

19th Sunday Of The Year - 13th August 2023



Some thoughts on Prayer

This Sunday's readings offer us food for thought on the subject of prayer. In today's gospel St. Peter makes a very urgent and desperate prayer. You'll remember when Jesus asked him to walk towards him on the water Peter started to sink and so, in terror, he cried "Lord save me!"

That was a very urgent and serious prayer. Peter really meant what he said. This is one of lessons today's readings teaches us about prayer. We should mean what we say when we pray. There is no shame in being direct, like Peter was. We believe God knows us better than we know ourselves so there is no point in hiding our real feelings or in being insincere.

The example of Jesus and how he prayed is another lesson for us to learn. In today's Gospel, he had just finished another gruelling day, capped with the stressful event of feeding the five thousand from five loaves and two fish. But instead of taking a much-needed rest, we are told, "he went up into the hills by himself to pray."

The Lord's example clearly shows us that prayer is not just an activity but that prayer is a way of life. However, an atmosphere which helps us to pray is necessary – and that atmosphere is silence. This was how Elijah heard the quiet voice of God in our first reading.

We are all God's children and there is an unbreakable bond between us and God. When we spend regular time in silent prayer that bond becomes stronger and gives us the confidence and assurance that the Lord is with us and will hold out his hand to us when we go through the storms of life.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207-502320

(stmarysblackhill@outlook.com)

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207-502196

(stpatrickconsett@aol.com)

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.

Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham 18th-21st August: The departure times for the pilgrimage are as follows. St Mary's Blackhill 8.30am and St Patrick's John Street 8.45am, following Mass at St Patrick's at 8.00am.

RCIA – Journey in Faith: Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith? Are you wanting to deepen your understanding of Faith? Whether you are a practising Catholic, non Catholic, or just curious about Jesus. The above course could be for you!

For St Patrick's, Our Lady and St Joseph's and St Pius we are starting on Thursday 7th September at St Pius X, Moorside where we will meet from 6.45pm until 8.30pm. Please contact the parish office at St Patrick's on 01207 502196.

For St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary please contact the parish office on 01207 502320 for further information.

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

Diocesan Job Vacancies: St Augustine, Darlington – Administrator, 26 hours a week. St Paul, Cramlington – Finance Assistant, 5 hours per week. The closing date for applications is 18 June. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301

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 breakdown 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

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

Next Week - SVP

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 Michael and Molly Glancy'.

Thank You: On behalf of the family of the late Therese Dixon the family would like to thank everyone who donated to Cafod following Therese's funeral. The amount raised was £644.20.

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

In Need of Support: If you are in need of support from the SVP Society please put your name and telephone number in a sealed envelope marked SVP and place through presbytery door. A member of the SVP will contact you.

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.

Congratulations: To Christopher Thompson and Annelise Brown on the Celebration of their Marriage at St Patrick's on Saturday 12th August 2023.

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 - Cemetery Fund

The collection for Social and Welfare, last week, realised £109. 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 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

Next Week: SVP

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: George Jones, Thomas Kennedy, John Naisbitt, George Kevin Roberts, John William Bell, Frederick Malpass, Maureen Counsell, John Page, Nicholas Kearney, Thomas Lambert, James 'Jim' Ward, John Joseph Adams, Brian Peter Tate, Hugh Gerard Kearney, Mary Winter, Bridget McCourt, Thomas Carr, Georgina Gibson, Obadiah David Westlake, Ronald John Byrne, Thomas Toole, Joseph Bell, Maureen Lambert.

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: James Bramwell, William Fairbairn, Mary Fortunato and William Young.

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, 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