

2nd Sunday of the Year - 19th January 2025

Annfield Plain - St. Teresa, Blackhill - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Brooms - Our Blessed Lady & St. Joseph,

Stanley, St. Joseph

PONTOP

Partnership

Consett - St. Patrick,

Dipton - St. Patrick, Lanchester - All Saints, Moorside - St. Pius X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

The Wedding Feast of Cana

This Sunday, we begin the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, and our readings will be taken from the Gospel of Luke. However, occasionally, we will read from John's Gospel, as we do today.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday describes the beginning of Jesus' ministry and his first miracle. Here's a brief background and reflection on this passage.

Jesus and his disciples were invited to a wedding feast in Cana, along with Jesus' mother, Mary. There is no parallel report of this miracle at Cana in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). In the Church's liturgical history, the wedding feast of Cana is closely associated with the baptism of the Lord and the adoration of the infant Jesus by the Wise Men.

The sign Jesus performs at the wedding feast is celebrated as an epiphany or a manifestation of Jesus' divinity. Mary is influential in Jesus' first sign. She encourages Jesus to help when the wine runs out. Jesus responds to her by saying, "My hour has not yet come." This language anticipates Jesus' passion and death. Mary will also be present at Jesus' Crucifixion, witnessing the final manifestation of his divinity.

Even in this report of Jesus' first sign, John's Gospel hints at Jesus' impending passion and death. Jesus is very much in command and aware of all that is to happen to him.

John's Gospel describes seven signs that indicate Jesus' identity to his disciples. These signs are not merely miracles; they reveal something about Jesus' divinity and mission.

In summary, the wedding feast at Cana marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, and the miracle performed there is a sign of his divine identity. As we reflect on this Gospel reading, let us recognise Jesus' authority, and anticipate the deeper mysteries of his mission, including his passion and resurrection.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207 - 502320

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207 - 502196

Deacon Chris Callan

Deacon Shaun McGee

Deacon David Westgarth

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.

Our Lady & St Joseph Brooms and St Pius Federation are looking to appoint Foundation Governors to support the schools and strengthen the current governing body. A governor should be willing to attend at least one full meeting a term and to visit the school in between meetings to gain a greater understanding of the school, how it functions and progresses towards goals. A governor should have a strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for pupils. If you feel you could fulfil the role for either school, please speak to Father John or contact the schools who can give further information. Our Lady & St Joseph Brooms: 01207 503979. St Pius: 01207 503604.

CONFIRMATION FAMILY DAY SATURDAY 8TH MARCH 2025: Calling young people currently in Years 8 and 9! To launch the next Confirmation programme in the Pontop Partnership of parishes we are holding a CONFIRMATION FAMILY DAY at St. Mary's Church Hall, Blackhill on Saturday 8th March. This day will include talks and activities aimed at parents and young people, explaining more about Confirmation.

The Family Day marks a very special milestone in your son/daughter's spiritual journey towards receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. All who are interested in Confirmation, parents and young people, it is *imperative* that you attend the Family Day on Saturday 8 March. Arrival will be from 9.30am for a 10am prompt start. The day will end at 4.00pm and free lunch will be provided.

Partnership Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2025 for the Jubilee Year: The Partnership Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place from Friday 8th to Monday 11th August 2025. The cost will be as follows 3 Nights Single Ensuite £279/Budget £222. 3 Nights Twin/Double Ensuite £558/Budget £444. A deposit of £180 per person is payable on booking by the 31st January 2025. The cost of the bus will be charged at a later date. Envelopes for deposit will be available at the back of the church.

Events Around the Partnership

CAFOD Recycling Appeal: St Patrick's Consett are collecting Recycling for CAFOD the items we are collecting are: Gold or Silver Jewellery, Watches, Stamps, Costume Jewellery etc., See the Poster at the back of the Church for more information.

White Flower Appeal 2025: the society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend 18th/19th January. SPUC Exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations'

Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers.

Around the Diocese

Sharing the Rosary – You are very welcome to join us at Holy Name Parish Hall on Towers Avenue, Jesmond for a 4-week course exploring the Rosary, its history and its significance in Catholic prayer traditions. Each one-hour session will include opportunities to learn about the Mysteries of the Rosary, pray a shared Decade, and even make your own set of Rosary beads. The course will run on Saturdays 25 January, 1 February, 8 February and 22 February 2025. Refreshments will be available from 2:00 pm, with sessions finishing at 3:30 pm. We warmly invite participants from other parishes, families, and young people to join us in this Jubilee Holy Year on this journey of faith and community. Whether you're new to the Rosary or have prayed it for years, all are welcome. Rosary beads will be available for anyone who needs them, but feel free to bring your own—especially if they hold a special story you'd like to share. To join the course, please either email welcome@holynamesjesmond.co.uk or telephone (0191) 2810940.

St Mary's News

Collections: This week – SPUC (White Flower Appeal) Next week – Flowers

Lately Deceased: Graham Chivers. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

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.

White Flower Appeal 2025: Please see general notices for more information.

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.

Sanctuary Candle: The candle will burn this week 'In Loving Memory of Frank & Tony 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 and who would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Tom to arrange this.

