

18th Sunday Of The Year - 6th August 2023



From Transfiguration to Transformation

This weekend's First Reading, from the Book of Daniel, describes a vision of God on a fiery throne in Heaven surrounded by hosts of angels. In our Gospel Reading, the apostles Peter, James, and John are privileged to have a similar close encounter with the divine. Climbing to the top of a high mountain with Jesus, they see him take on an exalted form—shining with dazzling light and conferring with Moses and Elijah, the two greatest prophets of the Jewish scriptures. Then the voice of God the Father speaks to them, identifying Jesus as his Son and urging them: "Listen to him". In the Second Reading, Peter, writing years later, refers back to this amazing vision, which all Christians now remember as 'The Transfiguration'. And he cites it as proof that Jesus really is the living fulfilment of all the promises that God made through the Jewish prophets.

It's important to remember that only Jesus' appearance changed on the top of the mountain. He always was, always is, and always will be the Son of God and the living fulfilment of God's promises. The word 'transfiguration' has two definitions. The first, which applies to Jesus, is a sudden change in appearance. The second is a change in substance. And that's the definition that's more relevant to us. Once we recognise who Jesus is—and that he is the way, the truth, and the life—that knowledge should transform us, and the way we live our everyday lives. We are called to listen constantly with our hearts and souls to Jesus' teaching and to follow his example in the way that we love God and other people.

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.

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.

Charity Concert in aid of Church Clocks:

The Lions Club of Consett are presenting a Charity Concert in aid of Consett Town Clocks (St. Mary's, Blackhill and Christ Church, Consett) featuring Consett Citizens Choir and artists with An Enchanted Evening of Songs from the Musicals and Movies. This will take place in St Patrick's Church Hall Consett on Friday 22nd September. 2023 at 7pm. Tickets £5 or pay at the door. Raffle and refreshments.

St Patrick's Quiz Saturday 23rd September: St. Patrick's Quiz will take place on Saturday 23rd September at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall. Over 16's only. 6 Players per team £2.50 a head Please note only drinks bought at the bar may be consumed. Email: ted_young27@hotmail.com (underscore between 'd' and 'y') to book a team. Teams from all Partnership Parishes are Welcome.

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

Vacancies: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancy: **Darlington, St Anne** – Parish Secretary. 8 hours per week. Initial six-month contract. Closing date: 13 Aug. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301

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 Robert, Mary and Vincent Farrell and Mary Davison

Recently Deceased: Elizabeth (Betty) Wears and Charlie O'Donnell have both sadly passed away this week. Please keep them and their families in your prayers at this difficult time.

Thank You: Jane and Dennis Ferguson, and the family of Margaret Robson, would like to thank everyone who attended Margaret's Requiem Mass. Many thanks also for all the Mass and Sympathy cards and other condolences. May Margaret rest in peace.

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

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.

300 Club Winners for July: £20 No.45 Susanne McNally £10 No.123 Maria Robinson
£10 No.61 Alexandra Mallett

Used postage stamps: The Little Sisters of the Poor are very grateful for the used postage stamps. To date they have been able to donate over £20,000 to the Sisters which more recently has provided them with much needed funds. 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 Social and Welfare realised £94. 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 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

Recently Deceased: Charles Smith. Please prayer for him and his family at this sad time

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 28th August 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 – None

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: Thomas Sydney Thirlwell, Marie McElhone, Ann (Nancy) McElrue, Kenneth McElrue, Sadie Anderson, William Kennedy, Raimund Johan Allan Miiros, Monica Clifford, Margaret Lisle, Stuart Campbell, Margaret Healey, John Pearson Welsh, Baby Sarah Ann Holt, Thomas Boyle, Dianne Johnson, Patricia Feltham, Margaret Mary Bowery, Herdman Armstrong, William Miller, Raymond Penman, Freda Hagan

Our Lady of the Rosary: Patrick Healey (snr), Joseph Clifford, Margaret Bowery, Irene McKie, Fr. John F Gunning, Teddy McKie, Cassie McKie, John Rossi

St. Patrick's: Marie Campbell, Thomas Murray, David Lumley, Theresa Askew, Joan Butler, John P Sheekey, Mary Fortunato, Joseph Kileen, Elizabeth Quinn, Maureen Green, Anita Fulford, Sean Melody, Martin Jennings, Marie Therese Joyce, Aileen Marie Reilly, Larna Hobson, Gus McArdle, Andrew Hanson, Maureen Fox, Ronald Harris, Brian Murphy, Margaret Joan Furness, Oswald Johnson, Dennis McDonagh, Moira Dyer, Patricia Colburne, Kathleen Goldsmith, Rose McElhatton, James Stanyer, James Bramwell.

St Pius: William Campbell, Pat Collins, Chris Matthews, Brian Murphy, Raymond Penman.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Noel Clarke, Mary Williamson, Betty Dodds, Jimmy Hayes

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, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, 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