

## The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 21 May</b> Saturday of Ordinary Time 7	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Pat Openshaw and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 22 May</b> <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>		
<b>Monday 23 May</b> Monday of Ordinary Time 8		
<b>Tuesday 24 May</b> Tuesday of Ordinary Time 8		
<b>Wednesday 25 May</b> <i>St Bede, Priest &amp; Doctor</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>Rachel Carey</b>
<b>Thursday 26 May</b> <i>St Philip Neri, Priest</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>Teresa &amp; Walter Drane</b>
<b>Friday 27 May</b> <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	7:00am	Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 28 May</b> Saturday of Ordinary Time 8	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Walter Staff and pro populo</b>



## 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

## The Most Holy Trinity

22 May, 2016

### The Nature of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

MUCH AS I enjoy preaching, I must admit to approaching this task with some degree of apprehension each Trinity Sunday. The reason is twofold: firstly, the Trinity is a reality and a concept which is impossible for anyone to grasp; and secondly, when I was studying the Trinity in the seminary (which was a fourteen-week course), the lecturer stated that he had never heard a decent homily on Trinity Sunday in his life! Such a statement hardly had the effect of instilling confidence in those of us preparing for a lifetime of preaching knowing that there would probably be about forty or fifty Trinity Sundays ahead of us!

For orthodox Christian discipleship, a belief in the Trinity is essential: one God, three Persons. Our understanding of God as one however, differs from that of the two other great monotheistic religions, Islam and Judaism, who do not hold to a belief in the Trinity. Often we will hear people state that "We all believe in the same God." Whilst this is, in a sense, true (since there is only one God to believe in) we need to recognise that the one God these three great religions believe in is known with a unique perspective as far as Christian belief is concerned.

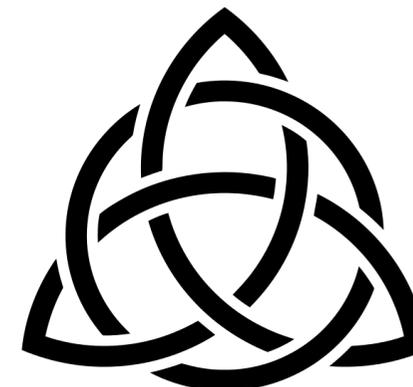
If we as Christians therefore believe that God has a distinct trinitarian nature, the question that challenges us is: how does this make my life distinct from that of others whose belief in the nature of God differs from mine? In other words, how does God as Trinity, (as opposed to a non-trinitarian understanding of God), impact my life as a Christian believer?

In the Trinity we see a wonderful example of perfect community: Father, Son and Holy Spirit as three but also inextricably one, a community of perfect love and harmony. If there is any tangible way in which we live our faith in a distinctly trinitarian manner it is surely by our way of relating to one another. We are called to let the Spirit move us to reach out to one another in love and in doing so at least move some way toward imitating the perfect community found in the Trinity. Essentially, it boils down to Jesus' great commandment of love. After all, Jesus knows about trinitarian living from personal experience!

Each time we make the sign of the cross and invoke the Trinity with that wonderful prayer, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," let us reflect on what that means for us as a people called to do more than simply invoke a formula. The Trinity is more than an academic or metaphysical concept, it tells us about the nature of the God we worship, the God who made us and the God who loves us and gives us the strength to share that love with others, the perfect love that is found in the community of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,*

*Fr Robert*



#### Ministries for this week Saturday 21 May

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
Judith Bulmer, Mr and Mrs  
Tosley

**Readers:**  
Marie Pailey and  
Margaret Purdom

**Children's Liturgy:**  
Anne Davies and  
Angela Harmston

**Welcomers:**  
Sally Thompson and  
Janet Harrigan

#### Ministries for next week Saturday 28 May

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
Andrew Aberdeen, Malcolm  
and Teresa Wass

**Readers:**  
Claire Lavery and  
Pat Middleton

**Children's Liturgy:**  
Maria Griffiths and  
Michelle Dennis

**Welcomers:**  
Halina Holman and  
Pat Middleton

#### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £213 Loose Plate: £222

**Total: £435**

**Mass Attendance: 164**

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](mailto: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, Dorothy Dowdle, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Betty Allison, Michael Kane and Pat Harrison.*

**Our next appeal...** is for the Lay Training Fund which assists the training and development of the lay faithful for various roles in our parishes, especially important in the light of fewer ordained clergy. Taken up next weekend (28 May).

