

17th Sunday Of The Year - 30th July 2023



Searching for Treasure

It seems that everyone is searching for treasure at the moment. That is, it looks that way if we watch some of the programmes on daytime television. From Antiques Roadshow and Flog it, to Cash in the Attic and David Dickinson's Real Deal, people are falling over themselves to find items which may be worth something and which they can sell on to make a profit.

But Jesus tells two parables in today's gospel which are about finding a particular treasure which, when found, becomes the most precious thing in our life. A treasure we will want to hold onto.

What both parables are saying is that whether you are rich or poor the discovery of the kingdom of God changes forever the life of the person who finds it. Through Jesus and the teaching of the gospel we come to know and understand what the real meaning of life is and what the most important things in life are.

The challenge for us who have discovered the treasure of the kingdom of God and the absolute value of human life is to not be swayed by the messages all around us which ultimately promote a culture of selfishness and disregard for the value of life.

The treasure of the Kingdom of God has been entrusted to us to use wisely and all of Christians are responsible for it. It is not ours to give away or sell like in the TV shows.

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

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.

Bible Study Group: This new group will meet on a monthly basis at St Pius X on a Monday evening at 6.30pm.

Pray to end abortion: Don't lose hope in the power of prayer 'Abortion Recovery Care Helpline (ARCH)' 0345 6038501

Homes for Ukraine: Would you be able to open up your home to welcome people fleeing Ukraine? Please contact www.sjog-homesforukraine.uk.

Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 1st August 2pm at St Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and cake bring your friends as there will be bingo and a raffle. We will also have a talk from the Voluntary Fire Brigade giving us advice on Safety around the Home. Everyone is welcome.

Partnership Holy Island Trip: FULLY BOOKED If you have not already paid for your seat please pay asap into St Mary's or St Patrick's Parish office. Places are £11 per adult/£5 for children. Picking up at 9am Leadgate (main street bus stand), 9.10am Moorside (St Pius church), 9.20am Consett (John street), 9.30am Blackhill (St Mary's church) and 9.35am Shotley Bridge (Kings Head/Rumis on main street).

Entertainment: The Empire Theatre Consett has two great Shows coming up; "Swan Lake Ballet" Saturday 30th September Tickets £27 (concession £25 and under 16 £21). "Get it On" (One Night of Glam Rock) Saturday 14th October Tickets £28. Sign-up sheets are at the back of church – tickets are selling fast. You must book your place by Friday 4th August.

Items for Newsletter: If you have an Item to go into the newsletter please send no later than Thursday morning. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Around The Diocese

Days of Reflection and Liturgical Formation Courses Autumn 2023:

DAYS OF REFLECTION: *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*-23 September | 10:30am-3:00pm | St Joseph's, Gateshead

Liturgical Leaders of the Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion (Lay Leaders) 7 October 10:30am-3:00pm | St Joseph's, Gateshead.

COURSES

New Readers of the Liturgy of the Word Commencing 9 October | 2 sessions | St Aidan's, Benton

Liturgical Leaders of the Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion (Lay Leaders), Commencing 26 October | 6 sessions | St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Rainbows Bereavement Support Great Britain (GB): is a well-respected National Charity which

supports Children and Young People who have experienced a significant loss through death, relationship break[1]down or any other Adverse Childhood Experience. Volunteers are needed to join the North East Team. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Ruth Higginbottom, Rainbows North East Secretary, on 01670 518546 or rainbows.northeast@btconnect.com

Minsteracres

Rosary Rally: Saturday 12th August 10am – 2pm. Donations welcome

Book online email info@minsteracres.org or call 01434 673248.

Walking Retreat: Saturday 19th August 2023 10am – 5pm. Cost £15. Walking around the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres for seven to ten miles making time for prayer and reflection.

St. Mary's News

Collection: This week – None

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: 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 Parish office.

