

ST. MARK'S PARISH

2nd February 2025 – 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 1st February	Vigil	5:00pm	Monsignor Joseph Glover (RIP)
Sunday 2nd February		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 3rd February		10:00am	Mathew Keller de Schieithem (RIP)
Tuesday 4th February		10:00am	Morgan Family (Sp Int)
Thursday 6th February		10:00am	Michael McNulty (RIP)
Friday 7th February		10:00am	Paul Cummins (RIP)
<i>Saturday 8th February</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 9th February</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Annam Vareed (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			

Fr Jimmy Two-Shoes Syndrome

About fifty years ago there was a priest in Britain who did a series of unheard-of things that shocked and confused many people and convincing others that he was mad. Let's call him Fr Jimmy Two-Shoes. He was a local lad and was well known by his peers and those with whom he worked. His interest in the liturgy convinced him of the need for Catholics to be able to worship in their own language. His fellow clergy thought him a bit odd but harmless.



When he was appointed to a new parish he began to implement changes that could be used in the future. He built an altar that was able to be used with the priest's back to the people but also with him facing them. He had a source of constantly running water that led to a baptistery with a pool that you could step inside. A little chapel at the side of the sanctuary had no altar but did have a plinth where the tabernacle could later be housed. Instead of a pulpit on high, he had a lectern fashioned from where the scriptures could be proclaimed. All of this only served to convince everyone that he was at least a little eccentric, if not mildly deranged.

A few years later the Church throughout the world was faced with liturgical changes that were a result of the Second Vatican Council. No one was really prepared for the extent of change. Suddenly there was a need for prayers in English, for new creations, for training courses for clergy and others connected with the liturgy, for re-ordering of sanctuaries, for a complete updating in the way the liturgy and the sacraments were now to be celebrated.

When there was still time to do so, his fellow practitioners failed to seek the help of Fr Jimmy Two-Shoes because, like Jesus in today's gospel, he was just Joseph's son, they knew where he came from, he was nothing special. Do we do stuff like this too??

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.

ST. MARK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL are collecting blue tokens in the Tesco community fundraising boxes found at the store entrance for an urgently needed school library. Please can you help us by popping tokens in when you shop at the Oxcgangs store or local Tesco Express stores, until April? Thank you!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM If you wish to have your child baptised, please arrange an appointment with Fr. Seán 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 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.

REMINDER to parents of all children making **First Confessions**, **First Holy Communion** or **Confirmations** - the Rite of Enrolment will be held on Sunday 2nd March during 10am Mass. All application forms must be received prior to this. A meeting for parents of children making their Confirmation is set for February 17th @7pm in the church hall. I look forward to seeing you all then. 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 2024/25, please contact the Parish Office via email or phone and request an application form.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held this weekend 1/2 Feb 2025. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you

WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS: If you are involved with Children's Liturgy in your parish, the Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission invites you to The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, for a workshop on Children's Liturgy of the Word. The day takes place on Saturday 22 February from 9:30am-12:00pm and will include Mass, discussion groups, a presentation on resources, and a presentation on the Liturgy of the Word within Mass. To Register or see full event schedule visit the following web address: <https://forms.office.com/e/yRxbsJ5kL>.

<i>St. Mark's</i>	ATTENDANCE	OFFERTORY	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible</i>
VIGIL	<i>73</i>	<i>£324</i>	
SUNDAY	<i>160</i>	<i>£378</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 prophet Malachi [3:1-4]

The Lord whom you seek will come to his Temple.

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. r8a]

Response: The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant;
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?
He, the Lord of hosts,
he is the king of glory.



Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [2:14-18]

He had to be made like his brothers, so that he might become merciful.

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his

brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

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Alleluia, alleluia.

**A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.**

Alleluia

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [2:22-40]

The child grew, filled with wisdom.'

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, 'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.' And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed — and a sword will pierce through your own soul also — so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.'

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the Temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

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