

ST. MARK'S PARISH

26th JANUARY 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 25th January	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 26th January		10:00am	Matteo Pernigotti (Ann)
Monday 27th January		10:00am	FUNERAL NUALA MOORES
Tuesday 28th January		10:00am	Rose Kelly (Ann)
Thursday 30th January		10:00am	Mary McCrone (Sp Int)
Friday 31st January		10:00am	Guy Lefol (RIP)
<i>Saturday 1st February</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Monsignor Joseph Glover (RIP)</i>
<i>Sunday 2nd February</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>People of the Parish</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			

ABOUT TO START

In some of our cities we have a church on almost every street corner. But in the whole of Israel there was only one Temple and that was in Jerusalem. The priests went there to offer sacrifices for people's sins and needs. But in every place where at least ten men could meet, no matter how small a village it might be, there was a synagogue. Every Sabbath there was a simple liturgical service that took place there and was led by the local community members. It was a plain affair with readings from the Jewish scriptures followed by a commentary on them in the form of a homily or sermon. It was to one of these places that Jesus went when he returned to his hometown of Nazareth. He read a text from Isaiah about being anointed to bring freedom to those who were oppressed in different ways. Then he made the incredible claim that this text was being fulfilled here and now as his audience listened. Even though Jesus had gathered a reputation already as something of a preacher, this proved too much for his listeners and next Sunday we'll see what happened. But for today, what was Jesus really claiming? In a nutshell he was claiming that a new age was beginning. In the Old Testament people had been waiting for "eschatological" times, times that would usher in a new age when God's kingdom would hold sway. There would be signs that this new age was about to begin: prisoners would be set free, the lame would walk, the deaf hear and the blind see again. Every fifty years the Jews held an amnesty year in which the slate was wiped clean, debts were settled and property returned to rightful owners. Jesus tells his audience that here and now one of these amnesties is about to start; it will be the Lord's year of favour. Over the next few weeks, and throughout the gospel of Luke, we will see that Jesus has inaugurated this new age of favour between God and his people. And we'll discover that it was to last more than a year. Today as the gospel is proclaimed in our churches God still offers this favour. If you want to, you can make it happen for you even as you listen to God's word. Or you can wait and see how the people responded next week in Luke's gospel.



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.

RIP Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of Nuala Moores who was recently reborn into eternal Life. Her Requiem Mass will be held on Monday 27th January at 10am in St. Mark's and thereafter to Mortonhall Crematorium (main chapel) for 12 Noon. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

CAR PARK AT REAR OF CHURCH: the back gate of the church will be open for the 10am Sunday Morning Mass throughout the year to 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 grassy surface so please mind your step when wet.

CONCERT IN AID OF MARY'S MEALS will be held in St. Peter's Church Morningside at 7.30pm on Friday 31st January for anyone interested in supporting this worthwhile charity. For further details see notice board at back of church.

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 of parents of children making their First Holy Communion is set for January 27th @7pm in the church hall and for parents of children making their Confirmation February 17th @7pm in the church hall. I look forward to seeing you all over these coming weeks. 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 Next 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/yRxbbsJ5kL>.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of Justice & Peace last weekend realised a combined donation of £182.50. Thank you.

<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	76	£246	
SUNDAY	160	£512	

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 Nehemiah [8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10]

They read from the book of the Law, and gave the meaning.

In those days: Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it, all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Ezra and the Levites read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, 'Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 19(18):8. 9. 10. 15. ± John 6:63c]

Response: Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect;
it revives the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are steadfast;
they give wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right;
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear;
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure,
abiding for ever.

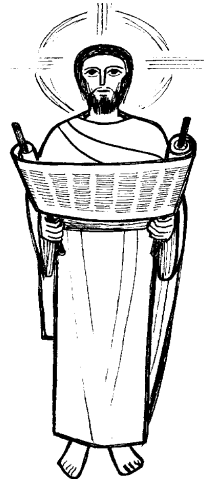
The judgements of the Lord are true;
they are, all of them, just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rock and my redeemer!

2nd Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians [12:12-

30] *You are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*

Brothers and Sisters: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all



baptised into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church first Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing?

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Alleluia, alleluia.

**The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor;
to proclaim liberty to the captives.**

Alleluia.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [1:1-4; 4:14-21]

'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled.'

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught. At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

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