

The week ahead...

Saturday 23 June Vigil Mass for The Nativity of St John the Baptist	5:00pm	Mass: Moran family and pro populo
Sunday 24 June The Nativity of St John the Baptist	NO MASS	
Monday 25 June Monday of Ordinary Time 12	NO MASS	
Tuesday 26 June Tuesday of Ordinary Time 12	6:30pm	Mass: Harry & Teresa Coad
Wednesday 27 June Wednesday of Ordinary Time 12	9:30am	Mass: Anne Keenan
Thursday 28 June <i>St Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr</i>	9:30am	Mass: Moran family
Thursday 28 June <i>Vigil Mass: SS Peter & Paul, Apostles (Holyday of Obligation)</i>	7:00pm	Mass: Private Intention
Friday 29 June <i>SS Peter & Paul, Apostles (Holyday of Obligation)</i>	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 30 June Vigil Mass for 13 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Winnie Mortimer and pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church
A Parish of the Finchale Partnership

Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Co. Durham, DH7 8JJ

Priest in Charge: Fr Robert Riedling **Ph:** (0191) 378 4486
Mob: 07904 833 785

Email: langleymoor.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk
Web: www.stpatricksrcchurch.co.uk

St Patrick's R.C. Primary School: **Ph:** (0191) 378 0552
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully **Ph:** (0191) 526 5131

Nativity of St John the Baptist 24 June, 2018

"What will this child turn out to be?"

THIS WEEKEND, since Sunday falls on 24 June, the feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist, our normal progression of Ordinary Time celebrations is interrupted since this feast is considered of high enough importance not to be transferred to another day of the week. Indeed, it has the highest rank of feast, that of a solemnity, equal to many of the feasts of Mary and Joseph. It is interesting to note that apart from Mary and Joseph, John the Baptist is the only saint in the calendar who has two feasts to himself: one, in August, celebrates his death, and another, in June, celebrates his birth. It is this latter feast that we celebrate this weekend.

There are not a lot of texts in the scriptures concerning John the Baptist but we have enough to get a reasonable impression of a remarkable man. Having said that, though this feast celebrates John's birth and the Gospel relates directly to that event, we hear almost nothing about John until the final sentence: "Meanwhile the child grew up and his spirit matured. And he lived out in the wilderness until the day he appeared openly to Israel." The other ten verses focus mainly on the scandal concerning the naming of Elizabeth and Zechariah's child.

We also hear of John that "...the hand of the Lord was with him." We can take this to mean that John was acutely aware of his ordained role in the story of salvation, that he had a particular responsibility in preparing the way for the revelation of Jesus, the one for whom he was "not fit to undo his sandal." (Acts 13:25) This goes some way towards explaining John's peculiar lifestyle as a desert hermit before his appearance in public.

Whilst few of us are called to a hermit lifestyle we are all, as a baptised people, graced recipients of "the hand of the Lord". The feast of the Birthday of John the Baptist is a reminder to us that it is in baptism that we are reborn into a new life, called to live in the light of Christ, reflected in our words and actions. This, of course, does not happen immediately but is a gradual process, modelled for us by our parents and godparents and others whom we encounter who are moved to live in the spirit of the Lord. We hear in our Gospel this weekend that John grew up and his spirit matured, something that surely ought to reflect the lived experience of any person who takes their faith seriously.

Whenever any child is born it is natural for people with a close emotional tie, especially the parents, to ask the question which forms the title to this bulletin column: "What will this child turn out to be?" It is a question that is pondered when a child is born but ought to be asked in a similar way at the rebirth of baptism: "How will this child make Christ known to others?"

It is a question we would do well to ask ourselves as mature Christians as we reflect on the mission that we, like John the Baptist, are called to live out each day.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



*Nativity of John the Baptist
June 24*

MINISTRIES
Saturday 23 June

Eucharistic Ministers
Teresa & Malcolm Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers
Claire Lavery
Angela Tosley

Children's Liturgy
Joanne Lidster
Angela Harmston

Welcomers
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Music
Greg Mearman & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 30 June

Eucharistic Ministers
John & Irene Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers
Brendan Payne
Greg Mearman

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Helen Riddles

Welcomers
Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

Music
Greg Mearman & Choir

Nativity of John the Baptist

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

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

MORAN family members
Winnie MORTIMER (Rec. Dec.)
Monica PATTISON
Patrick CONNOR

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

*John Kennedy, Pat Harrison,
Sylvia Kelly, Mary Spears,
Rose Crick, Doreen Carroll,
Margaret Pouton,
Tom Taylorson and
Jack Tobin*



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £204 Loose Plate: £183

TOTAL: £387

Mass Attendance: 127

DIocese OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

Day for Life Retiring Collection: Thank you for your donations to the Day for Life last weekend. A total of £213.20 was received. The next retiring collection will be **next weekend on 30 June** for **Peter's Pence** and there will be one the week following that on **07 July** for the **Apostleship of the Sea**.

Saints Peter and Paul - 29 June: This is a holyday of obligation. Please check the back of the bulletin for Mass times. Essentially there will be a **Vigil Mass on Thursday (28 June) at 7:00pm** for those who can't come to Mass during business hours. There is a **9:30am Mass on Friday, 29 June**, which will be celebrated in place of the 7:00am Mass and will be attended by our school children. If you would like to go to Mass at lunchtime on Friday, **St Cuthbert's in Durham will have Mass at 12:15pm**.

Finchale Partnership Newsletter: You will note that the latest edition of the Finchale Partnership Newsletter is being distributed with the parish bulletin. The focus this month is on the Partnership Development Plan. Please have a read to keep up to date with the latest developments. There is also a FAQ section which may well answer some questions you may have about the Finchale Partnership.

