

The week ahead...

Saturday 13 May Weekday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Pat Openshaw and pro populo
Sunday 14 May 5 th Sunday of Easter	NO MASS	
Monday 15 May Weekday of Easter	NO MASS	
Tuesday 16 May Weekday of Easter	6:30pm	Mass: Farthing and Holt families
Wednesday 17 May Weekday of Easter	9:30am	Mass: Frank and Marie Wilson
Thursday 18 May Weekday of Easter	9:30am	Mass: Moran family members
Friday 19 May Weekday of Easter	7:00am	Mass: Jim Barrie
Saturday 20 May Weekday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: James & Helena Harrison and pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church

Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Co. Durham, DH7 8JJ

Priest in Charge: Fr Robert Riedling Ph: (0191) 378 4486
Mob: 07904 833 785

Email: langley Moor.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk

St Patrick's RC Primary School Ph: (0191) 378 0552

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully Ph: (0191) 526 5131

5th Sunday of Easter

14 May, 2017

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

THIS WEEKEND'S GOSPEL is the culmination of a remarkable series of events. Jesus is speaking in the context of the Last Supper and has just completed the washing of the disciples' feet. This act of loving service which we recall each Holy Thursday is meant to show the disciples how to live in imitation of him. We then witness Judas' revelation as the one to betray Jesus. Judas leaves the table and goes out into the night. Jesus then tells the disciples his new commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34)

The Gospel we are presented with today which follows these incidents is a Gospel very commonly chosen for Christian funerals, primarily because of the comforting words of Jesus: "There are many rooms in my Father's house." (John 14:2) He continues by saying he has prepared a place for us and will return to take us with him so that "where I am you may be too." (John 14:3) It is not surprising that this Gospel is selected by grieving relatives. The words certainly provide great comfort at a time people are looking for some reassurance and peace amidst emotional turmoil.

But Jesus, as we know, never allows us to get too comfortable. In addition to these words of peace and comfort there is a challenge to us and our mode of living which can easily be overlooked. Jesus answers Thomas' question about "knowing the way" by stating, in another of his "I am" statements, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." Note that Jesus does not say that he points out the way, or points towards the truth, or can show us true life. No, he states that he IS the way, the truth and the life. This reflects something of what Jesus said in last weekend's Gospel when he stated that he is the "gate of the sheepfold." It is only through Jesus that we can know fullness of life. This means total commitment to him. How often do we seek out other paths to happiness, falling prey to false promises made by advertisers or other subtle temptations offered to us which deep down we know will bring only fleeting pleasure rather than enduring joy? If we truly trust Jesus and all he says, then we can be confident that despite the hardships and challenges that inevitably come our way as Christian disciples, we can invest all of our being in Jesus and know satisfaction and true joy.

The final part of today's Gospel finds Jesus making an astonishing promise of those who believe in him: "They will perform even greater works [than I do]." What does Jesus mean by this? How could we mere mortals do greater works than the one who is God-made-flesh? Jesus is not speaking of works more spectacular than his but rather is speaking of the reality that we as a Church have opportunities that Jesus had not known. He was one person, limited in space and time. We as a Church however, are hundreds of millions of individuals with resources Jesus never dreamed of, able to spread the Good News in remarkable ways, changing the world for the better.

But it requires a willingness on our part to give ourselves totally to the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Wishing you a blessed Easter season,

Fr Robert



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Should you have any items for the bulletin or wish to have it emailed to you, please contact the parish via phone or email. Contact details are on the front of the bulletin.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £229 Loose Plate: £284

Total: £513

Mass Attendance: 190

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

Please remember in your prayers people who are sick and housebound in the parish....

Denise Oxberry, Pat Curran, Linda Carter, Tom Taylorson, Sylvia Kelly, Marie Carey, Mary Spears, Rose Crick, Maureen McCrann, Teresa Parkin, Doreen Carroll, Dorothy Dowdle, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Pat Harrison, Olwyn Morris and Jim Patterson.



MINISTRIES

Saturday 13 May

Eucharistic Ministers

Pauline & Ambrose Burnside
Judith Bulmer

Readers

Angela Tosley
Ann Canavan

Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers

Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

MINISTRIES

Saturday 20 May

Eucharistic Ministers

Angela Harmston
Angela & Gordon Tosley

Readers

Claire Lavery
Margaret Purdom

Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths
Carol Bainbridge

Welcomers

Halina Holman
Janet Harrigan

Special Collections

The collection for **Little Sisters of the Poor** last weekend raised a total of **£431.00**. We also received an additional **£30.00** for the Sick and Retired Priests' collection. Thank you for your generosity. The money raised will be sent off shortly. Our next special collection will be for **World Communications Day** and will be taken up in two weeks' time.



