

The week ahead...

Saturday 23 July Saturday of Ordinary Time 16	5:00pm	Mass: Jack Wilkinson and pro populo
Sunday 24 July 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Monday 25 July <i>St James, Apostle</i>		
Tuesday 26 July <i>Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of BVM</i>		
Wednesday 27 July Wednesday of Ordinary Time 17	9:30am	Mass: Jenny Viles and Thomas & Doris McNamara
Thursday 28 July Thursday of Ordinary Time 17	9:30am	Mass: Jack Wilkinson
Friday 29 July <i>St Martha</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 30 July Saturday of Ordinary Time 17	5:00pm	Mass: Arthur Crooks and pro populo



St Patrick's RC Church, Langley Moor

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

24 July, 2016

“Ask, and it will be given to you...”

WE ARE ALL familiar with the Lord's Prayer, of course, saying it every time we celebrate Mass, every time we pray the Rosary and at other times too. Being the prayer Jesus himself taught the disciples, this prayer is known by all Christians and so is an ideal prayer to pray at ecumenical gatherings to help underline our common faith even if there are other areas where we see only difference.

But I wonder if you are familiar with the version of the Lord's Prayer we hear this weekend? In essence, Luke's version is the same as the version with which we are familiar from Matthew's Gospel, the major difference be the omission of the line concerning God's will being done "on earth as it is in heaven". Though this is an interesting observation, we must never fall into the temptation of examining a biblical text in isolation. It is imperative that we examine its context for this can reveal as much to us as, in this case, the prayer itself.

Having taught the disciples how to pray, Jesus encourages them (and us) to do so because, like the example he gives of the householder and his friend, God will never fail to hear and answer prayer. How often however, do we become discouraged because our prayer is not answered immediately, the householder "not getting out of bed" to deal with our request? How often too do we feel God has not understood us because God's response to our prayer seems not to accord with our request?

But because we (hopefully) understand God as a loving parent, even to the extent of calling him "Father", we can have confidence that he is eager to hear us express what is in our hearts, though he knows it already, even to the extent of putting up with our bargaining tactics in prayer as we witness with Abraham in our First Reading from Genesis. What is most important is not *how* we pray, but *how honestly* we pray. Formulated prayers, including the Lord's Prayer, are fine if they are prayed from the heart, but perhaps we are too often willing to recite them mechanically and habitually, feeling afterwards that we have "done our duty" to God and can get on with the rest of our day.

Like any loving parent, God is interested in what is going on in our hearts rather than having his children act robotically! Let us open our hearts to our loving Father in heaven, not being afraid to tell him our fears, hopes and needs. We can be confident that God's response will be a loving one even if it doesn't take the form we expect or want.

And may we show our belief in God's loving concern for us through our loving concern for one another.

Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,

Fr Robert



Ministries for this week Saturday 23 July

Eucharistic Ministers:
Judith Bulmer
Pauline & Ambrose Burnside

Readers:
Maria Griffiths
Angela Harmston

Children's Liturgy:
No Children's Liturgy until school resumes in Sept.

Welcomers:
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Ministries for next week Saturday 30 July

Eucharistic Ministers:
Gordon & Angela Tosley
Angela Harmston

Readers:
Judith Bulmer
Marie Pailey

Children's Liturgy:
No Children's Liturgy until school resumes in Sept.

Welcomers:
Janet Harrigan
Halina Holman

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £242 Loose Plate: £215

Total: £457

Mass Attendance: 149

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....

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, Pat Harrison, Olwyn Morris and Tom Tracey.

A note on appeals: We have had quite a few appeals of late for various very worthy causes and I thank you for your generous support. We will have a hiatus for a few weeks now, our next appeal occurring after the summer break. More details will be forthcoming.

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...?

Sally Thompson RIP: It is with great sadness that we heard of the death of Sally Thompson late in the week. We offer our condolences to Tom and the family at this sad time. Funeral details will be forthcoming. Please keep the family in your prayers in the meantime.

Church Cleaners: We are in DESPERATE need of volunteers to clean the church on a regular basis. If you appreciate being able to come to a clean church each week, this will not be the case in the future unless YOU can make it happen! Please approach Fr Robert if you are willing to help on a regular basis (at least monthly, please!) Thank you.

Lost Property: Over the past couple of months I have collected a couple of pairs of gloves and two pairs of glasses in cases as well as an empty spectacles case. They are currently in the sacristy. Please collect as soon as possible if they belong to you. If they are not claimed soon I will see about giving them to charity at the end of July. Thank you.

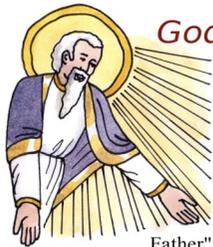
Noticeboards: The noticeboards at the entrance to the church are always worthwhile viewing for news and events. Plenty of activity is happening around the diocese - so much that it cannot always find space here in the bulletin! Also, if you have something to place on the noticeboard, please do not place it there without seeing me first. This will ensure that we use the noticeboard space most effectively.

