

## ST. MARK'S PARISH

## PARISH NEWS

**30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – Sts Peter & Paul Ordinary Time Year B**

**Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson**

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**MASS DATES                      TIMES                      INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Vigil</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Johnny Bhoys McDade (Sp Int)</b>
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Mike Moores (RIP)</b>
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>S.P.R.E.D. Catechists (Sp Int)</b>
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Bill &amp; Rose Hetherington (RIP)</b>
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Ann Allan (RIP)</b>
<i>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Forde Family (Sp Int)</i>
<b>CONFESSIONS</b> 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.			
<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm			

### MARTYRS?

She's a martyr to her corns, we say. Or perhaps we think that we shouldn't give publicity to terrorists because they'll only become martyrs.

We use the word martyr in a different way from the way it was thought of in gospel times. For us, martyrdom means suffering, like the woman with her corns. And when we hear of the death of various holy people we call it martyrdom. But in fact the word martyr doesn't necessarily involve suffering or dying. The word martyr means a witness. If you are a martyr to the cause, then you are a good advert for the cause, a good example or a witness to what the cause is all about. In fact, although Sts Peter and Paul were both killed for their faith, they are really martyrs because they both witnessed to it. In an obvious way we can say that dying in order to witness to your faith is the ultimate martyrdom.

Yet what's important about Peter and Paul isn't that they died but that they spent their lives passing on the message of Jesus Christ. The ancient Preface prayer for today's feast speaks of "Peter, our leader in the faith, and Paul, its fearless preacher." If we want to emulate the two saints of today's feast then we don't have to seek out death before our time; we have to be martyrs by witnessing and passing on what we have been taught and believe. In fact that's how Christian faith survives. Faith, they say, is not taught but caught. We catch it at our mother's knee, at the feet of good teachers, from the lips of holy people we come to meet in life. It's easy to bypass our job of transmitting the faith by saying that this is the task of others, of clergy and catechists, of teachers and preachers. But the truth is that the only reason why we can celebrate today's feast is because of generations of mothers, fathers, grandparents, uncles and aunts who accepted the responsibility of handing on their faith to their own families and friends.



**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.

**RIP** Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Barbara Wyllie who was recently reborn into eternal Life. His funeral service will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 1.30pm in Morton Hall Crematorium (Pentland Chapel). May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Gavin Foster and Nene Udofot who were joined together in the sacrament of Matrimony last Saturday in St. James's Church in St. Andrews. We wish them every success, happiness and blessings as they journey together through life.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Alex and Patricia Small who celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary this weekend having been married here in St. Mark's Church.. May the good Lord continue to guide, care, protect and bless them and their family as they continue their journey together through life.

**SCHOOL LEAVERS** Please remember in your prayers the children of our primary schools who move on to secondary education after the holidays.

*Father, be with our children, fill their hearts with joy, fill their minds with learning, fill their classrooms with peace, fill their lessons with fun, fill their friendships with kindness, fill their schools with love. Amen.*

**BCOS PASTORAL LETTER;** which highlights key issues to help Catholics reflect on how they will vote. Copies are available at the back of the church for anyone interested in reading it.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** If you wish to have your child baptised, please arrange an appointment with Fr. Seán or Fr. Nick either after Mass, by calling the parish office or sending an email to the above listed email address. Please remember that at least one of the child's parents should be a practicing Catholic as should one of the chosen Godparents/Sponsors.

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION** The annual collection for Peter's Pence will be held this weekend 29/30 June. Donations to Peter's Pence support Pope Francis' Mission and charitable works, which have financed 192 projects in 72 countries.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held Next weekend 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you

<i>St. Mark's</i>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible</i>
<b>VIGIL</b>	72	£297	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	131	£412	

t. Marks's, Oxgangs is a parish of The Archdiocese of St Andrew's & Edinburgh, a charity registered in Scotland - Number SC008540

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading: A reading from the book of Acts [12:1-11]

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly. On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. Get up! He said Hurry! - and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, Put on your belt and sandals. After he had done this, the angel next said, Wrap your cloak round you and follow me. Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. Now I know it is all true, he said. The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.

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### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 33:2-9]

*Response:* **From all my terrors the Lord set me free.**

I will bless the Lord at all times.  
His praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

### Second Reading: A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy [4:6-8.17-18]

*All there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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**Alleluia, alleluia**

**You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;**

**The gates of hell will not hold out against it.**

**Alleluia**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [16:13-19]

*You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

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