

The week ahead...

Saturday 07 April Vigil Mass for Second Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Carey & Wilson families and pro populo
Sunday 08 April Second Sunday of Easter	NO MASS	
Monday 09 April <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday 10 April Weekday of Easter	NO MASS	
Wednesday 11 April <i>St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr</i>	9:30am	Service of the Word with Communion
Thursday 12 April Weekday of Easter	NO MASS	
Friday 13 April Weekday of Easter	NO MASS	
Saturday 14 April Vigil Mass for Third Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Harold & Walter Tonge and pro populo

Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES

Saturday 07 April

Eucharistic Ministers
Gordon & Angela Tosley
Angela Harmston

Readers

Rowan Payne
Greg Mearman

Children's Liturgy
(Resumes next week)

Welcomers

Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

Music

Greg Mearman, Choir
Sarah & Rowan Payne

MINISTRIES

Saturday 14 April

Eucharistic Ministers
Malcolm & Teresa Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers

Brendan Payne
Pat Middleton

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers

Halina Holman
Janet Harrigan

Music

Richard Openshaw
Choir

Second 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. Items need to be submitted by 12:00noon on Thursday.

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



CAREY & WILSON families
Maureen McCRANN (Rec. Dec.)

Ian James DEFTY
John DRENON
Everil LYDON
Elizabeth CLOUGH

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick and housebound in our parish....

Rose Crick
Doreen Carroll
Margaret Pouton
Pat Harrison
Sylvia Kelly
Mary Spears



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

Web: www.stpatricksrcchurch.co.uk

St Patrick's R.C. Primary School: Ph: (0191) 378 0552
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully Ph: (0191) 526 5131

Second Sunday of Easter

08 April, 2018

Divine Mercy: A Sacred Heart for our time?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES can speak to us in very powerful ways. This truth is put to good use by companies which seek to convey a particular attribute of their product or service to consumers in a simple yet memorable way. Take, for example, some of the best-known logos and trademarks such as Coca-Cola, McDonald's and Apple. These logos are guarded jealously by the companies that own them who wouldn't hesitate to prosecute anyone who seeks to use these logos illegally. These symbols are instantly and universally recognised. There is no doubting their power and effectiveness.

The most powerful symbol of all is surely one which is not owned by any company or individual. I am speaking, of course, of the cross. Whenever I celebrate baptisms and the families present are marking the child with the sign of the cross, I always mention to them that the cross they are tracing on the child's forehead is a universally recognised symbol. Everyone in the world, Christian or not, recognises that the cross has something to do with God. It is, undoubtedly, a powerful symbol of our salvation.

Symbols and images can be less universal in their reach but still powerful. If you were to walk into any Catholic home in Australia in the 1950s or 1960s you would almost invariably have encountered an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, perhaps paired with an image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and I'm sure it wasn't too different here in Britain. In many cases, these images were placed in the home as a means of identifying the occupants of the home as Catholic, considered important in a time when the Catholic/Protestant divide was so strongly delineated. Under such circumstances, it was quite possible that something of the meaning behind the images was downplayed at the expense of a more political statement.

Regardless, we all need to be reminded periodically of the true meaning of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – God's mercy. In recent years however, the Divine Mercy image has steadily gained popularity over that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The message under-lining the two images is the same, but clearly for a lot of people there is a greater appeal in the Divine Mercy image than in that of the Sacred Heart. There is no doubt that the Divine Mercy image is a more dynamic and colourful one than the Sacred Heart and so its appeal is understandable in an age characterised by colour, movement and dynamism.

Symbols speak to different people in different ways at different times. With reference to companies, they are not immune to "freshening up" their image in order to maintain their appeal (and market share!) And so it is to be expected that some symbols and images associated with our faith will change over time to convey the unchanging message of God's unconditional love and mercy to those who are open to such graces. Even the universal symbol of the cross is not static – it exists in many different forms and variations which speak to people of different cultures in a meaningful way.

