailto:scotland@acnuk.org) or 01698 337 470 for more information.



Items for inclusion in the Newsletter to Sharon Kedney at [office.stpeteredinburgh@stened.org.uk](mailto:office.stpeteredinburgh@stened.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  
**Third Sunday of Easter — Year A**  
 19—26 April 2026

The Emmaus story is more than a story. It is a sophisticated Eucharistic Catechist: a 'Liturgy of the Word' followed by a 'Liturgy of the Eucharist', the expression 'breaking of bread' is a technical term for the Eucharist. The gestures and words used are those of the Last Supper and of the Eucharist: 'he took the bread'..., 'blessed it'..., 'broke it'..., and 'gave it to them'. No doubt this reflected the eucharistic practice of the Lukan Church.

By the time Luke wrote his Gospel half a century had gone by since the Lord's death and resurrection. So his readers might look back with envy at the people who were fortunate enough to have seen the risen Lord with their own eyes.

But in this story he makes the point that those who were in that enviable position did not truly know Jesus until the scriptures were expounded and the bread was broken. Luke is faithful to the understanding of the first Christians that Jesus was not the Messiah in spite of his suffering but because of it.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**



**Canon Kenneth writes ...**

The Bishops of Scotland have organised the following event for all eight diocese to meet: **A Festival of Synodality – Saturday 6 June 2026:** We invite you to the National Festival of Synodality at Glasgow Caledonian University, a day inspired by Pope Francis' call to be "witnesses to synodality."

The Festival will focus on Conversation in the Spirit, a simple and powerful way of communal discernment rooted in listening, conversion and mission. The day will celebrate the fruits already flourishing in the Church in Scotland. It will include input from Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ, Bishop of Down and Connor in Northern Ireland, Fr. David McCallum SJ, an expert facilitator on synodality, and Sandra Chaoul, Director of the International Accompaniment Network.

Participants will also have the opportunity to experience Conversation in the Spirit first-hand. Lunch is included. All are welcome, especially those involved in parish and diocesan life, pastoral councils, schools and faith organisations. Tickets: £45. Parishes and dioceses are encouraged to support those wishing to attend. Tickets available: [bit.ly/synodality26](http://bit.ly/synodality26). Unfortunately I am unable to accompany a group because there is First Community that day in St Peter's. Please speak to me if you want to know more.

**Father Daniel writes....**

Dear Parishioners, I had hoped to travel to Nigeria to attend my brother's wedding and spend some time with my family. However, due to ongoing security concerns, my family has advised that I postpone this trip for the time being. I am very grateful for your kindness, support, and the thoughtful gifts many of you entrusted to me to share with my brother, his wife, and my parents. Please be assured that these will be safely kept, and I hope to deliver them personally when I am able to visit later in the year. Thank you for your understanding and continued prayers.

**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.stpeterrcchurchedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stpeterrcchurchedinburgh.org.uk)  
 St Columba's: 9 Upper Gray Street EH9 1SN; [www.stcolumbarcedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbarcedinburgh.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@stened.org.uk](mailto:Office.stpeteredinburgh@stened.org.uk) (10-1 Thursdays)  
 St Columba's: Sr Karin: [sister@stcolumbarcedinburgh.org.uk](mailto:sister@stcolumbarcedinburgh.org.uk)  
**St. Columba's Hall hire:**  
 James Meehan: [Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com](mailto:Jamesmeehan50@gmail.com)

## This Week in our Parishes ...

Sunday 19 April	<b>Third Sunday of Easter —Year A</b> Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in both Parishes
Monday 20	No Monday Mass 7pm, St. Columba's Justice and Peace monthly meeting, Parish room.
Tuesday 21	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Columba's
Thursday 23	7pm, St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Council meeting, St. Peter's Parish room
Friday 24	Teas and coffees after Mass at St. Peter's
Saturday 25	12.30 for 1pm, Justice & Peace Family lunch with kids' corner, St. Columba's Main Hall
Sunday 26	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter (and Good Shepherd Sunday) —Year A</b> Presentation of the Creed in preparation for Confirmation, today at 09.30 and 11.30 Masses Children's Liturgy at both morning Masses today 10.30 St. Columba's: Sister Karin's Sacramental Preparation groups for First Holy Communion and Confirmation Teas and coffees after the morning Masses in both Parishes



### Congratulations to:

- Austin Lorenzo Chansa Guthrie, Baptised on Sunday 12 April at St. Columba's
- Skye Alexandra McDonald and Lachlan William McDonald, Baptised on Wednesday 15 April at St. Peter's
- Eva Jeanette Jack-Rodor and Nina Elizabeth Jack-Rodor, Baptised on Thursday 16 April at St. Columba's
- Matthew Robert Crawford, Baptised on Saturday 18 April at St. Peter's

**Justice and Peace monthly meeting, Monday 20 April, 7pm**, in the Parish room. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome - especially prospective new members!

