

ST. MARK'S PARISH

16th August 2026 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

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MASS DATES TIMES INTENTIONS

Saturday 15th August	Vigil	5:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 16th August		10:00am	Christina Maughan (RIP)
Monday 17th August		10:00am	NO MASS
Tuesday 18th August		10:00am	NO MASS
Thursday 20th August		10:00am	NO MASS
Friday 21st August		10:00am	NO MASS
<i>Saturday 22nd August</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>Torres Llano Family (RIP)</i>
<i>Sunday 23rd August</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			

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of the most joyful and hope-filled celebrations in the Catholic Church. On this day, we rejoice that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory by the power of God. The Assumption is not simply a privilege granted to Mary alone; it is a sign of God's loving plan for all who belong to Christ. Mary's Assumption proclaims the victory of Jesus over sin and death. Through His death and resurrection, Christ opened the gates of heaven and restored humanity's destiny. The Assumption reminds us that the human body is precious in God's sight. We are not merely souls passing through this world; we are persons created by God, body and soul, destined for eternal life. Mary's Assumption points forward to the resurrection promised to all the faithful. What God has accomplished in her, He desires ultimately to accomplish in us.

Above all, the Assumption invites us to lift our eyes toward heaven. Mary does not draw attention to herself but continually points us to Christ. As our loving Mother, she encourages us to persevere in faith, trust in God's mercy, and remain faithful to the Gospel. From her place in heavenly glory, she intercedes for the Church and accompanies her children on their pilgrimage through life.

As we celebrate her Assumption, we rejoice not only in what God has done for Mary, but also in what He promises to do for all who love Him. She is a sign that God's promises never fail, a beacon of hope on our earthly pilgrimage, and a loving Mother who continually leads us to her Son. In Mary assumed into heaven, we see both the triumph of grace and the destiny that awaits the faithful in the kingdom of God.



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.

WORK ON THE MAIN WINDOWS OF THE CHURCH (W3) continues this week with good progress been made so far. The estimated 3-4 weeks duration for this job seems still very achievable - as long as the weather continues to behave itself. As we continue into week 3 of the job, the church will continue to be closed for the usual 10am weekday Mass. The church will be open for the usual Saturday evening vigil Mass at 5pm and Sunday morning 10am Mass. Any updates or amendments to this schedule will be announced at the weekend Masses and in the weekly newsletter which is also available on our website.

SCHOOL RETURN: please pray for all those involved in our schools. May God bless their efforts as they start a new term

CHILDRENS LITURGY will begin again (a bit later than usual) when the works on the front windows of the church are finished. This will be around the beginning of September. Please watch the newsletter for a definite date.

SCAMS: always on your guard against scammers. Rest assured that you will **never** get a request from anyone at St. Mark's Parish for any type of financial assistance for a priest, parishioner or any parish related concerns via email, phone, text, any type of social media or even from someone who turns up on your doorstep. If you do it is a scam. If you are ever in doubt on anything, never act hastily - always call the parish landline and speak to Fr. Seán or leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible. But the odds are that someone is trying to Con You out of your hard-earned money. Don't let them.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING 100 CLUB DRAW Subscriptions (£20) for the upcoming (October to July) 26/27 period are now due. Numbers are still available and we welcome anyone who would like to join. There is one draw each of the 10 months with a 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize. If you would like to join, forms/envelopes are available at the back of the church or you can speak to any of the committee members - Jacquie George, Alma McDonald, Alexander Robbin, Elisa & Colin Armit, Helen MacFadyen and Ann Tobin.

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.

<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>62</i>	<i>£306</i>	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>£500</i>	

St. Mark'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 book of the Apocalypse [11:19a; 12:1-6a,

10ab] *A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.*

God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God.

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, 'Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.'

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R.10b]

Response: On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear:

forget your own people and your father's house.

So will the king desire your beauty.

He is your lord, pay homage to him.

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;

they pass within the palace of the king.

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians [15:20-27]

Christ the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ.

Brothers and Sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has

come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.'

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Alleluia, alleluia

Mary has been taken up into heaven;

the host of angels rejoice.

Alleluia.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [1:39-56]

He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of humble estate.

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring for ever. 'And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

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