A religious symbol or image ought to speak to us profoundly of something constant, universal and divine. Whether you find greater appeal in the Sacred Heart of Jesus or the Divine Mercy, may you be moved to respond generously to the message it conveys – God's unconditional love for those who turn to him with contrite hearts.

Wishing you blessings during the Easter season,

Fr Robert



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

(Easter Weekend)

Gift Aid: £224 Loose Plate: £492

TOTAL: £716

Mass Attendance: 275

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

What's going on...?

Gathering after Mass this week: As always on the first weekend Mass of the month, we will be gathering in the school hall after Mass today for fellowship over some drinks and nibbles. Everyone is welcome!

Thank you! I'd just like to take the opportunity to thank once again all those who helped to make our Holy Week celebrations prayerful and meaningful. I won't go into specifics but thank you to everyone who played a crucial role, be it "up front" or "behind the scenes" for giving of your time and talent so selflessly to make the most sacred time of the Church's year so memorable here at St Patrick's.

Website: If you take a look at the parish details in the box at the top right-hand corner of the front page of the bulletin you will notice that there is a web address for the parish. A small team has been revamping the website and it now has a new look. There is still a lot to be done with new material to be uploaded but I encourage you to have a look and welcome any feedback!

Holy Lands Collection: Thank you for your generous contributions to the collection for the holy places on Good Friday. A total of **£270.65** was raised.

Annual Leave: Please note that I will be away for a little under two weeks as of this Sunday, 08 April. Fr Brian Murphy will celebrate the Vigil Mass on 14 April and there will be services of the Word with Communion on the two Wednesdays of my absence, 11 April and 18 April.

Maureen McCRANN - RIP: We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Maureen who died during this past week. Her funeral service will take place here at St Patrick's this **Tuesday, 10 April, at 12:45pm.** Fr David Coxon from Ushaw Moor will be the celebrant.

"Joy" – The Surprise of the Gospel: The Bishops' Conference Scripture Working Group has been working alongside the Northern Dioceses and religious orders to organise events celebrating the Word of God – one in the north-east, the other in the north-west. The event closest to our own diocese is to be held on **Saturday 12 May** at All

Saints School, York (5 minutes from the railway station). It is open to all but might be of special appeal to clergy, school and university chaplains, readers and students (6th form and above). More information on the flyer on the noticeboard or from Kathryn Turner who can be reached by email at spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk.

Missio/AFP Mill Hill Missionaries: The March quarterly Red Box/Brown Envelope collection was **£841.44**. Thanks for such a generous amount for overseas missions in the most needy communities.

Celebration of Marriage: Bishop Séamus will celebrate Mass in St Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday 05 May** at 11:00am to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage. He has invited each parish community to be represented by at least two couples, young or old, newly married or celebrating a significant anniversary. In addition, everyone is welcome to attend. This promises to be a wonderful celebration and will provide affirmation and support for Marriage across the diocese and to the wider North-East community.

A Day of Reflection: We are planning a Day of Reflection at the Parish Centre in Newhouse, Esh Winning on **Saturday, 28 April, 10:30am – 3:30pm.** In this Easter season Fr Jeroen (Minsteracres) will lead us in thinking about 'Discipleship'. This is for all of us in our partnership of parishes. We'd like to extend a special invitation to those who have been received into the Church over these past few months, and at Easter. The day will be free of charge but you will need to bring a packed lunch. We ask that people sign up to give us an idea about numbers. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church.

Partnership Matters: The latest edition of the bi-monthly Partnership Matters news update is now available on the front page of the diocesan website (www.rcdhn.org.uk) and on the noticeboard. Items highlighted in this edition include: ideas for how parishes can involve young people, the Council of Laity, how to develop spiritual discernment and an update on the Communications Project. There is also some clarification on the Property and Community Review and key events.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Zeno of Verona - 12 April

Zeno, a native of North Africa, was appointed bishop of Verona (Northern Italy) in 362. He ministered to his people for about nine years, distinguishing himself for his leadership skills and good pastoral approach. He was close to his people and cared for the poor. In his writings he described many liturgical practices of his Church especially during Holy Week. He preached much against Arianism, which declared that Christ and the Holy Spirit were inferior to the Father, and fostered the growth of missionary activity in his area. He died in 371.



