

## The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 29 April</b> Saturday in the Easter Octave	<b>5:00pm</b>	Mass: <b>Ian &amp; Kathleen Defty and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 30 April</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Monday 01 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 02 May</b> <i>St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor</i>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Mass: <b>Michael Kane RIP</b>
<b>Wednesday 03 May</b> <i>Ss Philip and James, Apostles</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Mass: <b>Frank &amp; Marie Wilson</b>
<b>Thursday 04 May</b> <i>The English Martyrs</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Mass: <b>Moran family members</b>
<b>Friday 05 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>7:00am</b>	Mass: <b>Moira Thompson (sick)</b>
<b>Saturday 06 May</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>5:00pm</b>	Mass: <b>Jack &amp; Sheila Wilkinson and pro populo</b>

### MINISTRIES

#### Saturday 29 April

##### Eucharistic Ministers

John & Irene Carey  
Kevin Boyle

##### Readers

Angela Harmston  
Maria Griffiths

##### Children's Liturgy

Anne Davies  
Carol Bainbridge

##### Welcomers

Paul & Anne Kelly

### MINISTRIES

#### Saturday 06 May

##### Eucharistic Ministers

Helen Musham, Jane Smith  
Wilf Lavery

##### Readers

Judith Bulmer  
Marie Pailey

##### Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths  
Helen Riddles

##### Welcomers

Angela Harmston  
Christine Tracey

Third 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: £234      Loose Plate: £185

**Total: £419**

**Mass Attendance: 149**

**DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE**  
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

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

*Pat Curran, Linda Carter, 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, Pat Harrison, Olwyn Morris, Jim Patterson, Denise Oxberry, and Imelda Graham.*



### Special Collections

This weekend we will take up the collection for the **sick and retired priests**. If you didn't get the chance last weekend to read the extract from the letter about this on page three it is reproduced again this weekend. The collection for **Little Sisters of the Poor** will be taken up the next Saturday (06 May). Please be as generous as you can!



### St Patrick's R. C. Church

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

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Mob: 07904 833 785

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

## 30 April, 2017

### "Did not our hearts burn within us...?"

HOLY THURSDAY, which we celebrated just a couple of weeks ago in the lead-up to Easter, was an occasion for us to not only witness Jesus' example of loving service in the washing of the disciples' feet, but also an opportunity to recall the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Of course, the two are intimately linked for we cannot participate in the Eucharist and then fail to show love for others.

In today's well-known Gospel story of the two disciples' encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus, we are witnesses also to a dynamic which mirrors the Eucharistic celebration we know so well and value so much. Consider the various elements which make up this scenario:

1. There are two disciples walking along. Jesus tells us that "For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them." (Mt 18:20) We gather in larger numbers than this each Saturday evening so we can be assured of his presence with us. This situation is akin to the Introductory Rites of Mass.
2. The two disciples are discussing Jesus as they walk along. In doing this they are preparing themselves to engage with him just as we are (hopefully) prepared spiritually before we begin Mass by focusing on what we are about to encounter.
3. Jesus explains the scriptures to them. At Mass, whenever the scriptures are read to us, the person proclaiming them stands in place of Christ and so it is Christ reading the scriptures to us. The one giving the homily is placed similarly and thus it is Christ explaining the scriptures to us just as he did to the two on their way to Emmaus.
4. Just as the two disciples invited Jesus in to share a meal with him so we too move on to the 'Breaking of the Bread'. Our preparation takes the form of the offertory procession where gifts of bread and wine by which Christ will make himself present in a special way are brought forward. Like the two disciples, we too recognise and acknowledge Jesus truly present in the breaking of the bread.
5. As Jesus vanishes from the sight of the two disciples, so our special time with Jesus is over at the conclusion of Mass. Nonetheless, just as the disciples run off to tell others about their experience with Jesus we too are called to go out and do the same, to make Jesus present to others through the manner in which we live. In this way, he never truly vanishes from our sight but is made manifest in a different but equally significant and meaningful way.

Now that we have embarked on the Easter season, the season of the Resurrection, let us allow God to enkindle in us a renewed enthusiasm for the marvellous gift of the Eucharist. May we embrace a vision of a meaningful and accessible Eucharistic celebration in our Church which allows us to engage with Jesus in a life-changing manner, just as the lives of those two disciples on the road to Emmaus were changed irreversibly that fateful day.

*Wishing you a blessed Easter season,*

*Fr Robert*



## 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. I will put out an attendance sheet next weekend for you to indicate your attendance so that I can pass the approximate numbers onto the parish.

**Michael Kane RIP:** The funeral liturgy for the late Michael Kane will be held at **Durham Crematorium** on **Thursday, 04 May at 1:30pm.**

**Changes to Mass schedule:** As I will be on the annual diocesan retreat the week after next, there will be no Masses celebrated during the week, only a Communion service celebrated on Wednesday, 10 May at 9:30am. Thank you for your understanding.

**Pope Francis' Mission Statement for May:** Christians in Africa: "That by imitating the merciful Jesus, Christians in Africa may be witnesses of reconciliation, justice and peace. May our Mother of Mercy teach us to take care of the wounds of Jesus in our brothers and sisters in need, those close at hand and those far away."

### Churches Together in DH7:

1. Tuesday, 02 May at 12:00noon. Lunch at St Andrew's Church, Brandon. (Vegetarian option available) All are welcome. Lunch is free and any donations will be passed on to other charities.

