

## 4th Sunday of the Year - Year A - 29th January 2023

Annfield Plain - St. Teresa, Blackhill - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Brooms - Our Blessed Lady & St. Joseph,

the Rosary, Stanley, St Joseph

Byermoor - Sacred Heart,

# PONTOP

Partnership

Consett - St. Patrick, Dipton - St. Patrick, Moorside - St. Plus X, Lanchester - All Saints, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of

### Wake Up To Happiness

When we hear the Sermon on the Mount, where does it take us? Jesus goes through categories of people who can expect a reward for the way they are, despite the fact that not all of society may necessarily view them positively.

Take a look at one of the groups: those who hunger and thirst for what is right. Seems quite safe, surely this group of people should be rewarded. But it doesn't always work like that. Let's ask a question. How many of us get upset about "Woke". Something we are used to, a process or behaviour, gets challenged and those who want to preserve the status quo start complaining about the "Woke Brigade".

Yet stop a while and ask what the term "Woke" as it is used here means. It is originally a US slang term meaning "Aware of and actively attentive to important facts and issues (especially issues of racial and social justice.)" Not a million miles from hungering and thirsting for what is right.

The Beatitudes always ask us to take a look at ourselves and surely that includes how we respond to others. Where in our lives are we responding negatively to any of those categories of people that Jesus lists. If that's happening how can we truly say that we accept His teaching? How can we say we are sharing in his love for all of humanity? How can we say we are happy?

*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 book Mass Intentions well in advance as we are currently fully booked in all parishes for the next two months. Thank you.

Spain Pilgrimage 15th - 19th May 2023: Our Partnership Spain Pilgrimage is due for payment by 20th February 2023. Payments can be made by card to the Pilgrimage company direct. Please contact Wendy at St Patrick's on 01207 502196 (Monday, Thursday and Friday) for further details.

The Novena to the Holy Face: Commences on Sunday, February 12th. The Mass for the Feast of the Holy Face will be at 10am on Shrove Tuesday, February 21st and will include an opportunity to be blessed with Holy Face Oil. All are welcome.

Brooms Graveyard: It has been brought to our attention that there is a lot of dog fouling throughout the graveyard at Brooms. Unfortunately we cannot police the graveyard but if you take your dog for a walk please keep it on a lead at all times when walking through the graveyard and if your dog fouls please pick it up. Thank you.

Lent Booklets: With Lent beginning on 22nd February Parishioners may want to buy a Lent booklet which can be used throughout the Season. A selection of these are on sale at St Patrick's Consett and Our Lady & St Joseph Brooms.

## Around The Diocese

Is God calling you to be a Priest? The Diocesan Vocations Team have organised an overnight retreat for men aged 18+ to discern whether God is calling them to the Priesthood. Date Friday 3rd March 2023 5.00pm to Saturday 4th March 2023 (after lunch) Place Emmaus Youth Village Pemberton Rd, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA Cost £50 (including all meals and ensuite accommodation) Spaces are limited. Please contact Fr Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information: Email [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk) Telephone 01670 812 200 Bookings to be made by Thursday 16th February.

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

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following permanent vacancies:  
**Parish Secretary, St Peter, Low Fell** - 10 hours per week. Closing date: 10 February  
**Diocesan Offices, Newcastle, Management Accountant** – full-time, permanent Closing date: 6 February. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301

### St. Mary's News

Collection: This week – Flowers                      Next week – Racial Justice

World Mission Sunday: Collection raised £94.75. Thank you

Children's Liturgy: will be held next Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

300 Club: a big thank you to all who supported the 300 club in 2022. 2023 subscriptions are now due and Jimmy will be collecting subs after Masses over the next few weekends. New members are urgently needed. Cost £12 a year per number. Cheques payable to 'St Mary's'.

300 Club Winners: £20 (211) T Moran, £10 (65) B Stobbs, £10 (220) A Quinn, £10 (194) T Eccles £10 (72) T Murray. Thank you for your support.

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 candle to burn in memory of a loved one please contact the office.

