

The week ahead...

Saturday 21 July Vigil Mass 16 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Sally Thompson and pro populo
Sunday 22 July 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 23 July <i>St Bridget of Sweden, Religious Patroness of Europe</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday 24 July <i>The Martyrs of the Diocese</i>	6:30pm	Mass: 90th Birthday and Diamond Wedding Anniversary
Wednesday 25 July <i>St James, Apostle</i>	9:30am	Mass: John Kennedy (Rec. Dec.)
Thursday 26 July <i>SS Joachim and Anne, Parents of BVM</i>	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Friday 27 July Friday of Ordinary Time 16	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 28 July Vigil Mass for 16 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Harry & Teresa Coad and pro populo

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 22 July, 2018

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

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

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“Come away and rest for a while.”

LIKE MOST PRIESTS, I look forward to making an annual retreat. It is an opportunity to take time away from parish life (much as I enjoy it!) and simply be still and nourish myself at my own pace, in my own way. In Australia, I usually spend my retreat in a no-frills little hermitage at a Carmelite centre in the south western part of Sydney, which affords me the luxury of having limited contact with others and so be guaranteed some serious silence. In fact, the Church considers spiritual retreats so important that clergy are bound by Canon Law to make time regularly to be away from the busyness of regular duties.

I mention this because this weekend's Gospel sees Jesus underline the importance of “getting away”. Last weekend Jesus sent his apostles out on mission, urging them to be unencumbered with things and to accept whatever hospitality was offered. This weekend we witness their return, excitedly telling Jesus of their success. Jesus' response is to urge them to “come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while.” Clearly, Jesus understands the necessity to rest and “recharge the batteries”, for no one can effectively undertake any task without adequate rest, especially undertakings which can be physically and emotionally draining like missionary work.

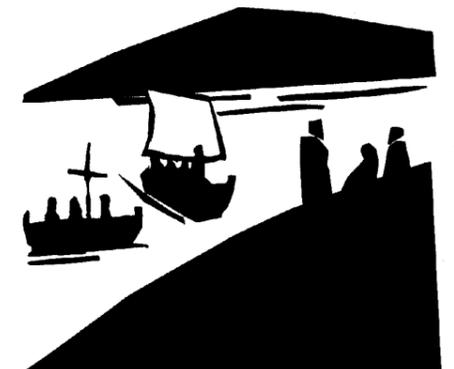
I believe that in this day and age the call to “take time out” is one that we must heed. Despite the promises that advances in technology would make our lives easier, for most of us this hasn't meant that they are less busy – quite the contrary. There is the constant temptation to be always available to others, especially with the advent of social media and more flexible working hours. Failing to make time to be alone and attune ourselves to the voice of God in the silence can result not only in physical and mental exhaustion but also a fracture in our relationship with the God who nourishes us and sustains us, like a good shepherd.

Some people, of course, like to think of working hard at the expense of all else as a virtue. Certainly, there is nothing wrong with hard work. The Church has repeatedly spoken of the value of work in building character and giving people a sense of purpose and self-worth. But to work so much that relationships are not nourished and physical health suffers along with other adverse consequences, is to make work an idol. Jesus, clearly not afraid of hard work (just look at what he does in today's Gospel when he tries to get away but sees the needs of the crowd!), saw the need for balance in life and we hear on more than one occasion of him going to a place alone to connect with his Father in prayer.

Let us follow the example of both the apostles in their enthusiasm in doing the work of Jesus and that of Jesus in seeking balance in our lives so that we are effective evangelisers.

And when we know that we have a busy day ahead and feel that we can't take time out to connect with God, let us follow the example of Martin Luther who is alleged to have said: “I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours [of the day] in prayer.”

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 21 July

Eucharistic Ministers
Angela & Gordon Tosley
Angela Harmston

Readers
Stella Foody
Marie Paily

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Joanne Lidster

Welcomers
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 28 July

Eucharistic Ministers
Malcolm & Teresa Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers
Angela Tosley
Ann Canavan

Children's Liturgy
(In recess until the new school year in September)

Welcomers
Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

Music
Greg Mearmann & Choir

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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....

John KENNEDY (Rec. Dec.)
Sally THOMPSON
John HOWARTH
Derek ADAIR

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

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

£ LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £201 Loose Plate: £153

TOTAL: £354

Mass Attendance: 116

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

End of School Mass: We had a terrific celebration on Thursday to mark the end of the school year. Thank you to all those involved in making it such a rich and meaningful celebration as we gave thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed upon St Patrick's School over the past academic year. I would like to personally thank our Headteacher Mrs Burnside for her hard work, commitment and leadership throughout the year, to our new Deputy Head Miss Deery, to all the hardworking and committed teaching staff, administrative, maintenance and cleaning staff, to those who work to provide lunches, to the Friends of St Patrick's (FOSPA) and, of course, to the governors of the school for their dedication to ensuring that our school maintains its very high standards. May all of you enjoy a well-earned break over the next six weeks. The Mass to mark the beginning of the school year will take place at **9:30am on Tuesday, 04 September.**

John Kennedy Funeral Collection: As a matter of interest, the collection for Macmillan Cancer Support at the funeral Mass for John Kennedy earlier this week raised around **£550.00.**

Fr Ejaz Quarterly Report: If you are interested in reading the latest update on the activities of Fr Ejaz in Pakistan and a financial update, you can find a copy of the report on the parish noticeboard.

St Leonard's Newsletter: There are a few free copies of the July newsletter available at the back of the church if you are interested.

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!

