

ST. MARK'S PARISH

12th April 2026 Divine Mercy Sunday Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 11th April	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 12th April		10:00am	Ruby Mae Lloyd (Ann)
Monday 13th April		10:00am	Brian Hanlon (Ann)
Tuesday 14th April		10:00am	Margaret Tildesley (RIP)
Thursday 16th April		10:00am	Ann Edge (Ann)
Friday 17th April		10:00am	Ann Allan (Ann)
<i>Saturday 18th April</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 19th April</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Marrie Jenne Velasquez (RIP)</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			

Divine Mercy Sunday

In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000. The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina.



My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.

In all, St. Faustina recorded 14 revelations from Jesus concerning His desire for this feast. Nevertheless, Divine Mercy Sunday is NOT a feast based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina — nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter^[1]. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.

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.

EASTER TRIDUUM Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our celebration of the Easter Triduum this year, your service to God and the community is greatly appreciated by all.

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.

REMINDER - SACRAMENTS 2026 **Presentation of the Our Father** for all candidates making their First Holy Communion will take place on Sunday 26th April during the 10am Mass. **Presentation of the Creed** for all candidates making their Confirmation will take place on Sunday 3rd May during the 10am Mass. The names of all candidates registered for St. Mark's Sacramental Programme 2026 are posted on our notice board. **If your child's name is not on the list, please contact Fr. Seán as soon as possible.**

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.

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: re-commences again on Sunday 26th April.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of £1,540. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you.

<i>St. Mark's</i>	ATTENDANCE	OFFERTORY	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible</i>
VIGIL	84	£382	
SUNDAY	265	£727	

St. Marks's, Oxfangs 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 [2:42-47]

All who believed were together and had all things in common.

The believers devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the Apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they shared their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24]

Response: Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the Lord say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

They pushed me, pushed me hard to knock me down,
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and salvation
in the tents of the righteous.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.
This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad.



Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter [1:3-9]

He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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Alleluia, alleluia.

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [20:19-31]

Eight days later, Jesus came.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.' Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.' Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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