

ST. MARK'S PARISH

25th May 2025 6th Sunday of Easter Year C

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 24th May	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 25th May		10:00am	Arthur Winter (Ann)
Monday 26th May		10:00am	Oliver Doran (Ann)
Tuesday 27th May		10:00am	John Dobbins (Sp Int)
Thursday 29th May	Holy Day of Obligation	10:00am	John Taggart (Ann)
Thursday 29th May	Holy Day of Obligation	7:00pm	Catherine McInness (Sp Int)
Friday 30th May		10:00am	Augustin Cruz (Entry to Seminary)
<i>Saturday 31st May</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 1st June</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Paul Thomas Forry (1st 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			

PARTING GIFT

When two Hebrew-speaking people greet each other, they say “Shalom aleichem” which means “Peace be with you.” When two Arabic-speakers give the same greeting, they say “Salaam aleichem.” Shalom/salaam refers to the state of integrity, harmony, serenity and completeness within a person’s life. Peace is not merely the absence of struggle but the abiding presence of calm. In today’s gospel Jesus gives his disciples a parting gift, a gift that he says the world cannot give - peace. To have faith in Jesus and be possessed by the Holy Spirit means that we enjoy the peace of Christ.

Of course, in everyday talk, peace usually means the end of war (which often is not peace but simply truce) or the idea of peace and quiet, when we are not troubled and are allowed just to “chill out” or have a few moments to ourselves. But the peace that Jesus offers us is that deep-down sense of wellbeing that comes from knowing that we are loved by God, have been called to be God’s children in baptism and are permanently held in the hand of a God who will never let us be lost, unless we absolutely insist on it. Christian peace brings calmness.

However, the peace we enjoy is not a static thing; it’s something active and dynamic. Consequently, we have to work at keeping this peace alive, which is what Jesus meant when he said “Blessed are the peacemakers”. We have to work with the Holy Spirit to keep our relationship with God alive and active and then we have to work for unity among ourselves so that the gift of peace may be a reality in our communities. Some people can have a false sense of security. Others can have a false sense of peace. If our peace is just built on not being troubled by others, not having worries about our job, our family or our finances, then we are simply enjoying freedom from anxiety. If, however, our peace is built on our relationship with God, on our trust in his promises to us and the confidence that his always keeps his word, then we enjoy that peace of Christ which the world cannot give. And this is what we wish each other at every Mass when we turn to each other and say, “Peace be with you”.



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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the children of our Parish and their families who will be making the Sacrament of First Holy Communion next Sunday June 1st during the 10am Mass.

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.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION This Thursday (29th May 2025) celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord. Please note the slight change to our usual Mass timetable. The children of St. Mark’s Primary School will also be joining us for the 10am Mass.

PLEASE REMEMBER in your prayers all those sitting exams around this time. May they receive the rewards of their efforts.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark’s Building Fund will be held Next weekend 31st May/ 1st June. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you.

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 Bhoys McDade, Jacquie George or Fr Seán.

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.

<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>
VIGIL	72	£333	
SUNDAY	127	£392	

St. Mark's, Oxbgangs 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 [15:1-2. 22-29]

It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements

In those days: Some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, ‘Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.’ And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and the elders about this question.

Then it seemed good to the Apostles and the elders, with the whole Church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers and sisters, with the following letter: ‘The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.’

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 67(66):2-3. 5. 6. 8. R4]

Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you.

May God be gracious and bless us
and let his face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your salvation.

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,
with uprightness you rule the peoples;
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing
that all the ends of the earth may revere him.



Second Reading: A reading from the book of the Apocalypse [21:10-14.

22-23] *He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

The angel carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed — on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

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Alleluia, alleluia!

**If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.**

Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [14:23-29]

The Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

‘These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I will come to you.” If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.’

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