

22nd Sunday of the Year - 1st September 2024



Back to basics

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees who were committed to preserving and promoting the traditions of the elders, accused Jesus and his disciples of riding roughshod over these traditions. Jesus in turn, declared that the Pharisees give more importance to human traditions, rather than God's commandments.

While very concerned about traditions relating to food – what is eaten, and how it is eaten, they had neglected much more fundamental values in God's eyes, what Jesus refers to elsewhere, as the weightier matters of the law, such as mercy, justice, and love. Jesus challenged the upholders of the tradition, to pay less attention to externals, and to attend more to what is within the human heart, and to the actions that flow from it. He was calling on them, to get back to basics, to return to the wellsprings of their tradition, as found in the prophet Isaiah, whom Jesus quotes.

The Second Vatican Council was the church's attempt to get back to basics. What drove the deliberations of the Council was a desire to return to the sources of our faith – to scripture, and to the earliest traditions of the church. Every religious tradition needs ongoing purification, and the path to that purification always involves a return to the sources.

Today's readings, invite us as a church, and as individuals, to keep returning to the sources of our faith, in particular, the scriptures, the Word of God. In the second reading, St. James calls on us, 'to accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you'. Such submission to God, he goes on to say, involves not just listening to that word, but doing what that word tells us. For James, central to God's word, is the call to show care and concern for the needy and most vulnerable. In returning to the sources of our faith, we will always hear afresh, the call to serve each other, and to build each other up. Today's reading reminds us that for us as Christians, the real traditionalists, those most faithful to our Christian tradition, are people who live in ways that give expression to the healing, compassionate, and life-giving presence of the Lord!

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.

Fr Cornelius O'Connor - Memorial Mass: A Memorial Mass will be held at All Saints Lanchester on Friday 13th September at 7.00pm. With refreshments in the Parish Hall afterwards. All are welcome.

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

For St Patrick's, St Pius and Our lady and St Joseph's starting on Thursday 12th September at St Pius Moorside from 6.45pm until 8.30pm. Anyone interested should contact the parish office at St Patrick's Consett on 01207 502196. We look forward to seeing you there.

For St Mary's Blackhill and Our Lady of the Rosary please contact Fr Tom at the parish office on 01207 502320.

Little Sisters of the Poor: As you will be aware from a recent 'Ad Clerum' we raise funds for the Sisters at St Joseph's Home in Newcastle. We do this by collecting & sorting used postage stamps (any period or country) foreign currency (notes & coins from any country or period), old, broken or unwanted pieces of gold & silver (even earring backs) & military medals which no longer have meaning for the families. Thank you.

Spirituality in Later Life: Commencing on Monday, September 9th and all consecutive Mondays in September there will be a DVD interactive course for those aged 60 and over entitled: "The Beloved Disciple", that will explore and celebrate Spirituality in Later Life. Each session will be in the upstairs of St Patrick's Hall from 2pm - 3.15pm. Refreshments will be available.

York Day Trip Wednesday 16th October: We would like to invite Parishioners to join us in a trip to York on Wednesday 16th October 2024. It will be first come first served. You will travel by coach from St Patrick's leaving at 9.15am. The coach will leave York at 5pm to return back to Consett. The cost of the journey will be £15 per person and must be paid for when booking a place. Sign up forms and payment envelopes are at the back of St Patrick's and St Mary's Churches.

News From Around The Diocese

New Lay Leaders Course: From 30th September through to 4th November over 6 sessions become a Liturgical Leader of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion. The course, being held at St Hilda's Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY. Commencing on Monday 30th September 7-9pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Course: An introductory 'course **to be held at** at St Michael's Parish Centre, Durham Road, Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8NF over three sessions; First session is on Monday 9th September 2024 7-9pm.

If you are interested in any of the above courses please contact your Parish Office for further information.

Peace Vigil for Palestine and Israel: Since January a small group from different faith backgrounds hold a vigil for peace every Saturday morning from 9.30am until 10.00am outside Hexham Abbey. You are very welcome to join us, even if it is just for 5 minutes.

Job Vacancy: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint the following vacancy, **Cleaner**, St Cuthbert, Old Elvet, Durham – 10 hours a week. Closing date: 9th September. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 07789 885 118.

St Mary's News

Lately Deceased: Marie McNally, 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.

Spuc's Annual pro-life Petition: this year focuses on the two-child benefit cap, which you might have heard about recently in the news. If you would like to sign the petition please pick up a card from the back of the church.

