

2nd Sunday of Easter - 16th 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,

PONTOP

Partnership

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

Receiving and sharing merciful love

In the year 2000, when Pope John Paul II was canonising St. Faustina, he declared that the Second Sunday of Easter will be called Divine Mercy Sunday for the entire Church. This Sunday, let us reflect on Jesus who longs to forgive us, and to shower his love and mercy on us. We should never tire of running to him for healing. St. Therese of Lisieux says: “even though I had on my conscience all the sins that can be committed, I would go, my heart broken with sorrow, and throw myself into Jesus' arms, for I know how much he loves the prodigal child who returns to him.”

As good servants of Christ, we should first accept the mercy of God in our lives, and then share it with others through our acts. Some spiritual works of mercy we can begin to cultivate, are to “instruct the ignorant” and “counsel the doubtful”, by helping with parish catechesis ministries. We can also “forgive offences” and “pray for the living and the dead” through personal prayer, as well as by joining various prayer groups within the parish. Some corporal works of mercy we can adopt, is to “feed the hungry” and “clothe the naked” by taking part in parish organisations such as the St. Vincent de Paul society. We can also “visit the sick” and “visit the imprisoned” by seeking ministries that care for the sick and the elderly.

This Divine Mercy Sunday, let us seek to be filled with God’s mercy. Let us then, let his mercy overflow into our deeds within the parish, so that we may become servants of God’s merciful love.

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

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 in the dining room or assisting a Pilgrim in attending the various Masses and services which take place during Pilgrimage week. We need more registered adult helpers. We do not have enough at present and do not want to disappoint those Pilgrims who are so looking forward to travelling with us. The dates of travel are from Friday 28th July to Friday 4th August 2023. Financial help with the cost of travel and accommodation is available in the form of a subsidy for this year only. If you would like any further information, please email:

lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk <mailto:lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk> or telephone: 0191 528 1992. The link to register as an adult helper is: <https://forms.office.com/e/ZHWW4DD5ny> Please note, registration will close on Wednesday 5th April. All forms MUST be received by this date.

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) – full-time. Closing date: 18 April 2023.

Senior Administrator, Dept for Education, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time. Closing date 18 April 2023

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301

St. Mary's News

Collection: This week – N.B.F (sick and retired Priests until 7th May)

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.

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

St Patrick's News

Collection: This week - N.B.F (sick and retired Priests Until 7th May)

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

Gift Aid 2023: New Gift Aid Boxes are ready at the back of church. If your tax situation has changed please inform the Gift Aid Coordinator as soon as possible. Once again thank you to everyone who is able to donate through the Gift Aid Scheme – Last year we claimed more than £5,000 from Inland Revenue.

Holy Thursday Thank You: A sincere thank you to the 12 Parishioners who took part in the Washing of the Feet at the Holy Thursday Evening mass.

Easter Raffle and Coffee Morning: Thank you to everyone who helped with the raffle and the coffee morning on the day. Also a big thank you to everyone who donated wine and Easter eggs which enabled us to have fantastic prizes. We raised an amazing £536.70 for Church Funds.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week - N.B.F (sick and retired Priests Until 7th May)

Thank you: on behalf of the family of Angela Cox for the kind donation of £110 to be shared between Brooms Church funds and The Air Ambulance Charity.

Collections: The collection for The Holy Places has been revised and totalled £175. Thank you for your generosity.

The collection for the Northern Brethren Fund realised £85, the fund remains open until May 7th.

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.

St Pius X News

Collection: This week – N.B.F (sick and retired Priests Until 7th May)

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45pm - 6.45pm

Holy Rosary: Will be held in Church on the last Monday of the month - next one Monday 24th April at 6pm.

Gift Aid Envelopes: New Gift Aid Boxes are ready at the back of church. If your tax situation has changed please inform the Gift Aid Coordinator as soon as possible. Once again thank you to everyone who is able to donate through the Gift Aid Scheme.

100 Club at St Pius X: Is to be relaunched Sunday 14th May 2023. Each number costs £1 per month. Subscriptions to be paid in advance 6 or 12 months. Envelopes have been provided for your details. Numbers will be allocated as soon as you confirm you wish to be included and how many numbers you wish to purchase. Cheques to be made payable to St Pius X. Provided we have 100 numbers allocated, each monthly draw will consist of four prizes: 1 x £30; 1 x £20 and 2 x £10. There will be an increase in prize money for the December Draw. A donation will also be made to St Pius X church funds. You will be kept informed. Please contact Christina if you require any more information 509541/07719 018193. We would like to thank Eleanor Glasgow for her many years of dedication to keeping the 100 Club alive and kicking over the years. Thank you, Eleanor, from all your fellow parishioners.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week – N.B.F (sick and retired Priests Until 7th May)

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.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Beatrice May Williamson, Mary Robson, Margaret Alderson, Walter Forster, James Copeland, Yinka Odubela, Mary Glaister, Bernard Rodgers, Teresa Watson, Imelda Hogg, Cecilia (Cissie) Glasgow, Yvonne Morgan, Henry Edward Glasgow, Catherine (Katie) Bell, Joan Mary Dawson, Mary Katherine McArdle, Elizabeth Mildred Lenaghan, Gerald Rogan, Rose Toner, Honor McDonald, Ann Rafferty

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.

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, Sienna Jane McNestry

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