

3rd Sunday of Lent - 12th March 2023

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

the Rosary, Stanley, St Joseph



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

Living in the Living Waters

In the Gospel today, we reflect on the episode of Jesus' meeting with the Samaritan woman at the well. The passage recounts that Jesus was *"tired"*, yet he still went out of his way to minister to the woman. Jesus tells her that *"the water that I will give will become a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."* Through this image of water, Jesus is alluding to the gift of the Holy Spirit, that the Lord wishes to lavish upon his children (CCC 728).

As stewards of Christ, we are called to generously share our time and talents with our parish community. However, a mere sharing of our gifts without the guidance and strength of the Holy Spirit, can easily lead us to becoming burnt out, discouraged or resentful. It is important to have all of our charitable acts infused with the Spirit. This way, it is not our own merits, but the Lord's grace, bringing about conversion in our parishes.

How often do we invoke the Holy Spirit before we serve the Lord as Christians? It is in this invocation, that we humbly recognise that it is the Lord, through us, accomplishing great deeds. Let us begin each day, with the traditional prayer to the Holy Spirit. *"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."* Let us bring about a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit into the hearts of our parish community, by constantly turning to him to strengthen us.

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

New Priest in Pontop Partnership: Following the retirement of Fr. Cornelius O'Connor, Fr Charles Ejieji from the Diocese of Orlu in Nigeria has been appointed as assistant priest in the parishes of All Saints in Lanchester and St Teresa in Annfield Plain. We welcome him to the Diocese and pray that he will have a happy and fulfilled ministry here. Fr Charles will reside at All Saints Presbytery. Fr. O'Connor's final Mass at All Saints will be on Sunday 12th March at 9.30am.

For the interim Fr John Bagnall has been appointed as parochial administrator of the parishes of All Saints in Lanchester and St Teresa in Annfield Plain, while continuing in his present appointments. He will continue to reside at St Patrick's in Consett.

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.

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

Catholic Mothers North East: A new group for Catholic Mothers will begin to meet at St Teresa's, Annfield Plain on Monday 17th April, 9.30-11am. Join us for coffee, cake, chats, prayer and to share ideas about what the group could do to support each other in Catholic motherhood. All welcome, including children. For more information see the group 'Catholic Mothers North East' on Facebook or email catholicmothersne@gmail.com

Around The Diocese

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<<mailto:education@diocesehn.org.uk>> or phone 0191 243 3313.

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Vacancy: Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) – full-time. Closing date: 15 March 2023. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 330

St. Mary's News

Collection: This week – Lenten Alms Next week – Lenten Alms

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 'Suzanne Jameson and Reg Wears'

St. Mary's Children's Liturgy: Next Sunday 19th March.

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.

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.

Thank You: The Wednesday Coffee Morning team would like to thank everyone who donated money and gifts for tombola prizes to raise funds towards replacing Frank Bradley's memorial bench. (The original, sadly, was vandalised!) The new bench is now in place. Many thanks to everyone who helped, including the Bradley family. The total amount raised was £320.10.

Welcome Thursday: Begins this Thursday 16th March, the hall will be open from 11.30am with lunch consisting of a choice of 2 soups and fresh baked bread. This will be served between 12 noon & 1pm. Hot drinks will be served throughout the day with cakes & biscuits. Tony Reather and his band have kindly offered to come along and provide entertainment and there will also be other social activities including a Domino Handicap, Draughts etc. The hall will be open until approximately 4pm so please come along, meet old and new friends and get out of the house for a day. If anyone needs transport please let us know at the back of church today and we will do our best to arrange it for you. Volunteers are urgently needed. If you can help please contact Brian on 07891 511168. More information on the notice board. Thank you.

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St Patrick's News

Collection: This week - Lenten Alms Next Week: Lenten Alms

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

Easter Coffee Morning and Raffle: We are having a Coffee Morning after 9.30am Mass on Easter Sunday, 9th April. Donations of chocolate and wine would be greatly appreciated to use as raffle prizes. Raffle tickets are on sale at the back of church after Mass. Any donations can be brought to the presbytery on a Monday, Thursday or Friday. Thank you

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: 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 available at the back of church in the Piety Shop after Mass or from the Parish Office. **Hurry Tickets are Going Quick.**

300 Club winners for February:

£20 No. 184 Clare Murray £10 No. 29 Desmond Hughes £10 No. 30 Lyn Davidson

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week - Lenten Alm

Next Week: Lenten Alms

Lenten Alms: Collection raised £107. Thank you for your support.

Recently Deceased: Angela Cox, please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

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.

St Pius X News

Collection: This week - Lenten alms

Next Week: Lenten Alms

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 one Monday 27th March at 6pm.

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

Children's Stations of the Cross: Wednesday 15th March at 5pm

Polish Mass: The Polish Mass will be held in church on Sunday 12th March at 1pm.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This Week: Lenten Alms

Next week - Lenten Alms

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.

Tuesday Morning Mass: This Tuesday 7th March at 10.00am. There will be a coffee morning in the hall after Mass. All are welcome!

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Peter James Lawrence Quigley, Eric George Tucker, Martin Rogan, Joseph Richardson, Terry Akers, Margaret Dorothy Murphy, Joseph Fullen, Henry Waggott, Mary Ann Brady, Paige Nicole Evans, John Joseph McCoy, Charles William Featherstone, Hilda Garvin, Paul Whaley, Elizabeth Sedgewick, Maureen McDermott, Paul Brown, William Joseph Lysaght, Frank O'Keefe, Canon Joseph Lawrence Hollis, Mary (Mollie) Irving, William Begg, Mary Copeland, Catherine Hart, Peter Francis Clarke, Helen Veitch, Sheila Lysaght.

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: Peter Francis Clarke, John Henry Glasgow, Mrs Martin, Donald Murphy, Jack Steel, Helen Veitch.

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