

ST. MARK'S PARISH

10th November 2024 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 9th November	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 10th November		10:00am	Paddy Boyle (Ann)
Monday 11th November		10:00am	
Tuesday 12th November		10:00am	
Thursday 14th November		10:00am	Chris & Rosemary Cairns (Sp Int)
Friday 15th November		10:00am	
<i>Saturday 16th November</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 17th November</i>		<i>10:00am</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.			
EUCARISTIC ADORATION: Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am 1 st Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm			

GIVING

At Sunday lunch the family were moaning about what had happened at church. The priest's sermon was rubbish, the choir out of tune and the church cold. Then the youngest child silenced everyone by saying, "Still, it wasn't bad for only £1."



The episode about the widow's mite teaches us a lot about giving. First of all there's the question of what we give. Obviously the amount is not the most important aspect of giving because it's relative. The widow put two coins worth a penny into the collection whereas the richer people dwarfed her contribution by the size of their donations. But presumably we should expect richer people to provide more revenue. Clearly, the amount given may bear no relationship to the wealth of the person. And Jesus pointed out to his disciples that in fact the widow had given so much more.

Secondly, there's the business of how we give. When we see some sort of appeal for helping children or providing food and drink to people struck by famine, how do we react? Do we begrudgingly put our hands in our pockets and cough up as little as we can without seeming miserly? When envelopes drop through our doors asking for money for charity, what do we feel like? God loves a cheerful giver, according to St Paul, but sometimes we give begrudgingly. The widow could have kept one of her two coins but she gave willingly. And she gave everything she had.

Thirdly, there's the issue of why we give. Some people give things to churches and then have a plaque made to let everyone know that they are the donor. But there's another sort of recognition: reverse recognition. We can give out of recognition of what we ourselves have been given. We give because we are conscious of being blessed by God in so many ways and our giving-back is just a token of our gratitude. God gave his only Son and his only Son gave his life for us. So giving implies a what, a how and a why. And by willingly giving her all, the widow got all three of them right.

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: 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.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of £1547.67. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend 17/18 November in aid of Catholic Education.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: November 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1st: Jeanette McLaughlan £30. 2nd: John Burns £10 and 3rd: Jacquie George £10.** Congratulations to you all.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and Advent Candles are now on sale at the back of the church for anyone thinking of sending Christmas wishes to a friend, family or loved ones at this very special time of the year. This year we have designed and printed two Christmas cards specific to St Mark's and to whomever these cards are sent, their names will be included in a novena of Masses from Thursday 19th Dec through to Wednesday Dec 25th.

PPC MEETING will be held in the Parish House on Monday 11th Nov at 7pm. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

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. The Schedule of events for each of the upcoming sacraments is posted on the notice board at the back of the church. **Closing date** for applications for First Confessions and First Holy Communion is Jan 31st 2025. **Closing date** for applications for Confirmation is Feb 28th 2025.

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, www.ctsbooks.org, www.hachette.co.uk/

<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>96</i>	<i>£435</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>£736</i>	

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: A reading from the first book of Kings [17:10-16]

The widow made a little scone from her meal and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink'. She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As Yahweh your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when Yahweh sends rain on the face of the earth".'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as Yahweh had foretold through Elijah.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 145: 17-10]

Response: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.



Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [9:24-28]

Christ offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

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Alleluia, alleluia

Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful,

And I will give you the crown of life.

Alleluia

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark [12:38-44]

This poor widow has put in more than all.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on'.

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