

ST. MARK'S PARISH

15th March 2026 4th Sunday of Lent Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 14th March	Vigil	5:00pm	Liz Fotheringham (RIP)
Sunday 15th March		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 16th March		10:00am	William Martin (Ann)
Tuesday 17th March		10:00am	Margaret Reilly (SpInt)
Thursday 19th March		10:00am	Myra Russel (RIP)
Friday 20th March		10:00am	Janusz (RIP)
<i>Saturday 21st March</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 22nd March</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Lavina Pringle</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			

ST. MARK'S EASTER TIMETABLE 2026

<u>Monday of Holy Week</u> (March 30 th)	Stations of the Cross @7pm
<u>Tuesday of Holy Week</u> (March 31 st)	Reconciliation service @7pm
<u>Holy Thursday</u> (April 2 nd) <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper:</i> <i>Adoration at Altar of Repose:</i>	7:00pm Ends @ 9:00pm
<u>Good Friday</u> (April 3 rd) <i>The Passion of Our Lord:</i>	3:00pm
<u>Holy Saturday</u> (April 4 th) <i>Easter Vigil:</i>	8:00pm
<u>Easter Sunday</u> (April 5 th) <i>Mass:</i>	10:00am

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME If you are just visiting our parish today, a regular attendee or if this is the first time you have been to Mass for a while, we welcome you to our humble parish and hope our time together unites us all in God's love. Please, feel free to take a newsletter home with you.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all our wonderful mothers in the parish, may the good Lord bless you all on this your special day, and every day.

MOTHER'S DAY CAFE Please support our local parish children to fundraise for a "once in a lifetime" trip to Switzerland with the Scouts. A Special Mother's Day cafe will be held on the 15th March after Sunday Mass. All are welcome. Cakes, cappuccinos, teas and treats will be sold to raise funds (CASH & CARD accepted) Thank you!

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION will be held in St. Mark's on **Tuesday 31st March at 7pm**. If this date or time is unsuitable for anyone, there will also be a service of reconciliation for the parishes of the South Edinburgh Cluster held in St. Catherine's Parish Church on Thursday 26th at 7.00pm.

NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR 2026-27 are now available at the back of the Church for those who have pledged to Gift Aid their donations. If your circumstances have changed such that you are no longer eligible to Gift Aid your donations (e.g. no longer paying income tax or if your address has changed), then please speak to Fr Seán or any of the Gift Aid Organisers, Carol Lonie and Paul Drury. Your Gift Aid donations provide an extra, much needed source of income for St Mark's as they allow us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated. If you pay income tax and have not yet signed up to Gift Aid your donations, please do. Thank you for your continued support of the Parish throughout the year.

12 VOLUNTEERS are being sought to participate in our Easter Triduum celebration of the Vigil Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday (April 2nd) to have their feet washed. A Sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church for any interested brave souls.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: March 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1st: #12 Peter Matulaitis** £40. **2nd: #68 St Mark's School** £15 and **3rd: #38 John Burns** Surprise Gift. Congratulations to you all.

SPICK AND SPAN EASTER SPECIAL: 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 17/3/2026 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards! If you have yet to make that executive decision to join us, please do, as we prepare our church for the biggest celebration in the church's calendar year.

2nd COLLECTION: The annual special collection for Papal and Episcopal Charities (including SCIAF) will be taken up this weekend 14/15 March.

<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	75	£299	
SUNDAY	147	£555	

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

A reading from the first book of Samuel [16:1b. 6-7, 10-13a] *David is anointed king of Israel.*

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. ±1]

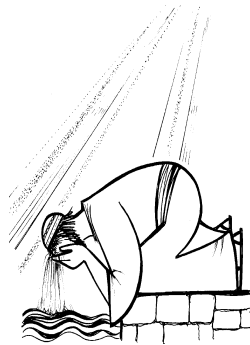
Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul.

He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.



A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians [5:8-14].

Arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

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**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

Gospel: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John [9:1-41]

He went and washed and received his sight.

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So, for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' And they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, 'Are we also blind?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

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