

The week ahead...

Saturday 16 February Vigil Mass for 6 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Kennedy & Davison families and <i>pro populo</i>
Sunday 17 February 6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 18 February Monday of Week 6	NO MASS	
Tuesday 19 February Tuesday of Week 6	6:30pm	Mass: Maureen Price
Wednesday 20 February Wednesday of Week 6	9:30am	Mass: Billy Dickinson
Thursday 21 February Thursday of Week 6	9:30am	Mass: Richard & Catherine Purdom
Friday 22 February <i>The Chair of St Peter, Apostle</i>	7:00am	Mass: Philomena McNally
Saturday 23 February Vigil Mass for 7 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Veronica & David Parkinson and <i>pro populo</i>

Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES

Saturday 16 February

Eucharistic Ministers
John & Irene Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers
Claire Lavery
Margaret Purdom

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Helen Riddles

Welcomers
Halina Holman
Janet Harrigan

Music
Music Group & Choir

MINISTRIES

Saturday 23 February

Eucharistic Ministers
Jane Smith, Helen Musham
Wilf Lavery

Readers
Brendan Payne
Angela Harmston

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers
Paul and Anne Kelly

Music
Music Group & Choir

The Sixth 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....

KENNEDY & DAVISON families
Kevin TOMKINS (Rec. Dec.)

John WATSON

Michael JONES

Laurence PENFOLD

John PIGFORD

Herbert KEEP

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

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



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £253 Loose Plate: £216

TOTAL: £469

Mass Attendance: 142

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



St Patrick's R.C. Church

A Parish of the Finchale Partnership

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Hospital Chaplain: Fr Paul Tully Ph: (01388) 818 544

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

17 February, 2019

The Sermon on the Plain

IF ASKED WHAT THE MOST famous words of Jesus were, some people might say the great commission at the end of Matthew's Gospel ("Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."), others might suggest his last words on the cross, or perhaps a response by Jesus to a question asked of him by a Pharisee or one of the apostles.

There are no right or wrong responses, of course, but I'm certain many would say that Jesus's most famous words were uttered in his Sermon on the Mount. This great teaching of Jesus, covering three chapters of Matthew's Gospel and following on from the famous beatitudes, is sometimes referred to as the blueprint for Christian living. Matthew wrote his Gospel for a Jewish audience and so it is appropriate that Jesus delivers his words from atop a mountain for the Jewish people believed that being on a mountain meant being closer to God.

I wonder how many people would respond to the question about Jesus's most famous words with the Sermon on the Plain? I mention this because we hear a part of this sermon this weekend, Luke's version of the beatitudes. Just as Matthew has Jesus go up a mountain to deliver his great words, Luke has Jesus come down from a mountain and stop "at a piece of level ground" to speak to the Twelve and the crowds that had gathered with them.

The beatitudes of the Sermon on the Plain are structured very differently to those of the Sermon on the Mount. Luke's text is essentially four statements which are juxtaposed with their opposites: happy are the poor, the hungry, the sad and the persecuted; alas for the rich, the satiated, those who laugh and those of whom the world speaks well. Though no less profound, Luke's version of the beatitudes are simpler and, in a way, more "earthy", totally in keeping with the nature of Luke's Gospel which emphasises more than the other three the incarnation, the "enfleshment", of God in Jesus.

But while this comparison of Matthew and Luke's version of the beatitudes in their respective sermons might be interesting, we shouldn't let this distract us from the impact the words of Jesus ought to have on our lives as his disciples. Reading scripture might be an interesting academic exercise, but this sort of analysis wasn't the reason for which it was written.

Of course, the words of Jesus turn logic on its head. No one would normally think that those who suffer are happy, yet as Christians we are called to understand that suffering has a meaning and we are to look into the future to understand how suffering can possibly make sense. Note that Jesus has an eye to the time to come: those now suffering will know joy and those who are now satisfied will know suffering.

As Christians we are called to understand the world in a different manner to those who don't share our faith, to see events and existence through the eyes of Jesus. In this way we will know the true meaning of suffering and have the wisdom to understand the fleeting satisfaction of things the world tends to value such as material wealth, vengeance and adulation.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,

Fr Robert



What's going on...?

Retirement Mass for Bishop Séamus: To mark the retirement of Bishop Séamus, a Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral at 7:00pm on Friday 22 February, Feast of The Chair of St Peter, Apostle. Everybody is welcome to this Mass which will be followed by light refreshments in the Cathedral grounds. The Cathedral will be open to everyone and tickets are NOT required.

Installation of Bishop Robert as Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle: The Installation Mass for Bishop Robert will be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral at 12:00noon on Monday 25 March, Feast of the Annunciation. Entry to the Cathedral for this Mass will be by invitation and ticket only.