(Information taken from *Universalis*)

~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for April:

For those who have responsibility in economic matters: that leaders in financial affairs may have the courage to reject economic measures that exclude people and seek new inclusive approaches.

"We must not turn our backs on the new forms of poverty and the marginalisation that prevents people from living a life of dignity."

~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

PRAYER GROUP & BIBLE STUDY

"Celebrating 50 Great Days" Easter Bible study each Friday from 06 April through to 18 May at **St Andrew's Methodist Church, Brandon** from **2:00pm - 3:00pm.**

The next **Prayer Group** meeting will be here at **St Patrick's (presbytery)** on **Tuesday, 17 April** from **9:30am - 10:15am.**



SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations

Many congratulations to Imogen Payne who has secured a scholarship to the Chorister School in Durham City. We thank her for everything she has given to our school and wish her well for the future!

Masses and Liturgies

Pupils will take part in the following Masses and liturgies after the Easter break.

Wednesday 25.04.18 at 2:45pm
Class 1 (Years 5 & 6) - Mass in school

Thursday 26.04.18 at 9:30am
Class 2 (Years 3 & 4) - Mass in church

Wednesday 09.05.18 at 2:45pm
Classes 3 & 4 (Reception, Years 1 & 2) - Liturgy in school

Thursday 10.05.18 at 9:30am
Class 1 (Years 5 & 6) - Mass in church

Wednesday 23.05.18 at 2:45pm
Class 2 (Years 3 & 4) - Liturgy in school

Thursday 24.05.18 at 9:30am
Classes 3 & 4 (Reception, Years 1 & 2) - Mass in church
Everyone is welcome to join us in these celebrations.



The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 8, 2018

*"Put your finger here,
and see my hands;
and put out your hand,
and place it in my side;
do not be faithless,
but believing."*

" M _ _

_____!"

A M B Y C

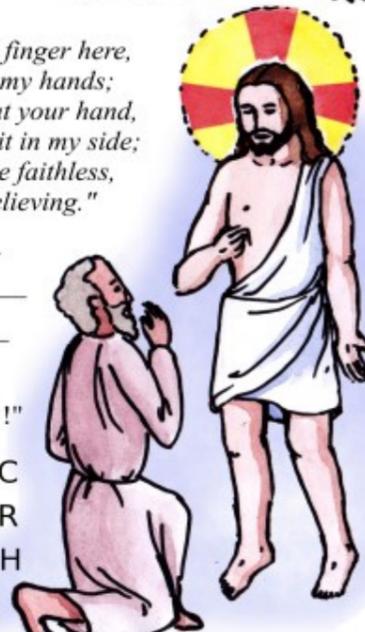
L D O E R

F D G A H

N I D J

M K Y L G

M O N D O



What did St. Thomas reply to Jesus? Use every second letter to fill in the blanks!

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that Easter Sunday for the Orthodox churches falls today, one week after the Catholic celebration?

Many Orthodox churches base their Easter date on the Julian calendar, which differs from the Gregorian calendar that is used by many western countries. Therefore the Orthodox Easter period often occurs later than the Easter period for the Catholic Church (which falls on the first Sunday after the full moon following the March equinox). One of the important traditions of the Orthodox Church is to have a large round Easter bread decorated with four hard boiled eggs to symbolise the four end points of the cross.



PLEASE PRAY...for the following intentions throughout the Easter season as requested by Bishop Séamus: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....**



"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Tell souls not to place within their own hearts obstacles to My mercy, which so greatly wants to act within them. My mercy works in all those hearts which open their doors to it. Both the sinner and the righteous person have need of My mercy. Conversion, as well as perseverance, is a grace of My mercy."

St Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938)

"Apostle of Divine Mercy"

Extract from her diary

