

## The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 14 April</b> Vigil Mass for Third Sunday of Easter	<b>5:00pm</b>	Mass: <b>Harold &amp; Walter Tonge and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 15 April</b> Third Sunday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Monday 16 April</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 17 April</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Wednesday 18 April</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>9:30am</b>	Service of the Word with Communion
<b>Thursday 19 April</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Friday 20 April</b> Weekday of Easter	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Saturday 21 April</b> Vigil Mass for Fourth Sunday of Easter	<b>5:00pm</b>	Mass: <b>Carey &amp; Wilson families and pro populo</b>



**St Patrick's R.C. Church**  
*A Parish of the Finchale Partnership*  
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## Third Sunday of Easter

**15 April, 2018**

### “Have you anything here to eat?”

SOMETIMES, perhaps often, the scriptures can really throw us by presenting us with a line which seems to come out of nowhere and which may seem even to trivialise this sacred text. Such a case I believe is before us today in the Gospel as we hear of a post-resurrection appearance of Jesus, one of two mentioned by Luke, the first at Emmaus and the second, which we have before us today, in Jerusalem.

The two disciples, Cleopas and his companion, who had recognised Jesus when he broke bread with them at the village of Emmaus, have quickly returned to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples, rather breathlessly I imagine, what they had experienced when walking towards Emmaus. As they are all sharing their experiences Jesus himself appears among them and greets them with words of peace. When his greeting fails to have the desired effect he reassures them that he is real, not a ghost, for he has flesh and bones as they do. As the disciples continue to wonder about the appearance of Jesus he asks them what appears to be a very mundane, almost comical question, the one that gives this column its title: “Have you anything here to eat?”

What could be more down to earth? Those of you with children, especially teenagers, probably hear this question several times a day! Yet here is Jesus, just resurrected, asking the same question. Why?

Of course, there are many explanations that can be put forward rather than just one “correct” one, and each explanation is of value if it assists us in deepening our faith. Perhaps we can understand this rather trivial request (“Have you anything here to eat?”) and very human action (eating the grilled fish offered to him) as a strategy by Jesus to help the frightened and confused disciples to be convinced of his resurrection in the flesh as opposed to being a purely spiritual resurrection. But let's look deeper into what's going on in the scripture passage...

There is a distinct movement happening here. We begin with Jesus making a dramatic and unexpected appearance to the disciples which causes them consternation. At the end of the scene, after Jesus has eaten, we have another remarkable action on the part of Jesus: opening their minds “to understand the scriptures.” He is essentially telling them that they are to now do the work of Christ himself, to go out and preach repentance of sins “to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

Between two dramatic scenes we have the routine, everyday event, eating a simple meal. Perhaps we can understand this as Jesus' way of bringing the disciples down to earth and helping them to the realisation that their mission will not always keep them on an emotional and spiritual “high”, that there will be times of ordinariness, predictability and monotony as they undertake their mission. And what could be more ordinary than eating?

And if this is the message we draw from today's readings, it is by no means an unhelpful one. We are celebrating the most important feast on the Church's calendar but we cannot possibly sustain this “high”. We need to forge on ahead with our mission, seeking to bring the light of the risen Christ to others, even in the most ordinary of circumstances, sustained by the knowledge that our mission is anything but ordinary!



## Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

### 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

### MINISTRIES

#### Saturday 21 April

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
John & Irene Carey  
Kevin Boyle

#### Readers

Angela Harmston  
Maria Griffiths

#### Children's Liturgy

Anne Davies  
Helen Riddles

#### Welcomers

Paul & Anne Kelly

#### Music

Greg Mearman, Joe Lennox,  
Sarah & Rowan Payne, Choir

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

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



Harold & Walter TONGE  
 Maureen McCRANN (Rec. Dec.)  
 Mary SHARRATT  
 Teresa SMITH  
 Maggie McGUIRE  
 Patrick Norman ARMSTRONG

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

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



### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £214 Loose Plate: £206

**TOTAL: £420**

Mass Attendance: 153

DIocese of HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE  
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



# What's going on...?

**Gathering after Mass:** Thank you to all those who assisted at our fellowship gathering after Mass last weekend. Your help is much appreciated!

**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 would welcome any feedback.

**Annual Leave:** I look forward to returning to the parish next weekend. Thank you to Fr Brian for celebrating Mass this weekend and to those who are assisting with the Wednesday gatherings. Please note that the Mass schedule will return to normal after next weekend. As **Monday, 23 April** is the feast of St George, Patron of England, and a Solemnity, there will be a **9:30am Mass** that day.

**Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal:** Please note that there will be a retiring collection next weekend for the Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph's Home in Newcastle. Gift aid envelopes are available for those who wish to donate this way. Please be as generous as you can to assist the congregation in the wonderful work they do for the elderly.

**"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 (6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk).

**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](http://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.

**Churches Together in DH7 Annual General Meeting:** To be held at St Catherine's, New Brancepeth, on **Thursday, 26 April** at 7:00pm.

**Annual Mass for Justice and Peace:** This will be held on Saturday 28 April at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10:00am. The Mass will be presided by Bishop Séamus Cunningham and the preacher will be Fr. Chris Hughes. All are welcome.

## He has risen, alleluia The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 15, 2018

*When Jesus rose from the dead, some of the disciples thought He was a ghost.*

*To show them that He was really alive, Jesus asked for something to eat. What did they give Him?*

*Colour the spaces using their code to find out!*

grey = skin colour - colour in the blank spaces any colour!

### SCHOOL NEWS

#### First Holy Communicants

Please continue to pray for our children who will receive the Eucharist for the first time on Saturday 02 June - Cassidy, Christina, Harris, Imogen, Jim and Sara.

#### 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

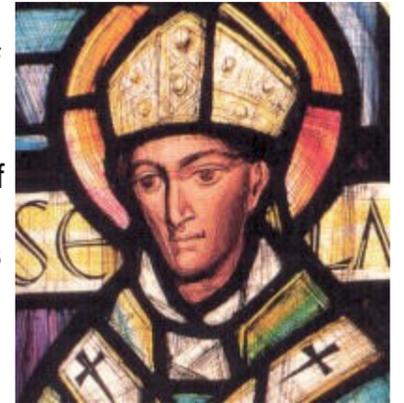
**Thursday 24.05.18 at 9:30am**  
Classes 3 & 4 (Reception, Years 1 & 2) - Mass in church



### SAINT OF THE WEEK

#### St Anselm of Canterbury - 21 April

Anselm was born in Aosta, northern Italy, in 1033, and became a monk of Bec in Normandy, where he taught theology and devoted himself to the spiritual life. After some years as abbot, he succeeded his master Lanfranc as archbishop of Canterbury. His bitter disputes with the kings of England over the independence of the Church resulted in his twice being exiled. He died at Canterbury on 21 April, 1109. He is remembered for his theological learning and writings, and for organising and reforming church life in England.



#### ~ 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*

#### ~ 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 this **Tuesday, 17 April** from **9:30am - 10:15am**.



#### 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 gives us the hope 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



#### "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"For we do not receive this food as ordinary bread and as ordinary drink; but just as Jesus Christ our Saviour be-came flesh through the word of God, and assumed flesh and blood for our salvation, so too we are taught that the food over which the prayer of thanksgiving, the word received from Christ, has been said...is the flesh and blood of this Jesus who became flesh."

**St Justin Martyr** (100-165)  
Christian apologist and philosopher  
From *First Apology*



**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....**

