

# ST. MARK'S PARISH

**6<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

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

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## MASS DATES                      TIMES                      INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Vigil</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Julia Thomson (Ann)</b>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Grace Cooney (1<sup>st</sup> Ann)</b>
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Anne Thomson (RIP)</b>
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Ann Allan (RIP)</b>
<i>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Massimo Pernigotti (Ann)</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			

### CHRISTIAN POLYGAMY

The priest was giving out little wooden crosses to the people who had attended a service for married couples. “Put it in the room where you find yourself arguing, and it will remind you of your renewal of vows today.” One woman came up to him and said, “You’d better give me five.”

Marriage is probably the most complex of human relationships and is certainly the one on which civilisation has been founded over the centuries. It is the most natural thing in the world for men and women to leave the safety of the family home and branch out with another partner to restart the whole process of love, companionship and procreation.

But any married couple will tell you that if a marriage is to be successful then you have to get married to several different people! This is not a plea for divorce but for accepting that people change as they mature and that if a marriage is to be successful then both partners have to adapt to the changes in each other. In a certain sense each one has to keep “remarrying” the same person as he or she changes over the years. A Christian polygamy but with only one wife and one husband!

The young love of the courting couple is beautiful but unlikely to stand the test of time if one of them thinks that the other is going to behave in the same way when he or she is forty, sixty or eighty. If we refuse to allow each other to develop and grow then we are guilty of trying to “infantilise” the other person. We are trying to freeze them at a moment of time, the wedding day, and prevent them from ever developing and expanding the embryonic gifts and personality that God has given them. All of this is just another way of saying that Christian marriage is not simply a state of life but is a sacrament. A wedding takes a day but a marriage takes a lifetime. The love between two Christians is a reflection of the love that God has for each of us and that Christ has for his bride, the Church. Being married means striving at all times to be signs to the world of God’s love through the way we love our partners. And that means “remarrying” them many times before we both grow old.



## 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.

**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.

**CAR PARK AT REAR OF CHURCH:** Starting from this weekend the back gate of the church will now be opened for Mass on Sundays which will provide more parking spaces and ease the congestion typically experienced in the front car park. please note that it is for the most part a grass surface so please mind your step when wet.

**CANDLELIGHT REMEMBRANCE FOR ALL SOULS** will be celebrated during the Saturday evening Vigil Mass on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 at 5:00pm. If you would like the name of a loved one who has died read out during this Mass, please add their names to the lists provided at the back of the church. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.** The intention for this Mass will be for All the Souls of the Faithful Departed.

**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.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2024/2025** for children who are not attending a Catholic school and would like to enrol for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion or Confirmation in 2025, please contact the Parish Office via email or phone and request an application form.

**NEW LECTIONARIES:** Starting on Sunday 1 December, an updated Lectionary will be used in all parishes throughout Scotland. This means the readings at Mass will employ a slightly different translation of the Sacred Scriptures (the ESV-CE). For anyone who personally uses their own weekday or Sunday Missal, new ones using the new translations are available from various sites such as [www.rpbooks.co.uk](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk), [www.ctsbooks.org](http://www.ctsbooks.org), [www.hachette.co.uk/](http://www.hachette.co.uk/)

**OCT, NOV & DEC** issues of Living Faith booklets are now available at the back of the church.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** in aid of St. Mark’s Building Fund will be held this weekend 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024. 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>75</i>	<i>£271</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>£475</i>	

St. Marks’s, Oxcgangs 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 Genesis [2:18-24]

*They become one body.*

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

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### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 127]

Response: **May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
by the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!  
May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace!



### Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [2:9-11]

*The one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock.*

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers

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**Alleluia, alleluia**

**Your Word is truth, O Lord,**

**Consecrate us in the truth.**

**Alleluia**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark [10:2-16]

*What God has united, man must not divide.*

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.' People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

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