

# The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 03 November</b> Vigil Mass 31 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Michael, Catherine & John Evans and <i>pro populo</i>
<b>Sunday 04 November</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
<b>Monday 05 November</b> Weekday of Ordinary Time 31	NO MASS	
<b>Tuesday 06 November</b> Weekday of Ordinary Time 31	6:30pm	Mass: A sick person
<b>Wednesday 07 November</b> <i>St Willibrord, Bishop</i>	9:30am	Mass: The Faithful Departed
<b>Thursday 08 November</b> Weekday of Ordinary Time 31	9:30am	Mass: The Faithful Departed
<b>Friday 09 November</b> <i>The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
<b>Saturday 10 November</b> Vigil Mass for 32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Teresa Coad and <i>pro populo</i>



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

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## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 04 November, 2018

### "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

WE HAVE A VERY UNUSUAL encounter between Jesus and a scribe in this weekend's Gospel. It is unusual because there is no argument between them! Usually when a scribe or Pharisee approaches Jesus it is with the intention of entrapment so that the authorities can justify action against him. This weekend's encounter is remarkable for the absence, it seems, of any malicious intent on the part of the scribe; indeed, we hear Jesus conclude his conversation with the scribe thus: "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

But what exactly does "not far from the kingdom of God" mean? The "kingdom of God" or the "kingdom of heaven" are phrases we encounter frequently in the scriptures. When Jesus says to someone that they are not far from the kingdom of God we know he is not speaking of geographical proximity simply because the "kingdom of God", like heaven, purgatory or hell, is not a place, it is a state of being. Thus it is possible, by virtue of our manner of living, to experience, though in a dimly reflected manner, the kingdom of God during our life on earth.

As Christians, we have an obligation to do what we can to the best of our human ability, to bring into being God's kingdom here on earth. We do this by having the same attitude as the scribe: recognising that ultimately it is all about love. As one commentator has remarked: "What is essential and sufficient is to love God in loving others and to love others in loving God." When we do this, we are close to God's kingdom and are helping to bring it into existence here on earth. Of course, the fullness of God's kingdom will only be known to us after our death when we, please God, are graced with its unmediated revelation.

It has been said, very wisely I think, that the mode of our eternal life will follow on from the manner of our existence on earth, to wit: those who seek to make the kingdom of heaven manifest on earth through living and loving like Jesus can have reasonable hope that they will be rewarded with entrance into God's kingdom at the final judgement. Conversely, for those who seek to shun others and habitually flout the law of love, any hope of eternal life in God's kingdom is surely fanciful; their fate may well be an eternal existence where there is no neighbour, no divine presence and no love, otherwise known as hell. We show God how we would like to spend eternity through the manner we live on earth.

The scribe who approaches Jesus in the Gospel this weekend demonstrates a wisdom that it seems few of his confreres possessed. Though Jesus was positively disposed toward him, he did not say to the scribe that he was guaranteed a place in the kingdom of God. The scribe had to back up his words through his manner of living.

Like the scribe, it is easy for us to say how we ought to live as Christians. The challenge is to translate our words of love into loving actions.

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead,*  
Fr Robert

You shall  
*Love*  
**the LORD**  
your God  
with all your  
**HEART**  
with all your  
**SOUL**  
with all your  
**STRENGTH**  
Deuteronomy 6:5

### Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 03 November**

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Gordon & Angela Tosley  
Angela Harmston

**Readers**  
Pat Middleton  
Rowan Payne

**Children's Liturgy**  
Maria Griffiths  
Helen Riddles

**Welcomers**  
Paul & Anne Kelly

**Music**  
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 10 November**

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Teresa & Malcolm Wass  
Andrew Aberdeen

**Readers**  
Maria Griffiths  
Angela Harmston

**Children's Liturgy**  
Maria Griffiths  
Michelle Dennis

**Welcomers**  
Angela Harmston  
Christine Tracey

**Music**  
Greg Mearman & Choir

**31<sup>st</sup> 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....*

Michael, Catherine & John  
**EVANS**  
Hannah **ROBSON**  
Gerard **MAWSON**  
James **BIRD**  
Bernard **McGOAY**  
Walter **DRANE**

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

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

**LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION**

Gift Aid: £215    Loose Plate: £174

**TOTAL: £389**

Mass Attendance: 109

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE  
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



# What's going on...?

**Gathering after Mass this week:** As always on the first weekend Mass of the month, we will be gathering in the school hall after Mass today for fellowship over some drinks and nibbles. Everyone is welcome!

**First Eucharist Children:** We welcome our first Communion candidates and their families to St Patrick's once again this weekend. Please see the "School News" section below to find out what you can do to assist these children in their preparation!

**CAFOD Appeals:** The total collected for the recent CAFOD appeal came to £478.30. A cheque will be sent to CAFOD this week.

**Clergy Training Fund Appeal:** We will hold this collection **this weekend** but it will remain open until 25 November. Gift aid envelopes and annual reports are available at the rear of the church.

**Piety Stall:** There is a tremendous collection of Christmas-themed goods now available for sale at competitive prices at the pious goods stall at the rear of the church. Feel free to check it out!

**Coffee Morning Fundraiser for HCPT:** This is to be held here at St Patrick's on **Saturday, 17 November** from **10:00am - 2:00pm**. Funds raised will assist the HCPT Lourdes Group 25. Coffee, cake, raffles and stalls. Tickets are **£1.50** each and available after Saturday evening Masses. Please support this worthy cause!

