Two Edinburgh churches broken into

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Police are appealing for information following two break-ins to churches this week.

St Columba's Free Church on Johnston Terrace was broken into some time between 10pm on Wednesday evening (18 February) and 8am on Thursday morning (19th February) and a three figure sum of money was taken from a safe.

At around 4.45am on Thursday morning, St Patrick's Church on the High Street was broken into by at least two people. They broke two windows inside the church, damaged a valuable crucifix, and stole items of clergy clothing and a small amount of cash.

Police are now appealing for anyone who was in the area of the High Street and Johnston Terrace on Wednesday evening and into Thursday morning, to contact police immediately.

PC Chris Green said: "Considerable damage was done during these break-ins and we are keeping an open mind as to whether they are linked. If anyone has information that can assist with our enquiries, they are urged to contact Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111."