

32nd Sunday of the Year - Year C - 6th November 2022



The Life of the World to Come

Every Sunday at Mass we end our reciting of the Creed with these words, "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

Belief in an afterlife is one of the most important of our beliefs as Christians. Without it our lives on earth are a journey to nowhere. With it, our lives on earth are a journey to the promised land of heaven.

None of us know yet what heaven is like but many of us view heaven as though it were like earth, only slightly improved. This is due to our staying on the concrete level of thinking like a little child, where everything needs to be seen and experienced.

In today's Gospel story Jesus engages with Sadducees, a small, conservative and wealthy group of people who rejected belief in the resurrection from the dead. Their thinking was also on a concrete level, seeing life after death as a continuation of how we live now. Jesus tells them not to think in such a small-minded way. He says, "the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection, they are sons of God."

Jesus is telling us that the spiritual is so much more, infinitely more, than our minds can grasp. We do not know what it is like to be "like the angels," because we cannot comprehend angelic life, but we do have the Lord's word that it will be better than our fondest imagination.

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.

Partnership - Sacrament of Reconciliation: 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.

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.

Mass Intentions: Please be aware that up to Christmas we are currently fully booked for Masses in all five parishes and when a Requiem Mass is held we most often need to cancel the Mass intention booked for that day and transfer it to the nearest vacant date. If you have a query about a Mass intention please contact Margaret at St Mary's on 01207-502320.

Love Christmas 2022: Envelopes for donations will be available at the back of our Churches from the weekend of 13th November. Once again we will be reaching out to show love to those at the margins of our community.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal: If you are hoping to contribute to the appeal this year, Your Move estate agents in Consett have agreed to act as the drop off point for completed shoeboxes. They are already accepting shoeboxes and will continue to do so until mid-November.

St Bede's Quiz & Bingo Night: A group of students from St. Bede's are hoping to go to 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.

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'.

A Celebration for Christmas: We are delighted to announce that St Joseph's Church will be hosting the Ushaw Chapel Choir on Saturday 10th December from 7-8pm for A Celebration For Christmas. Tickets available to purchase from St Joseph's Parish Office. Adults £5 and Children (6-16 years) £2. We hope you join us for what promises to be a most memorable evening. The retiring collection will be for Father Dermott Donnelly's charity Significance.

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

HOLY ISLAND VINNIES CAMP 2022-23 URGENT APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Have you got some time spare to help out our Term Time Camp? We urgently need volunteers to work in the kitchen or do a bit of cleaning/ caretaking at Holy Island Camp, washing dishes, serving food and clearing /cleaning the dining hall. Commitment involves training, a DBS check and the choice of anything from a few days to a week helping on the beautiful island itself. We also need volunteers to work as part of a team of helpers to supervise and look after children, All roles can be applied for, on line at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island/>

Vacancies: Safeguarding Administrator, Department for Safeguarding, Newcastle full-time permanent. Closing date for applications: 9 November.

Parish Secretary, St Joseph, Stanley: part-time (24 hours), permanent Closing date for applications: 11 November Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301

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. Mary's News

Collections: This week - S.V.P.

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, and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Tom to arrange this.

300 Club Winners October 2022: £20 (211) T Moran, £10 (63) A McCoy, £10 (229) J Page, £10 (109) T Kelly, £10 (130) T McAllister.

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 it into the office or contact Joan Devanney. **Memorial**

Garden: Thank You: A big thank you to all who attended the recent dedication of our Memorial Garden especially to Fr Tom and Deacon Chris for the blessing. Thank you also goes to Murray's Memorials and Ray Oliver for their help and support. Anyone wishing to obtain a Memorial Stone contact Joe Anderson of the Parish Office for details. **JFK**

Centre - St Mary's Church Hall: Presents Declan Thomas on Saturday December 3rd 2022.

Doors open 7pm. Tickets £5. Bar, Bingo, Raffle.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week: Church Flowers

Recently Deceased: Margaret Bowman. Please Pray for her and her family at this sad time.

Our Lady of Fatima Devotion: In connection with the Fatima Visitation, the Devotion will continue on the following date 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 November from 12.30pm. Please bring to the 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 made for/on the day.

People's Kitchen: The People's Kitchen supports homeless and vulnerable people and help fight hunger and loneliness for locals in need. They might be at risk of homelessness, unemployed,

lonely or living in poverty. For people who experience these difficulties. Your donations can be deposited in the cream urn at the back of the church.

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

300 Club Winners for October:

1st £20 No. 94 Julie Anne Kennedy 2nd £10 No. 154 Alan Welford 3rd £10 No. 37 Anne Hood.

A Big Thank You to all returning members and a special thank you to all our new members; your support is greatly appreciated. The draw takes place on the last Saturday of each month. This year we will be able to give over £700 in prizes and the same amount to church funds.
Organisers: *Clare, Christine and Josie*

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week: Church Flowers

The Priest Clergy Training Fund will continue until November 27th.

People's Kitchen: Thank you for your continued donations of coppers and small change which is forwarded to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Your donations can be deposited in the tin at the back of the church. A further £150 has been sent to the charity making a total of £1,050.

Thank you: to the organisers and participants of the Pie and Pea supper held last week. A marvellous total of £700 was raised to support Parish 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 the school on 01207 503979 or email ourladystjoseph@durhamlearning.net to make an appointment.

Remembrance Sunday 13th November: We have cleaned and cleared the area around the War Memorial in the Church grounds. We have also had a brass plaque made with the poem that Lorraine Weightman wrote during lockdown honouring our soldiers. There will also be poppy crosses available (for a donation to the poppy appeal) after mass on Saturday if you wish to put them in the ground to pay your respects on Remembrance Sunday around the War Memorial.

St Pius X News

Collections: This week: Church Flowers

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 28th November at 6.00pm. All are welcome. The Rosary will be said in Church every Wednesday at 10am.

Recently Deceased: Brian Sheekey. Please Pray for him and his family at this sad time.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week: S.V.P.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Rosetta May Gully, James Peter Anderson, Eileen Clare Watson, Michael McVeigh, Peter Mathew Cassidy, Joan Veronica Lewthwaite, (Baby) Luke John McCann, Anthony Grugan, Toby Rea, John McDonald, Fr. James Donnelly, Patrick Quinn, Sarah K Grugan, Mary Blackmore, Billy Sedgewick, Pauline Chivers, Rewcastle Armstrong, Theresa Page, Kevin Dermott McGeary, Margaret Whytte, Joanne McGuigan, Francis Joseph Clarke.

St. Patrick's: Dominic McGurk, Mary Theresa Stevens, Sheila Elder, John O'Neill, Catherine Rafferty, Catherine Connelly, Hugh Malone, Catherine Donaghy, Richard Forbes, Terry Burns, Mary Burnage, Mary Theresa Hughes, Joseph Raw, Flora Nimmons, Tommy O'Neill, Mary Donaghy, Alan Foley, Gerard Slavin, Moira Reed, Brian Rogan, James Fail, Thomas Kerr, Ellen Parker, Nancy Collins, John Harpin, Stephen Fenwick, John Haggon, Bill Kennedy.

St Pius: Michael Agnew, Margaret Murphy, Flora (Flo) Nimmons and Joan Wray.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Ged Doughan, Sydney Fountain, Norman Henderson, Laura Mallon.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Anne Graham (nee Barron), Ted McKie, Annie Kelly, Lyndsay Morton, Ray Watson, Eileen Mary Carr (nee Nicholson), Joseph McKie, Mary Davison.

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, Ged Hester, Terry Curran, Peter Doherty.

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