What's going on...?

Fr Brian's Golden Jubilee: An invitation has been received inviting parishioners from St Patrick's to Fr Brian Murphy's Golden Jubilee Mass at Willington on Friday 16 June at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be offered in the school hall after the Mass. There is an attendance sheet in the narthex for you this weekend for you to indicate your attendance so that I can pass the approximate numbers on to Willington this week.

Fr Ejaz: Annual Report: The parish recently received some copies of the annual report regarding the work of Fr Ejaz in Pakistan which is supported by several parishes in the area. If you would like a copy please see Fr Robert or see the copy on the noticeboard.

Churches Together in DH7:

Our Prayer group will meet on the third Tuesday of each month this summer in St John's Church, Meadowfield at 9:30am.

Ushaw College Events: Have you checked out all the changes at Ushaw College of late? Ushaw is now open more frequently to visitors, conducts more concerts and guided tours and has a revamped café and plenty more on offer. Go to www.usshaw.org for more information. Perhaps we can organise a trip by interested parishioners one day? If interested, please send me an email or chat to me.

May Procession and Parish Family Picnic: The May Procession is scheduled for Sunday 21 May at 3:00pm followed by another Parish Family Picnic which, weather permitting, we hope to hold in the grounds behind the church. Burgers, hotdogs and a variety of drinks available! Mark the date in your diary!

Pilgrimage to Ladywell, near Preston, Lancashire: Saturday 24 June 2017, (Nativity of John the Baptist). Cost £20 approx. Rosary and packed lunch required. For details please contact Jose Blay on 0191 267 8693.

Day on the Ministry of Consolation: In response to feedback from Forward Together in Hope, there will be a day on Ministry of Consolation, focusing on support for people and their families during terminal illness, or the journey through dementia.

Date: Saturday 10 June 2017

Venue: Ushaw College, Durham, DH7 9RH

Time: 10:00am for 10:30am start.

Refreshments will be served on arrival. Lunch is provided. There is no charge for this day but booking is **essential**, no later than Friday 02 June 2017. Please contact spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk or phone 0191 243 3302.

Mental Health Peer Support Group: For those with mental health concerns, such as anxiety, depression. Now running in Newcastle at Brunswick Methodist Church, Brunswick Place, Newcastle, NE1 7BJ every Thursday evening, 7:00pm – 8:30pm. This PeerTalk project is underpinned by the Methodist Church and offers a safe space to share without being judged. Be heard, respected and accepted, and receive peer support to help you work through mental health concerns.

Pilgrimages: See the noticeboard for details of a pilgrimage to Walsingham or go to www.walsingham.org.uk for details.

Mass in Honour of St Bede: Celebrated next Saturday, 20 May, at 9:30am at St Paul's Church, Jarrow. Principal celebrant will be Bishop Séamus Cunningham. All welcome!

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Housebound: Do you know someone who lives in the parish but cannot get to Mass and is in need of the sacraments? It is our responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters who cannot gather with us each week. If you know someone in this situation who is in need of pastoral care, please pass their details on to Fr Robert.

The Resurrection of the Lord

SCHOOL NEWS

Statement of the Week

This week's statement to live by was: "I try to forgive people when they hurt me".

Class 1 Mass – Wednesday 17th May

Father Robert will celebrate Mass with Class 1 in school on Wednesday 17th May 2017 at 2:30pm. As always, parishioners are very welcome to join us.

Tennis Tournament

Pupils in Years 3 and 4 took part in a Mini Tennis Festival this week. A group of eight of these pupils also took part in the competitive element of the day and won the 'heat' for our school. They will now represent us in the finals of the tournament, to be held 19th May. Best of luck for the finals - Harry, Leo, Cassidy and Oliver, Ketila, Tiana, Imogen and Christina.

Year 6 SATs

Thank you for keeping our Year 6 pupils in your prayers this week. After a week of tests, they enjoyed a picnic lunch and some free time at Holliday Park on Friday afternoon.