In Need of Support: If you are in need of support from the SVP 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.

SVP Conference Meeting: this Thursday 5th September at 6pm.

300 Club Winners for August: £20 - (165) C Creegan, £10 - (207) A Rooney, £10 - (166) J Guy, £10 - (184) A Walker, £10 - (20) M McNally. Thank you for your support.

Consett Lions Club Town Raffle: Please return your stubbs as soon as you can.

Breakfast Club: will resume this Sunday after morning Mass.

Chair Dance Class: in JFK Centre between 11am and 12 noon, if interested contact Isobel English or the parish office. More information later.

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. Many 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

Thank You: The family of Angela Rose wish to thank all who contributed very generously to the collection of £844 taken at Angela's funeral service. This money was donated evenly between Diabetes UK and the British heart foundation, much appreciated.

St Patrick's Children's Liturgy: There will be a Childrens Liturgy this Sunday during Mass in the upstairs room of the Hall all children are welcome. After Mass a meeting will be held with the volunteers. If you are interested in supporting or leading the liturgy please join us in the hall upstairs room. Thank you.

300 Club Payments: are now being taken for the next 12 months. Please put your payments of £12 per year, per number in either cash or cheque and post through Presbytery letterbox asap. Cheques to be made payable to St Patrick's. Envelopes for payment can be found at the back of the church. For further information please contact one of the organisers, Clare 591842,

Christine 504870, Josie 588718. Last year we collected £1,536. £850 was paid out in prize money and £686 was paid into church funds. The more members we have the bigger the prizes. Thank you.

Ushaw Flower Festival 2024: Once again St Patrick's Flower Team are participating in the festival which takes place on September 6th, 7th and 8th the theme is "A moment in Time" and lots of flower arrangers and florists will be filling the buildings of Ushaw with their interpretations. Morning, Afternoon or Evening tickets are available from ushaw.org. See the noticeboard for details of times and prices.

Lions Raffle: Raffle tickets are on sale at the back of church on Sunday after Mass for £1 each with great prizes. St Patrick's will receive money back for every ticket sold.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collection: This week - Cemetery Fund (for the upkeep of the Cemetery)

Recent Collections: Last weeks collection for The Welfare Fund raised £98. Thank you for your 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 the church.

Cemetery Fund: This collection is for the upkeep of Brooms Cemetery and is now open until the end of September. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Pie and Pea Supper: in aid of Brooms Church, on Friday 13th September at 7.30pm in Leadgate Cricket Club. bingo and Raffle, Tickets £3.00.

St Pius News

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 30th September 2024 at 6pm.

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

Children's Liturgy: Will commence on 8th September. If you would like to volunteer to help or lead the Liturgy please see Lisa Hicks.

Lions Raffle: Raffle tickets are on sale for £1 each with great prizes. St Pius will receive money back for every ticket sold.

August 100 Club Winners: £30 Christine Jackson (41) £20 Josie McMenamin (77)

£10 Ann Dunn (75)

Volunteer Cleaners: We are looking for Volunteer Cleaners to help clean the church on a rota basis. Please contact Mary Davy if you are able to help.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

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.

Spuc's Annual pro-life Petition: this year focuses on the two-child benefit cap, which you might have heard about recently in the news. If you would like to sign the petition please pick up a card from the back of the church.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Thomas Seaton, Theresa Marie Hutchinson, Richard Nevin, Patricia Brittan, Bernard Mullen, Jean Smith, Jane Johnson, George Batey, Gerard McElhone, Hilda Eve Davis, Wilfrid Barry Britten, Patricia Bell, Robert Parkinson, Catherine Leighton, Ellen Hanlon, Helen Marie Murphy, Kathleen Comiskey, Jane Guest, Brian Patrick Lavery.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Hilda Mary Greash, Mary Underhill, Agnes Telford, Anne Robson, Margaret Healey, Elizabeth Haggon, Peter Paul Smith, Margaret Corr, Vincent Farrell, Maurice Paul, Denis McNally, Marian Golightly, Fr. David Condon, Jim Haggon, Bridie Walker.

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: Billy Cosgrove, Hilda E Davis, Ella Kerr, Margaret E Newton, Gerard Pinkney.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Noel Clarke, Mary Williamson, Betty Dodds, Jimmy Hayes, Kirsty Dixon, Bernadette McKenna.

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, 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, Katelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Margaret McDonald.

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, Joan O'Keefe, Joan Wilson, Maureen Rose.

St Pius: Ivy Agnew, Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, 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'