

ST. MARK'S PARISH

29th March 2026 Palm Sunday Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 28th March	Vigil	5:00pm	Catherine McInnes (SpInt)
Palm Sunday 29th March		10:00am	People of the Parish
Holy Week - Monday 30th March		10:00am	Maureen Robertson (RIP)
Holy Week - Tuesday 31st March		10:00am	Marie Watt (RIP)
Maundy Thursday 2nd April <i>Adoration at Altar of Repose</i>		7:00pm ends@9pm	People of the Parish
Good Friday 3rd April		3:00pm	
<i>Holy Saturday 4th April Easter Vigil</i>		<i>8:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Easter Sunday 5th April</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.			
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am-09.45am			

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 to read.

CONGRATULATIONS to Liam and Claire-Monique Kahlari, children of Stanley & Aime, and also to Eminence and Evidence Maurice, children of Ipoulo and Stella-Vera who were baptised in St Mark's church last Saturday. We welcome them as a children of God into our parish.

FIRST CONFESSIONS. Congratulations and well done to all of our Children who made their first confessions this week. Please remember them and their families in your prayers during Holy week as they continue ever forward on their journey of faith.

THE GARDENING GROUP has started up again and would welcome volunteers. We currently meet on Mondays after Mass to plant/ weed/ cut grass/ whatever until lunch time (10:30-12:30). No gardening experience needed! Just turn up or speak to Fr Seán, Fr Nick or Katy Burns.

SCIAF WEE BOX: if you availed of a SCIAF WEE BOX during Lent, could you please return it asap as we prepare to count and transfer the funds to SCIAF. Thank you.

CHRISM MASS: The Chrism Mass this year takes place at 7pm on Tuesday 31st March at St Mary's Cathedral. At this Mass the bishop gathers with all his priests of the diocese and consecrates the Holy Oils to be used in various sacraments throughout the coming year. It is a wonderful opportunity for the faithful to join with the clergy of the diocese for this Solemn Celebration.

REMEMBER; Good Friday, 27th March, is a day of Fasting and Abstinence.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR 2026-27 are now available at the back of the Church.

DIOCESAN STRUCTURES IN SCOTLAND: The Holy See has invited the Bishops of Scotland to reflect on how the present dioceses of the Church in Scotland can best serve her mission in the years ahead. In the coming weeks, therefore, along with the rest of the country, Archbishop Leo would like to hold some consultations on what we might propose to Rome, so that the Church in Scotland might improve cooperation among its dioceses, share resources within our present structures, or consider, as necessary, how we might merge some of our dioceses. Read the full statement at <https://www.bcos.org.uk/>

CHILDRENS LITURGY: there will be no Children's Liturgy on both Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday. It re-commences again on Sunday 26th April.

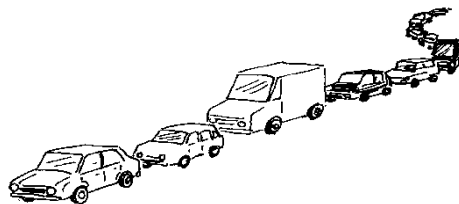
SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held Next weekend 4th/5th April 2026. Your support for our Parish is greatly appreciated and needed. Thank you

Reconciliation Service - Tuesday 31st March @ 7pm

This will be the last opportunity for Confessions until after the Triduum.

OUR JOURNEY

Today we start our "journey" of Holy Week. The journey we make this week in the liturgy with Christ will only make sense if we are making the same journey in our daily lives - inviting Jesus to work the effects of his Passion, death and resurrection in our hearts and minds. Our journey, both inside and outside of the church has to reflect the sincerity of our Faith and of our Christian lives because they are inextricably linked. You can't have one without the other. So as Holy Week starts, we pledge ourselves once more to respond to the promptings of God's grace, to die to sin, to seek to alleviate suffering, to offer hope and new life to those who languish in the shadows. And as we make our ritual entrance into Jerusalem today, let's not lose sight of the fact that our lives are really a journey to a new, different and everlasting Jerusalem that requires a constant refocusing of our sights. It would be a pity to miss the point. Otherwise it would be a wasted journey.



<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>
<i>VIGIL</i>	83	£343	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	145	£447	

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gospel before procession: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [21:1-11]

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, “The Lord needs them”, and he will send them at once.’ This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ‘Say to the daughter of Sion, “Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, ‘Who is this?’ And the crowds said, ‘This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.’

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First Reading: A reading from the prophet Isaiah [50:4-7]

I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backwards. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 22(21):8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24. ±2a]

Response: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

All who see me deride me;
they curl their lips, they toss their heads:
‘He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him, for in him he delights.’

For dogs have surrounded me;
a band of the wicked besets me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet;
I can count every one of my bones.

They divide my clothing among them,
they cast lots for my robe.
But you, O Lord, do not stay afar off;
my strength, make haste to help me!

I will tell of your name to my kin,
and praise you in the midst of the assembly;
‘You who fear the Lord, give him praise;
all descendants of Jacob, give him glory;
revere him, all you descendants of Israel.’

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

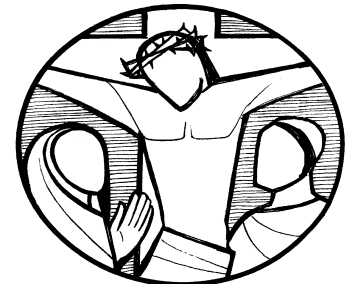
[2:6-11]. *He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ became for us obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Gospel: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [26:14-27:66]



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