

## 33rd Sunday of the Year - 16th November 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. Plus X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

### There may be trouble ahead

Our readings this week are full of warnings. The prophet Malachi warns of a day of judgement that will surely come. Saint Paul has words for those who do not contribute to the good of society when he writes to the Thessalonians; basically, stop causing bother for others if you wish to be part of the community. He calls on people to be active participants in the faith community rather than critical bystanders. Then in the Gospel those around Jesus are admiring the temple in Jerusalem in all its glory. However he tells his disciples that a day will come when all this physical beauty will be gone. Then a time will come when they will have to stand witness for their beliefs in times of great trouble. He also gives them assurance that he will give them the words and eloquence they need at that time.

As always our readings call us to examine where we stand in all of this. What sort of Witness do we give? What sort of contribution do we make to building God's kingdom? How will we be judged when the time comes? These are hard questions. We might feel that we come up short more often than not. But we are able to look at ourselves and think "how might we do better?" If we think it is all too difficult perhaps we can compare our situation to the disciples listening to Jesus and be thankful we don't face the same threats that Jesus warned them about.

So as we end the Church's year and prepare to enter the Advent season, a time of reflection and penance, we can look at ourselves. What are the things we can do better and how are we going to make them happen? Do we have the endurance to win 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**

## **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 Fr Tom at St Mary's 01207 502196 or Fr John at St Patrick's 01207 502320 to arrange this.

**Mobile Phones:** Kind Request to please remember to put your mobile phones on silent when you are in church. Ring tones and messaging sounds disturb people who are trying to pray.

**Friday Fellas Men's Group:** The next meeting in the lounge of St. Patrick's Hall will be on Friday 28th November.

**Edinburgh Trip Travel Details Wednesday 19th November:** The bus will leave John Street Consett at 8am then pick up at St Mary's. We will stop at the Purdy Lodge service station for a comfort break, Returning home at 5pm.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:** Flying from Newcastle on Sunday 28th June return Sunday 5th July 2026. Cost £839 sharing, £979 single room. More details on the notice board or ring Margaret on 07944288655.

**Partnership Christmas Lunch:** Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> 12 noon to be held at the Jolly Drivers, Leadgate. £5 deposit per person on booking. 2 Courses £24.95 or 3 Courses £29.95. Menus are available (starter to be chosen when paying a 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.

**St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP):** Is a caring and committed charitable voluntary organisation serving the West Derwentside Partnership area, based at St Mary's, Blackhill. SVP offers both practical and spiritual support to those who may be facing challenges or feeling isolated. If you know of a family or individual who might benefit from a regular visit in their own home, sheltered housing or a care home—whether for a friendly chat, a helping hand, or spiritual companionship. You can email us at: [PresidentC210301@svp.org.uk](mailto:PresidentC210301@svp.org.uk) or leave a message with your name and contact number on 07377 259724. We also warmly welcome anyone who feels called to join us in making a meaningful difference in our community. Together, we can bring hope, comfort, and kindness to those who need it most. The SVP group has been actively supporting our community in recent weeks. Their efforts have included providing school uniforms to several families, distributing food parcels, and supplying a much-needed electrical appliance. In addition, members have continued their valuable outreach by visiting individuals and families in their homes and local care facilities.

**The Bugle Comic and Exhibition.** Father John and St. Patrick's parishioner Phil Bartle have written and drawn a comic book called The Bugle. The Bugle will be on sale at Consett Heart Art and Heritage Centre, John Street, Consett, with an exhibition of original artwork by Fr John and Phil. The exhibition will run for one week open every day except Sunday and Thursday with a late night on Tuesday until 8.30pm see poster on Facebook for times and the comic book is available to buy online and in our Partnership churches. Don't be frugal, buy the Bugle!

**Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock:** 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Gillingham's Coaches, departing local destinations. 5 days/4 nights (Belfast, Bundoran, Knock and Belfast). DBB. £640 per person sharing a double room. £790 single occupancy. Full day at the Shrine with Mass, guided tour and prayer opportunities. 2 half day visits included: Belfast Titanic Museum and Cong 'Quiet Man' village, Mayo. Optional evening Mass at Clonard Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. Contact: Michael, 07787 726306, Lestrine: 07778 656662.

Confirmation Group Social Evening: As part of their Confirmation journey our young people are planning a social evening on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in order to raise funds for their chosen charities, 'Water Aid and Willowburn Hospice.' They warmly welcome you to share their food, chat and entertainment at St Mary's Church Hall, Blackhill.

Red Wednesday – 19<sup>th</sup> November: Aid to the church in need (ACN) invites us to wear red and more importantly, that it be a day of prayer for all Christians persecuted for their faith.

Carols by Candlelight at Brooms: Join us on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> November (the First Sunday of Advent) for a beautiful evening of music and reflection. Carols begin at 3:30 pm (Doors open at 3:00 pm). Everyone is welcome! After the service, enjoy refreshments and browse a selection of handmade Christmas gifts created by St Bede's Youth SVP, with proceeds supporting the Pontop Partnership SVP.

### **Around the Diocese**

World Youth Sunday Collection: Next weekend we will celebrate World Youth Sunday, when the Church gives thanks for the life and faith of our young people. The retiring collection will support the work of the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT), our Diocesan Youth Service.

Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of church - please consider taking one home this week and bringing it back for next Sunday's collection. Your generosity helps young people encounter Christ and grow in faith.

### **St Mary's News**

Collections: This Week -SVP

Next week – Catholic Youth

Legion of Mary: will say the Holy Rosary and Legion prayers on Tuesday evenings at 6pm.

Sanctuary Candle: will burn In Loving Memory of 'Marc Quinn'.

Gaza Appeal Remembrance Tree: You might wish to remember a deceased loved one during November by making a donation in their memory and hanging a dove in their name on our remembrance tree. It will be situated in the entrance to our hall, and you can access it on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. All donations will go to CAFOD specifically to aid relief efforts in Gaza. Instructions, doves, pens and envelopes will be with the tree. Thank you.

Light a Candle on the Christmas Tree: remembering a loved one, cost £2 per name/s. All Names read out on 21<sup>st</sup> December Sunday Mass. Please see Joan Devanney.

Thank You: to all who bought tickets for the 'Lions Club Town Raffle'. We received a cheque for £682.50. Winners list at the back of church.

Thank You: to the Wednesday Coffee morning for their generous donation of £250 for the Christmas Flowers.

Thursday Welcome Group: on Thursday with lunch and entertainment. Thank you for your support.

### **St Patrick's News**

Collections: This Week: Clergy Training Fund

Next week – Clergy Training Fund

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place at St Patrick's on the first Sunday of each month. Please encourage your children to join in as they will enjoy learning and understanding about the Gospel. A special thank you goes to those who support and lead the liturgy.

Christmas Fayre: Our Christmas Fayre will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November from 1pm. We are looking for donations of Bottles of Wines & Spirits, Tombola Prizes (no bric a brac required). We would also like donations of nearly new (or new) toys and games. Raffle tickets will be on

sale at the back of the church for the Bottle Draw at £1 each. We are also looking for volunteers on the day please, any help is greatly appreciated.

New Card Donation Portal: We have decided to move into the 21st Century and have installed a Card Portal Contactless or Chip & Pin Terminal at the back of the church. This will allow you to swipe your card donating your chosen amount. You can even gift aid your donation. The portal accepts all major payment cards and it is user friendly and secure.

Knitted Baskets: Knitting patterns and wool are available at the back of St. Patrick's to make Christmas Gift Baskets. Thank you and well done to those who have already made some!

Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 30th November after 9.15am Mass. All welcome in the Church Hall Lounge for Bacon Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

Thank You: to all who bought tickets for the 'Lions Club Town Raffle'. We received a cheque for £203. Winners list at the back of church. Thank you.

Thank you: The family of the late Michael Cooke would like to thank Fr John and all those who attended the requiem mass giving so generously at the collection which raised £1000 for Cancer Research.

### **Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News**

Collections: Next week - Clergy Training Fund                      Next week – Clergy Training Fund

Thank you: The family of the late Anne Moore would like to thank Fr John and all those who attended the requiem mass giving so generously at the collection which raised £183 for The Alzheimer's Society.

Thank you: The family and friends of the late Melvyn Ayton would like to thank Fr John and all those who attended the funeral for their generosity at the collection which raised £90 for Brooms Church.

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.

Toddler Group: Brooms School Toddler Group will operate every Wednesday in term time from 9.15am – 10.30am. Refreshments will be provided for a small donation but there will be no charge to attend. All are welcome.

Mass at St. Ives. The building work at St. Ives, Leadgate is now complete, and the church is open again. The next Broom's Mass will be this Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 10am. All are welcome.

### **St Pius News**

Collections: This Week - Clergy Training Fund                      Next week – The Clergy Training Fund

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

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday evening 24th November at 6.00pm.

### **Our Lady of the Rosary News**

Collections: This week – SVP

Next week – Catholic Youth

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St Mary's: 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, John Gerald Kennedy, Mary Ellen Lawrie, James McCusker, Audrey Stobbs, Mary Kennedy, George Norman Sennett, Peter Longhorne, John Batey, (Baby) Shannon Cassidy, Mary Davison, John Toner, Abbi Devanney, Shaun McElhatton, J.J. Welsh, James Donaghue, Annie McKenna, Dennis Rowan.

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

St. Patrick's: Dominic McGurk, Mary Burnage, Mary Theresa Hughes, Joseph Raw, Flora Nimmons, Tommy O'Neill, Mary Donaghy, Alan Foley, Gerard Slavin, Moira Reed, Brian Rogan, James Fail, James Kerr, Ellen Parker, Nancy Collins, John Harpin, Stephen Fenwick, John Haggon, Bill Kennedy, Betty Mitcheson, Jeanne Marie Philips, Frances Ronald Lovett, Margaret McArdle, Maureen Rose, Peter Boyle, Terence Curran.

St Pius: James Clark, Thomas Murphy, Athena Rose Osborne, Patricia Pipe, Bill Robson, Ray Watson, Joan Wray.

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, 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, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Katelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Barbara Bennison, Eileen Dunstan, Molly Glancy, Ian Clarke, Simon Quinn, Joseph Parisi, Teresa Easton, John Haney.

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, Alan McCullagh, Terry Maguire.

St Pius: Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Paul Hunt, Danny Morton, Jade Telford, Muriel Steele, Ethan O'Neil.

Our Lady & St Joseph's:

### **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'*