



St Ninian's Parish House

12 Marionville Drive, Edinburgh, EH7 6BW

Parish Administrator: Father Ephraim Ezulike

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St Vincent de Paul Society: 0787 195 9227

Sr Josephine: 0779 852 0107 Hall: 661 3860



Sunday 27th September 2020 – 26th Sunday In Ordinary Time – Year A

Regular updates on what is happening in the parish due to the coronavirus are being emailed to those who are on the Parish Distribution List (these emails come from Admin St Ninians).

Because they are a group email some email providers block them or class them as spam so please check your junk folder if you have not received them.

If you wish to receive the updates you will need to be on the Parish Distribution List, and you can join by emailing:

stniniantriduanana1@gmail.com

Vigil Mass

As the nights are becoming colder and darker it has been decided that the Vigil Mass will take place at **5.30 pm** from **Saturday 3rd October**.

Daily Mass

The church will now be open for people to attend Mass at **10 am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday**. All the rules regarding social distancing, wearing a mask etc that we follow on Sunday still apply. There is currently no need to book for daily Mass.

Booking for Mass

Our booking system for weekend Mass is working well overall and many thanks to everyone for their cooperation. Please remember that if you do not attend one weekend it is **essential** that you phone to book when next you wish to come to Mass otherwise your 'place' will be allocated to someone else. Also ensure that you make clear if your booking is for more than one person. To book text/phone to 07710 720 774 or email des@mercattours.com

Help to clean the pews after each Mass is also appreciated. It only takes a few minutes if a fair number are involved in the task.

SCIAF – WEE Boxes

A big thank you to everyone who gave to the SCIAF collection last weekend - **£350** was raised. This will be doubled by the Government. We are still accepting SCIAF boxes so if you have any boxes at home following this year's Lenten Wee Box Appeal please bring them along so we can count them and send the money to SCIAF.

One World Group

In these difficult times, the One World Group members continue to pray the Rosary (Joyous Mysteries) in their homes at 7.30 pm each Monday evening. Please join us. If you have any prayer intentions you would like us to pray for, please let us know. You can contact me as below in the 'newsletter' section.

Parish Garden

The **Eco-garden** is open on Sundays after the 10.15 mass until 11.30 (weather permitting). There is limited seating due to social distancing, though a household can sit together. You are welcome to bring a flask/soft drink or just to enjoy some company.

On Tuesday morning during creation time we invite you to join us in the garden after mass. There will be a short meditation at 11.30 to end the hour.

Carole Herbstritt 07757352433 Cath Norman 07849924232

Our Use of Water

Some years ago, back in the 1980's, I took part in an ecumenical justice and peace group and we set ourselves a self-awareness task over the season of Lent to measure our use of water. The idea was to record each time we used water during the day. There was a practical aspect too, as we were to impose a 'self-tax' of 5p for each use of water and donate this to a suitable charity. The extent of use was surprising as we realised how we took for granted the turning on of the tap on numerous occasions during each day.

Pope Francis comments on 'the issue of water' in Chapter One of his encyclical, 'Laudato Si' – paragraphs 27-31. In paragraph 30 he states:

"...access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival....Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water, because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity. This debt can be paid partly by an increase in funding to provide clean water and sanitary services among the poor." So perhaps a self-tax on water use could contribute in a small way towards that goal by logging water use and donating the proceeds to a relevant charity such as 'Water Aid'. That could be done for the remaining 2 weeks of Creation Time and it would be interesting to collate results and comments and publish that in the newsletter (e-mail below). Suggested rates could be 5p for a minor use and 10p for a major use. The results might be quite surprising and a good awareness raising exercise.

You could even save up towards a target of £60 to twin your toilet with one in a poor community – includes a certificate to hang in your loo, showing a photograph of your overseas toilet twin and GPS coordinates so that you can look up your twin's location on Google Maps!

John.Norman46@btinternet.com

Water Aid: www.wateraid.org/uk

Toilet twinning www.toilettwinning.org

Why an Eco-Garden?

Episode 3 : A Healthy Soil

In nature, of which we are a part, everything is connected. The interdependence of living things, we call an eco-system. In *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis says, *"The good functioning of eco-systems requires fungi, algae, worms, insects, reptiles and an innumerable variety of micro-organisms."* (Section 34). In the soil, it is the micro-organisms, which, together with insects, maintain the quality of the soil, re-cycling waste and making it nutritious so that plants can thrive. Herbicides, pesticides, and chemical fertilisers can interfere with these natural processes. They can deplete the soil of insects and micro-organisms, and so make the gardener or farmer, more dependent on the continued use of these chemicals.

In the Eco-garden, we rely on natural processes and the micro-organisms within the soil. We have been truly fortunate that the ground has been fallow for many years and has had a lot decayed organic material added to it as part of the annual cycle. It is full of big fat worms! If extra nutrient is needed, we use an organic fertiliser – a liquid seaweed feed. We have also used in the first year a green manure, a plant called phacelia, which is dug into the ground at the end of the season. Whilst in bloom it is covered in bees!

As far as possible we re- use soil or use organic compost. Normally, this can be bought from the Council's re-cycling department, though the Covid pandemic has temporarily interrupted this.

Organic compost is more expensive. We mostly avoid the need for it by growing bulbs and

perennials which come up every year. We also sow seeds of annuals such as marigolds, nasturtiums, sunflowers, and forget-me-nots, which can be sown in ordinary soil or which will self-seed. We are considering starting our own compost bin for plant waste.

Another reason for avoiding non-organic compost is that it contains chemical fertilisers and often peat. Chemical fertilisers are a by-product of the oil industry, a main cause of climate change. We need to avoid the extraction of peat as it plays a very important role in absorbing carbon, thus stopping the build-up of the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide in our atmosphere.

To do/Think about

1. If you have a garden, do you know how much you use chemicals in it?
2. Are there ways in which you could REDUCE your use of chemicals and peat-based compost and grow more organically?

Please Pray for Fr Piotr

Please continue to pray that Fr Piotr will make a full recovery following his heart problems.

PRAYING FOR LIFE

You're invited to join other Christians for 4 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also to stand and peacefully pray during a 40 day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Chalmers Sexual Health Centre, Chalmers Street, Edinburgh. For more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact:

edinburgh40days@gmail.com or visit www.40daysforlife.com/edinburgh

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline

(24 hours): 0800 027 1234.

Safeguarding Contacts

<https://archedinburgh.org/administration/safeguarding>

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Advisor Emma Boothroyd

E: safeguarding.officer@staned.org.uk

National Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Tina Campbell 0141 332 7177

E: tcampbell@scottishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Contact is Fiona Tracey.

Newsletter

Any items by Wednesday midday please to Carol Mulvenna, work – 672 0134, home 672 1223, mobile 07762 924916, email cmulvenna@btinternet.com

If you know of anyone who would like the newsletter emailed to you each week, please let me know by emailing me as above.

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**Live Streaming of Mass:** to enable our Sick and Housebound to have access to Mass we are live streaming all our Masses on **YouTube** at **Ss Ninian and Triduana Church – Edinburgh –**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe3s0H-F34kn7TVdGapC6Kw/live>

**Gospel, Matthew 21: 28-32 – He thought better of it and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, 'My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not go', but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, 'Certainly, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?" "The first" they said. Jesus said to them, "I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it, and believe in him."

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**Reflection – The Challenge to Forgive**

*Adults:* When have your actions not measured up to your promises? What was the outcome?

*Children:* Why is it important to follow through on your promises to others?