

The week ahead...

Saturday 18 November Saturday of Ordinary Time 32	5:00pm	Mass: Marie Carey and pro populo
Sunday 19 November 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 20 November Monday of Ordinary Time 33	NO MASS	
Tuesday 21 November <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	6:30pm	Mass: Dorothy Dowdle
Wednesday 22 November <i>St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr</i>	9:30am	Mass: Marie Carey
Thursday 23 November Thursday of Ordinary Time 33	9:30am	Mass: McGough & Duffy families
Friday 24 November <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac & Co., Martyrs</i>	7:00am	Mass: John Middleton
Saturday 25 November Saturday of Ordinary Time 33	5:00pm	Mass: Teresa Coad and pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church

A Parish of the Finchale Partnership

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

Priest in Charge: Fr Robert Riedling Ph: (0191) 378 4486

Mob: 07904 833 785

Email: langleymoor.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk

St Patrick's R.C. Primary School Ph: (0191) 378 0552

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 November, 2017

World Day of the Poor

THIS WEEKEND we celebrate the first World Day of the Poor, instituted by Pope Francis. It is hardly surprising that of all popes, this day has been his brainchild, considering that he chose his name as Pope because of his devotion to St Francis of Assis, the saint from a privileged background who made the choice to give up his claim to an inheritance and live among the poor and outcast. Pope Francis has mandated that the World Day of the Poor will be celebrated each year on the 33rd Sunday, the Sunday immediately prior to the Feast of Christ the King.

Pope Francis issued a message several months ago in preparation for this day to help us understand that the call to solidarity with the poor is not just a passing whim on his part nor a mere "feel-good" undertaking on our part as Jesus' disciples. I have distilled some of the more significant passages and reproduce them below but I do encourage you to read the message in full as it is only a few pages long. You can access it free from the Vatican website at w2.vatican.va or via the diocesan website at www.rcdhn.org.uk.

I invite the whole Church, and men and women of good will everywhere, to turn their gaze on this day to all those who stretch out their hands and plead for our help and solidarity. They are our brothers and sisters, created and loved by the one Heavenly Father. This Day is meant, above all, to encourage believers to react against a culture of discard and waste, and to embrace the culture of encounter.....God created the heavens and the earth for all; yet sadly some have erected barriers, walls and fences, betraying the original gift meant for all humanity, with none excluded.

We may think of the poor simply as the beneficiaries of our occasional volunteer work, or of impromptu acts of generosity that appease our conscience. However good and useful such acts may be for making us sensitive to people's needs and the injustices that are often their cause, they ought to lead to a true encounter with the poor and a sharing that becomes a way of life. Our prayer and our journey of discipleship and conversion find the confirmation of their evangelic authenticity in precisely such charity and sharing. This way of life gives rise to joy and peace of soul, because we touch with our own hands the flesh of Christ. If we truly wish to encounter Christ, we have to touch his body in the suffering bodies of the poor, as a response to the sacramental communion bestowed in the Eucharist.

We are called, then, to draw near to the poor, to encounter them, to meet their gaze, to embrace them and to let them feel the warmth of love that breaks through their solitude. Their outstretched hand is also an invitation to step out of our certainties and comforts, and to acknowledge the value of poverty in itself.

The poor are not a problem: they are a resource from which to draw as we strive to accept and practise in our lives the essence of the Gospel.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Robert



MINISTRIES

Saturday 18 November

Eucharistic Ministers
Teresa & Malcolm Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers

Pat Middleton
Greg Mearman

Children's Liturgy

Anne Davies
Carol Burbridge

Welcomers

Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

MINISTRIES

Saturday 25 November

Eucharistic Ministers
Irene & John Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers

Angela Harmston
Maria Griffiths

Children's Liturgy

Anne Davies
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers

Halina Holman
Janet Harrigan

The Thirty-third Sunday

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.

We pray for our beloved deceased, including....



Remember those who have gone before us

Teresa PARKIN (Rec. Dec.)
Joan HOLMES (Rec. Dec.)
Bernard McGOAY (Rec. Dec.)
Marie CAREY
Lorraine HENNAGE
Walter DRANE
Joan SNOWDEN

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

*Olwyn Morris, Jim Patterson,
Linda Carter, Tom Taylorson,
Sylvia Kelly,
Mary Spears, Rose Crick,
Maureen McCrann,
Doreen Carroll,
Margaret Pouton and
Pat Harrison.*



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £215 Loose Plate: £230

TOTAL: £445

Mass Attendance: 131

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

World Day of the Poor: Pope Francis has asked the entire Catholic community worldwide to observe the **World Day of the Poor** for the first time **this Sunday**. The World Day of the Poor will be observed each year on the 33rd Sunday of the liturgical year. See the poster on the noticeboard and go to www.csan.org.uk.

Advent: Be Prepared! The beginning of Advent is just two weeks away now. As always there are opportunities to make Advent a truly meaningful season. One opportunity which is on offer here in the parish is on Friday afternoons, beginning this coming Friday (see page opposite). If you are not able to make this, why not consult the diocesan website for the **Advent: Be Prepared!** resources which you can utilise at your leisure. Go to the diocesan homepage to download at www.rcdhn.org.uk.

Clergy Training Fund: Thank you for your ongoing contributions in aid of the **Clergy Training Fund** which has so far come to **£291.58**. This collection will remain open until **26 November**. Envelopes are available from the table at the back of the church should you wish to gift aid your donation. **Next weekend** we will take up a retiring collection for **Catholic Youth**. Again, gift aid envelopes are available and a leaflet will be distributed with your bulletin next weekend.