Gift Aid: If you contribute to the church as a gift aider your yearly letter from the Diocese can be picked up from the Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 10am-2pm. Thank you for your contributions.

Warm Spaces: we are planning on opening a 'warm spaces (welcome) club' on Thursdays for a few hours and volunteers are needed to help in the following areas: preparation of food, serving teas and coffee, making soup (on premises), organising entertainment and possibly transporting the housebound people. If we have enough volunteers we can work on a rota basis which will mean we are not relying on the same people all the time. If you can help please contact Brian on 07891 511168. Thank you.

### St Patrick's News

Collection: This week - Social and Welfare    Next Week: Racial Justice

Recently Deceased: Patrick Edward Smith. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

Divine Mercy Devotions: The Divine Mercy Devotions are held every Thursday at 3pm.

People's Kitchen: The People's Kitchen supports homeless and vulnerable people and helps fight hunger and loneliness for locals in need. Your donations can be deposited in the cream urn at the back of the church.

Warm Space St Patrick's Hall: Every Tuesday 10.30am - 12.30pm we are offering a warm space in the Hall Lounge where we will be offering refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

### Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week - Cemetery Fund                      Next Week: Racial Justice

Collection: Last week's retiring collection in aid of Brooms cemetery realised £115. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you: Many thanks to the friends and family of Anne Wardle for the donation of £168 for Parish funds.

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 named tin at the back of the church. During last week another £150 was sent to the charity, making a total donated so far £1,350. Thank you for your support.

### **St Pius X News**

Collection: This week - Flowers                      Next Week - Racial Justice

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45 - 6.45pm

Holy Rosary Hour: Monday 30th January at 6pm

Holy Rosary will be said in church on Wednesdays at 10.00am

### **Our Lady of the Rosary News**

Collection: This week – Flowers                      Next week – Racial Justice

World Mission Sunday: Collection raised £52.85. Thank you

Macmillan Cancer Support: Would like to thank everyone who donated at the funeral of Herdman Armstrong, a total of £179.90 was raised and donated to them.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St Mary's: Mary Page, Sr. Winifred Williams, William Dunigan, James Darroch, Patrick Burns, Peter McGeoghan, Elizabeth Fullen, Ann Cant, Owen McMahon, Michael Cullerton, Arthur Wren, Johnny Creegan, Agnes Creegan Margaret Westlake, (Nancy) Ann Hannah, John Glancey, Philip Allan Dawson, James Rafferty, Mary Malone, John Page, Alan Kerridge, Lilian Kearney, James Edward Guest, Elizabeth Ann Mordue, Anthony Quinn, John Page, Bernadette Clifford, Margaret O'Neil, Julie Ann Murray, Edward Telford, Lucy Candlish, Mary Page, Sheila Clifford, Mary Martin.

St. Patrick's: Joseph Hughes, Kathleen Winter, Veronica Sheekey, Alice Dyer, James McCourt, Michael Glancy, Paul Testo, Frederick Panting, Mary Wass, Joe Hegarty, Paul McCourt, Jennifer Enne, Louisa Maughan, Cathy Panting, Joseph Butler, Mary Elizabeth Ridley, Mary Whitfield, Margaret Carter, Margaret (McNally) Million, Colin Gibson, John O'Hanlon, Mary Curran, Anne McInnes, Winifred Callon, Barbara Ann Quinn, Margaret Thompson, Barbara Raw.

St Pius: Joe Bell, William Calford, Mary Donaghy, Nancy Hudson, Alan Kerridge, Mary Page, Catherine Reay.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Edward Grogan, Anthony Fountain, Joseph Liddel Snr. Gerard McCabe, Doreen Peveller, Thomas Williamson.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Philip Jones, James McGuire, Susan Healey, Mary Patricia Hughes, Tom and Margaret McKie, Mary McGuire Francesca Griffin, George Wood Cunningham

## **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, Ged Hester, Terry Curran, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Catelyn Howe.

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, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Seamus Doran, Gerard Harpin.

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Keith Elliott, 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