

## The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 28 May</b> Saturday of Ordinary Time 8	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Walter Staff and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 29 May</b> <i>Body and Blood of Christ</i>		
<b>Monday 30 May</b> Monday of Ordinary Time 9		
<b>Tuesday 31 May</b> <i>Visitation of the BVM</i>		
<b>Wednesday 01 June</b> <i>St Justin, Martyr</i>	1:15pm <b>NO 9:30am Mass</b>	Funeral Mass for <b>John Robert (Jack) Wilkinson</b>
<b>Thursday 02 June</b> Thursday of Ordinary Time 9	9:30am	Mass: <b>Two sick people ("S and AG")</b>
<b>Friday 03 June</b> <i>Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>	7:00am	Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 04 June</b> <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	5:00pm	Mass: <b>James and Helena Harrison</b>

### Ministries for this week Saturday 28 May

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
Andrew Aberdeen, Malcom and Teresa Wass  
**Readers:**  
Claire Lavery and Pat Middleton  
**Children's Liturgy:**  
Maria Griffiths and Michelle Dennis  
**Welcomers:**  
Halina Holman and Pat Middleton

### Ministries for next week Saturday 04 June

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
Judith Bulmer, John and Irene Carey  
**Readers:**  
First Communion.  
(Readers TBC)  
**Children's Liturgy:**  
Half-Term Break  
**Welcomers:**  
Angela Harmston and Christine Tracey

### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £211 Loose Plate: £203

**Total: £414**

**Mass Attendance: 134**

**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....*

*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 Sally Thompson.*

**This weekend's 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.

**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.



## 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

## Body and Blood of Christ

**29 May, 2016**

### The Body and Blood of Christ: Christ in his Fullness

LAST WEEKEND we celebrated the Feast of the Trinity in acknowledgement of a truth about God which is unique to Christian believers. This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ which celebrates a truth which is accepted less broadly amongst Christians, primarily by Catholic and Orthodox Christians.

Like the Trinity, to explain how the bread and wine consecrated at a celebration of Eucharist becomes the Body and Blood of Christ is impossible and any attempt to do so is fraught with insurmountable difficulties. As Catholics we believe this as an article of faith. We take literally the words Jesus uttered at the Last Supper, "Take; this is my body. This is my blood." We gather at every celebration of Eucharist to participate in the sacrifice of Christ and be nourished by his Word and by his Body and Blood.

Though this transformation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ (known technically as transubstantiation) is impossible to explain, our focus should be less on how it happens than why this happens. We ought to understand this as a gift from Christ given to us to enable us to focus on his one and only sacrifice and to give us the nourishment we need to live out actively our baptismal calling.

To illustrate this point, the Church gives us today one of the six versions of the "loaves and fishes" miracle found in the Gospels. We are all familiar with this miracle, of course, and so in danger of treating it with scant attention and overlooking the possibility of gleaning more meaning from it. Rather than focusing solely on the multiplication of the bread and fish, notice the atmosphere which is created by Jesus prior to this miracle. He firstly welcomes the crowds, talks to them about God and then spends time healing those in need. Then, and only then, does the miracle take place.

The question can be asked: Which part of this Gospel then is meant to represent the Eucharist? Is it just the multiplication of the loaves and fishes? We can easily draw a parallel between the consecration of the bread and wine at Mass and the miracle of the loaves and fishes in the Gospel. Let us not forget however that Mass is more than the consecration of bread and wine; it is about gathering, welcoming, the healing of sins, praise and worship, praying, hearing the Word, reflection and much more. Seen in its context, the miracle of the loaves and fishes gives us an understanding of all that we can draw from the celebration of Eucharist if we open our minds and hearts to this wonderful celebration, this gift of Christ and the Church. We can extract from this celebration all that we need to be Christ to others in our day to day living.

For the Body and Blood of Christ, Christ in his totality, is what we are all called to be for others.

*Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,*

*Fr Robert*



## What's going on...?

**Cancellation of 9:30am Mass on Wednesday 01 June:** This is due to Jack Wilkinson's funeral. See next notice.

**Jack Wilkinson's Funeral:** Requiem Mass for Jack Wilkinson will be celebrated here on Wednesday 01 June at 1:15pm. There will be a half-hour Vigil service (Rosary and prayers) here on Tuesday evening, 31 May, at 6:00pm.

**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!

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

**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.

**24 Hours of Prayer:** Pope Francis has asked that parishes have significant times for people to come and pray for the needs of people locally and across the world. All the churches of our deanery will be open for an hour on either 16 or 17 June.

**St Patrick's will be open from 1:00pm - 2:00pm on Thursday 16 June.** See list on the noticeboard for other churches' times.

