

32nd Sunday Of The Year - 12th November 2023



The Eternal Banquet

The First World War was said to be the war to end all wars. Sadly, it wasn't. The years which have passed since 1918 have seen many wars. War is undoubtedly wrong and taking life is wrong. Yet the men and women we honour today were willing to fight for us, they were willing to give up their lives so we could be safe and enjoy freedom.

But until we become a better human race war is with us. And with war comes death. This Remembrance Sunday's Mass readings, though they speak about loss and grief, also speak about hope. St. Paul understood that just because we have faith doesn't mean we can dispense with grief. What faith does is enable us to grieve with hope. St. Paul reassures Christians that the Lord is with us when we come into the world and he will be with us on our journey to eternal life.

But this depends on a response on our part, a readiness to keep alive a real relationship with Jesus Christ. This is where the parable about the ten bridesmaids comes in, which is our gospel reading today.

This parable warns us that it is possible to exclude ourselves from the banquet of eternal life. It was only those bridesmaids who were ready, who went in with the bridegroom to the wedding hall.

Life, including life after death, is God's gift to us and a gift by definition, can be refused. However, we will certainly be ready to accept this ultimate gift, if throughout our lives we have learned to be receptive and open to the Lord.

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.

Mass Intentions: Just to remind parishioners that Mass intentions need to be requested at least three months beforehand, and at present there are no spaces available until after the new year in St Mary's, Brooms and St Pius with very few available in St Patrick's.

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

"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.

Polish Mass: There is no Polish Mass to be held at St Pius this month. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Life Lines: Humorous Poems By Lorraine Weightman. Book on Sale Now £5 Each with donations to the nominated charity Brain Tumour Research Biking Vikings North East.

Around The Diocese

Vacancy: "The Emmaus Village are hiring staff to be part of our Catering Team. We have a position for an Assistant Catering Coordinator and Kitchen Technician. For more information, please email admin@ymt.org or give us a call at 01207592244. Please also see our advert posted in your parish board. We look forward to hearing from you. Be part of a team that serves the young people of our Diocese for Without you we are Youthless"

Little Sisters of the Poor – Christmas Fayre: The Little Sisters of the Poor are having a Christmas Fayre at St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle at 1pm-4pm on Saturday 25th November. All are welcome to attend.

"CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal: Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

Invitation from the Sacred Heart Sisters in Fenham: The Society of the Sacred Heart has spent the last year giving thanks and celebrating their arrival in England on December 8th, 1842. This year the celebration of our 180 years in this country draws to a close on December 8th, 2023. We, the sisters in Fenham, would like to invite those who have shared our mission of Education in Fenham over the years as students, pupils, staff and friends from the Sacred Heart schools or St Mary's Teacher Training College to join us for Mass in St Robert's Church, Bolbec Rd, Fenham at 6.p.m. on that day. Come along and meet old friends. Bishop Seamus will be the

celebrant as he was the College Chaplain for many years. To have some idea of numbers for the Mass leaflets please RSVP to rscjfenham@yahoo.com by November 30th or leave a message on 0191 422 3840

Partnership Social Events

Partnership Christmas Lunch: Tuesday December 12th 12.30pm to be held at the Jolly Drivers, Leadgate £5 deposit per person on booking. 2 Courses £17.95 or 3 Courses £23.95. Menus are available (starter to be chosen when paying deposit) at the back of church along with envelopes which can be handed into the Parish Office at St Patrick's and St Mary's. Please Book Early Number of Places are Limited.

Partnership Pantomime Consett Empire – Jack and the Beanstalk: We have made a block group booking at the Consett Empire for the Pantomime “Jack and the Beanstalk” on Friday 29th December Matinee at 3pm. Tickets are £13 each and are on a first come first served basis. Envelopes are available at the back of the church and the full money must be paid before the space is booked.

Christmas Shopping Trip to York: On Thursday 7th December, a trip has been organised by St Joseph's, Stanley, to York Christmas Market (leaving 8.30am, various pickups). The cost of the trip is £15pp. If you would like to go, please contact St Joseph's Parish office 01207 299012 (9am - 3pm, Tues - Fri) to book your place.

