

## ST. MARK'S PARISH

**9<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Year C**

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

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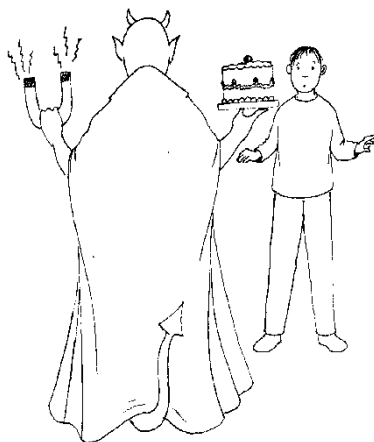
### MASS DATES                      TIMES                      INTENTIONS

Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Bernadette Sweeney (Ann)
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Special Intention
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Aileen Traynor (Ann)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Eamonn & May Quinn (Sp Int)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Brian Forde (Ann)
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March		10:00am	Mary Winter (Ann)
<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.			
<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am			

### PUT TO THE TEST

The meaning of temptation in the scriptures means a “testing” or a “proving” of a person’s fidelity, integrity, virtue or constancy. A temptation - in essence - measures your ability to remain faithful to your principles, seeing whether you really are the person you claim to be. That’s what the devil did with Jesus in the desert - the devil tested him but he didn’t budge.

In a strange way temptations can be constructive things because they can become growth points in our relationship with God and other people. Of course, it’s important to remember that no temptation, however repulsive to us, is ever a sin. In order to redeem us, as a human being Jesus was tempted at the roots of our human nature and yet he never sinned. Temptation strengthened Jesus’ resolve to carry out the mission he received from the Father. As we begin our Lenten journey this week we can see temptations either as a threat to us or else as moments when we can reaffirm and strengthen our commitment to following Christ.



## 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.

**12 VOLUNTEERS** are being sought to participate in our Easter Triduum celebration for the Vigil Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday (April 17<sup>th</sup>) to have their feet washed. A Sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church for anyone interested.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held every Monday evening during Lent at 7:00pm in St. Mark’s, beginning on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** typically held on the first Thursday of the month from 7pm to 8pm will no longer take place.

**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!

**CHARITY FUNDRAISING:** March 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1<sup>st</sup>:** #27 Ann Tobin £30. **2<sup>nd</sup>:** #12 Peter Matulaitis £10 and **3<sup>rd</sup>:** #39 Pat McBean £10. Congratulations to you all.

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS:** Everyone is welcome to come into the hall after Mass on Sundays for a friendly cuppa tea/coffee, a munch and a chat. Thank you to all the hosts and hostesses of this Post Sunday Mass Refreshment Group, you are doing a great job and your efforts are appreciated by many a parishioner.

**SCIAF – LENTEN Wee BOXES** are now available at the back of the church. For those interested in participating in this charitable cause, please take one home and return it on Palm Sunday.

**REMINDER** to parents of all children making their **First Confessions**, - the Presentation of the Cross takes place during the 10am Mass on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**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 those who practice their faith here at St. Mark’s. All help is greatly appreciated by everyone - both in heaven and on earth. Tuesday 18/3/2025 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards!

**2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION** in aid of St. Mark’s Building Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of £1,107. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you.

<i>St. Mark’s</i>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God’s church would not be possible</i>
<b>VIGIL</b>	63	£280	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	165	£397	

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy [26:4-10]

*The confession of faith of the chosen people.*

Moses spoke to the people: ‘The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. And you shall make response before the Lord your God, “A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.” And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.’

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### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. v15b]

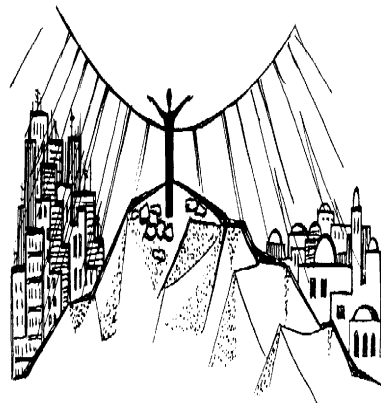
*Response: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,  
says to the Lord, ‘My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!’

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach your tent.  
For you has he commanded his angels  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread,  
and trample the young lion and the serpent.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,  
protect him, for he knows my name.  
When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will be with him in distress;  
I will deliver him, and give him glory.



### Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

[10:8-13] *The confession of faith of believers in Christ.*

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

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**Glory and praise to you, O Christ  
One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [4:1-13]

*Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil*

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone.”’ And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, ‘To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.”’

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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