**THANK YOU...** to all those involved in the May Procession last weekend. I want to echo Mrs Burnside's thanks (see below) and thank her too for her valuable input as well as the generous hospitality in opening up the school hall for our use. I also want to thank our Readers and Ministers of Communion for giving so generously of their time over the past couple of weekends in order to further their knowledge and skills in these very valuable ministries that serve our parish so well each week. *Fr Robert*

**Ushaw College:** Folk Festival 03-05 June. See [www.ushaw.org](http://www.ushaw.org)

**Missio Summer Mass:** 04 June @ 11:00am, St Dominic's Priory Church, Newcastle NE1 2TP

**Mill Hill Quarterly Collection:** Sponsors will open Red Boxes and collect brown envelopes during the beginning of June. If any one new to the Parish has a Red Box that needs opening or would like to join us in World Mission overseas please contact one of the collectors. (Names listed on the noticeboard in Church Porch.)

*For our younger parishioners....*

## SCHOOL NEWS

### May Procession

Many thanks to all those who came along to take part in the May Procession celebration on Sunday. Particular thanks to the children who led us in the procession and crowned the statues; to the school choir and to those who read. Everyone was very grateful for the lovely afternoon tea prepared by Carol Bainbridge and thanks to Pauline Pattinson, Michelle Dennis, Judith Bulmer and Alison Brown for their help too.

### Class 2 Liturgy

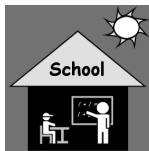
Father Robert visited school this week to celebrate a liturgy with Class 2. Through readings, prayers and hymns we gave thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### First Holy Communion

This special celebration takes place on Saturday 04 June. The children have been preparing for some months and we ask that you keep them in your prayers. Many thanks to the catechists who have helped to prepare them and to their families for all their support.

### Half Term

School closed for the half term holiday on Friday and will re-open on Monday 06 June.



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St Justin Martyr - 01 June

Justin (100 - 165) was born in the Roman city of Flavia Neapolis. Raised by pagan parents, he sought to find life's meaning in the philosophies of his day. This only brought a series of disappointments.

At last, about AD130, after a conversation with an old man, his life was transformed: "A fire was suddenly kindled in my soul. I fell in love with the prophets and these men who had loved Christ; I reflected on all their words and found that this philosophy alone was true and profitable. That is how and why I became a philosopher. And I wish that everyone felt the same way that I do."

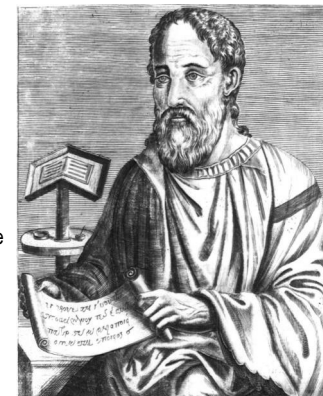
Justin continued to wear his philosopher's cloak, seeking to reconcile faith and reason. His teaching ministry took him first to Ephesus. Later Justin moved to Rome, founded a Christian school, and wrote two bold defences of the Christian faith. Justin argued that Christians are, in fact, the emperor's "best helpers and allies in securing good order, convinced as we are that no wicked man ... can be hidden from God, and that everyone goes to eternal punishment or salvation in accordance with the character of his actions." He further showed that Christianity is superior to paganism, that Christ is prophecy fulfilled, and that paganism is actually a poor imitation of the true religion.

Justin records detailed descriptions of early Christian worship (to show unbelievers that Christianity was not subversive). The most famous passage contains a detailed description of Mass in the second century.

Justin's *Second Apology* was written soon after Marcus Aurelius became emperor in 161. In these writings, Justin tried to show that the Christian faith alone was truly rational.

Four years later, Justin and his disciples were arrested for their faith. When the prefect threatened them with death, Justin said, "If we are punished for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, we hope to be saved." They were taken out and beheaded. Since he gave his life for the "true philosophy," Justin has been surmamed 'Martyr.'

Taken from [www.christianitytoday.com](http://www.christianitytoday.com)



## DID YOU KNOW...?

....that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist in a 'unique and incomparable way'?

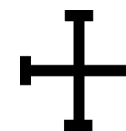
The *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* (282) teaches us that Jesus Christ 'is present in a true, real and substantial way, with his Body and his Blood, with his Soul and Divinity. In the Eucharist, therefore, there is present in a sacramental way, that is, under the Eucharistic species of bread and wine, Christ whole and entire, God and Man.'

## "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"If Christ did not want to dismiss the Jews without food in the desert for fear that they would collapse on the way, it was to teach us that it is dangerous to try to get to heaven without the Bread of Heaven."

**St Jerome**  
(c.347—420)

Priest, Confessor, and  
Doctor of the Church



**Please pray for....**those children who will be receiving their First Eucharist next weekend at the Saturday evening Mass. Pray also for Philip THOMPSON and Sarah KING, married here last weekend and for the repose of the soul of Jack WILKINSON, well-known and loved in this parish, who died just over a week ago. His funeral is here, Wednesday 01 June at 1:15pm.