Harrogate Christmas Shopping Trip: The trip to Harrogate is now full. Thank you to everyone who has booked and paid for their place. The Bus will leave on Thursday 23rd November at 9.30am then pick up at St Mary's at 9.40am. The Bus will leave Harrogate at 5pm for the return journey.

Dick Whittington & His Cat: Invites you to St Patrick's Hall Consett for a Pre Christmas Pantomime 25th/26th November and 2nd/3rd December Tickets £9 each or Special Offer 4 Tickets for the price of 3. Telephone St Patrick's Hall 07517 929658 to book tickets.

St Mary's News

Collection: This week – Clergy Training Fund

The collection of the Clergy Training Fund remains open until the end of November.

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.

First Holy Communion Programme: If you have a child in the Parish who would like to join the programme please contact Collette on 07955 284076.

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 or phone 07821601684.

Kennedy Care Centre - St Mary's Church Hall: Presents 'The Men In Black' On Saturday 18th November at 7pm. Bar, Raffle, and Bingo. tickets £5.

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.

St Patrick's News

Collection: This week – Clergy Training Fund

The collection of the Clergy Training Fund remains open until the end of November.

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

Volunteers: Thank you to all the volunteers who have come forward to help in the various roles throughout the Church. We are looking for even more volunteers to enable us to have a rota so please let Fr John know if you can help in any way.

300 Club October Winners:

£20 (31) Jennifer Stanyer £15 (176) Josie McMenamin £10 (58) Sheila Reed

Christmas Fayre Saturday 9th December from 1pm: We would be grateful for any items to make our annual Christmas Fayre a success. We are particularly looking for donations of wines and spirits for our bottle draw, toiletries and gifts for the tombola and good quality (complete) new or used toys and games. Donations can be left in the box in the church porch or handed in to the presbytery on a Monday, Thursday or Friday 9am – 4pm. Cakes and baked goods for the cake stall can be brought on the day. Thank you.

St Nicholas Candles for the Holy Souls: Available in Church £3 each

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week – Clergy Training Fund

The collection of the Clergy Training Fund remains open until the end of November.

Lately Deceased: Stanley Taylor. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

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. Thank you for your very generous support. A further £150 was sent to the charity recently making a total of £2,500.50.

St Pius News

Collection: This week – Clergy Training Fund

The collection of the Clergy Training Fund remains open until the end of November.

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 Monday 27th November 2023.

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 – Clergy Training Fund

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ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Margaret Whytte, Joanne McGuigan, Francis Joseph Clarke, Joseph Page, Clint Ronald Woodland, Theresa McCoy, Florence Teresa O'Hanlon, David Shotton, Michael Welsh, Thomas Beckham, Margaret Preston, Richard Kilion, Theresa Marie Morgan, John Francis Smith, Lillian Metcalf, David Walton, Mary (Polly) Brown, David Richardson, Mary Clarke, John Joseph Cheeseman, Andrew Dempsey, John Grant, Thomas Bell, Jane Roberts, Francis Gerard Rafferty, Sarah Corr, Jimmy Mulhearn, Kathleen Million, Francis J Routledge, Bill Gilliland, Florence Mary Siddoway, Mary Ellen Lawrie, James McCusker, Audrey Stobbs, Mary Kennedy

Our Lady of the Rosary: Anne Graham (nee Barron), Ted McKie, Annie Kelly, Lyndsay Morton, Ray Watson, Eileen Mary Carr (nee Nicholson), Joseph McKie, Mary Davison, Theresa Devlin

St. Patrick's: Dominic McGurk, Catherine Connelly, Hugh Malone, Catherine Donaghy, Richard Forbes, Terry Burns, Mary Burnage, Mary Theresa Hughes, Joseph Raw, Flora Nimmons, Tommy O'Neill, Mary Donaghy, Alan Foley, Gerard Slavin, Moira Reed, Brian Rogan, James Fail, Thomas Kerr, Ellen Parker, Nancy Collins, John Harpin, Stephen Fenwick, John Haggon, Bill Kennedy, Betty Mitcheson.

St Pius: Leonard Crawley, Sheila Gibson, Catherine Teresa Hall, Nancy McCourt, William McCurley, James Christopher Walker.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Ged Doughan, Sydney Fountain, Norman Henderson, Laura Mallon, Graeme Dimmick.

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, Mary uy.

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

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.