

26th Sunday Of The Year - 1st October 2023



Seeking to serve rather than be served

In today's second reading St. Paul offers us a radical way of living as Christians. He says that we should humbly, *"Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first, but everyone thinks of other people's interests instead."* While this is a challenging way of life, it is at the very heart of being a Christian.

To fully live with other people's interests above our own, we require a dramatic interior conversion. Our society propagates the importance of the unholy trinity of *"me, myself and I"*. In order to begin this conversion, we need to turn to prayer and seek to imitate Jesus. Jesus always sought to be a servant of others, instead of demanding to be served. This was shown very poignantly, when he washed the feet of the apostles. In this image, we see what it means to be a servant to others – to humble ourselves before others, and seek their good before our own.

Imagine a parish community where everyone strives to serve their brothers and sisters. This service can be manifested in a variety of ways, whether it be simply going out of our way to say hello to a new family in the parish, or supporting a family undergoing a major change or crises in their life. Let us constantly renew our commitment to being true disciples of Christ, and seek to serve, rather than be served.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207 - 502320

Deacon Chris Callan

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207 - 502196

Deacon Shaun McGee

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.

RCIA – Journey in Faith: For St Patrick's, Our Lady and St Joseph's and St Pius Is held every Thursday at St Pius X, Moorside from 6.45pm until 8.30pm. Places are still available. 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.

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 it through St Mary's presbytery door. A member of the SVP will contact you.

Holy Island Camp: Holy Island Vinnies Camp is looking for new helpers to help in their kitchens on Holy Island. The Camp runs holidays for many of our Catholic Schools in the North East during the months of April to July and then September to November, but relies on volunteers to do caretaking duties and kitchen helpers to wash up, serve meals and help prepare light meals, salads and sandwiches etc for the groups staying on site. Commitment can be as little as a few days a year or more if you are able to and willing!

We are running a camp afternoon tea at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Newcastle airport, on Saturday 7th October from 2.15pm until 4.45pm. People who are interested in volunteering are more than welcome to join us, but would need to email John Flynn on JohnF@svp.org.uk to book a place. Anyone who is thinking they might like to volunteer in 2024 could also contact Barbara Taws via BarbaraT@svp.org.uk to find more information about Camp and the process of becoming a volunteer. We hope to see you soon!

Alpha Course at St Teresa's: If you want to know more please email Helen at helenmargarethunt@gmail.com or lanchester.allsaints@rcdhn.org.uk for more information or check out the alpha website – www.alpha.org.uk To sign up please see the information at the back of Church.

St Mary's Convent Care Home: The Grandson of the late Bill and Chris Storey is trying to raise funds for the outside areas of St Mary's Convent in order to make the outdoor areas more accessible for the residents and will be doing a trek in the Himalayas in October. If you would like to sponsor him with a donation please go to WWW.gofundme.com and search for 'St Mary's Convent Residential Care Home' where all the details are available.

"Calling all knitters!: Christmas will be upon us before we know it! This year, there is a choice between 3 knitting patterns: Christmas Trees; Christmas Bells and Christmas Stockings. Be as creative as you like! If we get enough, we can share completed items with our parishioners who are in hospital, or in local care homes. You can collect free knitting patterns from Wendy in the Parish Office. Many thanks". Maggie Quinn

Quiz Night: Thank you to Ted Young and all other volunteers for a brilliant quiz night recently held at St Patrick's Hall everyone had a great night.

Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 3rd October 2pm at St Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and cake bring your friends as there will be bingo and a raffle too everyone is welcome.

Thank you: Fiona Bell would like to offer her very sincere appreciation for all the prayers, cards and best wishes she received during her recent illness. May God Bless You All.

Around The Diocese

Days of Reflection and Liturgical Formation Courses Autumn 2023:

COURSES

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

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

Vacancies: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following roles: **Administrator**, Dept for Education, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, permanent. Closing date: 10 October

Cleaner, St Charles, Gosforth – part-time, permanent. Closing date: 11 October

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

St. Mary's News

Collection: This week – Prisoners Sunday Next week -Cafod Family Fast

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound 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 John and Mary Cox'.

