

ST. MARK'S PARISH

28th June 2026 Sts Peter & Paul Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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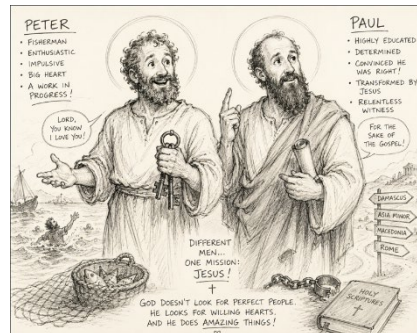
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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 27th June	Vigil	5:00pm	Hamish Buchan (RIP)
Sunday 28th June		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 29th June		10:00am	Rosalind MacKay (SpInt)
Tuesday 30th June		10:00am	Eileen Morgan (1st Ann)
Thursday 2nd July		10:00am	Sable W Semaite (RIP)
Friday 3rd July		10:00am	Elizabeth Mulvenna & Family
<i>Saturday 4th July</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 5th July</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>Sr Helen McLaughlin (SpInt)</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			

Today we celebrate two saints who, on paper, really shouldn't have made such a good team. Peter was impulsive. He spoke before he thought, tried to walk on water, denied Jesus three times, and probably would have been the first to put his hand up with the wrong answer. Paul, on the other hand, was highly educated, logical, determined—and began his career by trying to stamp out the Church altogether. If today's world had social media, it's hard to imagine Peter and Paul agreeing on everything in the comments section! Yet here they are together on one feast day. Why? Because holiness isn't about having the perfect personality. It's about allowing God's grace to work with the person you are. God didn't turn Peter into Paul or Paul into Peter. He transformed each of them without taking away what made them unique. Peter became the rock because he learned humility. Paul became the great missionary because he allowed his fierce determination to be redirected towards Christ. There's something comforting in that. God doesn't ask us to be someone else. He asks us to be faithful with the gifts, quirks, strengths, and even weaknesses we already have. Perhaps that's the quiet message of today's feast. The Church has room for fishermen and scholars, for those who speak from the heart and those who think things through, for saints who stumble and saints who argue—but who all keep their eyes fixed on Christ. So, if you've ever felt a bit too impulsive to be like Paul, or too opinionated to be like Peter—or simply too ordinary to be a saint—today's feast is good news. God has been working with unlikely people from the very beginning, and thankfully, He still is.



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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM If you wish to have your child baptised, please arrange an appointment with Fr. Seán or Fr. Nick either after Mass, by calling the parish office or sending an email to the above listed email address. Please remember that at least one of the child's parents should be a practicing Catholic as should one of the chosen Godparents/Sponsors.

CHILDRENS LITURGY: our Children's Liturgy group are now, following with the schools, on a break for the School Summer Holidays. We will start up again in conjunction with the new school term on 16/08/26. We would also like to acknowledge the hard work of our Children's Liturgy Group Leaders who give tirelessly of their time in helping our wee lambs grow in the understanding of their faith and experiencing the love of God. May God bless you all.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the children of St. Mark's primary who will be moving on to secondary education after the summer holidays - that they will enjoy their new schools and be happy in everything they do. Let us also remember those who will be going on holidays and travelling during the weeks ahead, May the Good Lord continue to watch over them and bless them with his care.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP meet in St. Mark's church on the 1st Saturday of each month (4/7/26) at 2pm in front of the Divine Mercy picture to pray the Chaplet & intercessory prayers. All are welcome to attend.

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to helping to ensure the success and enjoyment of all who joined us for our summer solstice supper last Saturday evening. A great night was had by all.

PRAYERS are asked for those parishes in our Archdiocese who are preparing for a change of priests, may they all work together united in their love for God.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of Peter's Pence will be held this weekend 27th/28th June 2026. There will be a box available at the back of the church for anyone wishing to donate to this cause.

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

<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>	<i>77</i>	<i>£281</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>£482</i>	

St. Marks's, Oxbgangs 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 [12:1-11]

Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.

In those days: Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, 'Dress yourself and put on your sandals.' And he did so. And he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. ±5]

*Response: **From all my terrors the LORD set me free.***

I will bless the LORD at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the LORD with me;
together let us praise his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This lowly one called; the LORD heard,
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the LORD is encamped
around those who fear him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the LORD is good.
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

Second Reading: A reading from the 2nd letter of St Paul to Timothy [4:6-8, 17-18]

There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church,
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Alleluia

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [16:13-19]

You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

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