

The week ahead...

Saturday 21 January Saturday of Ordinary Time 2	5:00pm	Mass: Sally Thompson and pro populo
Sunday 22 January 3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Monday 23 January Monday of Ordinary Time 3		
Tuesday 24 January <i>St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor</i>	6:30pm	Mass: McGough & Duffy Families
Wednesday 25 January <i>The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle</i>	9:30am	Mass: Fr Hughes
Thursday 26 January <i>SS Timothy & Titus</i>	9:30am	Mass: Gerhard Knees (Recently Deceased)
Friday 27 January Friday of Ordinary Time 3	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 28 January <i>St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor</i>	5:00pm	Mass: Vera Keep and pro populo



St Patrick's RC Church, Langley Moor

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

Mob: 07904 833 785

Email: langleymoortstpatrik@rcdhn.org.uk

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

Hospital Chaplain: Ph: (0191) 526 5131

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 January, 2017

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

LAST WEEKEND saw a return to Sundays in Ordinary Time and we began with a reading taken from John's Gospel in which we witnessed John the Baptist identifying his cousin Jesus as the "Lamb of God" (John 1:29). This references the Passover lamb whose blood, smeared on the doorframes of the Israelites' houses in Egypt, saved them from destruction by God when his angel made its way through Egypt to destroy the first-born of the Egyptians during the Israelites' time in captivity. John refers to Jesus by this title the very next day too (John 1:36), so there is no doubting his understanding of who Jesus is. After this second declaration, two of John's disciples leave him and follow Jesus. John has enough faith and humility to deflect attention from himself after Jesus begins his ministry. John knows his task is now complete and encourages his disciples to shift their allegiance to Jesus.

This weekend we begin our reading from Matthew's Gospel and this will continue through to the end of November with a break during Lent and Easter. We encounter Jesus this weekend in the area of his home town in the Galilee region in what today we would refer to as northern Israel. Matthew is keen to impress upon his Jewish audience how Jesus fulfils the Hebrew scriptures and so emphasises how the town of Capernaum in which Jesus settles, is located on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali in fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah which we hear of in our First Reading. And so Jesus' identity as the light of the nations is established by Matthew.

If we are sympathetic to Matthew's assessment of Jesus we will be keen to hear what Jesus' first words are as he begins his mission. We don't have to wait long: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." Interestingly, these are the very same words with which John the Baptist begins his mission in Matthew's Gospel (Mt 3:2)

But knowing the identity of Jesus and his message is not enough: a response is demanded. We witness the earliest response to Jesus next as he calls Peter, Andrew, James and John – they respond "at once, leaving the boat and their father" and they follow Jesus.

These apostles and those others whom Jesus calls, along with so many other people, will hear Jesus preaching, see him healing the sick, raising the dead, confronting his accusers and witness many other aspects of Jesus' three years of ministry. We will observe their responses: sometimes positive and joyous, sometimes uncertain, sometimes negative and aggressive.

Though those witnesses were present with Jesus during his ministry nearly two thousand years ago, as we hear the words of Matthew's Gospel throughout this year, we too are made present to Jesus and he to us in a very real way. With this however, comes the same obligation to respond to Jesus.

What will your response be?

Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,

Fr Robert



Ministries for this week Saturday 21 January

Eucharistic Ministers

John & Irene Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers

Marie Pailey
Judith Bulmer

Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths
Carol Bainbridge

Welcomers

Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

Ministries for next week Saturday 28 January

Eucharistic Ministers

Jane Smith, Helen Musham
Wilf Lavery

Readers

Ann Canavan
Angela Tosley

Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers

Halina Holman
Janet Harrigan

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £247 Loose Plate: £240

Total: £487

Mass Attendance: 187

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

Have you an item for the parish bulletin? Please contact Judith Bulmer on (0191) 378 3544 or 07980 481 858 or send an email to her at judithbulmer@rocketmail.com.

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

Pat Curran, Tom Taylorson, Sylvia Kelly, Marie Carey, Mary Spears, Rose Crick, Maureen McCrann, Teresa Parkin, Doreen Carroll, Dorothy Dowdle, Tom Tracey, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Michael Kane, Pat Harrigan, Olwyn Morris and Bede Anderson.

THANK YOU!

"Diane and Peter Hanley would like to thank Fr Brian Murphy and Fr Robert and all those who sent cards and prayed for Betty Allison throughout her recent illness. Thank you to Fr Robert and all those who participated in the recent Requiem Mass. Your kindness and support is very much appreciated."

Emailed Bulletin – If you would like to have the parish bulletin emailed to you each week please email Judith (details opposite) and you will be added to the mailing list. Parish Council minutes are also available

What's going on...?

Gathering after Mass: At last week's Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meeting, a decision was made to have a regular informal gathering after Mass once a month. This idea came about after the great success of the gathering we had a week before Christmas last year. To this end, we will be gathering after Mass on the first Saturday of each month for an opportunity to deepen our unity by getting to know one another better. Again, this is not about fundraising or an opportunity for speeches: just for a chat, a cuppa and a snack! Our first gathering of the year will be in two weeks' time after Mass on **Saturday, 04 February**.

