

5th Sunday of the Year - 4th February 2024



He went off to a lonely place and prayed.

This Sunday we are still hearing about the early days of Jesus' ministry. Those early days were an exciting time. Jesus and his disciples went from place to place, teaching and healing. Great crowds flocked to Jesus because they recognized the authority of his teaching and the power of God at work in his healing. Today we hear how, after preaching in the synagogue, Jesus heals a sick man. Going to Peter's house he also heals Peter's mother in law. Even the devils recognized who Jesus was.

How did Jesus cope with all this demand and pressure? Today's gospel tells us how. It tells us that he rose early in the morning and went off to a lonely place to pray. This was not a one off event. It was his customary practice. In the midst of the hectic activity which filled his days he found time to withdraw by himself in a lonely place.

What did the lonely place do for him? It gave him time to pray. From these times of prayer he drew strength to follow the path the Father had laid out for him.

To strengthen and deepen our faith, we need to spend time in prayer, alone with our Father. In silence and solitude we can hear God's call, and learn to trust God's will for us. Our times of prayer will strengthen us to meet the demands of our lives.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207 - 502320

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207 - 502196

Deacon Chris Callan

Deacon Shaun McGee

Deacon David Westgarth (Retired)

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 '*3 months*' beforehand. If not using the Mass envelopes provided could you please remember to name the church in which you would like the Mass said.

Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2024: The annual pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place from Friday 16th to Monday 19th August 2024. The cost will be approximately £330.00 standard and £385 ensuite. There has been a radical change in the booking system with the deposits increasing considerably. I need to have confirmed numbers and deposits paid by the end of January so would those wishing to take part in the pilgrimage please contact me Jim McArdle on 501938 as soon as possible. A deposit of £150 standard and £180 ensuite is payable on booking.

Sunderland Empire Musical Six: From the West End to Broadway, the international smash hit musical Six is on its Tour and we have negotiated 30 seats at Sunderland Empire on Wednesday 3rd July at 5pm in the Dress Circle. The tickets have been discounted from £49 to £43. Following the Show the coach will take us to the coast for fish and chips or even a ride on the shows. Numbers are limited on a first come first served basis . If you are interested and would like to go please hand in to St Patrick's Parish Office the Envelope provided at the back of church with your ticket money included on or before the 22nd February 2024. Bus fare collected nearer the time will be approximately £7.50 per person. Contact Christina Parkin 01207 509541.

Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 6th February 2pm at St Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too as there will be bingo and a raffle everyone is welcome.

Around The Diocese

Come And See: Priestly Vocation Discernment Evenings 2024 for men aged 18+ who think God might be calling them to serve, the next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 6th February 2024 between 6-8pm to be held at St Joseph's Stanley. More information on the notice board.

"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." **Diocesan Lenten Reflection Booklets**

The Vicariate for Faith and Mission: are producing booklets of Daily Lenten Reflections which will be available for viewing, downloading and printing from the Diocesan website, using this

weblink: <https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>. The weblink will go live in time for Ash Wednesday.

Vacancies – Opportunities to work at the Emmaus Village: The Emmaus Village, home for the Youth Ministry Team, hosts all the residential retreats led by YMT for our Diocesan Primary and Secondary Schools. We are looking for an Assistant Catering Coordinator and Kitchen Technician, who will help our catering team deliver this valuable service to all the groups that come to the Emmaus Village. If you or someone you know wants to be part of the YMT team, please contact admin@ymt.org or click the link www.ymt.org/vacancies Theresa & I raise funds for St Joseph's Home in Newcastle which, as you know, also looks after several retired priests among its residents.

Little Sisters of the Poor: David and Theresa O'Neill raise funds for St Joseph's Home in Newcastle which, as you know, also looks after several retired priests among its residents.: Over the years they have raised over £20,000 to help the Sisters in their work & would like to invite the whole diocese to be involved. They collect used postage stamps (any country or period including unwanted stamp collections), foreign currency (any country or period), broken or unwanted gold & silver jewellery (even backs of earrings etc) & military medals (although not if they have current sentimental value to the owners). We sort all items & our dealers collect. Any stamps which they don't accept go to the RNIB who collect from us periodically. Any help which you & your parishioners can give will be gratefully accepted & we & the Sisters & residents remember all donors in our prayers & Masses.

St Mary's News

Collection: This week – Flowers Next week - St Bedes Lourdes Pilgrimage

Sanctuary Candle: Will burn In Loving Memory of Frank Bradley.

Legion of Mary: Will say the Rosary and Legion Prayers on Tuesday Evenings at 6pm.

