

## 16th Sunday of the Year - Year B - 18th July 2021



### There may be trouble ahead

Sometimes it is a good thing to take some time out to pause and reflect. We need to stop to draw breath and find a way to be refreshed and restored. Perhaps this is one of those times, a time when the school year draws to a close creating a change in the normal pattern of life for many of us. For all of us there is of course the change in rules on 19<sup>th</sup> July, so called "Freedom Day". What will we do? Are you going to charge maskless out of the house with some sense of date defined immunity? Or are you going to continue to take care, waiting to see what this new normal actually means for you and those you love? Whatever our position in this situation, it is a time when we need to be aware and forgiving of each others desires on the one hand and ongoing fears on the other. It may be a difficult time to find love for our neighbour.

It would thus be good to take note of the welcome invitation in the readings this week to spend more time with our loving Lord who is our shepherd, and in whom we find nourishment, shelter, and peace for our minds and bodies. Find some time to listen for the Holy Spirit in our prayers. The Gospel shows the Spirit at work in Jesus, faced with the competing needs of his disciples and of his needy flock. The Twelve had just returned from their mission, sent out in pairs, to both preach and heal and had a need for stillness and restoration. Jesus still is able to respond with compassion to those crowds who feel lost and are in need of his guidance.

So as we enter into this time of change we need to respond, as always, with love to those who may have a different standpoint from ourself. We need to offer shelter and rest for those who need it and guidance and direction for those who seek it. In all of this modelling our actions on those of Jesus, the Shepherd King; putting our needs after those of others.

*Fr Tom McHale*  
(except Monday)

502320

*Deacon David Westgarth*

*Fr John Bagnall*  
(except Wednesday)

502196

*Deacon Shaun McGee*

*Deacon Chris Callan*

*Website: [www.pontoppartnership.org.uk](http://www.pontoppartnership.org.uk)*

*Facebook: Pontop Partnership*

## **GENERAL NOTICES AROUND THE PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE**

Thank you to our Volunteers: During the pandemic there have been so many people who have made it possible for us to gather for Mass by stewarding and guiding our people, cleaning and sanitising our churches. We would like to say 'thank you' to them for all their hard work and the great enthusiasm they have shown over the many months since the opening our churches.

Bookings For Masses: It is unlikely that people will need to book for Mass as from Monday 19th July but further information will be given out by Frs Tom and John at the weekend Masses. Since it is still possible that Mass attendance may need to be booked we would advise everyone to please ring the following number for the latest guidance **07907 369233**.

Capacity in our Churches: More information to be announced over the weekend.

Requiem Mass and Funeral Services: More information to be announced over the weekend

Hospital Chaplain's: If you wish a visit from a Priest for a family member who is in hospital please contact the hospital chaplain for that hospital.

*Shotley Bridge Hospital* - Fr Paul Tully 01207 583583 or 01913332183

*Hexham General* - Fr Christopher Warren 0844 8118111 or 01434 603119(church)

*The University Hospital Durham* - Fr Paul Tully 0191 - 3332333 or 0191 - 3332183

*Freeman Hospital and RVI* - Fr Mariadass Pagyasamy 0191 2336161 or 0191 2733903 (church)

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2021-2022: The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2021-2022 and there is a short presentation shown on the Diocesan website:

[www.edurcdhn.org.uk/courses/courses\\_ccrs.php](http://www.edurcdhn.org.uk/courses/courses_ccrs.php)

Holy Face Walk: St. Patrick's Holy Face Prayer Group is hoping to organise a Walk of Witness carrying the Holy Face Picture on Friday, July 23rd, commencing at 10.30am from St. Patrick's Church. This will include a time in Middle Street meeting shoppers, and then we will walk to Blackhill, and on to St. Pius' Church in Moorside. There will be lots of different roles for volunteers, so if you are interested in joining us, please ring Maggie Quinn on (01207) 506425. All are welcome to join us. A Planning Meeting will be held for volunteers on the 23rd at 9.30am at St. Patrick's Church.

Christmas Angels: Calling all knitters! This year, all the knitted angels will be placed near the Christmas Crib for our younger children to take home. Patterns are available from St. Patrick's Parish Office, where completed angels can be left. It's never too early to start because we need quite a few! Angels can be of different colours so you can be as creative as you want! Many thanks.

Minsteracres re-opening - Volunteers Wanted: If you would like to share your skills or learn new ones, meet new people or simply help us provide our unique service please check us out at [www.minsteracres.org](http://www.minsteracres.org) or email:[info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org) for more information.

ISC Glasgow at Minsteracres: This retreat is held in silence and will be led by members of the Ignatian Spirituality Centre from Glasgow in collaboration with the team at Minsteracres.

This retreat starts on Friday 3 September at 6.30pm and ends on Friday 10 September at 10.00am. Suggested donation £595.