This week the candle will burn 'In Loving Memory of Bernard and Molly O'Hanlon'.

Eucharistic Ministers Meeting: on Wednesday 16th August at 6.30pm in St Mary's Presbytery. To Look at Resumption of The Precious Blood.

300 Club July Winners: £20 - M Page (186), £10 - C Creegan (56), £10 - C McElrue (126), £10 - R Kelly (153), £10 - M McCrory (119).

Church Fayre: Thank you to all who worked hard and to all who supported our Church Fayre. A grand total of £2,259 was raised.

Welcome Thursday: The church hall will be open from 10.30am on Thursday's for anyone to pop in for a coffee after Mass. Lunch from 12 noon normally consisting of soup with fresh baked bread rolls, Corn beef pie, sausage or bacon sandwiches as well as cakes, biscuits, tea & coffee. Transport can be provided if needed. We are also looking for more volunteers.

St Patrick's News

Collection: This week - Social and Welfare

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

Used postage stamps: Any nationality is welcome. They are sent off and sold to help the Little Sisters in Newcastle continue their caring work. They can be left at the back of the church. Many thanks to the parishioners who are already donating stamps.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week – Social and Welfare

Collections: The collection for Church flowers realised £114. Thank you for your generous support.

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. A thank you letter from the charity can be viewed on the notice board at the back of church.

Cemetery Fund: The fund is now open for donations until the end of September. If you Gift Aid your contribution please add your planned giving envelope number to the cemetery fund envelope. Envelopes are available at the back of church. Thank you for your support.

St Pius X News

Collection: This week – Social and Welfare

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45pm - 6.45pm Holy Rosary Will be said in Church on the last Monday of the Month. The next one will be on Monday 31st July at 6pm.

Statue of Our Lady: Have the Statue of Our Lady in your home. Anyone interested in having the Parish statue in their home for a period of time please indicate your interest by placing your name and address on the list in the porch. When numbers are known a rota will be arranged together with the length stay in each home.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week – Flowers

Eucharistic Ministers Meeting: on Wednesday 16th August at 6.30pm in St Mary's Presbytery. To Look at Resumption of The Precious Blood.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Kevin White, Edward Murray, Catherine Hillas, John Toner, Francis Joseph Page, Raymond Ellis, Catherine Stobbs, Winifred Costello, John Leslie Kendall, Kevin McGinn, Margaret Begg, Mark Worrall, Thomas Heseltine, Joan Williamson, Ellen Hogg.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Dixon, Gerry Corr, Larry McKie, Ellen Clifford, David Barron, Vincent Robson.

St. Patrick's: James Crozier Snr, Josephine Darroch, Matthew Hall, John Westgarth, Jordan Graham, Molly Glancy, Arthur McArdle, Margaret Calvert, Joe Conroy, Theresa Hutton, Maurice Byrne, Mary Hannant, Mary McArdle (Burns), Bernadette McGurk, Ada Lister, Catherine Milner, Margaret Railton, Billy Pledger, Peter Harpin, Rita Hughes, John Crawley, Anthony Bough, Ann Dickinson, Malcolm Wright, Joanne Storey, Andrew Rowlands, John Bell, Marjorie Whitton, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Innes and Vincent Vallely, Thomas Williamson, Hugh Thompson, Veronica Naisbett.

St Pius: John Agnew, Patricia Bell, Helen Beckham, Catherine Brady, Elizabeth Carr, David Collins, Betty Dodds, Michael Haughey, Ronald Kelly, Frank McGuigan, Don Murray, Ronnie Nixon, John Paull and Paddy Thorpe.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: June Williamson, Catherine Williamson, Paul Richardson, Teresa Toole, Peter Grogan, Billy White.

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, Simon Quinn, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Ged Hester, Terry Curran, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Catelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Betty Wears, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore and David Urwin.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reilly, Judith Hindmarsh, Geraldine Donnelly, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Seamus Doran, 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.

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