

1st Sunday of Lent - 26th February 2023

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

the Rosary, Stanley, St Joseph



Byermoor - Sacred Heart,

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

The Temptations of Christ

In today's Gospel story Matthew tells of the temptations of Jesus and shows us that he finds the strength to overcome them by living according to the words of the Scriptures. It gives us an insight into the ongoing human experience of Jesus who, in the wonder of the Incarnation, shared our human condition and its struggles – even its temptations which are set before us as an encouragement when we are tempted.

In our lives, we are tempted to seek security in the false gods of pleasure and possessions, the exercise of power, the achievement of recognition and status. The Saviour's temptations are often linked with these false securities. In his hunger, he rejects the consolation of miraculous food, and encourages us to recognise the empty promise of pleasure and possessions, and to find our security in the truths of our Christian faith.

As he turns his back on the earthly triumph many of his contemporaries associated with the coming of Israel's messiah, he invites us to see that a selfish exercise of power over others leads only to bitterness. He refuses to turn aside from his mission to express the ways of his Father, and points out the way that leads to true peace.

Let us use this lent to pray for the strength to follow the example of Christ when temptations are set before us and be able to resist as he did.

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.

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 Food Bank Appeal - St. Bede's School and Pontop Partnership: Our parishes are joining forces with our secondary school to support those in need in our local community. We are collecting for food banks in the area. In school there will be Tin Tuesdays and Toiletries Thursdays and this will be supported by collection boxes in each of our churches. Items needed are tins of fruit, potatoes, rice pudding and similar toiletries such as shower gel, shampoo, shaving foam and razors. Everything will help someone so please be generous.

World Day of Prayer: This year's service, prepared by the women of Taiwan, will take place at Consett Salvation Army on Friday 3rd March at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the ecumenical service and stay for refreshments afterwards.

National Novena to St Joseph: the Novena begins on Saturday 11th March to Sunday 19th March. The Novena will be held in St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and will be available on Zoom via the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena. Petitions and intentions are very welcome and will be placed at St Joseph's Altar and remembered in the Masses and prayers during the Novena. Anyone who would like a Novena booklet should write to the Novena Director at 6 Colby Gardens, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7GZ or email novenamhm@gmail.com.

Spain Pilgrimage Meeting: A meeting is to be held in St Patricks Church Hall on Friday 10th March at 5pm. Followed by food at Sambucca. The meeting is to present the Itinerary and discuss any other requirements for the Pilgrimage. Please let Wendy Simmons know if you will be going for food afterwards for numbers. Telephone 01207 502196

Around The Diocese

Upcoming Liturgy Course - New Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion: Tuesday 28th February, Tuesday 7th March, Tuesday 14th March, all 10am-3pm St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY. Cost: £20 per participant (invoiced to parishes) <https://forms.office.com/e/Lyk0DYKmGP> Attendance must be endorsed by a Parish Priest.- There are still places available if anyone is interested see your Parish Priest.

Holy Island SVP Vinnie Camp 2023: Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2023? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island, They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> Applications are now open.

Catholic Schools Admission Appeals Panels: The Diocesan Department for Education is looking for volunteers to serve on admission appeals panels for Catholic schools. Appeal panel members hear parents' appeal cases when, occasionally, they feel that the school they have been allocated for their child is not appropriate or practical. This is an excellent way to serve Catholic schools. For more information and to obtain an application form, please email: education@diocesehn.org.uk or phone 0191 243 3313.

St. Mary's News

Collection: This week - SVP

Next week - Cafod Family Fast Day

Lately Deceased: David Malpass please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

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.

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

Sanctuary Candle: If you would like the candle to burn in memory of a loved one please contact the office. This week the candle will burn 'In Loving Memory' of 'Michael and Molly Glancy'

St Marys Children's Liturgy: Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month, meaning it's Children's Liturgy. But that's not all; we have some good news! Starting in March, the Children's Liturgy will be on every First and Third Sunday of the month. We are looking forward to seeing you all.

S.V.P. Coin Boxes: are available at back of church during lent for baby feeding centres in Sudan. Please return boxes after Easter. Thank you for your support.

Welcome Thursday we are opening a 'warm spaces (welcome) club' on Thursday 16th March for a few hours and urgently need volunteers. If you can help please contact Brian on 07891 511168. More information on the notice board. Thank you.

Advance Notice: The 'Summer Fete' will be held on Sunday July 23rd.

