

29th Sunday of the Year - Year C - 16th October 2022



High Hopes

There are certain songs that can take you back to different times and places in an instant. This Sunday's Gospel triggered a Frank Sinatra song, High Hopes, that took me to Sunday dinners with the radio on, probably 2 Way Family Favourites. It has the wonderful line, "Whoops there goes another rubber tree plant", and is about a tiny ant achieving massive success through perseverance. (And later on an equally persistent ram.)

It is perseverance that is key to the parable Jesus shares this week. The judge will eventually listen to the woman's pleading because she just doesn't give up. It would be wrong however to think of God as being like the unjust Judge in this parable who, if we just pester Him with our prayers, will eventually relent.

When it comes to prayer the immovable object we need to shift is our own mindset. Far too often we are centred on our own desires and full of our own importance. Prayer only appears in our lives as a means to those ends and that will just not work. The prayer Jesus is calling us towards is a continual building up of our relationship with God. What this will do is open us to God and, as St. Paul tells the Ephesians, "enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us." Once our lives are empowered by that hope we can do things in our lives that seemed impossible: forgive others, be generous to the stranger, walk alongside those who need us, ... love as Jesus wants us to love.

Whoops there goes a billion kilowatt dam!

Fr Tom McHale
(except Monday)
01207-502320

Fr John Bagnall
(except Wednesday)
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General Notices Around the Partnership

Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass: We understand that there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: For the Consett area, St Patrick's, Consett; Saturday after 10am Mass. Our Lady and St Joseph's Brooms on Saturday's before the 5.30pm Vigil Mass 4.45pm-5.15pm.

The Chaplaincy at St Bede's: has started a Knit & Natter Club with year 7 students. Our aim is to create awareness for Alzheimer's and Dementia and create sensory lap blankets for parishioners in our parish communities. It would be wonderful if parishioners would like to contribute knitted squares of approx 20 stitches - they will be warmly received. Please leave finished knitted squares in the presbytery at your local parish and they will be forwarded on. Also, can parishioners please keep our invitation to year 7 & 8 students to form a Youth SVP group in prayer please.

First Friday For Life: Bishop John Keenan, St Mary's Cathedral, Paisley is asking us to join him in fasting and prayer on every First Friday for the next 9 months, to protect the unborn child, to help promote the pro-life movement and to build a society with an authentic culture of life.

St Patrick's Hall Table Top Sale Sunday 23rd October: Unfortunately this has been cancelled hopefully to be rescheduled at a later date.

St Patrick's Hall Keep it Real Computer Course: Due to unforeseen circumstances the Keep it Real Computer Course has been postponed. We will keep you informed when it will restart.

CAFOD's Campaign: The Fix the Food System has been looking at different aspects of food both grown here in the UK, feeding people and waste, much part of Climate Change and CAFOD working with overseas partners. This week is Harvest Fast Day, a chance to show solidarity with the hungry across the world by giving up a treat or eating a simple meal and bringing the money saved to next week's collection.

Universe Catholic Weekly: We are happy to let you know that despite inflation rising to 10.1% that the Universe Catholic Weekly subscription will remain at the current price of £20 for 3 months or £80 for the year. We guarantee that there will be no increase at all until the end of this year. We hope you continue to enjoy your weekly read and don't forget your 10%discount on everything (except subscriptions) when you order from our online shop. **(Use coupon code: SUB10 at checkout).**

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: Helping you get the 'big picture' of the Bible in an eight week course commences on Thursday 27th October for 8 weeks 7pm until 9pm in the upstairs room of St Patrick's Hall.

SPUC National Prayer Campaign 10 Million Prayers for 10 Million Lost Lives: On 27th October it will be exactly 55 years since the Abortion Act of 1967 was passed. Since then, 10 million babies have lost their lives in this country to abortion. The battle to defend life is, above all, a spiritual one and on 27th October 2022 the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be launching a major National Prayer campaign, in collaboration with the

Knights of St. Columba, to encourage more people to pray with renewed faith. The aim is to reach a milestone of 10 million prayers being pledged in memory of the 10 million lives lost to abortion, between the 27th October 2022 and 27th April 2023. You can pledge your prayers by filling in the online form at the following web address;

www.spuc.org.uk/national-prayer-campaign. Or there are postcards opposing these proposals at the back of St Patrick's church which once signed SPUC will forward on your behalf.

Around the Diocese

Vocations Enquirers Evenings: The Vocations Team extends an invitation to men aged 18+ who might be thinking about a vocation to the Priesthood to an enquirers evening. We start at 6.00pm with a period of prayer, talk/discussion, followed by a meal together finishing around 8.00pm. The evenings will take place at the Cloister Cafe, St Mary's Cathedral Newcastle on Tuesday 25th October and Tuesday 6th December 2022. If you would like to attend, or for more information please contact the Promotions Coordinator - Father Shaun Purdy vocationspromoter@hiocesehn.org.uk or by telephone 01670 812 200.

St. Mary's News

Collections: This week – S.V.P. Next week – World Mission Sunday

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

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound since the lockdown, and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Tom to arrange this.

Sanctuary Candle: Will burn In Loving Memory of Wears and Quigley Family.

