

The week ahead...

Saturday 07 May	5:00pm	Mass: Jonathan and Irene Ramm and <i>pro populo</i>
Sunday 08 May <i>Ascension of the Lord</i>		
Monday 09 May Monday of Eastertide 7		
Tuesday 10 May Tuesday of Eastertide 7		
Wednesday 11 May Wednesday of Eastertide 7	9:30am	Mass: James Condron
Thursday 12 May Thursday of Eastertide 7	9:30am	Mass: Anon: "A dear friend's recovery from an operation."
Friday 13 May Friday of Eastertide 7	7:00am	Mass: Private intention
Saturday 14 May <i>St Matthias, Apostle</i>	5:00pm	Mass: Margaret and Peter Rochford and <i>pro populo</i>



St Patrick's RC Church, Langley Moor

Priest in Charge: Fr Robert Riedling Ph 0191 378 4486
07904 833 785
St Patrick's RC Primary School: Ph 0191 378 0552
Hospital Chaplain: Ph 0191 526 5131

Ascension of the Lord

08 May, 2016

"He withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven."

NEXT WEEKEND we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descends upon the world, the Spirit who will lead all who embrace it into a deeper relationship with Jesus and the Father. But before the Spirit descends on the world Jesus must ascend to the Father. Paradoxically, before Jesus can be present in the world in a truly universal way in his creation, he must leave the earth on which he walked as a man for thirty-three years.

At times throughout our life it seems as though God is absent, that he is indeed, "up in the heavens" rather than walking beside us or carrying us when our need is greatest. Yet we know that our God will never abandon us. Jesus ascended into heaven in order that he could be with us in a more intimate and meaningful way, a way that would never have been possible had he remained on earth. Jesus has entered a new way of life and, in sending the Holy Spirit upon us, has enabled us to live in a new way, a life in which we will know his presence in so many ways: through the sacraments, through the scriptures, through other people and situations and myriad other ways.

No, Jesus has not left us. He has given us the gift of being able to know and experience his life and presence in ways previously unimaginable. May we accept this gift with gratitude and seek to make it known to others through our manner of living in a distinctly Christian, Spirit-filled manner.

Blessings and prayers throughout the Easter season,

Fr Robert



Ministries for this week Saturday 30 April

Eucharistic Ministers:
Wilf Lavery, Jane Smith and Helen Musham

Readers:
Angela Tosley and Marie Pailey

Children's Liturgy:
Maria Griffiths and Michelle Dennis

Welcomers:
Halina Holman and Pat Middleton

Ministries for next week Saturday 07 May

Eucharistic Ministers:
Angela Harmston, Mr and Mrs Burnside

Readers:
Judith Bulmer and Ann Canavan

Children's Liturgy:
Jane Smith and Helen Musham

Welcomers:
Angela Harmston and Christine Tracey

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £231 Loose Plate: £210

Total: £441

Mass Attendance: 180

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, including...

Tom Taylorson, Sylvia Kelly, Marie Carey, Mary Spears, Rose Crick, Maureen McCrann, Teresa Parkin, Doreen Carroll, Marie Wilson, Jack Wilkinson, Dorothy Dowdle, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Betty Allison and Michael Kane.

The Little Sisters of the Poor have asked me to pass on their grateful thanks to you for the **£342.65** raised recently in the appeal held after Mass. Thank you for your generosity!

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 electronically.

What's going on...?

Parish Council Annual General Meeting (AGM): Scheduled for Wednesday, 15 June at 7:00pm in St Patrick's School hall. Any issues you would like discussed at the AGM need to be emailed to Judith Bulmer (judithbulmer@rocketmail.com) by 31 May. The meeting will also include elections for membership of the Parish Council. More details on this process to come. Please consider coming along to this meeting - all parishioners welcome!

St Patrick's website: If anyone has any information or material that could be included on the parish website please see Carol Bainbridge or email Judith Bulmer. Photographs of previous events would be perfect, for example, the flower festival and centenary celebrations, old historical photographs. Actual photographs will be returned very quickly to their owners!

First Communion Cards: New stock now available for sale in the baptistery area.

May Procession: Sunday 22 May at 3:00pm. Refreshments served afterwards in St Patrick's School hall or outside if the weather is favourable!

Mass for the Sick: Mass with anointing of the sick scheduled for Saturday 11 June at 11:00am. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the presbytery. If you can help with lifts for parishioners, please see Judith Bulmer.

Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion: Two brief Saturday afternoon formation sessions have been scheduled for Readers (14 May) and Communion Ministers (21 May), starting with afternoon tea at 3:00pm and then a one-hour session following through to 4:30pm. New procedures as well as refreshing old skills will be covered. It is important to make the effort to be there. Please sign up at back of church!

