

# The week ahead...

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|--|----------------|---|
| <b>Saturday 19 January</b><br>Vigil Mass for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday      | 5:00pm         | Mass: <b>John Kitching, Harry &amp; Michael Blakey and pro populo</b> |
| <b>Sunday 20 January</b><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time      | <b>NO MASS</b> |   |
| <b>Monday 21 January</b><br><i>St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr</i>              | <b>NO MASS</b> |   |
| <b>Tuesday 22 January</b><br>Tuesday of Week 2                           | 6:30pm         | Mass: <b>Paul Smith</b>   |
| <b>Wednesday 23 January</b><br>Wednesday of Week 2                       | 9:30am         | Mass: <b>Billy Dickinson</b>  |
| <b>Thursday 24 January</b><br><i>St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor</i> | 9:30am         | Mass: <b>Owen Fox</b>   |
| <b>Friday 25 January</b><br><i>The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle</i>    | 7:00am         | Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>  |
| <b>Saturday 26 January</b><br>Vigil Mass for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday      | 5:00pm         | Mass: <b>Carey &amp; Wilson families and pro populo</b>               |



**St Patrick's R.C. Church**  
*A Parish of the Finchale Partnership*  
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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 January, 2019

### “...the first of the signs given by Jesus.”

WE COME TO the fourth of our great revelations of Jesus this weekend: his first miracle of turning water into wine at a wedding feast at Cana, not far from Jesus's home town of Nazareth. For lovers of red wine, this is surely understood to be Jesus's greatest miracle, though I'm certain that those who were the beneficiaries of his various healing miracles would beg to differ on this point! Of course, like all the miracles undertaken by Jesus, there is more to this event than what appears on the surface to be simply a jaw-dropping stunt. Jesus never did anything miraculous to impress people. He was not about show or drawing unnecessary attention to himself – this miracle, like all others, points to God's kingdom and the new covenant embodied in Jesus himself. The symbolism is laid on thick in this scene and we need to uncover it to get to something of its meaning and ascertain how it can assist us in living out our Christian vocation.

As an interesting side note, the evangelist John does not refer to 'miracles' in his Gospel, but rather 'signs'. The last line of this weekend's Gospel states that "This was the first of the signs given by Jesus...". Most biblical scholars would agree that John's Gospel refers to seven "signs", or miracles, undertaken by Jesus. A quick search on the internet will outline these for you if you are interested in finding out what the other six "signs" are – better still, read through the Gospel!

The water and the wine in this scene are clearly the focal point. We hear of the presence of six large stone pots full of water, being for the ritual ablutions that Jews had to undergo prior to eating a meal. It is this water, water used for ancient Jewish religious purposes, that Jesus changes into wine. There is great significance in this fact. During Mass we hear the following words prayed over the chalice: "This is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant which will be poured out for you and for many ...". Jesus is giving a foretaste of what is to come. He will bring about the *new* covenant, (indeed, he *is* the new covenant), but this will only be brought into existence through the shedding of his blood. Just as this wine he has created will bring joy to many at the wedding feast, so will the shedding of Jesus' blood bring joy to many as it will give the opportunity for all to have eternal life in God's kingdom.

It is easy for us to overlook the significance of not only this, but of any of the miracles undertaken by Jesus. One thing that all the miracles of Jesus point to is new life. May our lives, made new by the waters of baptism, be lived in gratitude for what Jesus has done, and continues to do, for us, symbolised so wonderfully in this first miracle, or "sign" given by Jesus at the wedding feast at Cana.

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead,*  
 Fr Robert



*Fill those jars with water*

### Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 19 January**  
**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Helen Musham, Jane Smith  
 Wilf Lavery  
**Readers**  
 Pat Middleton  
 Rowan Payne  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 Maria Griffiths  
 Michelle Dennis  
**Welcomers**  
 Halina Holman  
 Janet Harrigan  
**Music**  
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 26 January**  
**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Pauline & Ambrose Burnside  
 Harry Curran  
**Readers**  
 Maria Griffiths  
 Angela Harmston  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 Maria Griffiths  
 Joanne Lidster  
**Welcomers**  
 Paul & Anne Kelly  
**Music**  
 Greg Mearman & Choir

### The Second Sunday

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.**

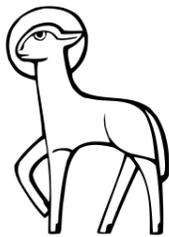
**We pray for our beloved deceased, including...**

Harry & Michael **BLAKEY**  
 John **KITCHING**  
 Vera **KITCHING**  
 George Joseph **MAINS**  
 Fr Joseph **HUGHES**  
 Teresa **CLOUGH**

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

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

**£ LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION**  
**Gift Aid: £214    Loose Plate: £205**  
**TOTAL: £419**  
**Mass Attendance: 157**  
**DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE**  
**CHARITY NUMBER 1143450**



# What's going on...?

**Now on Twitter!** The parish now has a Twitter account and I hope to tweet something each day. These tweets will be both of a spiritual and practical nature. Simply search for **St Patrick's, Langley Moor**.

**Farewell to the Pulotu Family:** One of our families is returning home to Tonga after having been part of our school, church and local communities for the past four years. Mr and Mrs Pulotu and their children will be sorely missed. The family will receive a blessing during Mass this Saturday evening. There will be a gathering in the school hall after Mass and an opportunity to bid them farewell. Everyone is welcome to attend!

**APF/Mill Hill Missionaries Quarterly Collection:** Money collected from red boxes raised **£632.91** in the December quarter. A big thank you to sponsors and contributors for your generosity.