Women's World Day of Prayer Update: Practice for the hymns for the Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) will be on **Tuesday, 24 January at 10:00am** at St Andrew's Methodist Church, Brandon. The final meeting and rehearsal for WWDP will be on **Wednesday, 15 February at 11:00am** at St Patrick's Presbytery. It would be helpful if all those parishioners who are involved (eg. caterers, singers, readers) could be present. WWYD takes place on **Friday, 03 March** here at St Patrick's.

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.

Diocesan Youth Festival: Will take place at the Emmaus Youth Village on the weekend of 24-25 June. Put the date in your diary!

Minsteracres: Have you checked out the programme for all the events happening at Minsteracres, a wonderful resource basically on our doorstep? Go to the website for more information: www.minsteracres.org.

Friday Mass Intentions: Please don't forget that each Friday there is a 7:00am Mass for which there is rarely an intention requested. Whilst I understand that many people wish to be present when a Mass intention they are offering is being celebrated, this is not essential. If it is not important for you to be present at a Mass for which you are asking an intention, consider asking for it to be celebrated on Friday morning. The intention will be printed on the back page of the bulletin and the Mass announced and faithfully offered.

SCHOOL NEWS

Reception Class

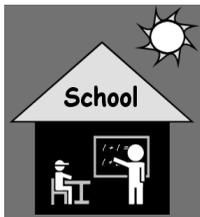
Our youngest children visited church this week to support their work in Religious Education. Thank you to Father Robert who talked to them about some of the celebrations that take place in church and about some of the artefacts used, including the font, chalice, and ciborium.

Ceilidh – St Leonard's School - Saturday 10th February

Friends of St. Leonard's School are holding a Ceilidh at Bowburn Community Centre on Saturday 10th February 2017 7:00pm - 10:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Tickets, costing £5.00 each, are available from St. Leonard's (0191 384 8575).

Oscar Romero

Thank you to those parents and grandparents who came along to our liturgy on Tuesday afternoon to mark the Jubilee Year of Oscar Romero, martyred Archbishop of San Salvador - born 100 years ago this year. The children enjoyed drafting designs for a class cross in the style of the 'Romero cross' which includes pictures of the communities to which they belong.



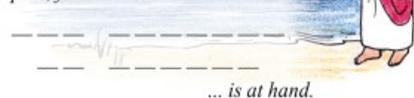
The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 22, 2017



What did Jesus say as He began to preach by the sea?
Sort out the letters by their numbers to fill in the blanks.

Repent, for...



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Francis de Sales - 24 January

Francis was born in 1567 in Savoy, France. He studied the law and was ordained a priest despite his father's opposition. His first mission was to convert those in his local area who had become Calvinists (Protestants). He was so successful in his preaching that after four years most had returned to Catholicism. He was then appointed bishop of Geneva, a role he maintained for the rest of his life, reforming and reorganising the diocese and caring for his people through his preaching and spiritual guidance.

Francis' key teaching, radical for its time, was that all can attain a devout and spiritual life, regardless of one's social status. In his preaching against Calvinism he was driven by love rather than by a desire to win. He wrote *Introduction to the Devout Life*.

Francis died in 1622.

(Information taken from Universalis)



CAFOD needs you!

CAFOD is desperately looking for volunteers willing to help children and young people in our schools to learn about global poverty. You don't need to be an expert or a trained teacher, just someone who cares about global poverty and is happy to work with children and young people. We offer all our volunteers a full training programme, ongoing support and excellent resources. If you're interested, please contact the diocesan Volunteer Centre on 0191 384 4847 or email them at hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk. Thank you!

FLAME CONGRESS

On Saturday 11 March a group of 1,000 young people and accompanying adults from our diocese will be travelling to Flame at Wembley Arena. Flame is a National Catholic Youth Congress with inspiring speakers and music from Matt Redman. Coaches will be leaving from every part of the diocese. There are still places left for young people Year 9 and above and for adults. If you would like to go, please contact YMT for further details. Email admin@ymt.org or 01207 592244.

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the liturgical colour green used in Ordinary Time has significant meaning, just like red, purple and white?

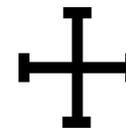
"The theological virtue of hope is symbolised by the colour green, just as the burning fire of love is symbolised by red. Green is the colour of growing things, and hope, like them, is always new and always fresh. Liturgically, green is the colour of Ordinary Time, the season in which we are being neither especially penitent (in violet) nor overwhelmingly joyful (in white)."

(Information taken from Universalis)

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Do not anticipate what will happen tomorrow. The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering or he will give you unending strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations."

St Francis de Sales
(1567-1672)
Bishop and Spiritual Writer



PRAY FOR... the United States as Donald Trump is inaugurated as President. His election has highlighted great divisions and injustices in the nation and so we pray that the Holy Spirit will move him and his team to enact policies which promote economic and social justice and equality and so build a more harmonious society. We pray too that a greater peace will be evident across the world through the considerable influence of America.