Christmas Light for a Loved One: Will be happening again this year, 'cost £2'. If you would like a light on the Christmas tree for a loved one then please put the name of the person and the donation into an envelope and hand into the office or contact Joan Devaney.

The Memorial Garden: will be Blessed by Fr. Tom after Mass today with tea and coffee in the hall afterwards.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week: Social and Welfare Fund Next Week: World Mission Sunday

Our Lady of Fatima Saturday 22nd October: Please meet at the church at 9.45am for a procession followed by Mass at 10am. There will be Rosary and a stall with books and piety for sale. Refreshments will be held in the hall at 12.30pm. An introduction and a film will be shown followed by an "Our Lady of Fatima" Talk. There will also be Exposition and Adoration and confessions in the afternoon. You do not need to book this is a free to join day.

In connection with this event, the Devotion will continue on the following dates November 5th and December 3rd after 10am Mass, in church with Rosary and prayers. All are welcome to join us and any help on the day would be greatly appreciated.

St Patrick's First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Programme: There will be an information meeting for Parents who wish their children to take part in this year's programme on Monday 31st October at 7pm, in St Patrick's Church. Application forms will be given to the children at school or can be collected from the Presbytery and must be handed in by this meeting for inclusion in this year's programme. Please do not bring your children to this meeting.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week: People's Kitchen Next Week: World Mission Sunday

Collections: The retiring collection for CAFOD Family Fast Day realised £330. Thank you for your support.

The final total for the Brooms Cemetery Fund is £1,250 due to an influx of donations from a neighbouring parish. Thank you for your help in raising funds to support the work of keeping Brooms Cemetery in such good order.

Recently Deceased: David Webb. Please Pray for him and his family at this sad time.

Pie & Pea Supper: Friday 28th October at Leadgate Cricket Club 7.30pm. Tickets £3 each money raised for Our Lady & St Joseph Brooms Church Funds.

St Pius X News

Collections: This week: Flowers Next Week: World Mission Sunday

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45 - 6.45pm

Holy Rosary Hour: Last Monday of the month. The next one is to be held on 24th October at 6.00pm. All are welcome.

Recently Deceased: Teresa Philipson in Dover nee Collins aged 94. Previously from Moorside. Please Pray for her and her family.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week: SVP

Next week: World Mission Sunday

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Cecilia Thirlwell, Ursula Bell, Thomas Campbell, Mary Hogg, Conor Robinson, Jane Smith, Ellen White, John William Barrie, James Ronald Johnson, Hannah Conney, Mary Campbell, Ada Malone, Ellen Shotton, Peter McGuckin, Mary Hogg, Morris Atkinson, George Teasdale Rutter, Joseph Dunne, Francis Grimes, John Williams, Michael Cant, Michael McNally, Maureen Fox, Martin Glancy, Peter Donnelly, Sister Brendan Madge Page, John Guthrie Aitchison, Gerald Kenneth Toole, Ernest Dennis Haswell.

St. Patrick's: Madge Davis, Richard Harrop, Nancy McCourt, Mary Hogg, John Andrew Boyle, Hannah Conney, Michael Slee, Elizabeth Burns, John Lee, Margaret Hughes, Dennis Smith, Annie Rowell, Jimmy Hagan, Kevin Curley, Kitty Westgarth, Bryan Woods, Sheila Gibson, Terry Carr, Jane Pratt, Terence Sewell, Maria Rodrigues, Horace George Burr, Marie Rafferty, Michael Byrne, Joseph McKenna, Mary Wilson, Philomena Lee.

St Pius: Ethel Dickinson, Thomas Irving, Mary Jeffreys, Joseph McNally

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Michael Richardson, Owen Clark, Madge Price, Joseph Christopher Fountain, Richard O'Connor, Rose Callaghan, Jack Shannon, Austin Fail, Ann Gill, Rosemary Naylor, Marie Hughes.

Our Lady of the Rosary: John Wilfred Smith, David Bradley, Neil McKie (snr), Desmond McNally, Alice Bell, Bill Storey, Jenny Clark, John Jack Walker

THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We keep in our prayers

St Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Kieran Richard Atkinson, Amelia Burns, Ethan White, James Thomas English, David Sizmy, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Freya Simpson, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Tom Slane, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, David Oliver, Jimmy McGuigan, Catherine Hester, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, John Ross, Simon Quinn, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Adrian Hepplewhite, Penny Barron, Ged Hester, Terry Curran.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reilly, Judith Hindmarsh, Nora Robson, Geraldine Donnelly, Michael Shaw, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Seamus Doran.

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

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson, Elizabeth Foreman.

Pope Francis – For The Ukraine

O God, In this time of violence. We call on you to draw near.
Draw near to the people of Ukraine.
Draw near to the terrified children.
Draw near to the terrified parents.
Draw near to those who have nowhere to go.
Draw near to the elderly, the infirm,
the disabled, the displaced, the orphans.
Draw near to the caregivers and aid workers
Draw near to the helpers.
Draw near. Draw near. Draw near.
In this time of violence-Draw near.
Jesus taught us that the diabolical evil of violence
is answered with the weapons of God, with prayer and fasting.
May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

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