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.

Sanctuary Candle: This week the candle will burn 'In Loving Memory of Tony Quinn'.

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.

300 Club January Winners: £20 - (56) C Creegan, £10 - (180) M Robins, £10 - (39) C McElrue, £10 - (89) M Malone, £10 - (66) C Walton. Thank you for your support. See Jimmy if you would like to join.

Lets Celebrate - Shrove Tuesday: 13th February in JFK Centre doors open 1.30pm. Hot Dogs, Pancakes and a cold drink. Raffle and Tombola. Competition prizes on the Air Hockey Table. Karaoke and Pancake Tossing! Tickets £4 each or £12 per family of four.

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

Collections: This week – Flowers Next week - St Bedes Lourdes Pilgrimage

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

Recently Deceased: James Morgan died 21st January and Kathleen Watson (ne Rogan) died 23rd January lived away from Consett.

Novena to the Holy Face: The Novena to the Holy Face of Jesus for 2024 begins this year on Sunday, February 4th. The Feast of The Holy Face of Jesus will be celebrated on Shrove Tuesday, February 13th, with 10am Mass at St. Patrick's, Consett. There will be an opportunity to receive an individual blessing with Holy Face Oil following this Mass, and also a Holy Face Stall will be available. All are welcome. [See poster for details]. Maggie Quinn [01207] 506425.

Holy Infant of Prague: Items associated with The Holy Infant of Prague Devotion will be on sale after 9.30am Mass on Sundays at St. Patrick's, Consett at the front of the church.

Lenten Soup Lunches: This year the soup lunches will be on each **Friday** in Lent following Stations of the Cross. Come into St Patrick's Hall for a bowl of delicious homemade soup, tea/coffee and a chat. All proceeds go to CAFOD and St Patrick's Church.

300 club Winners November: £20 Barry Shaw (5), £15 Christine Jackson (132)
£10 Jennifer Stanyer Whiteford (35)

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week – Flowers Next week - St Bedes Lourdes Pilgrimage

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.

Lenten Soup Lunch: As part of the Lent Season on March 1st we will be serving a soup lunch at the Salvation Army. Volunteers needed. See Angela Allum for more details

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Flowers Next week - St Bedes Lourdes Pilgrimage

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 27th February 2024 at 6pm

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

Children's Liturgy: is held on the first Sunday of every month.

Volunteers needed: for Altar Flower Rota any help will be greatly received no experience is necessary. If you can help please speak to Christina Parkin.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week – Flowers Next week - St Bedes Lourdes Pilgrimage

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.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Mary Page, Sheila Clifford, Mary Martin, Ethel Maude Brady, Jim Corr, George Pinkerton, Nicholas Dodds, Michael Robins, Alice Carr, John Clifford, Alice Parnaby, Sarah Jane Murphy, John Doran, Mary Love, Gerard Carney, John William Norton, Thomas Murray, Elizabeth Norton, Ilda Mellon, Joan Eltringham, Elizabeth McCoy, Agnes Mcardle, Nellie Higgins, Arthur Scott, Margaret Armstrong, John Glancy, Anthony McAdele, Bill Mulholland, James Quinn, Anthony Carr, Robert Johnson, Christopher Cooksie

.Our Lady of the Rosary: Margaret Mary Nicholson, Elizabeth Bowery, Mark Bradley, Michael Healey, Terry Bowery, Maureen McKie, William Hannah, Michael Baker, Fr. James Burke

St. Patrick's: Terry Murray, George Dixon, Mary Crozier, Margaret Malone, Lottie Martin, John Routledge, Eric William Malloy, Molly Wight, Rose Clark, Patsy Foley, Tony Gowland, Mary Teresa McCrory, Maureen Hurson, David Flynn, Teresa Smith, Eric Appleton, Patricia Higgins, John Martin, Peter Malone, Peter Hughes, Terry McCabe, Joseph Lockeron, Arran (Christopher) Field, Kevin Joyce and Rose Zina Thompson.

St Pius: Arthur Collins, Rubine Lee, Mary McCrory (nee Welsh), Christopher Moore, Maria Murphy, Christine Nixon, Mary Page, Florence Ann Parkin, Audrey Renwick.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Bobby Fountain, Joseph Hurst, Joan Callaghan.

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, Mary Guy, Joan Sewell.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Martin Rogan, Cheryl Reily, Judith Hindmarsh, Geraldine Donnelly, Andrew Bates, Patrick Lynch, Jean Walls, Sienna Jane McNestry, Austin McDonald

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Keith Elliott, Derek Hicks, Paul Hunt, 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.