**Organ Update:** All necessary approvals have been given for the purchase of the new organ for the choir loft. It is expected that it will be in place before Easter. I will let you know of a more specific date when it is known.

**Carpenter needed:** The Parish Pastoral Council have been discussing the possibility of displaying in the narthex the reverse side of the two doors of the electrical cupboard which is positioned high on the wall of the narthex, above the statue of Mary. In case you were not aware, the reverse side of these doors has some beautiful scriptural texts related to baptism. This means that we will need two doors of a similar design

made by way of replacement. If you, or someone you know, is able to help, please see Fr Robert.

**White Flower Appeal:** We will be holding a collection to assist the work of the **Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC)** in two weeks' time. More details next weekend.

**Vocations Weekend for young women:** Theme: **Follow your Heart - Discernment and Vocation**, 15 - 17 February 2019 in Liverpool. This weekend is organised by the sisters of the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There is nothing quite like religious life - it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org).

**Holocaust Memorial Events:** In January the Department for Interreligious Relations will be hosting two separate evenings in remembrance of the Holocaust, one on **Tuesday, 29 January** at St Mary's Catholic School, Long Benton, and the other on **Thursday, 31 January** at St Michael's Catholic Academy at Billingham. Both evenings commence at **7:00pm**, and bookings can be made either online at [www.interreligioush.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.interreligioush.eventbrite.co.uk) or alternatively telephone St Teresa of the Infant Jesus Parish on 0191 265 5290.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I listen to what you say. I show I am listening to you.' We shared the story of the transfiguration, when God's voice was heard to say, 'This is my Son, my beloved, listen to him.' We talked about the importance of finding a quiet place and time in the day to be with God and how we can show love for others, by listening carefully to what they say.

### First Reconciliation

A number of our pupils, preparing for First Sacraments, received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Tuesday evening. Please keep these children in your prayers: Jack, Izabel, Michael, Adam, Ella, Ian, Christian, Jamie, Belladouna, Vaidotas and Sabian.

### Thank You

Thank you to all those who attended celebrations involving our children this week, both in church and in our chapel. Your presence is always welcome and much appreciated.

### Bikeability

Reception pupils received the first of three sessions of 'Balance Bikeability' training this week. The training will help to develop a range of skills, including balance, control and spatial awareness.

### Masses and Liturgies

Years 5 and 6 attended Mass on Thursday morning. Please find below details of celebrations for the week ahead:

**Wednesday, 23 January @ 3:00pm:** Liturgy with Year 3 (School Chapel)

**Thursday, 24 January @ 3:00pm:** Liturgy with Year 4 (School Chapel)

All welcome!



## Farewell to the Pulotu Family

Thank you to Opeti, Mele, Ané, William, Ketila, Belladouna, Takuilau, Kamiano and Rudolph for your generous and loving presence amongst us over the past few years. You have helped enliven our parish in so many ways and you will be sorely missed. We pray that you will travel safely back to Tonga. Rest assured of our prayers and please continue to pray for us in our kingdom from your own

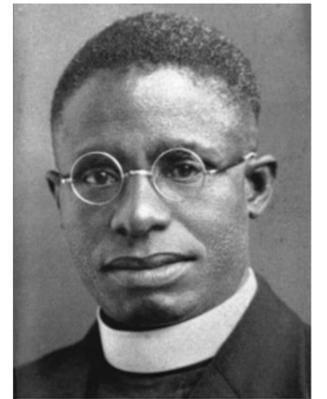


kingdom in the beautiful south Pacific.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### Blessed Cyprian Michael Tansi - 20 January

Father Cyprian Michael Iwene Tansi was born in Nigeria in 1903. He was brought up by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) and trained as a teacher and a catechist. Later he decided to join the seminary and in 1937 he was ordained a priest. In 1950 he left his Diocese in order to go to England where he joined the Cistercian Abbey of Mount St Bernard, near Nottingham. He had been singled out as the ideal candidate to be trained in England and then return to establish a Trappist monastery in the Diocese of Onitsha in Nigeria. Fr Tansi lived the monastic life with great faith and humility. Absorbed in prayer, he was a living example of patience and charity. Early in 1964 he was diagnosed with aortic aneurysm and died two weeks later on 20 January 1964.



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

### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### Pope Francis' Mission Statement for January

May young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

*"Mary does not let us remain fallen and at times takes us into her arms without judging us."*



### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### *Prayer Group & Bible Study*

Advance notice of a **Lenten Group** which will meet each Friday during Lent, beginning on **08 March**. The times and venue are yet to be confirmed but please keep this in mind.

The **Bible Study Group** will next meet on **Monday, 11 February**, 3:30pm - 4:45pm at St Andrew's, Brandon.

Refreshments beforehand.

All are welcome at both of these gatherings!



### DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the "Thrones, Dominions, and Powers" that we often hear mentioned in the Preface of the Eucharistic Prayer, are actually levels of angels?

According to the theologian *Pseudo-Dionysius*, there are nine levels of angels, divided into three orders. The lowest are Angels, Archangels and Principalities, the middle order is made up of Powers, Virtues and Dominions, and the highest Thrones, Cherubim and Seraphim.



### "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"In my hurry, I often forget that You desire to seek those who have gone astray, even me, and that my work is to free myself of myself so that You can be born in me, and so your joy in seeking meets my joy in having been found."

**Meister Eckhart** (c.1260 – c. 1328)  
German theologian and mystic



**PLEASE PRAY....**for the following intentions from now up until Lent as requested by Bishop Séamus: **Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; the Unemployed.** Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

