

ST. MARK'S PARISH

7th April 2024 – 2nd Sunday of Easter Year B

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

Parish Office, 29 Oxgangs Avenue., Edinburgh, EH13 9HX Tel: 0131 441 3915

Email: stmarksoxgangs@gmail.com

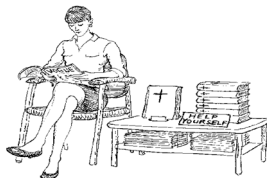
Website: www.stmarkschurch-edinburgh.org.uk

MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 6th April	Vigil	5:00pm	Ian Shanley (Ann)
Sunday 7th April		10:00am	Elsa Leonora Votia di Liporace
Monday 8th April		10:00am	Martin Family (Sp Int)
Tuesday 9th April		10:00am	Ida Boron (Sp Int)
Thursday 11th April		10:00am	Ann Allan (Sp Int)
Friday 12th April		10:00am	Bridie Hanlon (ANN)
<i>Saturday 13th April</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>David Mitchell (RIP)</i>
<i>Sunday 14th April</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Carla Spadavecchia (RIP)</i>
CONFESSIONS available before Sat Vigil 4.15-4.45pm and before Sun Mass 9.15-9.45am or upon request after any of the weekday Masses.			
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am 1 st Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm			

BACK TO THE FUTURE

When we achieve something momentous or finish a task that has taken a lot of effort, we usually want to sit back and admire what we have done, to take stock and rest on our laurels for a while. So after the events of Easter you'd expect the Church to sit back and bask in the glory of it all. But you'd be wrong!



Today, just one week after the climax of Easter we're told that we have to be on the move, witnessing to our faith in Christ. In fact, that's hardly surprising since in today's scripture we meet the risen Christ on that first Easter Sunday in John's gospel. He goes to the disciples and tells them that just as the Father sent him, so now he is sending them out to be witnesses of his resurrection. There's no time to laze around. A lot of us have a problem witnessing to our faith. Perhaps we feel awkward or embarrassed about the prospect of talking to others about our beliefs. Maybe we are put off by the thought of being tarred with the same brush as those who knock on people's doors or stand ranting against the world on high streets or markets in many of our towns and cities. It could be that we think witnessing to our faith is the job of the clergy and is best left to them. Whatever the reason it's certainly the case that there's a lot less of it now than there used to be. Of course, faith is good to have but not good to hold on to. It's intended to be passed on and it's the job of every baptised Christian to share in that task of letting others know about Jesus Christ and the promises he has made in his Father's name. But witnessing to this doesn't mean that we have to stand on a soapbox in some public place. They say that faith is caught not taught. Most of us catch it from our parents or some person who means a lot to us. We can witness to Christ by the example of our lives, by the way we treat others, by the way we simply stand up for those less fortunate than ourselves, by the way we encourage our own children in their faith and by the way we are ready to be the first to lend a hand. So as the alleluias of the resurrection begin to sound more distant, this is not the time to press the re-wind button. It's time for the fast-forward!

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME If you are just visiting our parish today or if this is the first time you have been to Mass for a while, welcome back! We hope our time together unites us in God's love.

EASTER TRIDUUM Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our celebration of the Easter Triduum, your service to God and the community is greatly appreciated by all.

LITURGY OF THE WORD, ADORATION & BENEDICTION will be held every Monday evening during the Easter Season at 7pm in St. Mark's beginning on Monday 8th April.

THANK YOU: Fr. Sean & Fr. Nick would like to express their sincere thanks for the many lovely cards, gifts and the great kindness expressed to them this Easter. May God bless you all.

PLEASE REMEMBER in your prayers those who are on holiday and travelling at this time, may the Lord continue to watch over them and bless them with his care.

CHILDRENS LITURGY: there will be no Children's Liturgy on Easter Sunday or on Sun 7th April. It re-commences again on Sunday 14th April.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 The names of all children registered for St. Mark's Sacramental Programme 2023/24 are posted on our notice board. Parents should make sure that their children's names are on the list. **If your child's name is not on the list, please contact Fr. Seán or Fr. Nick as soon as possible.**

MASS INTENTIONS: When requesting a Mass to be said for a specific reason, it would be helpful to use a Mass Intention Envelope for each request detailing the name for whom the Mass is to be offered and the purpose of the intention *ie* death, anniversary, special intention etc. Although it may not always be possible to fulfil every request - should a specific date be chosen - however Fr Seán & Fr. Nick will endeavour to accommodate all requests as close to the specified date. Mass Intention Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

SCIAF WEE BOX: if you availed of a SCIAF WEE BOX during Lent, could you please return it asap as we prepare to count and transfer the funds to SCIAF. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held this weekend 6/7 April. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you.

<i>St. Mark's</i>	<i>ATTENDANCE</i>	<i>OFFERTORY</i>	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible</i>
<i>VIGIL</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>£305</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>£740</i>	

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles [4:32-35]

United, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24]

Response: **Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**

Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:

‘His love has no end.’

The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
But not doomed to die.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord:
We rejoice and are glad



Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St John [5:1-6]

Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God’s children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth.

© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: ‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [20:19-31]

Eight days later, Jesus came.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. ‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’ After saying this he breathed on them and said: ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.’ Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him: ‘You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’ There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission.