

30th Sunday of the Year - Year C - 23rd October 2022



The Lord hears

According to an old proverb, the shortest journey a person of faith can make is the one from **righteousness** to **self-righteousness**. And this is a path that seems well-trodden for the Pharisee in Jesus' parable from today's Gospel reading. It's important to note here that the Pharisee is not presented as someone who has been particularly wicked. To all outward appearances, he's been living a pretty righteous life. And it may even be true that, in his own heart, he's not aware of having committed any serious sins. But he makes himself a sinner when chooses to look down in judgement on the tax collector and all the "grasping, unjust and adulterous" people that he seems to believe constitute the bulk of humanity. He's forgotten that judgement belongs to God alone. And he's closed his heart to the most important of the commandments. He doesn't love other people the way that God calls us all to do. And that means that he also doesn't really love God as much as he thinks he does. Mainly, he seems to love himself.

All our readings this weekend suggest that, if we really want God to hear our prayers, the most important virtue for us to cultivate is **humility**. What this means, above all, is that we must keep our hearts open to God, must always accept his will, and must do our best to share in his loving concern for everyone around us. The more we really open ourselves to God, the more we are actually forging a two-way connection that also opens him to us. When we truly align ourselves with his will and his love, he is able to act, both in us and through us, to channel grace into the world. The result is salvation, not only for us but for other people too.

Fr Tom McHale
(except Monday)
01207-502320

Fr John Bagnall
(except Wednesday)
01207-502196

Deacon David Westgarth

Deacon Shaun McGee

Deacon Chris Callan

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.

St Bede's Quiz & Bingo Night: A group of students from St. Bede's are hoping to go Lourdes in 2023 and, in order to help raise funds, are holding a Quiz and Bingo night at St Mary's Church Hall on Saturday 19th November. Doors will open at 6pm for 6.30pm start. Tickets (including the cost of quiz entry and light refreshments) are £5 per person and are available now from Isobel English at St. Mary's Blackhill, Christine Byrne at St. Joseph's Stanley, or directly from St. Bede's School.

St Bede's Knit and Natter Group: would also like to extend warm thanks for the donations of knitted squares they've already received. Some of our local care homes have already expressed interest in the lap blankets, so additional donations would be very welcome.

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 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: Would like to thank Parishioners for their support for the recent Harvest Fast Day and the special collection in response to the floods in Pakistan. Help has also been given given to 700 hundred households in an area of southern Ethiopia, cash grants let people buy food in the market. Media reports however continue to show how the ongoing drought in South Sudan and Kenya is having such a devastating impact on families searching for relief.

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.

World Day of Prayer Coffee Morning: A Coffee Morning in aid of the World Day of Prayer will be held on Saturday 29th October at the Salvation Army, Consett. All are welcome to join this interdenominational event.

Holy Land 2023: Anyone interested in a week long informal led visit to Jerusalem and Bethlehem in March - May 2023 is invited to contact 07576 496212. If there is sufficient interest a meeting will be arranged for further discussion.

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully, tel: 01388 818544/ 0191 3332183. Please telephone the chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit.

Around the Diocese

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: Can you help the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next year? We need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with us. Previous helpers have found it is a rewarding and spiritually uplifting week. We plan to travel on Friday 28th July. If you would like to find out more information please email or look at our website

<https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/> or email lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk

St. Mary's News

Collections: This week - World Mission Sunday Next week – Clergy Training Fund

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: if you would like the Sanctuary candle to burn in memory of a loved one please contact the office.

Thank you: Penny Barron would like to say a big thank you for all the get well cards, good wishes and prayers which has aided her recovery which is still ongoing.

Light A Light On The Christmas Tree: will be happening again this year, 'cost £2'. If you would like a light lit 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 office or contact Joan Devanney.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week: World Mission Sunday Next Week: Clergy Training Fund

Our Lady of Fatima Devotion: In connection with the Fatima Visitation, 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.

Christmas Fayre: To be held on Saturday 12th December from 12.30pm. Please bring to church/presbytery (Presbytery Monday, Thursday and Friday) suitable Tombola and Raffle Prizes, bric a brac (unused) and bottles of Wine/Spirits for our famous Bottle Draw. There will also be a cake stall for which we will require cakes making for/on the day.

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.

300 Club Winners for September:

£20 No. 106 M & A Smith £10 No. 134 Winnie Agnew £10 No. 195 S Jackson

Red Boxes: £651.10 has been banked for this worthy cause. Thank you to all who contribute.
Sue McGee.

Calling all Knitters: This year we hope to distribute knitted/stuffed stars to parisioners for them to hang on a Christmas Tree Mantlepiece via an attached ribbon. Two patterns are available at the back of church please be as creative as you like!.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week: World Mission Sunday Next Week: Clergy Training Fund

Retiring Collections: Over the last 3 weeks the collection for The People's Kitchen has totalled £324. Thank you for your continued support for this worthy cause.

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.

Reception Children - September 2023: If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2023, we would love to show our lovely new Early Years environment. It's a fantastic opportunity to meet with staff and ask any questions you may have. Please contact school on 01207 503979 or email ourladystjoseph@durhamlearning.net to make an appointment.

St Pius X News

Collections: This week: World Mission Sunday Next Week: Clergy Training Fund

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.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week: World Mission Sunday Next week: Clergy Training Fund

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Charles Dewhurst, Eleanor Mulligan, Margaret Corrigan, Gerald Smith, Kelly Ann Dunstan, William Bell, James Williams, William Alton Storey, Edward Brown, Michael Carey, Maureen Mulholland, Christina Stella Elliot, Ernest Platt, Polly Alexandra Smith, Ann (Nancy) Miller, Mary Toner, Margaret Black, Steven Black, Rose Ellen Agnew, Nicholas Boyle.

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: Thomas Bushby (Snr), William Creegan, Anne Fergus, Stuart Mark Foster, William McCurley, Margaret Southern.

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