Brandon Food Bank: Many thanks for your generous donations in the past. We welcome your continued support especially with items in short supply, ie. longlife milk, fruit squash, tea, coffee, tinned fish, meat and fruit. Thank you!

Partnership Matters: The June/July edition of the bi-monthly *Partnership Matters* news update is now available on the front page of the diocesan website (www.rcdhn.org.uk) and on the parish noticeboard. It includes activities and ideas shared from across the partnerships.

Rosary Group: A reminder that a group of parishioners meet regularly after the 9:30am Mass on Thursday to pray the Rosary. Feel free to join them!

"Pray For Peace": An event for women and children being held at St Mary's Chapel, Jesmond, on **Saturday, 30 June**. This is a joint Christian/Muslim event involving interfaith prayers for peace. See the noticeboard for more details.

Youth Ministry Invitation: All those concerned about how we can support young people on their faith journey are invited to a co-workers' meeting at the Emmaus Village on Sunday 8th July at 3.00pm (Tea, coffee and cake from 2.15pm). YMT will present a number of opportunities including the national Flame event which happens in March 2019 and this will also be a time to share good practice with people from other parts of the diocese. Please let YMT know if you are coming on 01207 592244 or admin@ymt.org.

Why the Church Should Change Her Mind on Priesthood, Sex and Gender: You are invited to hear **Terry Wright**, Emeritus Professor of English Literature at Newcastle University and author of twelve books on various aspects of Religion and Literature, speak on this important subject in the Church Hall at **The Holy Name Parish Church**, North Jesmond Avenue, Newcastle NE2 3JX, on **Wednesday 04 July at 7:00pm**.

SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live By

This week's statement was 'I understand what trust means'. We listened to Luke 12: 22-31 'Do not worry', and talked about the importance of placing our trust in God, instead of worrying about things.

First Mass in Chapel

On Tuesday of this week, we celebrated our first Mass in the school chapel. Father Robert led the celebration, attended by Years 5 and 6 pupils. It was a lovely celebration and a special one, being the first use of this special place.

Year 6 Pupils

Those pupils in Year 6, who will be transferring to St. Leonard's in September, made a visit to the school this week. All Year 6 pupils attended the Primary Festival at the Youth Village in Allensford, along with other primaries in the diocese.

New Starters to Reception

The children who join us in Reception, this September, have started to make visits to the school. They will make three visits in all and their parents will join them for a school lunch on the last of these.

First Aid Training – Friday 29 June

Next week, pupils in Years 5 and 6 will receive training in first aid. This is being provided by one of our parents, in her role within the North East Ambulance Service.

Pupil Voice

"Mini Olympics - The Mini Olympics is an event where a range of sports, like the game of 'rounders', are played. Many schools come to this event to compete and have fun. Last Friday, Classes 1 and 2 went, and this week Class 3 went. I found it really fun, especially when some of the coaches that we have had at St. Patrick's were there!" - *From Ella Snowden*

Dairy Dates

Wednesday, 27 June @ 2:45pm - Class 2 (Years 3 & 4) Mass - in the school chapel

Wednesday, 04 July @ 1:30pm - Sports' Afternoon - on the school field

Thursday, 05 July @ 9:30am - Classes 1 and 2 (Years 3, 4, 5, & 6) will attend Mass in church



The Kids' Bulletin

True or False: The Early life of John the Baptist

How well do you know the story of Saint John the Baptist's early life? Which of these are true and which are false?

1. St. John's parents were Elizabeth and Zebedee. True or false?
2. The parents of St. John the Baptist were young and already had several children. True or false?
3. The birth of Saint John was prophesied to Zechariah by an angel. True or false?
4. Zechariah was unable to speak because he didn't believe the angel's prediction. True or false?
5. When St. John was born, his relatives wanted to name him Zechariah after his father. True or false?
6. Zechariah wrote "His name is John" on a tablet, and then he was able to speak again. True or false?
7. St. John the Baptist was a weak child and always stayed quietly indoors. True or false?



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Irenaeus - 28 June

Irenaeus was born in Smyrna (now Izmir in Turkey) in 130 and emigrated to Lyons, in France, where he eventually became the bishop.

Whenever we take up the Bible we touch Irenaeus's work, for he played a decisive role in fixing the canon of the New Testament. We need to remember that the Church had to decide, early on, what was scriptural and what was not.

Irenaeus went through all the books of the New Testament, and all the candidates. He did not simply accept or reject each book but gave reasons for and against the canonicity of each book or else his enemies could have said that he was making decision to bolster his own arguments.

He died in 202. It is not noted for certain whether he was martyred or died a natural death.



(Information taken from *Universalis*)

~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for June

That social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.

"I encourage everyone to engage in constructive forms of communication that reject prejudice towards others and foster hope and trust today."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

QUIET DAY RETREAT

The annual **Quiet Day** retreat is scheduled for **Saturday, 04 August** at **Minsteracres Retreat Centre**,

10:00am - 4:00pm.

Cost is **£18.00**. Please bring a packed lunch.

Tea and coffee available.



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that John the Baptist had many disciples before Jesus did, and there are followers of John the Baptist still around today?

These people are known as Mandaeans and as well as regarding John the Baptist highly, they also see Old Testament figures such as Adam, Abel and Noah as important. Prior to the war in 2003, most Mandaeans lived in Iraq but have since fled to other parts of the world. According to Wikipedia, there are estimated to be between 60,000 and 70,000 Mandaeans worldwide.



"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



PLEASE PRAY... for the following intentions throughout Ordinary Time: a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; human life; seafarers. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

