

ST. MARK'S PARISH

17th May 2026 7th Sunday of Easter Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 16th May	Vigil	5:00pm	Catherine McInnes (SpInt)
Sunday 17th May		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 18th May		10:00am	Miriam Jilworth (RIP)
Tuesday 19th May		10:00am	Seamus Freyne (RIP)
Thursday 21st May		10:00am	Brenda Scott (Ann)
Friday 22nd May		10:00am	Eileen Morgan (SpInt)
<i>Saturday 23rd May</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 24th May</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Arthur Winter (Ann)</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			

WAIT HERE PLEASE

Older Catholics will remember this coming week as a time of great prayerful activity. In many parishes there was a Novena to the Holy Spirit, nine days of earnest prayer between the Ascension and Pentecost. Some people went to church each night to the novena, whilst others kept it devotionally in their own home. It was about waiting, waiting for the Holy Spirit. Just as Mary, the apostles and others waited in the upper room before the first Pentecost, so the Church encourages us to wait on the coming of the Spirit.

Our society hates waiting. Banks, Post Offices and supermarkets entice us with better and faster service. It seems as if waiting-time has become synonymous with wasting-time. We speak of “being kept waiting” as if it was preventing us from doing more important things.

Yet waiting is at the heart of our faith and at the core of our prayer. We can easily forget that Christians are in the world but not of it. We believe that one day Christ will return to share his glory with us, and we will be taken up with him. So, each time we celebrate Mass the prayers remind us that “we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our saviour Jesus Christ.”

Waiting for God in prayer gives us a chance to find out exactly what our values are and where we are going. During this coming week will I simply ask God for the three million things I think I need, or will I have the sense to slow down, put myself quietly before God, waiting to find out what God is asking of me and offering to me? As Pentecost approaches, whether in church or at home, we all need to spend some time waiting in joyful hope for the coming of our saviour Jesus Christ.



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 this Sunday. May the Holy Spirit be forever fruitful in their lives.

BARGE TRIP There are still a couple of places left on our Barge Trip on Wednesday 27th May. Should anyone like to put their name/s down on the sign-up sheet on the notice board at the back of the church, please include a contact phone number and one of our organisers will be in touch. Otherwise, you can speak to Fr. Seán, Fr. Nick or Eddie Hoy anytime.

SPICK AND SPAN: Come and have fun with mops and brushes as we continue in our mission to keep our beautiful church clean and tidy for all the faithful who practice their faith here at St. Mark’s. All help is greatly appreciated by everyone - both in heaven and on earth. Tuesday 19/5/2026 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards!

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.

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 and things you need to do well in advance of the wedding ceremony. Please contact Fr. Seán or Fr. Nick for all the details you will require to proceed.

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 BhoymcDade, Jacquie George or Fr Seán.

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	80	£400	
SUNDAY	132	£345	

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 [1:12-14]

All with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the Apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers and sisters.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 26:1. 4. 7-8.]

Response: I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
only this do I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord,
to enquire at his temple.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer me.

Of you my heart has spoken,
'Seek his face.'



Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter [4:13-16]

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed.

Beloved: Rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evildoer, or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

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Alleluia, alleluia.

I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.

I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

Alleluia.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John [17:1-11a]

Father, glorify your Son.

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

'I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

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