

3rd Sunday of Easter - 14th April 2024



As the prophets foretold

In our Gospel Reading this weekend, the Risen Christ appears to his disciples in Jerusalem. And, as the text says: “He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures.” Prior to this, unfortunately, their minds had **not** been open. Most Jews—and Jesus’ disciples were no exception—were convinced that the Messiah was going to be great warrior like David, or an awesome holy man like Moses: someone who would work miracles to free Israel from Roman occupation and then establish a new Jewish kingdom where true justice and righteousness would prevail. They were all so excited about the prospect that they memorised every word of the various prophecies that predicted these sorts of things. But at the same time, they happily ignored other—less glorious and more challenging—prophecies like the ‘suffering servant’ passages in the Book of Isaiah. They only saw what they wanted to see.

But, after his death and Resurrection, Jesus is able to point out to them that God had bigger plans all along, and that every part of it had been foretold in their scriptures. The Messiah was not just meant to free the Jews, but the whole of humanity. And the real enemy was not the Roman Empire, but the much more cosmic and devastating power of sin and death. And so, in order to conquer sin, it was always necessary for the Messiah to take the people’s sins upon himself. In order to conquer death, it was necessary for him to die and rise again. In short, God did not send the sort of Messiah that the Jews wanted for themselves. He sent the Messiah that the whole of mankind needed.

In our First and Second Readings, we can see that St. Peter and St. John have truly embraced this amazing truth, and that they feel compelled to follow Jesus’ calling that they should be witnesses to tell the whole world. As Christians ourselves, we have the same calling to share the Good News as widely as possible.

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.

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound, and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact their parish priest Fr. Tom for St Mary's and OLOR and Fr John for St Patrick's, St Pius and The Brooms.

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.

Partnership Mass for Marriage and Family Life: Deacon Rob Wareing, Diocesan Coordinator for Marriage Preparation and Care, is coming to preach at a Mass for Marriage and Family Life on Saturday 20th April, 10am at St. Patrick's Consett. All from the Partnership are welcome to attend this celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage and thanksgiving for Family Life.

Date for your Diary: Holy Island - Saturday 27th July. More details to follow.

Carfin Grotto - Wednesday 15th May 2024: 'The Pontop Partnership' would like to invite Parishioners across the partnership to join them on a trip to Carfin on Wednesday 15th May. If you wish to go please put your name on the list at the back of church along with your contact details. Pick up times will be as follows: 7.15am - Annfield Plain, opposite Tesco, 7.20am - St Bedes school Lanchester, 7.30am Leadgate Club, 7.40am - Crown and Cross Swords Shotley Bridge, 7.45am - St Mary's Blackhill, 7.55am John Street Consett, 8.00am St Pius Moorside. Cost for the bus will be £20 per person to be paid when booking a place (envelopes at the back of church).

Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant: Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School, Leadgate are looking to appoint two Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants, one appointment to commence as soon as possible, the other in May 2024. 6 hours 15 mins per week (Mon-Fri 11.55am – 1.10pm) Permanent, Term Time Only, Further information can be found on the School Website.

Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 7th May 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.

Bible Group: To be held at St Pius from Monday 15th April at 6.30p.m.

Pie Peas and Bingo: at St Teresa's Annfield Plain. Wednesday 24th April 6pm £7. Come along for an enjoyable evening and bring a friend. All are welcome.

Glendale Choir: St Patrick's Church Hall Saturday 27th April 7.00pm. Soloist Pianist Helena Ritson. Tickets £6 available from Teresa Davidson 07758510333 or on the door.

News From Around The Diocese

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle: has the following job vacancies:

Administrator: St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle – full-time. Closing date: 16 April

IT Field Engineer (two posts): Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, 9-month fixed term contract. Closing date: 21 April

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

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp: There are places still available for boys and girls in school years 5-7 (inclusive) at Holy Island Children's camp. A week's traditional holiday with meals and transport costs just £150! If you would like your child to have a week's holiday on Holy Island this Summer please visit our site <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island>. If you know of any child who would benefit from this opportunity but may need assistance in paying, please email holyislandapplications@svp.org.uk

St Mary's News

Collection: This week – Sick and Retired Priests (NBF) Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor
Lately Deceased: Kathleen Hagan. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

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

Planned Giving Envelopes: are available to pick up from the back of the church.

Cafod: would like to thank the parishioners for the donation of £1203.08 raised at the recent collection.

Breakfast Club: After Sunday Mass. Tea, Coffee, toast, bacon and sausage sandwiches.

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.

St Mary's Summer Fete: will be held on Sunday 14th July. More information later.

