

ST. MARK'S PARISH

PARISH NEWS

28th July 2024 – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 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 27th July	Vigil	5:00pm	Anna Sinclair (Ann)
Sunday 28th July		10:00am	Phil White (Ann)
Monday 29th July		10:00am	Margaret Meek (Sp Int)
Tuesday 30th July		10:00am	in Thanksgiving (Sp Int)
Thursday 1 August		10:00am	Mike Moores (RIP)
Friday 2nd August		10:00am	Alex MacAdam (RIP)
<i>Saturday 3rd August</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 4th August</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>John Pilley (Ann)</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			

SHAPES AND PATTERNS

A famous scholar once wrote a book nearly 800 pages long after reading today's gospel. When he read the account of the feeding of the 5,000 he noticed there was a shape or pattern to what Jesus did that was reflected elsewhere, particularly at the Last Supper. And then he went on to discover that this pattern would shape the liturgy for centuries to come. He pointed out that there was a four-fold form to the actions of Jesus: Jesus **took** bread, said a **blessing**, **broke** it and then **gave** it out to be distributed. He then looked at the account of the Last Supper and found that the same structure (this time with the wine too) underlay Jesus' actions. When he went to St Paul's writings he discovered that this pattern was there too: take, bless, break and give. Because of this he was able to trace the way Christians had celebrated Eucharist over the centuries. We take bread and wine which are brought up from the people and presented at the altar where they are prepared. Although some people refer to this as the offertory, these gifts are not in fact offered until later in the Eucharist.



When the gifts have been taken, a blessing is pronounced (the Eucharistic Prayer) praising and thanking God and asking that by the power of the Holy Spirit they may become the body and blood of Christ. Shortly before communion the bread is broken (that's why the priest does not break it during the Eucharistic Prayer) in preparation for the Eucharistic meal. Finally, the bread and wine (the body and blood of Christ) is given to those who come forward to share communion. Take, bless, break and give: actions of Jesus that would shape the liturgy for years to come. As the gifts are presented we are invited to bring our lives before God to be transformed; as the blessing is said we are encouraged to praise and thank God for his presence in our lives; as the bread is broken we renew our commitment to give ourselves to the very end in serving God; and as communion is given we are reminded that it is in giving ourselves to others that we become the very thing that we receive: the Body of Christ.

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.

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.

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.

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.

WHY WOULDN'T YOU? Spend some time in Eucharistic Adoration praying before the Lord. You can pray in thanksgiving for all he has done for you, the rosary for your family, friends and loved ones, pray for the conversion of others, for vocations to your parish, diocese or the world in general. You can read and meditate on your favourite passages from the Bible, pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those nearing the end of their lives or you can simply enjoy the silence, peace and tranquillity of the Lord's presence as he lovingly listens and speaks to your heart. Your presence and commitment of this time to the Lord is a prayer in itself. See Mass schedule on front page for details of days and times of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mark's.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS: Everyone is welcome to come into the hall after Mass on Sundays for a friendly cuppa tea/coffee, a munch and a chat. Thank you to all the hosts and hostesses of this Post Sunday Mass Refreshment Group, you are doing a great job and your efforts are appreciated by many a parishioner.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held Next weekend 4th August. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. 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>62</i>	<i>£283</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>£310</i>	

St. Mark'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 second book of Kings [4:42-44]

They will eat and have some left over

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat', Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over".' He served them; they ate and had some left over, as the Lord had said.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 144:10-11. 15-18]

Response: You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God.

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.



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

[4:1-6] *One Body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

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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 [6:1-15]

Jesus gave out as much as was wanted to all who were sitting ready.

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee - or of Tiberias - and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each'. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down'. There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted'. So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world'. Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

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