ST. MARK'S PARISH

15th November 2026 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year *A*

***Parish Clergy**: Rev Seán Bradley & Rev Nicholas Hodgson*
***Parish Office:** 29 Oxgangs Avenue., Edinburgh, EH13 9HX* ***Ph**:* 0131 441 3915
Email: office.stmarksedinburgh@staned.org.uk
Website: stmarksrcchurch-edinburgh.org.uk

MASS DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS
Saturday 14th November Vigil	**5:00pm**	**Elizabeth Mulvenna & Holy Souls in Purgatory**
Sunday 15th November	**10:00am**	**People of the Parish**
Monday 16th November	**10:00am**	**Carol Monaghan (RIP)**
Tuesday 17th November	**10:00am**	**Ita & Clive Watts (SpInt)**
Thursday 19th November	**10:00am**	**Jackie Heron (SpInt)**
Friday 20th November	**10:00am**	**Marjory McPhillips (Ann)**
Saturday 21st November Vigil	*5:00pm*	*the McGuigan Family (RIP)*
Sunday 22nd November	*10:00am*	*People of the Parish*

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.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Tuesday & Friday Morning 09.15am – 09.45am

INTEREST RATES



Imagine being given 20 years' salary in one go and simply putting it in a sock under your bed. That's what happens in today's gospel when the master gives five talents, three talents and one talent to his servants. A talent was a coin that was worth almost 20 years pay for a servant or a labourer, so the first servant actually got 100 years' salary and the second got 60 years in advance. Of course, the man who got 20 years' pay simply went and buried it in the ground. He knew his master was a demanding man and he was scared to use his talent in case he ended up making a loss. What excuse do we make for not using the talents that God has given to us? Many people say that God really has given them nothing special to do in their lives. They simply exist and one day they'll die. But today's gospel clearly shows that everyone has been given some role by God and every baptised Christian has been called to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Other people are quick to compare themselves to others. They say they are not as good as So-and-So and what's the point of their stepping forward when others are "more talented"? Yet God does not judge us in comparison with others and what they may or may not be capable of doing. God knows what we are capable of, and he expects us only to respond in the fullest way we can. Perhaps the saddest people are those who have convinced themselves that God is asking too much of them, like the soprano who turned down the request to sing in the choir because the weekly practice clashed with her favourite soap opera on TV. God expects us to bring a return on the talents he has given us, and this means more than simply going through the motions. It means taking risks, it means stretching ourselves for the sake of the gospel, and it means putting our whole hearts into practising our faith. So, if God were to ask you today what you have done with talents that you were given, would you know what your talents are and would you be able to show how you have been cooperating with the Holy Spirit to try and make them grow?

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.

THE PARISH has just opened a fundraising account on an App called Easyfundraising. It's an easy to use and free way to help grow St Mark's building fund just by doing what you already do—shopping online. When you buy from everyday retailers through Easyfundraising, they donate a small percentage to St Mark's at no extra cost to you. It's an effortless way to support our church and turn everyday purchases into a lasting legacy. There are over 8,000 participating retailers including; John Lewis, Tesco, Argos, Boots, TUI, Jet2, Trainline, B&Q etc. etc. etc….. prices are exactly the same. Download the app on your phone and or computer and Join as a supporter at: **www.easyfundraisin.org.uk/support-a-good-cause** and nominate St Marks Roman Catholic Church, as the charity you want your donations to go to. It's really easy.

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 want to practice their faith here at St. Mark's. All help is greatly appreciated by everyone - both in heaven and on earth. Tuesday 17/11/26 after the 10am morning Mass. Cleaning is typically finished well before noon with Tea, biscuits and a chat afterwards!

ST MARKS CHRISTMAS PARTY **Grown-ups** - Join us on Saturday evening **December 5th** at 6.00pm in the hall for a wee adults only social gathering over a Hot Buffet. **Growing-ups** - Join us on Sunday morning **December 6th** for our Children's Christmas Party at 11.30am – 1pm (ish) in the hall. Entertainment will be provided for each Shin-Dig. **Grown-ups** - tickets £10pp – please put in an envelope with your name – or names on it and give to any of the people listed below. **Growing-ups** – no charge. If anyone would like to donate a prize for our Grown-ups raffle OR a wee gift for our children's party on Sunday morning. please contact any of our ticket sellers after mass at back of church or outside. **CLOSING DATE FOR NAMES OF CHILDREN ATTENDING CHRISTMAS PARTY IS SUNDAY 29th NOV.**

NEW DAWN in Scotland is hosting a healing service on Friday 11 December 7:00pm-9:30pm at St Mark's. The service will be led by Augustinian Friar, Fr Stefan Park. There will be Praise and Worship, Confession, Adoration and an opportunity for individual prayer from Fr Stefan. Further details to follow.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: The winners for our November draw are:: **1st: #12 Tony Heatherington** £40. **2nd: #10 Peter Matulaitis** £20 and **3rd: #46 Jeanette McLaughlin** Surprise Gift. Congratulations to you all.

SECOND COLLECTION This weekend in aid of Catholic Education. A box will be made available at the back of the church for anyone who would like to make a donation to this very charitable cause.

St. Mark's	*ATTENDANCE*	*OFFERTORY*	***Thank you, without your contributions the work of God's church would not be possible***
VIGIL	**80**	***£339***	
SUNDAY	**120**	***£426***	

St. Marks's, Oxgangs 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 Proverbs [31:10-13.19-20.30-31] *She works with willing hands.*

An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

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Responsorial Psalm [Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R.1a]

Response: **Blessed are all who fear the Lord.**

Blessed are all who fear the LORD,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the LORD.
May the LORD bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life!



Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians [5:1-6] *Do not let the day of the Lord surprise you like a thief.*

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

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Alleluia, alleluia!
Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord.
Whoever abides in me bears much fruit
Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [25:14-30]

You have been faithful over a little, enter into the joy of your master.

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."'

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