

## ST. MARK'S PARISH

**17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

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

*Parish Office: 29 Oxcgangs Avenue., Edinburgh, EH13 9HX Ph: 0131 441 3915*

Email: [stmarksoxgangs@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksoxgangs@gmail.com)

Website: [stmarksrccchurch-edinburgh.org.uk](http://stmarksrccchurch-edinburgh.org.uk)

### MASS DATES                      TIMES                      INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Vigil</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Maggie Nora O'Donnell (RIP)</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Brendan Cusick (RIP)</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	
<i>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Nelly Lumanglas (Sp Int)</i>
<i>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<p><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.</p> <p><b>EUCARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Every Tuesday &amp; Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Every Month 7pm-8pm</p>			

### **BE BACK SOON!**

People have constantly predicted the end of the world and the second coming of Christ. At the time of St Paul there was a widespread belief that Jesus would return during their lifetime. A century later Hippolytus calculated that Jesus would return in 500AD. In 968 Otto's army panicked at an eclipse that they took to signify the end of the world. For the first millennium, 1000AD, people got frightened again thinking it would be the end of the world. 1666 was a famous year for predictions, because of the plague and the Great Fire of London. (Not to mention the 666 element). After several hastily rescheduled predictions of the end of the world by the Jehovah's Witnesses in the 1970s we had to put up with all the hysteria that surrounded the start of the second millennium. In the face of all of this, Jesus is very clear: "But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father." Nobody knows it. Nobody. Part of the reason for this failure to understand the nature of Christ's preaching about the end of time is because of the language used in his apocalyptic teachings, which uses a lot of symbolism. His hearers would not have taken literally the idea of the sun being darkened, the moon losing its brightness and the stars falling out of the sky. They knew it was a way of creating an effect when preaching, of disclosing material to those in the know while at the same time hiding the meaning from others. Apocalyptic writing contains huge amounts of symbolism, dreams and imagery that has to be interpreted by the code-breaker before it can be understood. So, when we hear of famines, epidemics, terrorist attacks, global warming or earthquakes how do we react? If we think that this is a sign of the end of the world or the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ then we might as well join all the other failed predictors of history. Rather than worrying about impending doom, wouldn't we be better off preparing to meet our God by living the sort of lives that Jesus taught us before that unknown time arrives.



## 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.

**SPICK AND SPAN:** Come and have fun with mops and brushes as we continue in our mission to keep our beautiful church clean and tidy for all the faithful who practice their faith here at St. Mark's. All help is greatly appreciated by everyone - both in heaven and on earth. Tuesday 19/11/2024 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards!

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

**CHARITY FUNDRAISING:** November 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1<sup>st</sup>: Jeanette McLaughlan £30. 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Burns £10 and 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jacquie George £10.** Congratulations to you all. Christmas Craft items are now also on sale in the Hall.

**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 (with a bonus) specific to St Mark's and to whomever these cards are sent - their names can be written on slips provided in the card and then these slips can be put into the box provided on table beside cards. These names will then be included in a novena of Masses from Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec through to Wednesday Dec 25<sup>th</sup>.

**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 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. **Closing date** for applications for Confirmation is Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2025.

**ST MARKS CHRISTMAS PARTY Grown-ups** - Join us on Saturday evening **December 14<sup>th</sup>** at 6.30pm in the hall for a wee social gathering over a Hot Buffet. **Growing-ups** - Join us on Sunday morning **December 15<sup>th</sup>** for our Children's Christmas Party at 11.30am – 1pm (ish) in the hall. Entertainment will be provided for each Shin-Dig. **Grown-ups** - tickets £10pp – please put in an envelope with your name – or names on it and give to any of the people listed below. **Growing-ups** – no charge. If anyone would like to donate a prize for our Grown-ups raffle OR a wee gift for our children's party on Sunday morning please contact Jacquie George, Johnny Bhoy McDade, Fr Nick or Fr Seán.

<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>
<b>VIGIL</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>£338</b>	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>£391</b>	

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading: A reading from the prophet Daniel [12:1-13]

*When that time comes your own people will be spared.*

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.

*© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission*

### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 15:5. 8-11]

*Response: Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.*

O Lord, it is you who are my portion  
and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand  
firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is  
glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever.



### Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [10:11-14. 18]

*By virtue of one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.*

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

*© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission*

**Alleluia, alleluia**

**Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour  
When the Son of Man is coming.**

**Alleluia**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark [13:24-32]

*He will gather his chosen from the four winds.*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

*© 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd, and Doubleday and Co Inc., and used by permission.*