Voices of Mercy: 'Visit the sick'. An evening listening to the voices of people who visit the sick and an opportunity to reflect on what this means for us. Come to St Cuthbert's, Chester le Street at 7:00pm, Wednesday, 25 May.

Alzheimer's Society: If you have dementia, or are caring for someone with dementia, come along to the Dementia Cafe at North Road Methodist Church, 28 North Road, Durham, on Wednesday 11 May from 10:00am - 12 noon.

'Laudato Si': Last year Pope Francis published an encyclical about ecology. There is to be a day of reflection about this at Ushaw College, 10:30am-3:30pm, on Saturday, 14 May. Led by Prof Karen Kilby, Bede Chair of Catholic Theology at Durham University. Contact the diocese's Department for Spirituality: spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk or phone (0191) 243 3302.

Special Collection for Ukraine: A reminder that the collection for Ukraine is to be taken up this weekend. This collection has been launched by the Holy Father as a humanitarian initiative in favour of the people of Ukraine from the Catholic Church in Europe. Thank you in anticipation for your generosity towards this important cause.

Diocesan Festival 2016: A celebration of faith for people of all ages at the Youth Village, 25/26 June, 2016. Mass, family activities, talks, ceilidh. £15 per person for two days.

YOUTH

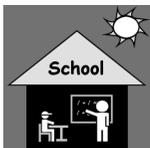
For our younger parishioners....

SCHOOL NEWS

Year Six: Please keep in your prayers our Year 6 pupils who take externally marked tests next week. This is an important and exciting time for them as they prepare to transfer to secondary school.

First Holy Communicants:

Please pray for the children preparing to receive First Eucharist on Saturday 04 June.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St John of Avila - 10 May

The Apostle of Andalusia and the spiritual advisor of St Teresa, St Francis Borgia, St John of the Cross, St Peter of Alcantara, and others. He was born on 06 January, 1499, at Almodovar del Campo, Spain. After studying law at the University of Salamanca, he left the university to be a hermit. He then went to Alcala, where he was ordained. John drew great crowds with his fiery denunciations of evil and his many sermons.

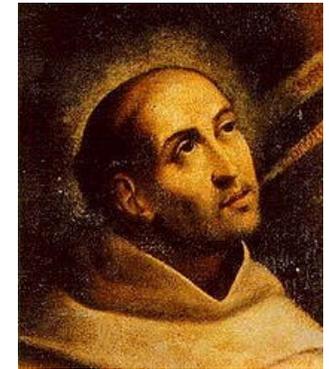
John's first sermon was preached on 22 July 1529, and immediately established his reputation. During his nine years of missionary work in Andalusia, crowds packed the churches at all his sermons. However, his strong pleas for reform and his denunciation of the behaviour of the aristocracy meant that he was denounced to the office of the Inquisition in Seville in 1531, and put in prison in the summer of 1532. He was charged with exaggerating the dangers of wealth and with closing the gates of heaven to the rich. The charges were refuted and he was declared innocent and released in July 1533.

His brief imprisonment by the Inquisition in Seville made him even more popular. His missionary efforts were centred on Andalusia, and his letters and other writings have become Spanish classics.

From early 1551 John of Avila was in constant ill-health. He spent the last years of his life in semi-retirement in the town of Montilla, in the Province of Córdoba. He died there on 10 May 1569, and in accordance with his wishes was buried in that city.

John was canonised in 1970.

(Taken from Catholic Online www.catholic.org and Wikipedia)



DID YOU KNOW...?

.....that World Youth Day will be held in the Polish city of Krakow in just a couple of months' time?

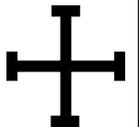
World Youth Day 2016 will run from 25-31 July. Błonia Park will host the main events during the week of World Youth Day: the Opening Ceremonies, the Papal Welcome Ceremony, and the Stations of the Cross. A vast meadow of 48 hectares, Błonia Park is directly adjacent to the historic centre of Kraków. "Campus Misericordiae," or "Field of Mercy", is the name given to the site to be designed specifically for the World Youth Day Papal Vigil and Closing Mass. About 15km southeast of central Krakow, Campus Misericordiae will be located in Brzegi between Nowa Huta and Wieliczka.

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"The apostles and all the disciples had been filled with fear by his death on the cross, and their faith in the resurrection had been hesitant; but now they gained such great strength from seeing the truth, that when the Lord went up to heaven, far from feeling sadness, they experienced a great joy."

**Pope St Leo the Great
(c.400-461)**

From his Sermon on the Ascension



Please pray for....Baby Jackson THOMPSON who was baptised on Sunday, 01 May and for baby Rudolph PULOTU, baptised here this morning. Also, pray for William and Ané PULOTU who are receiving their first Eucharist at Mass this evening.