

## ST. MARK'S PARISH

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2026 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A**

*Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson*

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**MASS DATES**

**TIMES**

**INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Vigil</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Marrie Jenne Velasquez (RIP)</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Elizabeth T. Mulvenna (Sp Int)</b>
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Chris Scott (Sp Int)</b>
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Rosaleen Purcell (RIP)</b>
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b>		<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Kirsty Harley (Sp Int)</b>
<i>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Bernadette Tucker (Sp Int)</i>
<i>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>CONFESSIONS</b> 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.			
<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am			

### PRIVILEGED MOMENT

Jim opened his eyes and looked about him. It took a few moments for him to get his bearings with the silent whisperings of strangers moving about him and the less silent steady rhythm of the monitor beside him, marking moments in time, a time he was slowly losing track of. He was in the hospital and things weren't looking good, he was dying.

In the fog of his mind lingered the gospel reading he had heard when his parish priest came to visit him yesterday - or was it last week? The story of the Two disciples on the road to Emmaus, disappointed, certain that their hope had died with Jesus. Jim understood that feeling more than ever now. Like them, He had hoped for more years, more ordinary days. He too felt as though his story was also ending the wrong way. A life that once seemed full now narrowed to this quiet room, this fragile body. But then, he remembered the stranger who walked with them—unrecognized & listening. Jim thought about that. Maybe God had also accompanied him on his journey and been listening too.

Jim closed his eyes. There had been moments—he could see them now—when something stirred in him. A sense of meaning, of love that went deeper than words. Falling in love, getting married, holding his daughter for the first time, forgiving his brother after years of silence, burying his parents. He hadn't called these God moments back then. But maybe they were. Jim thought about the nurse who had held his hand the night before, the quiet kindness in her voice, it felt strangely sacred. Maybe that was how Jesus had always been with him and he never recognised it until now - not fixing everything, not taking away the pain, but staying, walking beside him, even here. The questions that once pressed on him loosened their grip. He no longer needed to understand everything—only to trust in the One who had been walking with him all along. "Stay with me," he whispered as he gently drifted back to sleep.



## 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.

**Date for your Diary: Summer party - Saturday evening June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**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 26<sup>th</sup> April during the 10am Mass. **Presentation of the Creed** for all candidates making their Confirmation will take place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**CHARITY FUNDRAISING:** March 100 club draw results and prizes are: **1<sup>st</sup>: #2 Anne Monaghan £40. 2<sup>nd</sup>: #32 Santina Hamilton £15 and 3<sup>rd</sup>: #68 St Mark's School Surprise Gift.** Congratulations to you all.

**PLANNING TO GET MARRIED?** Whether you plan to get married in St Mark's Parish Church or any other Catholic Church either Locally, Nationally or Internationally, there are certain criteria that need to be met both within your own parish and the church you plan to be married in well in advance of the wedding date. Please contact Fr. Seán or Fr. Nick for all the details you will require to proceed.

**Thank You** to everyone involved in welcoming parishioners, preparing hymn books, helping with the offertory collection, flower arranging, money counters, readers and our musicians. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated by all who practice their faith here at St. Marks and are major contributors to the joyful, prayerful and friendly experience shared by all who join us for Mass every week.

**CHILDRENS LITURGY:** re-commences again on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

<i>St. Mark's</i>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<i>Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible</i>
<b>VIGIL</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>£330</b>	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>£365</b>	

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 [2:14. 22-33]

*It was not possible for him to be held by death.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst — as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

'For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you yourselves are seeing and hearing.'

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### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 15: 1-2. 5. 7-11]

**Response: O Lord, you will show me the path of life**

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord.'

O LORD, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
you yourself who secure my lot.

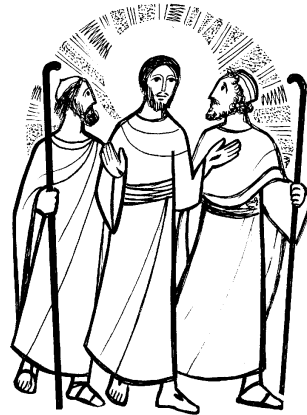
I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the LORD before me always;  
with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my flesh shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
nor let your holy one see corruption.

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand, bliss for ever.



### Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter [1:17-21]

*You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish.*

Beloved: If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

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**Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, open the scriptures to us.**

**Make our hearts burn within us when you talk to us. Alleluia!**

### Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [24:13-35]

*He was known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread

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