2. A new weekly event starting this Thursday 27 April: 'Crafty Cuppa'. Bring your own craft (knitting, sewing, woodworking, etc.) Pop in between 9:00am and 12:00noon for a cuppa and a chat while we craft together. Venue: St. Andrew's.

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

**'Peer Talk':** A peer support group for people living with depression. See noticeboard and go to [www.peertalk.org.uk](http://www.peertalk.org.uk). Begins 11 May.

**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.

**Ushaw College Events:** Speaking of wonderful resources on our doorstep, 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](http://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.

**Ushaw Moor Catholic Club:** The Catholic Club is available for birthday parties and wedding anniversaries as well as receptions after weddings and funerals. For more information, phone 07519 672 570 and, if need be, leave a message.

**Parish Partnerships:** You will be pleased to know that some action is taking place with regards to the new parish partnerships that were recently announced by Bishop Séamus. There are some copies of the booklet to support this titled "Pointing the Way" available at the back of the church or, if you prefer, a soft copy can be emailed to you (please email me at the parish to organise this). As actions emerge from these guidelines you will most certainly be notified.

**May Procession and Parish Family Picnic:** Advance notice of the May Procession which 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!

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### The English Martyrs - 04 May

On 04 May 1535, at Tyburn in London, there died three Carthusian monks, the first of many martyrs of the English Reformation. Of these martyrs, forty-two have been canonised, and a further 242 have been declared Blessed; but the true number of those who died on the scaffold, perished in prison, or were tortured or persecuted for their faith cannot now be reckoned. The persecution lasted a hundred and fifty years and left a permanent mark on English culture: to this day Catholics continue to suffer certain minor disabilities under English law.

The martyrs celebrated today came from every walk of life. There were rich and poor; married and single; men and women. They are remembered for the example they gave of constancy in their faith and courage in the face of persecution.

Also on this day, as of 2001, are celebrated the forty martyrs of England and Wales who were canonised in 1970, including Saints Cuthbert Mayne, John Houghton and Edmund Campion (pictured).

(Information taken from [Universalis](http://Universalis))



## Sick and Retired Priests

As we are taking up the collection for sick and retired priests **this weekend**, I thought I would include a small extract from a letter by Fr Phil Quinn, Chairman of the Northern Brethren Fund (first recorded meeting in 1650!) which is responsible for overseeing the care of sick and retired clergy.

*You may remember the time when parish priests never retired. They stayed in the parish until they died. But then they were supported by several curates who did the work, and a housekeeper who looked after them. That is not the present reality, and though they may stay in post well beyond the normal retirement age, there comes a time when they need to retire from office and need our support and care in their retirement.*

*...we ask for your support for our retired priests. As well as the retiring collection, there are gift aid envelopes and standing order forms.*

*...So thank you for your love and care for our retired priests. May God bless them and God bless you in your care for them.*

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Statement to Live By

This week's statement is 'I can recognise comfortable and uncomfortable feelings'. We shared the gospel of Luke and the story of God's promise to Abraham, before reflecting on the right to feel safe and comfortable and how to get help if needed.

### First Holy Communicants

The next session in the programme of preparation is Saturday 6th May, beginning at 4:00pm in the presbytery.

### SATs - Year 6

Week commencing 8th May, our Year 6 pupils will sit externally marked test papers. We wish them well and ask that you keep them in your prayers.

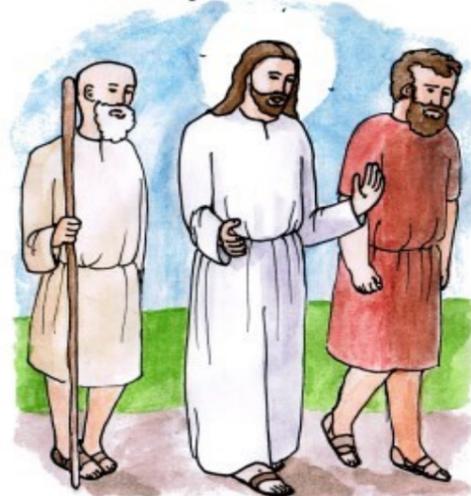
### Tag Rugby Festival

Pupils in Years 1 and 2, along with pupils from other Durham schools, took part in a 'Tag Rugby' tournament at Maiden Castle this week. Some of our older pupils also attended the event, and helped the organisers by leading the activity stations. A number of adults praised their effectiveness and conduct. Well done children!



## The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 30, 2017



ABDEFGHIKNORT  
7 0 9 a x j - > / < e i  
The disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus at first. How did they recognize Him eventually?  
Use the code to find out!

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e x 1 - a o e a 7 9

## DID YOU KNOW...?

...that just as Easter Day lasts for eight calendar days, so the Easter Season lasts for fifty days?

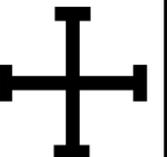
Easter is the highlight of the Church's year and so the celebration is an extended one. We are, after all, celebrating the event that promises us the possibility of eternal life with God, meaning that death does not have the final word. And so, Easter Day itself is extended to an Octave, ending on the evening of the Second Sunday of Easter and the Easter Season is extended through to the Feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon those gathered in the upper room. The season is marked by white vestments, the lighting of the Paschal Candle and numerous "Alleluia's"!

## "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realise of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of life born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved."

Pope Francis

In *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013)



**DON'T FORGET....gathering after Mass!** We will be gathering in the school hall 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 next gathering will be after Mass next **Saturday, 06 May**. Come along!