

ST. MARK'S PARISH

10th May 2026 6th Sunday of Easter Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES

TIMES

INTENTIONS

Saturday 9th May	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 10th May		10:00am	Marion & Jack Burns (Ann)
Monday 11th May		10:00am	Joseph Mulvenna (RIP)
Tuesday 12th May		10:00am	Cathie, Alec & Jim Paterson (RIP)
Thursday 14th May		10:00am	Christian Sharkey (SpInt)
Thursday 14th May		7:00pm	Marion Young (RIP)
Friday 15th May		10:00am	Mary Toshney (RIP)
<i>Saturday 16th May</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Catherine McInnes (SpInt)</i>
<i>Sunday 17th May</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			

NOT ALONE

Someone once said that the Holy Spirit is the forgotten person of the Trinity. We pray to the Father and we are aware of wanting to imitate Jesus in his life of holiness, but we tend to relegate the Holy Spirit to third place. Of course, all three persons are equal. We used to call him the Holy Ghost but now Holy Spirit is more common. The very word “spirit” gives us a clue as to what the Holy Spirit does. It is connected with breath. Think of respiration, inspiration. The spirit is the breath of God that courses through us when we allow it to inspire and direct our actions. Living life in the Spirit means that we are not alone. If it were left up to us to make ourselves holy then we would be in fine state. It would be more perspiration than inspiration! Today’s gospel reminds us of Jesus’ promise to send an Advocate. This too is the Holy Spirit. We use advocate to describe people who take up a cause and fight to see that justice is done. An advocate is also another word for a lawyer, someone who undertakes the legal work to defend us in court. We don’t stand alone before the prosecution and the judge. A more precise English word for the Holy Spirit is Paraclete. Like an advocate Paraclete means someone you call to stand by your side, to accompany you through your ups and downs. The traditional hymn “Come Holy Ghost Creator, come” expresses this aspect of the Holy Spirit. There is someone with us. In a world where everyone is told that they have to stand on their own two feet perhaps we have lost sight of the fact that we are not alone when it comes to living out our Christianity. To live in the Spirit means that we have a constant companion to whom we can pray, ask direction, and from whom we can seek help and inspiration. Jesus has not left us orphans. He has promised us the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, the Paraclete. It would be a pity not to call upon him.



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.

PLEASE REMEMBER in your prayers the children who will make their First Holy Communion next Sunday and congratulations to the children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday. May the Holy Spirit be forever fruitful in their lives.

THANK YOU to all those who contributed to making our Confirmations this year such a joyful and special occasion for the children of our parish and their families.

ASCENSION DAY This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord and is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will also be an evening Mass at 7pm.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: May 100 club draw results and prizes are: 1st: #21 **Maureen Hope** £40. 2nd: #70 **Sandra Laidlaw** £15 and 3rd: #3 **Claire Morrison** Surprise Gift. Congratulations to you all.

CAR PARK AT REAR OF CHURCH: the back gate of the church premises is now always opened for Mass on Sundays providing more parking spaces to ease the congestion typically experienced in the front car park. It can also be accessed by going left when you come in the front gate and driving around. Please note that it is for the most part a grassy surface so please mind your step when wet.

ST MARKS SUMMER PARTY Join us on Saturday evening June 20th at 6.30pm in the hall for a wee social gathering over a Hot Buffet - entertainment will be provided by the legendry Gary Coupland (MBE) from the singing Kettle. 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 Bhoy McDade, Jacque George or Fr Seán.

THANK YOU to all of those who so generously help out with the Children’s Liturgy each of the Sundays throughout the school year. We are extremely blessed and grateful for all their efforts, care and the loving support they give to our wee lambs - the future of our church and country.

2nd COLLECTION in aid of St. Mark’s Building Fund last weekend realised a combined donation of £897. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you.

COPPERS WEIGHING YOU DOWN? You can put them in our Copper Jar at the back of the church in aid of the building fund. All donations are gratefully received.

<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	64	£305	
SUNDAY	160	£422	

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles [8:5-8. 14-17]

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20]

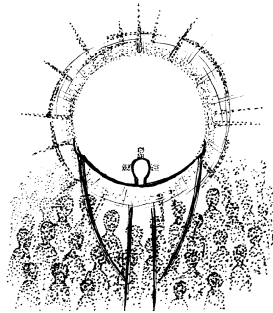
Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!'

'Before you all the earth shall bow down,
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God:
his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam.

He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
Let our joy, then, be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God;
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,
nor withhold from me his merciful love.



Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter [3:15-18]

Being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

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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 [14:15-21]

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

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