300 Club Winners September: £20 - (171) C Byrne, £10 - (58) T Murray, £10 - (5) B Bennison, £10 - (29) D Quinn (Med Road), £10 - (95) B Bowman.

Town Raffle: Thank you to all who have taken Town Raffle Ticket books. Can you please return counterfoils and money as soon as possible. Thank you.

S.V.P.: Monthly meeting is this Thursday 5th October at 12 Noon in St Mary's Presbytery,

First Holy Communion Programme: will begin soon. If you have a child in the Parish who would like to join the programme please contact Collette on 07955284076.

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 – Prisoners Sunday Next week -Cafod Family Fast

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

Volunteers Needed: We are looking for volunteers for the following Roles

Parish Council - who meet on a monthly basis to discuss events and services for St Patrick's.

Finance: we are looking to expand our finance committee which meets twice a year where we

discuss the finances for the church and make decisions on purchases and maintenance that is required.

Counters - to count the Sunday Collection and to set up a rota.

Readers - to read on a Sunday morning training will be given and will be on a rota basis. *Church*

Hall - to help with social events making teas, coffees, waiting on tables and the bar.

300 Club: Payments are now being taken for the next 12 months. Envelopes for payment can be found at the back of the church. For further information contact Clare 591842, Christine 504870, Josie 588718. Thank you to everyone who supported the 300 Club in 2022/23.

St Patrick's Parish First Holy Communion Programme: If you do not have an application form you can pick one up from School or the Presbytery at St Patrick's Church Consett.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week – Prisoners Sunday Next week -Cafod Family Fast

Lateley Deceased: Brian Farley. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

Volunteers: We have a shortage of Readers among those people who regularly attend the Saturday Night Brooms Vigil. We would be grateful if you would like to volunteer as a Reader. Training will be given if required. See Fr John in person or telephone 01207 502196.

We are also looking to expand our finance committee which meets twice a year where we discuss the finances for the church and make decisions on purchases and maintenance that is required.

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 noticeboard at the back of church. The recent retiring collection for People's Kitchen realised £110. Thank you for your support.

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 News

Collection: This week – Prisoners Sunday Next week -Cafod Family Fast

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

Holy Rosary: Will be said in Church on the last Monday of the Month. Next one will be on 30th October.

Statue of Our Lady: Anyone interested in having the Parish statue in their home for a period of time please indicate your interest by contacting Imelda Slane. 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 – Prisoners Sunday Next week -Cafod Family Fast

Readers: We are looking for volunteers to read at the Sunday Mass. If you are interested please contact Fr Tom.

Holy Rosary: will be said on Tuesday 3rd October before the 10am Mass at 9.30am..

S.V.P.: Monthly meeting is this Thursday 5th October at 12 Noon in St Mary's Presbytery.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: James Clifford, Thomas Lisle, Mona McGuckin, Joseph Anthony Cattermole, Joseph MCCarte, Mary Bennett, John Edward Foy, Hannah Conney, Philip Murray, John Storey, Marjorie Carey, Richard benedict Breslin, Mathew Storey, Lenny Guy, Malcolm McAloon, Catherine Norton, Hilda McCusker, Hugh Toner, Lily Clifford.

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: Nancy McGurk, Sheila Campbell, David Agnew, Audrey Whales, Denis McNally, Lily Loughran, Alan Ramsden, Joan Holliday, Theresa Hudson, Maurice Rose, Peter Lockeron, Thomas Henderson, Yvonne Clare, Catherine Smith, Christina Scott, Ivan Wright, Mary Lydon, Alma Byrne, Denise Hunter, Winifred Gettings, Joseph Rennoldson, Joan Malpass, Mary Hutton, Dorothy Convery.

St Pius: Pauline Evans, John Kerr, Hilda Ratchford.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: John Wilfred Smith, David Bradley, Neil McKie (snr), Desmond McNally, Alice Bell, Bill Storey, Jenny Clark, John Jack Walker

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, Austin Lawrie.

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, Sienna Jane McNestry, Olive Robinson.

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, Bob Parkin, Muriel Steele.

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson.

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

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.'

Prayer For Ukraine

O God in this time of violence. We call 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 care givers 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.