

ST. MARK'S PARISH

PARISH NEWS

11th August 2024 – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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

Email: *stmarksoxgangs@gmail.com*

Website: *stmarkschurch-edinburgh.org.uk*

MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 10th August	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11th August		10:00am	Mike Moores (RIP)
Monday 12th August		10:00am	John Martin (Sp Int)
Tuesday 13th August		10:00am	Christine McGill (RIP)
Thursday 15th August		10:00am	Neil Dunphy (10th Ann)
Thursday 15th August		7:00pm	Ann Allan (RIP)
Friday 16th August		10:00am	Jerry McGarel (RIP)
<i>Saturday 17th August</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Hunter Family (Sp Int)</i>
<i>Sunday 18th August</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>People of the Parish</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			

INDIGESTION?

You'd think, wouldn't you, that after performing the miracle of the loaves and fishes, Jesus would have been fairly confident about getting the crowd to believe what he was teaching? Yet moments after eating the food, the crowd start questioning Jesus' status. We know who he is, so how can he claim to have come down with food from heaven? More is to follow in the next few Sundays as they go off and abandon him. They may have had their fill but indigestion has set in. Jesus has strong words for the crowd. He tells them to stop moaning and he accuses them of missing the whole point of his teaching because they are more concerned about the free meal than about its meaning. What Jesus told them, and is telling us today, is that the food which he offers is a food that will satisfy us at the deepest possible level. His teaching is the message of eternal life. It is what we need if wish to stop merely existing and instead live a glorious life. Your fathers ate manna in the desert and they are now dead. But if you eat my flesh then you will live for ever. Yes, you will suffer human death but you will transcend it. Christians believe that this invitation involves a number of things. Clearly it refers to eating and drinking at the Eucharist. By so doing we unite ourselves to Christ and we form a body of believers sharing communion among each other. We become what we eat: the Body of Christ. We sign on the dotted line to be like Christ to others as members of his Church on earth. But first we have to make sure we have received the message of Jesus that comes from his word. Our sharing communion, our accepting to eat and drink the food of life, means first listening to the scriptures. Only when we are formed by the word of God are we ready to eat and drink. Like the crowd in today's gospel, if we rush straight into the meal, we may end up full. And that's when the indigestion starts.



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.

SCHOOL RETURN: please pray for all those involved in our schools. May God bless their efforts as they start a new term.

CONGRATULATIONS to Ben Cochrane and Heather McMahon who were joined together in the sacrament of Matrimony here at St. Mark's on Saturday. We wish them every success, happiness and blessings as they journey together through life.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK If you know of a forthcoming visit to hospital involving a serious illness or an operation and you wish to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please speak to Fr Seán or Fr. Nick and arrange to be anointed before admission. Once in hospital, if you wish the Sacraments [Holy Communion, Confession, Anointing] please ensure that you make your wishes known to the hospital chaplaincy through the charge nurse on the ward. Please do not leave your request to the last minute as you may not be guaranteed an immediate response.

HOLIDAYS for those who are going away, have a wonderful time, for those who are visiting, welcome, we hope you enjoy your stay and for those travelling, have a safe journey.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION This Thursday (15th August) is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please see slight change to our usual timetable.

BARGE TRIP There are only a couple of places left for our Barge trip on August 14th. If you would like to go, see list on notice board at the back of the church.

SPICK AND SPAN: Come and have fun with mops and brushes as we continue in our mission to keep our beautiful church clean and tidy for all the faithful who practice their faith here at St. Mark's. All help is greatly appreciated by everyone - both in heaven and on earth. Monday 20/8/2024 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards!

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend (18/8) in aid of the Aged & Infirm Clergy.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of £6,469. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you.

COPPERS WEIGHING YOU DOWN? You can put them in our Copper Jar at the back of the church in aid of the building fund. All donations are gratefully received.

<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>65</i>	<i>£272</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>£355</i>	

St. 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 first book of Kings [19:4-8]

Strengthened by the food he walked until he reached the mountain of God.

Elijah went on into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord,' he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat'. He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you'. So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 33:2-9 v9]

Response: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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 letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

[4:30-5:2] *Follow Christ by loving as he loved you*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

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Alleluia, alleluia

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [6:41-51]

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven'. 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

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