St Cuthbert's Hospice Raffle: At the rear of the church you will find a couple of books of raffle tickets in support of St Cuthbert's Hospice. Tickets are £1.00 each.

Ushaw College Events: Thanks to everyone for supporting our wonderful summer programme. The exhibitions in the chapel and beautifully restored museum are a great success adding even more

interest for visitors. We now have our permanent Chaplain here, Canon Bob Spence, and he celebrates Mass here every Friday at 12:30pm, open to everyone. Forthcoming events include **An Afternoon with the War Poets** on **Thursday 23 November** at 2:00pm. Refreshments available Wednesdays to Saturdays – all are welcome!

Holy Days of Obligation: The Bishops of England and Wales have approved two more holy days of obligation beginning in 2018. In addition to the current holy days of SS Peter and Paul, the Assumption and All Saints', **the Epiphany** (06 January) and **the Ascension** (Thursday of Week 6 of Easter) are also holy days of obligation.

Lumiere: Are you going into Durham for the Lumiere festival (16-19 November)? If so, in common with many of the churches in the centre of the city, two of the churches in our partnership will be open and hope to provide a place for quieter reflection where people can light a candle, say a prayer and also find some "light" refreshments. One of the installations involves lighting the boundary wall of **St Godric's** (Durham Martyrs parish) and the church will be open each evening. **St Cuthbert's** has two of the installations just outside, and plans to be open from about 5:00pm to 10:00pm on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday and after the evening Mass on the Sunday.

Minsteracres: Quiet Day Retreat coming up this **Wednesday, 22 November from 10:00am - 4:00pm**. An opportunity to step aside, listen to God in scripture and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the countryside. Please bring a packed lunch. Ph. 01434 673 248.

The Kids' Bulletin

Using the Master's Talents

- sort out the pictures -

How well do you know the parable from today's Gospel?
Put the numbers 1 to 6 in the boxes
in the correct order of the story.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Edmund - 20 November

Edmund was king of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of East Anglia, covering modern Suffolk, Norfolk, and part of Lincolnshire. Very little documentary evidence for the details of his life exists, but it is known that Edmund was captured and killed by the Danish Great Heathen Army, which invaded England in 869, and the tradition is that he died the death of a Christian martyr that same year.

Edmund's body was buried in a wooden chapel near to where he was killed, but was later transferred to Beadriceworth, where in 925 Athelstan founded a community devoted to the new cult. Thirty years after Edmund's death, he was venerated by the Vikings of East Anglia, who produced a coinage to commemorate him.

In the 11th century a stone church was built at Bury, and Edmund's remains were translated to it. The shrine at Bury St Edmund's became one of the greatest pilgrimage locations in England and the town retains St Edmund's name to this day.

(Information taken from Universalis)



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for November:

That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

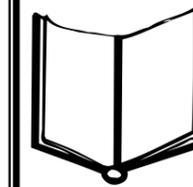
"In all settings you find yourselves, God's love invites you to bring the Good News, making of your own lives a gift to him and to others."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

BIBLE STUDIES

The Churches Together prayer group will meet on the **Tuesday of every third week** in the winter months in St Patrick's Presbytery, **9:30am to 10:00am**.



Also, it is St Patrick's turn to host the **Advent Course** which begins on **Friday, 24 November**. It will run for four Fridays from **2:00pm - 4:00pm**.

SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live By

Our statement to live by this week was, 'I think before I make choices that affect my health.' The children listened to a reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, which describes the two most important commandments – to love God and to love each other. We then talked about the need to make healthy choices for our physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

RE Teaching

Following visits to Class 1 made by Fr. Robert over the past two weeks, our Year 5 and 6 pupils produced some valuable work around the topic of service and ordination. Many thanks to Fr. Robert for his support.

Masses and Liturgies

Class 2 (Years 3 and 4) attended Mass on Thursday morning. Next week, this class will celebrate Mass in the school hall and Class 1 (Years 5 & 6) will attend Mass in church on Thursday morning. Please join us in the school hall for these celebrations.

Prayer Room

A new altar table was delivered to school this week, to furnish our newly designed prayer room. Once other resources are in place, we will arrange for the prayer room to be blessed and expect this celebration to take place at the beginning of Advent.

Lighting of the Local Christmas Tree

The School Choir will support the official lighting of the Christmas tree, opposite Lidl in Langley Moor, on Sunday 03 December, at 4:30pm. Please come along to support them.



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the word 'talent' mentioned repeatedly in this weekend's Gospel refers not to a gift or skill but rather a large amount of money?

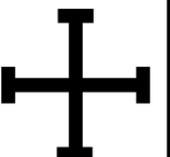
In fact 'talent' referred to a unit of mass, as well as corresponding units of value equivalent to these masses of a precious metal. According to Wikipedia, the Roman talent in the ancient world was the equivalent of 32.3 kilograms (a little over 70lb.) We can see then what sort of value just a few talents was, to say nothing of the ten thousand mentioned in another Gospel passage! (Matt 18:23-35)



"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"There is victory for all who love; all who have gone out from themselves, who have lived beyond themselves for the sake of the Gospel, for the weak, the suffering, the poor, There is victory for all who have love in their hearts, who have carried the cross with Christ, and there is joy without measure in the kingdom prepared for us and all his friends."

From *The Tablet*
01 November, 2014



DON'T FORGET... to continue to hold in prayer our six candidates for First Eucharist: Cassidy, Imogen, Christina, Sara, Jim and Harris. Please remember to pray for the child whose prayer card you picked up a few weeks ago, If you didn't pick up a card, don't let that stop you praying for a child whose picture and name you can find at the back of church!