<u>ST. MARK'S PARISH</u> 25th August 2024 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas HodgsonParish Office: 29 Oxgangs Avenue., Edinburgh, EH13 9HXPh: 0131 441 3915Email: stmarksoxgangs@gmail.comWebsite: stmarksrcchurch-edinburgh.org.ukWASS DATESTIMESINTENTIONS

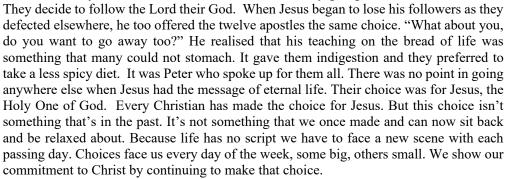
Saturday 24 th August Vigil	5:00pm	00pm Robert McKillop (Sp Int)		
Sunday 25 th August	10:00am	Vareed Lonappan (Ann)		
Monday 26 th August	10:00am	10:00am Grainne Dobbin (Sp Int)		
Tuesday 27 th August	10:00am	Dr Yezrinash Ayalew & Alem Woldemariam (Sp Int)		
Thursday 29 th August	10:00am	Philomena Cairns (Ann)		
Friday 30 th August	10:00am	Mary Boyle (Ann)		
Saturday 31 st August Vigil	5:00pm	Graham Nicol (Ann)		
Sunday 1 st September	10:00am	People of the Parish		
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.				
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am - 09.45am				
1 st Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm				

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DAILY CHOICE

Life is full of choices. Some are not earth-shattering, like the colour of the shoes you decide to put on in the morning. Others have a lasting if not permanent effect, like the person you ask to spend the rest of your life with. In a spiritually restless society Joshua puts a blunt choice before the people of Israel. If they won't serve the Lord then who are they going to follow?



Most of us have made a commitment to Christ that we are unlikely to turn our backs on lightly. But we still have to keep that commitment alive. We have to remind ourselves who it is who motivates us in our thinking and acting. We have to answer Jesus' question each day: Do you want to go away too? When we gather together to celebrate the Eucharist we give our reply to Jesus' question. The Christian community comes to the table of the Lord to eat and drink the food of life and thereby ratifies its unequivocal choice for Christ. After all, as Peter said, where else would we think of going?

PARISH NEWS

<u>WELCOME</u> 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.

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

PRAYERS are asked for those parishes in our Archdiocese who are preparing for a change of priests, may they all work together united in their love for God.

<u>CHARITY FUNDRAISING</u>: 100 club are now collecting fees for the coming year 2024/25. Draw Numbers are still available for anyone wishing to join. If you are not already subscribing - please consider joining (£20 per annum) you could win one of the three monthly prizes of £30, £10 or £10. The 100 club is our main fundraiser, all proceeds are donated evenly to SCIAF, Mary's Meals and St. Mark's Building Fund. New member forms are available at the back of Church or you can speak to any of the committee members - Jacquie George, Alma McDonald, Alexander Robbin, Elisa & Colin Armit, Helen McFadden, Tracy Loake & Filomena Tuivanualevu. Thank you.

<u>GIFT AID</u>: if anyone would like to participate in this very beneficial and free source of additional revenue for St. Mark's or would like more information on how easy the Gift Aid Scheme really is, please speak to Fr. Seán, Fr. Nick. Catherine Burns or Paul Drury. Thank you for your generosity, it is very much appreciated and helps us to maintain the much needed work of our parish.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held Next weekend 31st Aug/1st Sept. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you

 2^{nd} COLLECTION for the Aged and Infirmed Clergy Last weekend realised a combined donation of £511.76 Your support for our sick and elderly priests of the Archdiocese is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

<u>COPPERS WEIGHING YOU DOWN?</u> 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.

[St. Mark's	ATTENDANCE	OFFERTORY	Thank you, without your
	VIGIL	88	£424	contributions the work of
	SUNDAY	135	£381	God's church would not be possible

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 book of Joshua [24:1-2. 15-18]

We will serve the Lord, for he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

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<u>Responsorial Psalm [Ps 33:2-3. 16-23.]</u> *Response*: **Taste and see that the Lord is good**.

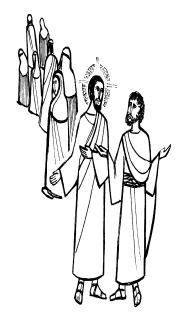
I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.



Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

[5:21-32] This mystery has many implications for Christ and his Church. Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church. © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission.

Alleluia, alleluia

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [6:60-69]

Whom shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.

After hearing his doctrine, many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him'. After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

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