

Easter Sunday - 9th April 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

Go and tell

Do we find it difficult to imagine the awe and wonder that the women who went to visit the tomb of Jesus must have felt that very first Easter morning? Can we understand the calm the angel brought them? For a start, it would be the ultimate “you had to be there” moment. As well as that we have had our entire lives to accept the reality of the Resurrection. If we had been there is it more likely we would have been like the guards, so stunned that they were like dead men.

There is another difference between the women and the guards. The latter, even though they were witnesses to this wonder, are persuaded to deny its reality. The women on the other hand become the first witnesses to its truth, of the fulfilment of all Jesus had foretold. We are called as Christians to continue that witness into our lives so that all may come to know Jesus.

There are many ways we can give that witness. We can tell people. Yes, actually find situations where we tell someone else what we believe and how important it is in our own lives. It gets easier the more you do it. We can invite people to come and find out for themselves, maybe start with family or friends who just need a bit of a friendly nudge. Lastly, and without this the other two won't work, live out your faith and share it by the example you give in your own life, especially in how you treat others. One way or another, find a way. Go and tell.

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.

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

St. Mary's Convent Residential 18 Bed Home Staff Vacancy: Registered Manager required for 30 hours per week (including weekends and bank holidays). Competitive Salary. Applications and CV to be sent to: Sister Teresa Mary, St Mary's Convent Residential home, Ebchester, Consett DH8 0QD email stmaryshome@aol.com

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: How do we begin when we want to read and understand the Bible? This eight week course begins on Monday 17th April at 6.30pm at St Pius, Moorside. There is a small cost to buy the excellent course book and learning materials. If you are interested there is a sign up sheet at the back of the church.

Northern Cross Annual General Meeting by Zoom: Dear parishioners, you are cordially invited to attend our AGM which is to take place at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 19th April. This will take place online by Zoom, so if you'd like to attend, please register your confirmation with a brief email. Subject to the numbers which the system allows, you'll then be sent a link from which you can enter the meeting. You're welcome to take part or just listen to the proceedings, whichever you prefer.

Around The Diocese

Coming Soon - A Day for Catechists: Are you involved with Baptismal Preparation, First Holy Communions, Confirmations, Marriage Preparation, RCIA, Children's Liturgy or other faith sharing initiatives? We are excited to host the largest gathering of Catechists the diocese has seen in recent times. This will be a special opportunity to come together and renew our approach to sacramental preparation and faith-sharing post-pandemic. Whether you are a seasoned catechist or just considering becoming one, we want you to join us. We will be sharing key principles from the New Directory of Catechesis and affirming good practices, as well as providing new ideas and inspiration. Individuals and parish groups are welcome. To register your interest/book a place, please visit bit.ly/DHND0C23.

Lourdes Pilgrimage: Have you ever thought about travelling on Pilgrimage to Lourdes in response to the call of Our Blessed Lady? Every year, many people generously offer their service to those who stay in the Accueil (hospital) and need some additional care and support from volunteers like yourselves. This could include making a cup of tea, having a chat, helping

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Elizabeth Rimmer, James Meegan, Patricia Watson, Catherine Ryans, Thomas McArdle, Michael Grimes, Veronica Walker, Kathleen Jones, Alfred McDonald, Thomas Hillas, Julia Brown, James Glasgow, Susan McKie, Barbara Jane Cook, Malcolm Hester, Mary Anne Price, Mary Worrall, John James, Eva Barrie, Rose Ellen McCrory, John Dixon, Patrick Mulhearn, James Conney, Beatrice Bell, Patrick Toner, Mona Page, Margery Ann Bell, Gerard William McDonald, Reggie Wears, Mark Richard Fife, James Dickson, Wilhelmina Martin, Philip Reilly, Gerard Scott, Kathleen McKenna, Jill Errington, Edna Tucker, Joe Coleman, Margaret Guy, Mary Howarth, John Routledge.

St. Patrick's: James Conney, James Darroch, Arthur Page, Virginia Rossi, Gwen Routledge, Frank Wall, Mary Lynn, Kathleen Morrisroe, Thomas Reynolds, Bernadette McAloon, Patrick Dent, Brian Murray, Lawrence Watson, Francis McGuigan, Keith Hutton, John Donoghue, Janet Robson, David Adams, Gerard Lydon, Jim Brolly, Margaret Naughton, Teresa Maughan, Francisco Rodrigues, Sylvia Dimambro, Mary Owens, Jean Huntsman, Angela Mackin, Mary Ramsden, Veronica Morgan, Peter Young, Catherine Lee, Maureen Rodgers, Anthony Price.

St Pius: John Evan Diver, Father James Doherty, Margaret A Johnson, Gerard M McDonald and Andrew Whales.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Catherine Cullen, Tony Williamson, Tommy Fountain, Kate Liddell (O'Donnell), Kathleen Appleby, Mary Ramsden, Bridie McWilliams.
Our Lady of the Rosary: Fr. Paul Harrison, Tom Cowie, Mary Florence Nicholson, Arthur Denis Nicholson, Mary McKie, Thomas Bell.

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