Kennedy Care Centre: Presents 'The Men In Black', on Saturday March 25th. Bingo, Bar, Raffle. Doors Open 6.30pm. Tickets on sale this weekend. Adults £5 under 16 £2.

St Patrick's News

Collection: This week - Lenten Alms

Next Week: Cafod Family Fast Day

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

Lenten Soup Lunches: This year the soup lunches will be on each **Tuesday** in Lent following Mass and Stations of the Cross. Come into St Patrick's Hall for a bowl of delicious homemade soup, tea/coffee and a chat. All proceeds go to CAFOD and St Patrick's Church. Everyone is welcome.

St Patrick's Ceilidh: To celebrate St Patrick's Day we are having a Ceilidh in St Patrick's Church Hall on Saturday 18th March from 7.30pm to 11pm. Dancing to the Highly Acclaimed band "The Hedgehog's Skin" Tickets are Adults £5/Children £2 each. Tickets are available at the back of church in the Piety Shop after Mass or from the Parish Office.

Thank You - Neda Rossi: The Rossi Family would like to thank everyone who attended their Mother's funeral and for all the Mass and sympathy cards the family received. The money kindly donated at the funeral was £1450. Thank you so much for your generosity. The charities which will benefit are St Mary's Convent, SVP, Alzheimers Society and the Stroke Association. Thank you also to Fr Tom, Deacon David the Altar Servers and Catherine for a lovely service. Special thanks to Val, Suzanne, Jennifer and Elizabeth for their help with the refreshments.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week - Lenten Alms Next Week: Cafod Family Fast Day

The appeal to support the Earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria raised £565. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you: On behalf of the family of Brian Gregerson for the kind donation of £280 which will be shared between Brooms Church and Ebchester Convent Care home.

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 church

Singers: Now that we are fortunate to have an organist at Brooms for our Vigil Mass it would be great if we could have some volunteer singers to form a choir. If anyone is interested please see Fr John Bagnall.

St Pius X News

Collection: This week - Lenten Alms Next Week: Cafod Family Fast Day

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45 - 6.45pm

Holy Rosary: Will be held in Church on the last Monday of the month - next on Monday 27th February at 6pm.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 6.00pm.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week - Lenten Alms Next week - Cafod Family Fast Day

Lately Deceased: Joan Eltringham please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

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.

S.V.P. Coin Boxes: are available at back of church during lent for baby feeding centres in Sudan. Please return boxes after Easter. Thank you for your support.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Winifred Howe, Amanda Jane Brewer, Anthony Aubrey, Lawrence Boyle, Felix Rogan, Bernard Grimes, Michael Grugan, John Mordue, James Robinson, Catherine Smyth, Bernadette Bell, Vera Quinn, John Richardson, Peter Grugan, Isabella Agnew, Hugh Adams, William Eccles, Bernadette Maureen Wilson, Kevin Bewick, Annie O'Brien, Jean Elizabeth Robins, Betty Page, Kathleen Clarke, Sheila Clifford.

St. Patrick's: Rose Ann Carlin, Catherine Campbell, Mollie Smith, Theresa Jackson, John Paul Walls, Patricia Osbourne, Kathleen Johnson, Bill Crowther, Peter Davidson, Agnes Allardice, Patrick Gallacher, Michael McNally, Anthony Robson, John Robert McArdle, Tony Gallagher, Susan Boyle, Michael Jones, Charles Edwin Clark, Kathleen Veronica McNally, Joan Readman, Patricia Beattie, Lee John Wiles, Thomas Conroy, Alice McCourt, Catherine Clarke, Terry Reed, Alfie Lister, John McKean.

St Pius: Mary Ellen Akers, Lawrence Boyle, Colin Embleton, Margaret Forster, Irene Thersa Glancy, Margaret Hull, Emily Mc Guigan, Linda A Thompson, Olive Veitch, Sarah (Sally) Watson.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Bob Hewitson, Margaret Shannon, Jim O'Neill, Julie Tonks (Cullen), Marian Richardson, Michael Lucy, Margaret Storey, Sarah E. Fountain, Norma Clark, Maria Herdman, Les Slavin, Joseph Liddell Jnr. Andrew Farley, Owen Lee, Terence O'Loughrin John Wall, Margaret Turnbull

Our Lady of the Rosary: Canon Laurence Hollis, Billy Begg, Gerry Clarke, Peter Nicholson, Mamie Golightly, Letitia McKie, Susan McKie

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