

ST. MARK'S PARISH

18th May 2025 5th Sunday of Easter Year C

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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

Email: stmarksoxcgangs@gmail.com

Website: stmarksrcchurch-edinburgh.org.uk

MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 17 th May	Vigil	5:00pm	St. Marks volunteers & their families
Sunday 18 th May		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 19 th May		10:00am	William Martin (Ann)
Tuesday 20 th May		10:00am	Uncle Mike & Ann & Family
Thursday 22 nd May		10:00am	Elizabeth Mulvenna (Sp Int)
Friday 23 rd May		10:00am	Fr. Tony Quinlin (Sp Int)
Saturday 24 th May	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 25 th May		10:00am	Arthur Winter (Ann)
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			

All About the Love

This week's Gospel provides us with the 2nd element of what constitutes a follower of Christ. Last week we saw that a good relationship with Jesus is needed in order to **hear his voice** among the many voices that are bidding for our attention. This strengthens our relationship with Him and gives us the courage to follow in His ways. Today's Gospel tells us that it is **'love'** which identifies a person as a true follower of Jesus. The love that Jesus asks of his disciples is one that is **selfless** (the giving of all of ourselves for the good of the other); it is **sacrificial** (a love which has no limits in what it gives and where it takes the relationship); it exhibits **understanding** (a love which is present even though the receiver may not be perfect – it loves not what the person imagines the other to be, but what the person is - here and now) and it is **forgiving** (Jesus loved his disciples even though he knew of their limitations and the fact that they would betray, deny and abandon him at the time he most needed them.) When we consider this type of love, it seems a little idealistic and even difficult – a love which is humanly speaking, unattainable, since all of us love with some conditions attached and we tend to reserve our love more for those whose love for us is assured.

This love is a challenge to be prioritised in our Christian living. It is our desire to love in this manner that allows us to see a glimmer of this selfless, sacrificial, understanding and forgiving love. Without that ideal and the desire to pursue it, we allow ourselves to fall short of the mark and thus not be recognised as Jesus' followers.

The Jesuit spiritual author Gerard Hughes states that we can only claim to love God as much as the person we love the least. This statement challenges us to look at the level of our love, both of God and of others.



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.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WORKSHOP: Join the Catechetics Commission for the second Children's Liturgy (CL) Catechist Workshop. The morning will begin with Mass and include a presentation on music & art and a time of discussion. It takes place on Saturday 17 May 9:30am – 12:00pm at The Gillis Centre. Register at bit.ly/childrensliturgy2. Contact srmiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk with any questions.

DIACONATE ORDINATIONS: Congratulations to Deacon Matthew McCafferty of our Archdiocese, and Kieran Burt of Motherwell Diocese, who were ordained at St Paul's Outside the Walls in Rome on Saturday by Archbishop Leo Cushley. It was a very happy occasion. Kindly keep both men in your prayers as they continue their path to priesthood.

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. Monday 20/5/2025 after the 10am morning Mass.

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.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: May 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1st: #1. Brian Monaghan £30. 2nd: #55 Cecilia Ramsay £10 and 3rd: #54 Tony Hetherington £10.** Congratulations to you all. There are only 2 more draws to go!

ST MARKS SUMMER PARTY Join us on Saturday evening June 21st at 6.30pm in the hall for a wee social gathering over a Hot Buffet - entertainment will be provided. Tickets available - £10pp – please put in an envelope with your name – or names on it, if anyone would like to donate a prize for our raffle OR for further information, please contact Johnny Bhoy McDade, Jacquie George or Fr Seán.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of the Ecclesiastical Students' Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of **£304.37**. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you..

St. Mark's	ATTENDANCE	OFFERTORY	Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible
VIGIL	68	£345	
SUNDAY	128	£428	

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 Acts of the Apostles [14:21b-27]

They declared to the Church all that God had done with them.

In those days: Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

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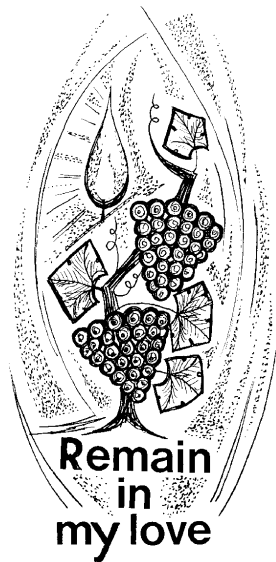
Responsorial Psalm [Ps 145(144):8-9. 10-11. 12-13b. R cf. 1]

Response: I will bless your name for ever, my God and king.

The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your works shall thank you, O LORD,
and all your faithful ones bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign,
and declare your mighty deeds.

To make known your might to the whole human race,
and the glorious splendour of your reign.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule endures for all generations.



Second Reading: A reading from the book of the Apocalypse [21:1-5]

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.'

And he who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.'

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Alleluia, alleluia.

**A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.
Alleluia.**

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [13:31-33a, 34-35] *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another.*

When Judas had gone out from the upper room, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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