**Don't miss it: Saturday April 25, 12.30 for 1pm** in St. Columba's Main Hall: **Justice & Peace Family lunch with kids' corner**. Adults £15, Children £7 - all profits go to Food Vouchers for local Catholic schools. Tickets available at the back of church after 9.30 and before 6.30 Sunday Masses. Eat well and help out.

**SPUC's Pro-Life Chain, 11am, Saturday 25 April** on Lothian Road, Edinburgh, by the Sheraton Hotel. Beforehand, Archbishop Cushley leads a Rosary for Life at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston, EH3 9DJ (optional registration [here](#)). At 1.15pm there'll be refreshments in Sacred Heart Church Hall. Come for all or part of the day—all welcome.

**Next Sunday 26 April** we welcome children and parents from Primary 7 who receive a copy of the Creed in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation - which will be celebrated in St. Peter's on Wednesday 6 May.

If you are a young women thinking about a vocation to the Religious Life, join others for discussion and prayer at St. Columba's Church, 9 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, EH9 1SM, **Sunday 26 April from 4 - 7pm**. Email [religiousvocations@staned.org.uk](mailto:religiousvocations@staned.org.uk)

**We pray for students facing exams** in the coming weeks to give them strength and perseverance during this stressful time, guiding their minds and encouraging their hearts to work with diligence and confidence. The patron saint of exams, students, and those taking tests in the Catholic tradition is St. Joseph of Cupertino. Many students pray this prayer before exams: *'O St. Joseph of Cupertino, who by your prayer obtained from God to be asked at your examination, only the questions you knew, obtain for me the like success in the examinations I am about to make. In return, I promise to make you known and caused to be invoked.'*

**Wednesday 29 April, 7pm** is the next monthly meeting of our **Catholic Teens Group (for P7- S4)**. Meeting 7-8.30pm, on the last Wednesday of the month at St. Columba's Hall to have fun and learn more about our faith. Your parent or guardian can register your interest by emailing at: [teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk](mailto:teens.stcolumbaedinburgh@staned.org.uk).

**SCIAF 200 Club St. Peter's**. Renewal reminders on the way to members. **New members** urgently needed (annual fee is £12 with a monthly draw for prizes of £25 & £15 and a Christmas draw for £50). With fewer than 200 members please consider supporting. Forms at back of Church or see Anne-Marie Douglas.

### SSVP: update and new members needed.

St. Peter's Conference would like to thank Parishioners for their financial and prayerful support over the last year which has helped so many people. **We are looking for new members** so if you feel you would like to join us please speak to one of our members.

Families are welcomed to **The Gillis Centre for a family picnic**, children's catechesis, talks for adults, a Rosary Procession and Vigil Mass at The Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, on **Saturday 9 May at 1pm**. **Reserve your spot: [Picnic & Vigil Mass for Families Tickets, Saturday, May 9 • 1 PM - 5 PM | Eventbrite](#)**

## Enjoying Eastertide in Mull and Iona - Canon Kenneth

I have been to Mull and Iona on a few occasions but I was really looking forward to going in Easter week just as the spring weather was beginning to flourish. So I drove up I approached Tynedrum on the way to Oban I was surprised to see snow lying on the ground. And although there had been rain on the journey arriving in Oban bay I felt the need to take a few pictures of the beautiful sunshine lighting up the Gateway to the Isles.

Many will be aware of the problems they have been having on ferries in recent weeks and my own journey was a good example of the difficulties. They changed the departure time by one hour which did not seem bad but then they had me on standby. It was a bit like waiting to see if you would get picked for the kingdom of God or not. Fortunately I was one of the elect and did manage to get a space.



Careful study of the weather the previous week had told me that there was 65% chance of rain every day I was there. Thankfully it was wrong and the only rain that caused any problems was an hour on the isle of Iona.

I had never visited Calgary Beach before with the white sand and the sheltered bay. It was tranquil and stunning to walk in the shallow water of the bay in temperatures of 17 C. Off to Tobermory for a lovely lunch over looking the bay.

As most people know the single track roads are not for the faint hearted and driving on a bleak morning from



Salen to Fionnphort was like traveling through the grey mist of Mull.

The short ferry crossing was even worst because heavy rain also came on and everyone had to come inside. However like resurrection narrative after an hour of good Scottish rain it did clear and the beauty of the spiritual powers of Iona were apparent.

The sun for the drive back gave the water a complete different aqua tint which you see in mist of Mull pottery. My return joinery was 11 hours as two ferries were cancelled but I think that's material for a sermon on not being chosen! A great break.



## Reflection

All of us have some experience of the road to Emmaus. That road represents the road of disappointment, failure, sorrow, and broken dreams.

But the risen Lord journeys with us.

His resurrection opens all our stories to the prospect, not just of a good ending, but of a glorious ending. Stay with us, Lord, and let your presence inflame our hearts and raise our spirits, so that we may journey towards your Kingdom with undimmed hope.