Ushaw Prayer Group: Following the recent Mini-Retreat at Ushaw College, a prayer group has now been set up. The Ushaw Prayer Group plans to meet every fortnight, on a Friday afternoon. Following the 12:30pm Mass, there will be time for a light lunch, after which we will gather for a period of quiet prayer. The next Prayer Group meeting will be on **Friday 03 August.**

Memory Café: The parish of Durham Martyrs hold a café on the **second Tuesday** of every month, from **1:00pm - 3:00pm**, for those affected by dementia and their carers. They meet at St Joseph's Church in Gilesgate. For more information contact the parish secretary on (091) 384 3810. See the noticeboard for more details.

Diocesan YouTube Channel: Did you know the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has a YouTube channel? Search for it and subscribe for no cost. This channel will also link you to "The Pope Video" which has some short videos (1 - 1½ minutes) from Pope Francis on different topics of importance.

Friday Mass Intentions: Please don't forget that each Friday there is a 7:00am Mass for which there is not always an intention requested. If it is not important for you to be present at a Mass for which you are asking an intention, consider asking for it to be celebrated on Friday morning. The intention will be printed on the back page of the bulletin and the Mass announced and faithfully offered. Please use one of the offering envelopes found at the rear of the church.

The Kids' Bulletin

Psalm 23 Word Puzzle

Who is this Psalm about?
Unscramble the letters in blanks and use the ones in circles to fill in the answer at the bottom!

In (EGRNE) pastures
he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my (LOSU)
He guides me in right paths
 (FRO) his name's sake.
Even though I walk
in the (AKRD) valley
I fear no evil, for you are at my (IEDS)
with your rod and your staff
 (HATT) give (EM) courage.
You (EADSRP) the table
before me
in the (HGTSI) of my foes;
you anoint my (EAHD) with oil;
my cup (FOWLVOESR)

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell
in the house of the (DOLR)
for years to come.

This Psalm tells us about the



SCHOOL NEWS

Statement of the Week

This week's statement was *'I stand up for people who are being treated unfairly'*. After sharing a reading from the holy Gospel of Luke, about Jesus coming to 'give good news to the poor' and 'set prisoners free', we looked at the lives of some of those who have tried to follow Jesus' example, including Oskar Schindler, Nelson Mandela and Emily Pankhurst.

Talent Show

We held a talent show on Wednesday afternoon, which all the children really enjoyed. Many pupils opted to show off their talents and while all those who took part received a 'thank you' treat – the following children won prizes: Ella Snowden, Jim Wilson, Ian Kenny, Freya Bryson, Ketila and Belladoune Pulotu and Luke Middleton.

End of Year Mass

Thank you to all those who came along to celebrate Mass, to mark the end of the school year, on Thursday morning. Particular thanks to the readers, altar servers, choir, those taking part in the offertory procession and those taking part in the liturgical dance. Thanks to Father Robert for leading us in the celebration; to Bill Wilkinson for the music; to Mrs McGillivray for preparing the dance; to Miss Deery for leading the choir singing and to Wilf Lavery for preparing the church for the service.

Goodbye and Best Wishes

We wish all pupils who leave us this year the very best of luck for the future!

Year 6 pupils – Ruby, Sophie-Rose, Kamryn, Lillie, Izaak, Lucas, Lewis, Victoria, Edward, Emily, Grace, Maddy, Isobelle, Kaden and Weronika – move on to secondary school and Eleanor, in Reception Class, returns to the USA.

Summer Break

School has now closed and re-opens on **Tuesday, 04 September**. Thank you to parishioners for your ongoing support throughout the year. Particular thanks to Father Robert for his strong guidance and generous help, both as our priest and as a governor, and to Mrs Staff and Mrs Rowe for coming into school each week to listen to the children read.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Bl Titus Brandsma - 27 July

Titus Brandsma was born in Bolsward in the Netherlands in 1881. He was baptised Anno Sjoerd Brandsma. He joined the Carmelites in 1898 and took the religious name Titus. He was a professor of philosophy and active in journalism. He was vehemently opposed to Nazi ideology and spoke out against it many times before the Second World War. He was arrested in January 1942, when he tried to persuade Dutch newspapers not to print Nazi propaganda as the law required. He had also drawn up the Pastoral Letter, read in all Catholic parishes, by which the Dutch Roman Catholic bishops officially condemned the German anti-Semitic measures and deportations of the first Jews. Titus Brandsma was killed by lethal injection in Dachau on July 26, 1942.

(Information taken from [Universalis](#))



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for July

That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

"When we have reached the lowest point of our misery and weakness, the Risen Christ gives us the strength to rise again."



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the image of the shepherd in the Hebrew scriptures describes the relationship between God and God's people?

This is a beautiful image which recognises God's chosen people as a flock who are watched over lovingly and with great care by God. God will gather the flock, keep them together and protect them. As Christians, we acknowledge Jesus as our shepherd and we are the flock over whom he watches. The word 'pastoral' comes from this image. The word 'pastor' describes someone who cares for a group of Jesus' disciples. Jesus however, is always the chief shepherd, guide and protector!



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Bible Study and "Quiet Day"

The next monthly Bible study will be held at **St Andrew's Methodist Church, Brandon, on Monday, 13 August, 3:30-4:45pm**. We will be looking at the Sunday readings for the month ahead. All are welcome to join us!

A "Quiet Day" is being held at **Minsteracres on Saturday, 04 August, 10:00am - 4:00pm**. The day will be led by Fr Jeroen Hoogland CP. The theme is "Mission". Cost is **£20.00** per person for the day. Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided.



"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Need is what tests our trust. It gives us the opportunity to allow ourselves to hold us up in our weakness, to realize that only God in the end is the measure of our fullness. Once we know need, we are better human beings. For the first time we know solidarity with the poorest of the poor. We become owners of the pain of the world and devote ourselves to working on behalf of those who suffer..."

Joan Chittister (b.1936)
Benedictine nun, author and speaker



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....

