

The week ahead...

Saturday 25 June Saturday of Ordinary Time 12	5:00pm	Mass: Anne Keenan and pro populo
Sunday 26 June 13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Monday 27 June Monday of Ordinary Time 13		
Tuesday 28 June <i>St Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr</i>		
Wednesday 29 June <i>Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles</i> Holy Day of Obligation	7:00am and 9:30am	Mass: Teresa Adamson and Minns Family
Thursday 30 June Thursday of Ordinary Time 13	9:30am	Mass: Sheila Collinson
Friday 01 July Friday of Ordinary Time 13	7:00am	Mass: Lisa Burbidge
Saturday 02 July Saturday of Ordinary Time 13	5:00pm	Mass: Jack Wilkinson and pro populo



St Patrick's RC Church, Langley Moor

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13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 June, 2016

"I will follow you wherever you go."

AS WE READ the scriptures we will occasionally come across the odd phrase that grabs our attention. It will often involve someone saying or doing something unexpected or uncharacteristic. I would suggest that we have two such instances before us this weekend in this Gospel scene in which Jesus "resolutely took the road to Jerusalem." Jerusalem is really the focal point of Luke's Gospel and the Gospel is essentially a narrative of the journey of Jesus towards his fate in Jerusalem, "City of Peace."

We encounter Jesus and the disciples just outside a Samaritan town. Samaritans and Jews, we recall, did not get along with one another, the Jews not considering Samaritans to share their faith, thus not "real" Jews. It is not surprising therefore that the Samaritans refuse to meet with Jesus since he was making his way towards the city that was the focus of the Jewish people and their faith. Here we run into our first surprising outburst. James and John, two of Jesus' closest disciples ask him, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?" Maybe this response by James and John was made out of their desire to wreak vengeance on those who had slighted their beloved Jesus but he will have none of it and rebukes James and John. His mission is to put an end to prejudice and fear, not promote it, and so they move on to another village.

As they travel along they have three encounters with other people, each encounter providing Jesus with an opportunity to make a comment about discipleship, the primary message of this weekend's Gospel. It is the second of these encounters in which Jesus seems to make a comment that grates on modern ears the most. Jesus seems to make a callous rebuke to the man who requests to be allowed to bury his recently deceased father before he follows Jesus. But in fact, Jesus' response in this instance ("Leave the dead to bury the dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God") is no different from that he made in the other two encounters. Jesus makes it clear that discipleship demands total commitment and nothing should distract a person from the path of discipleship. It is an example of the use of exaggerated language to make a firm, uncompromising point.

And the point for us is this: following Jesus should be our first priority at all times. This doesn't mean that we should neglect daily duties and responsibilities as these are important but just as Jesus "turned resolutely towards Jerusalem" and didn't look back so we should adopt the same attitude as we journey towards the New Jerusalem of heaven. It is never difficult to find distractions in our daily life that can draw us away from our prayer and contemplative time, reading the scriptures or attending Mass. It is also never difficult to make time in a busy schedule for activities that give us pleasure or we consider important for another reason. If we are not making at least some time in our life to nourish ourselves for our mission then we need to question how important our discipleship is for us and how resolutely we are making our way towards the New Jerusalem.

Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,

Fr Robert

I will follow Jesus Christ

by... 

Ministries for this week Saturday 18 June

Eucharistic Ministers:
Gordon & Angela Tosley
Angela Harmston

Readers:
Marie Pailey
Judith Bulmer

Children's Liturgy:
Jane Smith
Helen Musham

Welcomers:
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Ministries for next week Saturday 25 June

Eucharistic Ministers:
Malcolm and Teresa Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers:
Ann Canavan
Angela Tosley

Children's Liturgy:
Jane Smith
Helen Musham

Welcomers:
Pat Middleton
Sally Thompson

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £227 Loose Plate: £206

Total: £433

Mass Attendance: 133

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, Ohwyn Morris, Sally Thompson and Tom Tracey.

Thank you... for your generosity in supporting the **Day For Life** appeal last weekend. We raised £133.42. This weekend the Church is asking for your support for **Peter's Pence**, assisting the Holy See in its various works, especially for the relief of those most in need. Next appeal is for the **Apostleship of the Sea** on 10 July.

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...?

Holy Day of Obligation - Extra Mass! This Wednesday, 29 June is the Feast Day of Sts Peter and Paul and a Holy Day of Obligation in England and Wales. To enable as many as possible to attend, a 7:00am Mass is being offered here in addition to the usual 9:30am Mass. Unfortunately I cannot offer an evening Mass as I am saying Mass elsewhere at that time.

Check the Noticeboards! Have you checked the noticeboards recently to see what's happening around the diocese which may be of interest to you? There are upcoming opportunities for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (02 July), for those interested in contemplative prayer (several dates in June and July) and for liturgical lay leaders (27 June).

The Young Carers Association: Would like volunteers to help to knit "dolls". If anyone can help, (the dolls are not too big) please see Carol Bainbridge or Judith Bulmer.

Sergeant S. Cunningham: In the sacristy at Ushaw Moor is a crucifix with an engraving: 'In memory of Sergeant S. Cunningham killed in action in France, July 20th, 1916'. As we approach the centenary of Sergeant Cunningham's death does anyone know anything about him or his family? Fr David Coxon.

Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle: Bishop Seamus invites all to a Mass coming up at the cathedral in Newcastle to remember those who lost their lives in conflict: **Sunday 03 July @ 6:00pm:** Battle of the Somme.

Church Flowers: Anyone willing to assist with the church flowers please ring 0191 378 0451. No prior experience is necessary, just a willingness to spare some time and to help. Many thanks!

Food Bank: We invite people to bring items for the Food Bank next weekend. Staff at the Food Bank are very happy to receive fruit juice, tinned fruit, coffee, tins of sponge pudding, chocolate treats, soup, instant mash, sugar, custard, rice pudding, UHT milk, savoury treats, instant noodles, tinned vegetables. If you would like to discover more about the work of the Food Bank please visit www.foodbank.org.

St Patrick's AGM: Thank you to everyone who attended the Parish Council Annual General Meeting. Minutes of the meeting are displayed at the back of church. If you would like to receive an electronic copy please email judithbulmer@rocketmail.com,

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Housebound: Do you know someone who lives in the parish but cannot get to Mass and is in need of the sacraments? It is our responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters who cannot gather with us each week. If you know someone in this situation who is in need of pastoral care, please pass their details on to Fr Robert.

SCHOOL NEWS

Family Mass – Saturday 25 June

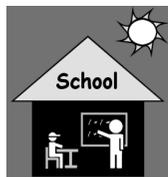
Thank you to the families and children who have come along tonight to support tonight's family Mass.

New Teacher in Class 1

Mr Kahlon has been successful in gaining a promotion and takes up post as Deputy Head of Kelloe Primary in September. We wish him every success for the future. Mrs Bryson has been appointed as his replacement and joins us in September. Mrs Bryson is a very experienced teacher and worked in St Patrick's last year. She will be visiting school over the next few weeks in order to support her move.

£1 for the Benevolent Fund - Non Uniform Day – Friday 15 July

Children come to school in non-uniform on the last day of term and bring along £1 to raise money for the Benevolent Fund. This charity supports families in need with essentials such as clothing and shoes. Some of our own families have benefitted from the charity e.g. with contributions towards secondary school uniform.



The EU Referendum

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

"A great tradition of the United Kingdom is to respect the will of the people, expressed at the ballot box. Today we set out on a new course that will be demanding on all.

"Our prayer is that all will work in this task with respect and civility, despite deep differences of opinion. We pray that in this process the most vulnerable will be supported and protected, especially those who are easy targets for unscrupulous employers and human traffickers.

"We pray that our nations will build on our finest traditions of generosity, of welcome for the stranger and shelter for the needy.

"We now must work hard to show ourselves to be good neighbours and resolute contributors in joint international efforts to tackle the critical problems of our world today."

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

First Martyrs of the Church of Rome - 30 June

This memorial is in honour of the nameless followers of Christ brutally killed by the mad Emperor Nero as scapegoats for the fire in Rome. The pagan historian Tacitus and St Clement of Rome tell of a night of horror (15 August, AD 64) when in the imperial parks Christians were put into animal skins and hunted, were brutally attacked, and were made into living torches to light the road for Nero's chariot. From 64 to 314 "Christian" was synonymous with "execution victim."

There were Christians in Rome within a dozen or so years after the death of Jesus, though they were not the converts of the "Apostle of the Gentiles" (see Romans 15:20). Paul had not yet visited them at the time he wrote his great letter in AD 57-58.

There was a large Jewish population in Rome. Probably as a result of controversy between Jews and Jewish Christians, the Emperor Claudius expelled all Jews from Rome in AD 49-50. Suetonius the historian says that the expulsion was due to disturbances in the city "caused by the certain Chrestus" [Christ]. Perhaps many came back after Claudius's death in AD 54. Paul's letter was addressed to a church with members from both Jewish and gentile backgrounds.

In July of AD 64, more than half of Rome was destroyed by fire. Rumour blamed the tragedy on Nero, who wanted to enlarge his palace. He shifted the blame by accusing the Christians. According to the historian Tacitus, a "great multitude" of Christians were put to death because of their "hatred of the human race." Peter and Paul were probably among the victims.



Taken from www.catholic.org

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the Samaritans, mentioned in today's Gospel, were disliked intensely by many Jews in Jesus' time?

The Samaritans claimed to be the adherents of the true ancient Israelite religion from before the Israelites were taken into captivity in Babylon in the late sixth century BCE. They believe that they descended from those who remained in the land of Israel and preserved the true Judaism as opposed to those who returned from captivity with a corrupted faith. Even to this day there are several hundred adherents of the Samaritan beliefs.

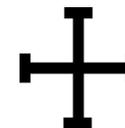
Taken from Wikipedia

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"We do not say: 'My Father, who art in heaven', or, 'Give me this day my bread.' Each person does not ask that his own sins only be forgiven, nor does he request for himself alone that he be not led into temptation and that he be delivered from evil. Our prayer is public and for all, and when we pray, we pray not for a single person, but for the whole people, because we are all one."

St Cyprian
(c.200 –258)
Bishop of Carthage

On the Lord's Prayer



CAN YOU HELP?

The parish is in need of volunteers for all sorts of roles around the parish including flower displays, gardening, cleaning, and so on. No skills needed, just enthusiasm! We are all busy, including our current volunteers, so that is no excuse! Can you make time in your busy schedule to keep your parish vibrant? Please see Fr Robert if you want more information.