Weekday Mass Intentions: I will be returning home to Australia for a few weeks from mid-August to mid-September. During this time all weekday Masses will be replaced by services of the Word with communion. Saturday evening Mass will still be celebrated. This means that weekday Mass intentions cannot be offered during this time, though persons can, of course, be prayed for during these weekday services in the bidding prayers. Applies from 19 August to 14 September (inclusive).

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.

Ushaw College: During the summer the college is open every Saturday from 12:00noon until 5:00pm. In addition to that there is to be an event this Friday, the Paul Edis Sextet. This will be in the Francis Thompson Room where we often have parish/cluster meetings. Tickets for this events are £7.00. Book on www.ushaw.org or phone 334 5119.

'Voices of Mercy': Thoughts about 'visiting the imprisoned'. Wednesday, 27 July, 7:00pm at English Martyrs, Stamfordham Road, Newcastle, NE5 3JR. All welcome!



God Gives us What We Need

In today's Gospel reading, the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, so He taught them the "Our Father."

In the first part of the "Our Father" we give glory to God by praising Him, and in the second part we ask Him for the things we need. First we ask for our daily bread. This can be asking both for the things like food that our bodies need, and for the spiritual things as well, especially Holy Communion. Next we ask for forgiveness for our sins and for God to keep us away from temptation and evil.

Jesus said that if a father on earth would give his children the things they need, then God, Who is our Father in Heaven, will certainly give us what we need. All He wants us to do is show that we trust in Him by asking Him.

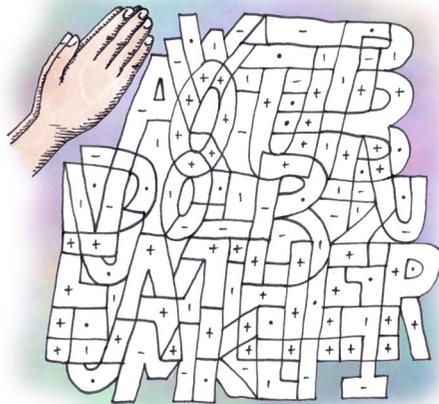
Make sure you say the "Our Father" every day to praise God our Father and ask Him for everything you need.



www.thekidsbulletin.wordpress.com

The Kids' Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 24, 2016



Jesus taught His disciples a prayer that we still use today. We often call it by its first two words. To find out what they are, colour in ONLY the spaces with crosses. (+)

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

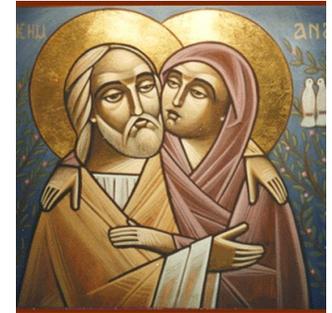
Ss Joachim and Anne - 26 July

An ancient tradition, already known in the second century, gives these names to the parents of the Virgin Mary. The cult of St Anne became popular in the sixth century in the East, and in the tenth century in the West, where she is the patron saint of Brittany; Joachim was added a long time later – too often the fate of fathers.

Although the information about Mary's parents is found in an early apocryphal writing that gives many miraculous and highly-coloured stories about the early life of the Virgin Mary, there is no reason to suppose that such a straightforward fact as her parents' names should be wrong, since there is nothing to be gained from falsifying it. It does not occur in the Gospels simply because the most reliable evangelists (the only ones whom we have allowed into the Bible) felt they had more important things to talk about.

But what, after all, could be more important than the parents who brought up the Virgin Mary to be the woman she was? At the moment of consenting to the Incarnation she took the most important decision ever taken by any human being, and the fact that she took it is, to a great extent, the work of her parents. The Holy Spirit gave her the strength to take the decision; but her parents' training gave her the wisdom to choose.

Those of us who have children must seek to bring them up to the best of our ability, to meet challenges that, like Anne and Joachim, we have no way of even imagining.



Text taken from www.universalis.com

DID YOU KNOW...?

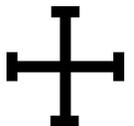
...that as Catholics we do not worship Mary and the saints?

Even Catholics sometimes get confused with this matter and find it difficult to respond to people from other Christian churches who might challenge them on this point. We worship only God, but we venerate and honour Mary and the saints because we know them to be close to God and dwelling in God's presence. They are thus in a powerful position to pray for us who are still living out our earthly life and so in prayer we ask for their intercession. Worshipping and honouring are two distinct practices. Let us not confuse them!

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Once we can accept that God is in all situations, and can and will use even bad situations for good, then everything becomes an occasion for good, and an occasion for God, and is thus at the heart of religion... God's plan is so perfect that even sin, tragedy and painful deaths are used to bring us to divine union. God wisely makes the problem itself part of the solution."

Fr Richard Rohr OFM
(b. 1943)
Eager to Love



PLEASE PRAY FOR...two couples who are being married here at St Patrick's this weekend: Daniel Twinn and Alison Rowland, married this afternoon, and Martin Bonner and Alexandra Crowe, who are being married here on Sunday. May their marriages be strong and fruitful.