Sunday Breakfast Club: will be held this Sunday 19th January after 9.15am Mass, in the JFK Centre. Bacon and Sausage sandwiches and Tea/Coffee. All are welcome.

Chair Class exercises: Resumes on Monday 20th January 11am - 12 noon, in the JFK centre.

The Thursday Warm Spaces: will be on Thursday 23rd January. They would like to thank everyone who contributed in supporting them for the Christmas Lunch either financially or as helpers on the day.

300 Club: Thank you to all who supported our 300 club in 2024. Subs are now being collected for 2025 after Masses in January or, see Jimmy. New members are needed to keep the club solvent, Thank you.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week – SPUC (White Flower Appeal) Next week - Flowers

White Flower Appeal 2025: Please see general notices for more information.

Lately Deceased: Mary (May) Brown and Geraldine Donnelly. Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

Church Hall Volunteers: We also need short term Volunteers for the Church Hall to help with setting up for the many groups that use the Hall the more Volunteers we get we will be able to prepare a rota.

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place at St Patrick's on the first Sunday of each month. This is for any children of primary school age, if you or your child may be interested in attending the liturgy, please come along (parents are very welcome to come and accompany their child). The next children's liturgy will take place on Sunday 2nd February. Thank you.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – SPUC (White Flower Appeal) Next week - Flowers

White Flower Appeal 2025: Please see general notices for more information.

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. To date £4,350 has been sent to the charity.

Monthly Mass at St. Ives, Leadgate. Bishop Stephen has given Father John permission to say a monthly Catholic Mass at St. Ives Church in Leadgate. The next Mass will be announced in the newsletter. We will be joined by a class from Brooms School. All in the Partnership are welcome to attend.

Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School: are currently in the process of a consultation for extending the age range of our school from 4-11 yrs to 2-11yrs, with a view to opening nursery provision from Easter 2025. This is an exciting new phase for the school. Further updates to follow once the consultation process has ended.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – SPUC (White Flower Appeal) Next week - Flowers

White Flower Appeal 2025: Please see general notices for more information.

Lately Deceased: Ivy Agnew. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

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

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

Children's Liturgy: If you would like to volunteer to help or lead the Liturgy please see Lisa Hicks.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – SPUC (White Flower Appeal) Next week – Flowers

White Flower Appeal 2025: Please see general notices for more information.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Nellie Carr, Theresa Welford, Annie Crowther, Gerard Wilkinson, Ellen Graham, Arthur Austin Corr, Robert Orr, Elizabeth Kelly, Victor Anthony Breen, Dominik Parebski Margaret Rogan Edward Malpass Eileen Turner, William Austin Cheeseman, Celia Bell, Anne McGeary, Patricia Cassidy, Margaret Ann Corr, Jenny Quinn, Joseph McGuigan, Margaret McElhone, Mary Rose Kilty.

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, Robert Jopling.

St. Patrick's: Joseph Hughes, Kathleen Winter, Veronica Sheekey, Alice Dyer, James McCourt, Michael Glancy, Paul Testo, Frederick Panting, Mary Wass, Joe Hegarty, Paul McCourt, Jennifer Enne, Louisa Maughan, Cathy Panting, Joseph Butler, Mary Elizabeth Ridley, Mary Whitfield, Margaret Carter, Margaret (McNally) Million, Colin Gibson, John O'Hanlon, Mary Curran, Anne McInnes, Winifred Callon, Barbara Ann Quinn, Margaret Thompson, Barbara Raw, Neda Rossi, Patrick Edward Smith, Moira Paul.

St Pius: Harry Askew, Winnie Askew, Jack Atherton, Clare Atton, Rosemary Brady, Paul Andrew Brown, James Logan Butler, David Calford, Martin Carney, William Carson, Joe Collins, John Corrigan, Gerard Cumiskey, Colin Embleton Jr., Eamin Fergus, Pat Hockaday, Margaret Glasgow, Thomas J Hall, Alan Hill, Lillian Innes, Margaret Jackson, Sally Kane, Jean Kennedy, Theresa Kerridge, Helen Kipling, Kathleen Lamond, Peter Lamond, Mary Lydon, Michael Lydon, Jessie Milner, Sharon Murphy, Vera Murray, Anne Orr, Joan Peacock, Catherine Renwick, John Robson, John Townson, Rita Travell, Lawrence Watson, Jean Wray, Doreen Atherton, William Cleverley, Billy Glasgow, Ellen Graham, Michael Healey, Dennis Kennedy, John Kilty, Robert Orr, Hannah Pryor, Baby Woodland.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Edward Grogan, Anthony Fountain, Joseph Liddel Snr. Gerard McCabe, Doreen Peveller, Thomas Williamson, Brian Gregerson, Austin Laurie, Terese Hannon.

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, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, David Oliver, Jimmy McGuigan, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Ged Hester, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Katelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Barbara Bennison, Eileen Dunstan, Molly Glancy.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Cheryl Reily, Judith Hindmarsh, Andrew Bates, Jean Walls, Sienna Jane McNestry, Joan O'Keefe, Joan Wilson, Joan Willis, Alan McCullagh.

St Pius: Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Paul Hunt, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr, Jade Telford, Muriel Steele, Ethan O'Neil (12 yrs old), Maureen Welsh.

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 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'