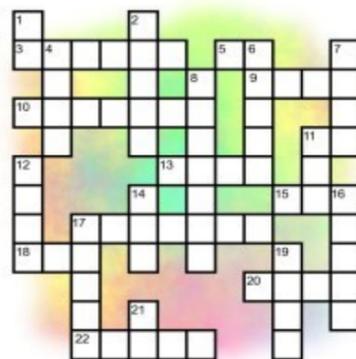


The Kids' Bulletin

"Show us the Father" Cross-Word

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks and complete the puzzle.

IS WHOEVER
OF BECAUSE
ON BELIEVE
ME FATHER
YOU WORKS
AND DOING
WHO SPEAK
WILL AMEN
OWN JESUS
TIME THAN
SHOW STILL
KNOW SEEN



_____ (2d) said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a _____ (9a) and you _____ (6d) do not _____ (12d) me, Philip? _____ (17a) has seen me has _____ (7d) the Father. How can you say, ' _____ (19d) us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in _____ (21d) The words that I _____ (22a) to you I do not speak _____ (11a) my _____ (11d). The Father _____ (18a) dwells in me is _____ (16d) his works. _____ (8d) me that I am in the _____ (3a) and the Father _____ (5a) in me, or else, believe _____ (10a) _____ (1d) the works themselves. _____ (4d) amen, I say to _____ (14d), whoever believes in me _____ (13a) do the _____ (17d) that I do, _____ (15a) will do greater ones _____ (20a) these, because I am going to the Father."

SAINT OF THE WEEK

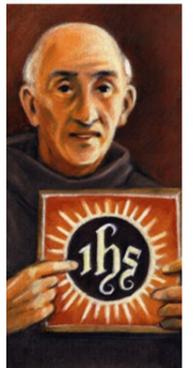
St Bernardino of Siena - 20 May

Bernardino ("Little Bernard") was born in Tuscany in 1380. His parents died when he was a child. While still a student at the University of Siena he took charge of the hospital there when an epidemic killed most of the staff. Later he looked after a bedridden aunt until her death; and then, at the age of 22, he became a Franciscan.

Inspired by St Vincent Ferrer, he was an energetic and popular preacher and spent years travelling on foot through Italy preaching to enormous audiences. He denounced usury (charging interest on loans), promoted peace among the warring Italian cities, and worked hard for the reform of the Franciscan order, and for church unity. He died in 1444.

Bernardino's achievements before he became a Franciscan show what the young can achieve if given the chance. Let us try not to confirm them in a culture of enforced irresponsibility, but to encourage each of them to give to others whatever they have been called into this world to give.

(Information taken from *Universalis*)



MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Forward Together in Hope highlighted a great number of needs in our diocese and one need highlighted was bereavement support.

In response, the diocese had a small group reflecting and working on this and have become aware of a wider need for a Ministry of Consolation which can begin to support people during a terminal illness or age-related decline. This offers a link with families before a funeral and may establish a good relationship that will endure into the time of bereavement. A day has been planned for **Saturday 10 June** at nearby Ushaw College for those interested in being a part of this ministry.



See the notice at the top of page two opposite and consider whether you are being called to this ministry. As the diocese moves into parish partnerships it is evident that more lay people will take up these crucial ministries in tandem with the clergy. Please see Fr Robert if you feel you might be called to this or simply want to find out more.

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that in an emergency anyone can baptise?

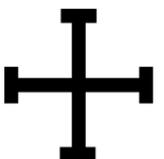
The "ordinary" ministers for baptism are deacons, priests and bishops, of course, and the vast majority of the time people are baptised by one of these ordained ministers. However, because of the importance of this sacrament the Church has made provision for this sacrament to be administered in an emergency by "any person who has the requisite intention [to] do so." (Canon 861).

Ordinarily, if an ordained minister cannot celebrate a baptism, the Bishop will depute a catechist or another layperson to do so.

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"The creator of the heavens obeys a carpenter; the God of eternal glory listens to a poor virgin. Has anyone ever witnessed anything comparable to this? Let the philosopher no longer disdain from listening to the common labourer; the wise, to the simple; the educated, to the illiterate; a child of a prince, to a peasant."

St Anthony of Padua (1195-1231)



CONGRATULATIONS....to David and Jane SMITH on the baptism of their beautiful daughter **Ava Florence** last Sunday here at St Patrick's! Please keep Ava and her family in your prayers.