

# ST. MARK'S PARISH

27<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 30<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

|   |       |         |                         |
|---|-------|---------|-------------------------|
| Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> October   | Vigil | 5:00pm  | Margaret Boyle (Ann)    |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> October   |       | 10:00am | People of the Parish    |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October   |       | 10:00am | Paddy Boyle (Ann)       |
| Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October  |       | 10:00am | Sylvia Stansbury (RIP)  |
| Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> October   |       | 10:00am | Sheila McNally (Sp Int) |
| Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> October   | Vigil | 7:00pm  | David Kennedy (Sp Int)  |
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November   |       | 10:00am |                         |
| Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November   | Vigil | 5:00pm  |                         |
| Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November   |       | 10:00am | People of the Parish    |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b> available before Sat Vigil 4.15-4.45pm and before Sun Mass 9.15-9.45am<br>or upon request after any of the weekday Masses. |       |         |                         |
| <b>EUCARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm              |       |         |                         |

### RISING TO THE OCCASION

The blind man in today's gospel, Bartimaeus, was no shrinking violet. He was a beggar at the entrance to the bustling town of Jericho and if he didn't make his presence felt then he would go home at the end of the day with nothing to show for his hours in the baking sun.

Bartimaeus didn't complain about his lot in life; he accepted responsibility for it. He was strong-minded enough to know what he really needed and wanted: to be able to see. Never giving up hope, he believed that things could be different and that he could change. He wasn't bothered about what others would think of him and he resisted their attempts to silence him. This coloured his approach to Jesus since he knew that this might be the only occasion he would ever get to attract Jesus' attention. Throwing off his official beggar's coat, jumping up and shouting was a dramatic way of catching Jesus' eye. But Bartimaeus rose to the occasion and took his chance. And when Jesus cured him, Bartimaeus followed him along the road.

In this short episode we can see our own lives reflected very clearly. In our relationship with God, we carry so much baggage that prevents us from seeing things clearly. We can be spiritually blind in so many ways. We can fumble our way through life always several paces away from God. For a while we sit back and moan but eventually, we have to face up to the fact that in many areas we are the architects of our own problems. God did not make us spiritually disabled, yet we choose to remain so. What do I really need to happen in my life in order to come closer to God, and do I believe that with God's help I can change? What holds me back from asking for God's help? Is it because I'm afraid of what others will say and think? Is it because I don't think now is quite the right time to do it?

Am I prepared to make a definite move in God's direction, to rise to the occasion with some bold and decisive step to reply to God's invitation? Do I really want to see? Do I really want to follow? Do I really want a Bartimaeus moment?



## 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.

**CAR PARK AT REAR OF CHURCH:** Starting recently the back gate of the church is now being 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. To allow for appropriate preparation **LISTS WILL CLOSE THIS WEEKEND. PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.** The intention for this Mass will be for All the Souls of the Faithful Departed.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held Next weekend 2/3 Nov. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION** This coming Friday is the Solemnity of All Saints and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please see changes to our usual timetable. The staff and students of St. Mark's Primary School will join us here for our 10am mass.

**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/)

**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION** in aid of Missio last weekend realised a combined donation of £181.53. Thank you for your support.

|            |            |           |  |
|------------|------------|-----------|--|
| St. Mark's | ATTENDANCE | OFFERTORY | Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible |
| VIGIL      | 56         | £241      |  |
| SUNDAY     | 145        | £507      |  |

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 prophet Jeremiah [31:7-9]

*I will comfort the blind and the lame as I lead them back.*

The Lord says this: Shout with joy for Jacob! Hail the chief of nations! Proclaim! Praise! Shout: The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel! See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

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### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 125]

*Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
They come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves



### Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [5:1-6]

*You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.*

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

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**Alleluia, alleluia**

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord,**

**Anyone who follows me will have the light of life.**

**Alleluia**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark [10:46-52]

*Master, let me see again.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me'. And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me'. Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here'. So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his so cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus.

Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you'. And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

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