Kennedy Care Centre: 'Show Night' featuring top local artists, The Seymour Sisters, on Saturday 11th May. Homemade Broth, Stotty, Bar, Raffle and Bingo Doors open at 6.30pm.

Welcome Thursday: Although we offer a healthy 3 course meal to all our guests it was not set up necessarily to feed those in need. The majority of our guests are not in this category. We offer a meeting place for all age groups to come and spend time & make new friends in a comfortable friendly environment. For some of our guests it is the only time they leave their homes during the week and they look forward to coming. We can also arrange transport for anyone who needs it.

St Patrick's News

Collection: This week – Sick and Retired Priests (NBF) Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor
Lately Deceased: Malcolm Hayes and Mark Murphy. Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

Thank You: Thank you to everyone who came to the Lenten Soup Lunches we raised an amazing £601 which includes a kind donation from the Crafty Ladies of £117 raised from their raffles during the lunches. The money raised will be shared between St Patrick's Church and Cafod.

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

Piety: Wide variety of Mass, Bereavement, Communion and Birthday Cards. Please come along after Mass and browse.

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.

Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week – Sick and Retired Priests (NBF) Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor
The Easter Offering collection totalled £237, thank you for your generosity.

Planned Giving envelopes: have been distributed over the last week, please look on the table at the back of church if you have not received your box of envelopes. Those parishioners wishing to receive a box of envelopes please add your name and address to the list at the back of the church and we will get your box of envelopes as soon as possible. Thank you

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.

Reader's Rota: 1st Saturday of the month Anne Temperley, 2nd Saturday Kevin Walls, 3rd Saturday John Nixon, 4th Saturday Pauline Parker. Any 5th Saturday and any time someone is unable to fulfil their turn Christine Wilks.

St Pius News

Collection: This week – Sick and Retired Priests (NBF) Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 29th April 2024 at 6pm

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: Wednesday at 10am. Tea, coffee and biscuits afterwards.

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

Children's Liturgy: is held every Sunday.

100 Club Membership: Renewal from 1st May payment is £12 for one year (you can pay every 6 months). There are also numbers available if you wish to take one. Contact Christina Parkin on 07719 028193.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collection: This week – Sick and Retired Priests (NBF) Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor

Lately Deceased: Kathleen Hagan. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

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.

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.

Cafod: would like to thank the parishioners for the donation of £120.11 raised at the recent collection.

SVP Coin Boxes: Please return coin boxes for Sudan. Thank you for your continued support for SVP Baby Feeding Centres in Sudan.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Edna Tucker, Joe Coleman, Margaret Guy, Mary Howarth, John Routledge, Geraldine Clarke, Beatrice May Williamson, Mary Robson, Margaret Alderson, Walter Forster, James Copeland, Yinka Odubela, Mary Glaister, Bernard Rodgers, Teresa Watson, Imelda Hogg, Cecilia (Cissie) Glasgow, Yvonne Morgan, Henry Edward Glasgow, Catherine (Katie) Bell, Joan Mary Dawson.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Fr. Paul Harrison, Tom Cowie, Mary Florence Nicholson, Arthur Denis Nicholson, Mary McKie, Thomas Bell, William Devlion.

St. Patrick's: James Conney, James Darroch, Arthur Page, Virginia Rossi, Bernadette McAloon, Patrick Dent, Brian Murray, Lawrence Watson, Francis McGuigan, Keith Hutton, John Donoghue, Janet Robson, David Adams, Gerard Lydon, Jim Brolly, Margaret Naughton, Teresa Maughan, Francisco Rodrigues, Sylvia Dimambro, Mary Owens, Jean Huntsman, Angela Mackin, Mary Ramsden, Veronica Morgan, Peter Young, Catherine Lee, Maureen Rodgers, Anthony Price, James Keith Connelly, Nora Robson.

St Pius: Thomas Carney, Father Jim Doherty, Father Higgins, Denis Holliday, Margaret A Johnson, Gerard W McDonald, Joseph Watson

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Catherine Cullen, Tony Williamson, Tommy Fountain, Kate Liddell (O'Donnell), Kathleen Appleby, Mary Ramsden, Bridie McWilliams.

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, 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 Whitfield.

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, Paul Hunt, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr, Jade Telford, Bob Parkin, Muriel Steele, Ethan O'Neil (12 yrs old).

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.'

A Prayer for Peace by Pope John Paul II

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence
among individuals and nations.

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer
when people put their faith in weapons and war.

Hear my voice when I beg you to install into the hearts of all human beings
the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.

Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country
and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the
road of peace.

Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond
to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice,
to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.

O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world Your everlasting peace.

Amen