**Youth Groups:** Come along to one of our groups at Durham Martyrs Parish to make new friends, share a meal and take some time out. We have three groups, for three different age ranges, the details of which can be found below:

**Base Camp** - For school years 4 and 5 - Tuesdays 4:30 - 6:30pm

**Signpost** - For school years 6, 7 and 8 - Thursdays 5:00 - 7:00pm

**Frontier** - For school years 9 - 13 - Wednesdays 7:00 - 9:00pm

All groups will meet in the Jubilee Room at St Joseph's Church, Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 2JG. Entry is £1.50 and includes a meal.

The groups are run by Katie Flood, the Youth Ministry Coordinator for Durham Martyrs Parish, along with other volunteers from the parish who are all DBS checked.

If your child wishes to attend the groups, please be aware that you will be required to complete consent forms, including photo consent, before you leave your child with us. These can be completed upon your arrival.

For more information about the groups please contact Katie Flood at [youth.durhammartyrs@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:youth.durhammartyrs@rcdhn.org.uk) or on 07483 36956.

**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.

**Ushaw Events:** As always, plenty happening at Ushaw, especially in the coming week with regard to Remembrance Day.

**Thursday 08 November:** Poems and Readings with tea/coffee and cake, £5.00. From 2:30pm.

**Friday 09 November:** Mass at 12:30pm. Also, a showing of *All Quiet on the Western Front* at 2:30pm with tea/coffee and cake. Cost is £5.00. Booking essential.

**Saturday 10 November:** Annual Remembrance Service with laying of wreaths. At 4:00pm. Canon Spence presiding with the Crook and Weardale Choir singing.

Go to [www.ushaw.org](http://www.ushaw.org) for more details.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St Willibrord - 07 November

Willibrord was born in Yorkshire in 658 and after being a pupil of St Wilfrid, studied for twelve years at Rathmelsige in Ireland, where he was ordained priest. He returned to England but set out again in 690 to evangelise Frisia. He was ordained bishop by Pope Sergius in 695 and founded the metropolitan see of Utrecht in the Netherlands. He preached the Gospel in Denmark and North Germany and founded several dioceses and monasteries in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. He died at Echternach in Luxembourg in 739.

Willibrord was the first of the great Anglo-Saxon missionaries to Europe and is remembered not just for his devotion in preaching the Gospel but also for his joyfulness of character and his holiness of life.



(Information taken from [Universalis](http://Universalis))

### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### Pope Francis' Mission Statement for November

**That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.**

*"In the name of Jesus we can make known, through our witness, that peace is possible."*

**LOVE,  
LOVE,  
LOVE**

### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### *Prayer Group & Bible Study*

**Prayer Group** meets Tuesday **20 November** at St Patrick's, Langley Moor, 9:30am - 10:15am.

**Gospel Study** meets Monday **12 November** at St Andrew's Methodist, Brandon, 3:30pm - 4:45pm. Refreshments available before the meeting.

The **Advent Study Group** will commence on Friday, **23 November**, 2pm - 3pm. This group will meet weekly. The York course "Life to the Full" will be used. More news to come!



## SCHOOL NEWS

### Statement to Live By

This week's statement was 'I try to stand up for myself and others, without hurting anyone.' We shared one of St. Paul's letters to the Galatians, advising them to point out the wrongdoings of others in a gentle way.

### First Holy Communicants

A display board, bearing the photographs and names of our children preparing for First Sacraments, is displayed at the back of church. As you leave Mass this evening, invitations to pray for these children will be handed out.

### All Saints

The whole school attended Mass on Thursday 01 November, to celebrate the Feast of All Saints. Thank you to Father Robert and to all those who supported the celebration.

### Masses and Liturgies

The following celebrations have been organised for the coming couple of weeks:

**Wednesday, 07 November @ 3:00pm:** Reception liturgy (Chapel)

**Thursday, 08 November @ 9:30am**  
Mass with Years 3 & 4 (Church)

**Wednesday, 14 November @ 2:45pm:** Mass with Year 6 (Chapel)

**Thursday, 15 November @ 9:30am:** Mass with Reception, Years 1 & 2 (Church)

**Thursday, 15 November @ 2:45pm:** Mass with Year 5 (Chapel)

All welcome!



## The Kids' Bulletin

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 4, 2018

AYBOCUDSEHFA  
GLHLILJOKVL  
EMTNHOEPLQ  
ORRSPTYUOV  
UWRXGYOZDA  
WBICTDHEAFL  
GLHYIOJUKRL  
HMENAORPT  
Y



*In today's Gospel reading, one of the scribes asks Jesus what the greatest commandment is. What does Jesus say?*

*Use every second letter to fill in the blanks to find out!*

### DID YOU KNOW...?

**...that the scribes we hear of in this weekend's Gospel, had varied tasks apart from copying biblical texts?**

According to Wikipedia, "As early as the 11th century BCE, scribes in Ancient Israel were distinguished professionals who would exercise functions which today could be associated with lawyers, journalists, government ministers, judges, or financiers. Some scribes also copied documents, but this was not necessarily part of their job."



### "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Most of the problems arise when we begin to believe that we have to be someone *else* to be holy. We use someone else's map to heaven when God has already planted in our soul all the directions we need. When admirers used to visit Calcutta to see Mother Teresa, she would tell many of them, "Find your own Calcutta." In other words, bloom where you are planted. Discover sanctity in your own life."

**James Martin SJ** (b.1960)  
Jesuit priest and writer  
*James Martin: Essential Writings* (2017)



**CONGRATULATIONS...** to the family of **Oscar James GITTINS** who was baptised here at St Patrick's last Sunday. We pray that his parents, godparents, family and friends will find great joy in raising him in the Christian faith. Let us keep Oscar in our prayers.



I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.