SVP St Vincent's Support Centre Newcastle – Volunteers & Donations Needed: Volunteering Roles Available Helping to make food parcels and support Clothing packs for people and families in need, Community Kitchen & Café roles, Volunteers to help at Vinnies free Tuesday Lunch Service, Vintage Charity Boutique shop Volunteers: Knock and drop deliveries drivers to help deliver food parcels and support packs in the Newcastle / Gateshead area. If you have items, you would like to donate or would like to get involved in volunteering please give Emma a call on 07453615139 or email [emmab@svp.org.uk](mailto:emmab@svp.org.uk)

Ongoing Faith Witness Against Hassockfield: In October, the Home Office plans to open an Immigration Removal Centre at Hassockfield on the site of the former Medomsley Detention Centre. This will be for 80 women seeking asylum in the UK. The proposal is inhumane, unjust and incompatible with our faith which calls us to recognise the intrinsic dignity of each person. These women are people like ourselves who have the right to a place of safety and to be treated with respect and compassion. **A monthly prayer vigil will be held at the barrier to Hassockfield on the first Sunday of each month at 3pm starting on Sunday 1st August.** This will last for about 30 minutes and will incorporate a time of silent witness. Please support this with your prayer and, if at all possible, come along. For further information, please contact [lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com](mailto:lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com)

Consett Incinerator Proposal: Have Your Say: As many of our local residents will already be aware, the County Council is currently considering a proposal to build an incinerator at Hownsgill Park. For more information, and an opportunity to let our representatives know what you think: 1) you can view the proposal at [publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications](http://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications); and 2) any comments may be sent by email to [planning@durham.gov.uk](mailto:planning@durham.gov.uk).

### **St Mary's News**

Lately Deceased: Dorothy Heweston, Winifred Nixon and Francis McNally (Leicester) please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

Sanctuary Candle: In Loving Memory of Catherine Murphy

Resumption of Communion Visits: Following on from our meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, most of our ministers have agreed to resume bringing the Blessed Sacrament to the housebound in accordance with the Bishops' Conference guidelines for doing so safely during the pandemic. If anyone is aware of someone who was not housebound before the lockdown, but who is now and would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Tom to arrange this.

Legion of Mary: Will say the Rosary and Legion Prayers on Tuesday Evenings at 6pm.

Memorial Stones: Anyone wishing to purchase a memorial Stone in memory of a loved one please give information in writing, The name for the memorial stone and also the Name, address and phone number of the contact person. Please place in an envelope and either put it through St Mary's Door or hand it to Joe Anderson.

## **St Patrick's News**

Collection: This week - Apostleship of the Sea

Lately Deceased: Rose Walker (nee Rose Hughes) died in Nottingham 1st July. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

Holy Face Prayer Group: The Holy Face Prayer Group meets on Tuesday evenings, in church, from 6pm onwards. For further details telephone 01207 506425. the latest Holy Face Youtube video link is:- <https://youtube/55Plmlikt38>

## **St Pius X News**

Holy Rosary Hour: Holy Rosary Hour every last Monday of the month from 6pm to 7pm. Next meeting is the 26th of July. All are welcome.

## **Our Lady and St Joseph's News**

Sudan Feeding Station: The collection for the SVP Sudan Feeding Station to date has raised £2,338. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The Peter's Pence collection: raised £155. Thank you for your support.

St. Joseph's Hall, Leadgate: Prince Bishops Veterinary Practice, Plantation Street, Leadgate have contacted Hexham & Newcastle Diocese to express an interest in buying St. Joseph's Hall to expand their premises and business. If this was to happen all money from the purchase would go directly to Brooms parish. This could be spent on much needed refurbishment and repair of Brooms Church and its Presbytery. When Mass times return to normal there are three available venues in Leadgate Village where we could continue to hold weekday Mass.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St. Mary's: Ellen Clifford, Eileen Grigg, George Rodgers, Maurice Shaw, Joan Dougherty, Hugh Ryans, dennis Andrews, Lynn McKenna, Maureen Maurice, Mary McCabe, Virginia Reilly, Wilf Reay, Olive Kearney, Ian William Kitchen, Anthony O'Neill, Kevin White, Edward Murray, Catherine Hillas, John Toner.

St. Patrick's: James Crozier Snr, Josephine Darroch, Matthew Hall, John Westgarth, Jordan Graham, Barbara Stevens, Margaret Conroy, Clarence Hope, Molly Glancy, Arthur McArdle, Margaret Calvert, Joe Conroy, Theresa Hutton, Maurice Byrne, Mary Hannant, Mary McArdle (Burns), Bernadette McGurk, Ada Lister, Catherine Milner, Margaret Railton, Billy Pledger, Peter Harpin, Rita Hughes, John Crawley, Anthony Bough, Ann Dickinson, Malcolm Wright, Joanne Storey, Andrew Rowlands, John Bell, Marjorie Whitton, Elizabeth Carr.

St. Pius: Charles Albert Akers, Catherine Brady, Hilda Whales and May Wilson.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: June Williamson, Catherine Williamson, Paul Richardson, Teresa Toole, Peter Grogan.

## **THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISH**

We keep in our prayers:

St. Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Tilly Lockey, Kieran Richard Atkinson, Amelia Burns, Norman Riches, Ethan White, James Thomas English, David Sizmy, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Freya Simpson, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Joan Kennedy, Tom Slane, Tony Quinn, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, Jimmy McGuigan, Catherine Hester, David Oliver, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, John Ross and Simon Quinn.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reilly, Judith Hindmarsh, Nora Robson, Veronica Naisbett, Geraldine Donnelly, Michael Shaw and John Willis.

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Paul Hunt, Nancy Malone, Gerry McArdle, Joan McGee, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr., Charlie O'Donnell and Jade Telford.

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson.

**Pope Francis – Prayer To Mary For Protection During The Covid - 19 Pandemic**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey  
as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,  
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves  
to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,  
through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test –  
and deliver us from every danger,

O glorious and blessed Virgin

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

'My Jesus I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, I love you  
above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this  
moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I  
embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you, never  
permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

**Partnership Prayer**

Risen Christ, from your abundant grace,  
pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.

As we build on the deep foundations of faith  
laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,  
by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede

may our Partnerships continue the mission  
of building your Kingdom on the earth: to give living witness to your love,  
and to your compassion and hope for our world.

We pray in trustful confidence that your power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Who live and reign forever and ever.

Amen