**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](mailto:judithbulmer@rocketmail.com)) by **31 May**. The meeting will also include elections for membership of the Parish Council. **Nomination forms, due by Saturday 11 June, now available from Fr Robert.** 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:** This 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.

**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,

## LOVE

**Diocesan Festival 2016:** A celebration of faith for people of all ages at the Youth Village, 25/26 June, 2016. Mass, family activities, talks, mime artist and ceilidh. £15 per person for two days, or £5 for the Sunday only. There will also be talks on the theme of mercy from Karen Kilby (Durham University) and from Barry and Margaret Mizen whose son was murdered and who now forgive the killers. Under 18s free! Saturday 9:30am—10:00pm, Sunday 10:00am—2:00pm. For bookings call (0191) 373 0219.



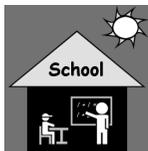
## SCHOOL NEWS

### Well done, Year Six!

Congratulations to all our Year 6 pupils on their hardworking attitude in the lead up to last week (SATs test week) and the way in which they have concentrated and gave of their best during each test.

### Our School App:

We have introduced a new app service for our school. If you have a smartphone (Android or iPhone) you will be able to download **OurSchoolsApp** for free. Just put in the school's postcode (DH7 8JJ) to locate and download the app for our school. Access will also be available on a tablet and iPad. Lots of information is available through the app, including links to our website.



**"Forward Together in Hope" update:** Next Saturday evening we will welcome Fr Jim O'Keefe to St Patrick's for an update on this important strategy for pastoral planning in our diocese. Fr Jim is the diocesan co-ordinator for this development project.

**Masses at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle:** Bishop Seamus invites all to a couple of Masses coming up at the cathedral in Newcastle. These are to remember those who lost their lives in conflict:

**Sunday, 05 June @ 6:00pm:** Battle of Jutland, commemorating war at sea

**Sunday 03 July @ 6:00pm:** Battle of the Somme

*For our younger parishioners....*

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St Bede the Venerable - 25 May

Bede was born in 672 or 673 near St Peter and St Paul monastery at Wearmouth-Jarrow, England. He was sent there when he was three and educated by Abbots Benedict Biscop and Ceolfrid. He became a monk at the monastery, was ordained when thirty, and except for a few brief visits elsewhere, spent all of his life in the monastery, devoting himself to the study of Scripture and to teaching and writing. He is considered one of the most learned men of his time and a major influence on English literature. His writings are a veritable summary of the learning of his time and include commentaries on the Pentateuch and various other books of the Bible, theological and scientific treatises, historical works, and biographies. His best-known work is *Historia Ecclesiastica*, a history of the English Church and people, which he completed in 731. It is an account of Christianity in England up to 729 and is a primary source of early English history. Called "the Venerable" to acknowledge his wisdom and learning, the title was formalised at the Council of Aachen in 853. He was a careful scholar and distinguished stylist, the "father" of English history, the first to date events *anno domini* ("AD", the Year of the Lord), and in 1899 was declared the only English doctor of the Church. He died in Wearmouth-Jarrow on 25 May, 735.

(Taken from Catholic Online [www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org))

In the Year  
of Our Lord **Anno  
Domini**



AllPosters

## DID YOU KNOW...?

....that the nature of God as Trinity was one of the most hotly debated topics in the early centuries of the Church?

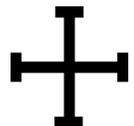
For Christian faith to be orthodox, a professing Christian must hold to the belief that God is trinitarian. The Creeds that we use at Mass today were created in reaction to disagreements over the nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These controversies, however, were great and many, and took some centuries to be resolved. Many of the heresies in existence in the early centuries were over the nature of God. Some Christian movements today still deny the trinitarian nature of God.

## "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"The world being unworthy to receive the Son of God directly from the hands of the Father, he gave his Son to Mary for the world to receive him from her."

**St Augustine of Hippo  
(354-430)**

Bishop, Father and Doctor  
of the Church



**Please pray for....those children who will be receiving their First Eucharist in two weeks' time at the Saturday evening Mass, 04 June. Pray also for Philip THOMPSON and Sarah KING, married here this afternoon and for the repose of the soul of Jack WILKINSON, well-known in this parish, who died on Thursday evening. Funeral is here, Wednesday 01 June at 1:15pm.**