

ST. MARK'S PARISH

4th October 2026 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

Parish Clergy: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson

Parish Office: 29 Oxbgangs Avenue., Edinburgh, EH13 9HX Ph: 0131 441 3915

Email: office.stmarksedinburgh@staned.org.uk

Website: stmarksrccchurch-edinburgh.org.uk

MASS DATES

TIMES

INTENTIONS

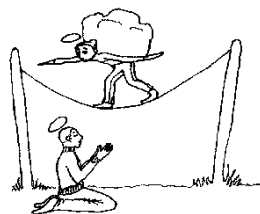
Saturday 3rd October	Vigil	5:00pm	Martin Family (SpInt)
Sunday 4th October		10:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 5th October		10:00am	Genette Berard (SpInt)
Tuesday 6th October		10:00am	Grace Cooney (Ann)
Thursday 8th October		10:00am	Nikki West (RIP)
Friday 9th October		10:00am	John Wastle (RIP)
<i>Saturday 10th October</i>	<i>Vigil</i>	<i>5:00pm</i>	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Sunday 11th October</i>		<i>10:00am</i>	<i>John Pettigrew (RIP)</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

LOSING THE PLOT?

As Christians we walk a delicate tightrope. On the one hand we can fall into the trap of thinking that everything depends on us, that by our own efforts we can achieve salvation. On the other hand we can become so intent on the fact that only God's grace can bring salvation that we end up sitting back and letting God get on with it without lending a hand. People who think everything depends on them tend to be great activists. They are the people of petitions, badges, protests and placards. In the past they were the people who said lots of rosaries, recited numerous litanies and were always found at the nearest religious gathering. They were also first to volunteer for the soup kitchen, the Justice Group and the parish amenities committee. At the other end of the scale are those people who may well pray a lot but are slow to take up any sort of active Christian role within their community. Maybe they too are seen at church on Sundays and at diocesan gatherings of prayer. But their main concern is making themselves holy by putting practical issues in second place so that they can contemplate God who will save them. Isaiah and Matthew both recount similar stories today about a vineyard. In Isaiah, the owner (God) of the vineyard (his people Israel) plants fine vines and does everything possible to grow good grapes but the plot only produces sour grapes. So the owner threatens to turn it into scrubland. In Matthew we hear Jesus saying that the tenants who aren't producing fruit from the land will be evicted from it. Nothing you can ever do will get you into heaven. Only Christ can get you there. But if you just sit back and pray while watching others doing the work then you've already lost the plot. And the grapes.



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.

REGISTERING FOR SCHOOL: Primary 1 August 2027: If your child's date of birth is between 1 March 2022 and 28 February 2023, they are due to start primary school in August 2027 you must register your child for P1 when registration opens in November 2026..St Mark's R.C. Primary School are holding their Open Day on Wednesday 4th November at the following times: 9am – 10am, 11am – 12noon & 1.30pm – 2.30pm. This is an opportunity for families, guardians and carers to have a look around, meet the staff and pupils, and ask any questions they may have. St Mark's PS address is 63 Firrhill Crescent, Edinburgh, EH13 9EE. Ph: 0131 441 2948

CHRISTMAS CARDS, Advent Calendars & Candles are now on sale at the back of the church. As is the norm, to whomever the Christmas Novena cards Specific to St Mark's are sent - their names can be written on slips provided in the card and then these slips can be put into a box provided on the table beside the cards. These names will then be included in a novena of Masses from Thursday 17th Dec through to Friday Dec 25th.

CANDLELIGHT REMEMBRANCE MASS FOR ALL SOULS will be celebrated on Monday 2nd November 2026 at 7pm. **The usual 10am morning Mass will not be held that day.** If you would like the name of a loved one who has died to be read out during this Mass, please add their names to the lists provided at the back of the church. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY** – again - **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY** as a list must be typed up – if I can't make out the name it won't be included. The intention for this Mass will be for All the Souls of the Faithful Departed.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS: Everyone is welcome to come into the hall after Mass on Sundays for a friendly cuppa tea/coffee, a munch and a chat. Thank you to all the hosts and hostesses of this Post Sunday Mass Refreshment Group, you are doing a great job and your efforts are appreciated by many a parishioner.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING. Many thanks to everyone who supported the recent coffee morning. Together we raised £2,260 which is an amazing amount of money. It will help support many people who are being helped by the Macmillan cancer support charity.

SECOND COLLECTION: in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund will be held this weekend 3rd/4th Oct 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>	64	£550	
<i>SUNDAY</i>	136	£395	

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 prophet Isaiah [5:1-7]

The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Texts from the ESV-CE, published by Asian Trading Corp. © 2017 Crossway - published in the UK by SPCK Publishing. Psalms and Canticles from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB. Reprinted with permission.

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 80(79):9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20. R. Isaiah 5:7a]

Response: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots.

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself.

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Bring us back, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.



Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians [4:6-9]

Practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Brothers and Sisters: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Texts from the ESV-CE, published by Asian Trading Corp. © 2017 Crossway - published in the UK by SPCK Publishing. Psalms and Canticles from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB. Reprinted with permission.

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I chose you out of the world, says the Lord,
that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.
Alleluia!**

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [21:33-43]

He will let out the vineyard to other tenants.

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them. Finally, he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.” And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’

They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.’

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes”? Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.’

Texts from the ESV-CE, published by Asian Trading Corp. © 2017 Crossway - published in the UK by SPCK Publishing. Psalms and Canticles from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB. Reprinted with permission.