Racial Justice Sunday: This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday. There are some prayer cards available for you this weekend in the foyer. The theme this year is: "It's Not JUST Work: Dignity For All Workers". The statement from the Bishops states that, "In our task as disciples of Christ, our responsibility is to make sure people are treated with dignity at work and are not exploited. Migrant communities and those suffering from racial abuse are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into unjust working conditions and labour exploitation." More information is available at www.catholicnews.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday-2019.

Church Cleaning: The departure of the Pulu family has left us with a big gap in our cleaning team! Can YOU help to keep our beautiful church looking its best? Our next cleaning morning is scheduled for 10:30am - 11:30am on Saturday, 23 February. Please put your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Churches Together in DH7: The annual meeting of the Churches Together is at Bearpark Methodist Church on Wednesday, 20 February, 6:30pm for 7:00pm. All are welcome!

SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I know that it is okay for me to make mistakes'. We shared with parable of The Prodigal Son and reflected on the importance of reflecting on the mistakes we make, in order to do things better in the future.

Masses and Liturgies

Here are details of celebrations involving our school children, that will take place over the next few weeks.

Ash Wednesday, 06 March @ 9:30am: Whole School at Mass, in church

Wednesday 13 March @ 2:45pm: Mass with Year 6 in the school chapel

Thursday 14 March @ 2:45pm: Mass with Year 5 in the school chapel

Being Safe Online

This week, our junior pupils took part in Google's 'Be Internet Legends' roadshow, a programme which helps pupils learn the skills they need to be safe and confident online.

Road Safety

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2, received a visit from Durham County Council Road Safety Team and Durham Constabulary, to support the school's work around the important area of road safety.



Half-Term Break

School closed on Friday for the half-term break and will re-open on Monday 25 February.

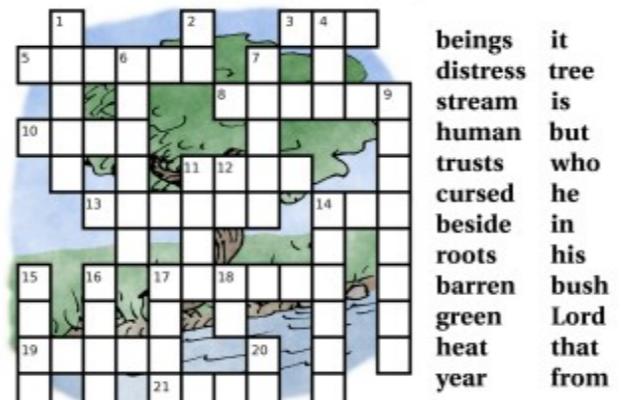
Ministry of Consolation Day: On Saturday 23 March, we have our second Ministry of Consolation day. Our theme this year is "Spirituality in Times of Trauma" and our speaker is Bishop John Wilson who was involved in supporting people in the aftermaths of the murder of Ann Maguire in Corpus Christi, Leeds and the Grenfell Tower fire. We anticipate a high demand for places! The day will be held at Ushaw College and will run from 10.15am-3.30pm. Refreshments on arrival at 9.45am. Lunch will be provided. The day itself is free but any donations to cover the Diocese's costs would, of course, be most welcome! To reserve a place, please see Fr Robert. See noticeboard for more details.

Quiz Night: Martin Donbavand, a parishioner at St. Cuthbert's, Durham, is raising money to support a family whose child has Down's Syndrome and are currently facing some extra challenges. There will be a Cheese & Wine Quiz Night on Saturday 09 March, 7:00pm at St Oswald's Institute, to raise funds. Tickets are £5.00 and people from across the Partnership will be very welcome. For more information please contact Martin or Liz Donbavand on 07903 888 399.

Lighting: We are planning to have the additional and improved lighting installed in the nave and narthex this Tuesday. Any comments you have would be welcomed!

Quiet Day at Ushaw: An opportunity to step aside, to listen to God in scripture and to enjoy the peace. Wednesday, 27 March, 10:30am to 4:00pm. Led by Sister Rosarie Spence. Cost is £10 per person, including coffee, tea and biscuits served both on arrival and to conclude the day. Lunch, with a delicious choice of great value home-made food, is available to purchase in the refectory. Bookings can be made on-line via Ushaw's website (www.ushaw.org) or call Ushaw College on 0191 334 5119.

The Kids' Bulletin Trust in the Lord Cross-Word



Here is today's first reading, from Jeremiah.
Fill in the blanks using the words from the list and fit them into the puzzle.

Thus says the Lord:

8a is the one who trusts in 7d 17a,
3a seeks 4d strength 18d flesh,
whose heart turns away 16d the Lord.
12d is like a 13a 17d in the desert
11a enjoys no change of season,
14a stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth.
Blessed is the one who 5a in the Lord,
whose hope is the 15d.
He 2d like a 11d planted 14d the waters that
stretches out its 19a to the 6d;
it fears not the 21a when 20d comes; its leaves stay 1d;
in the 10a of drought it shows no 9d,
but still bears fruit.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

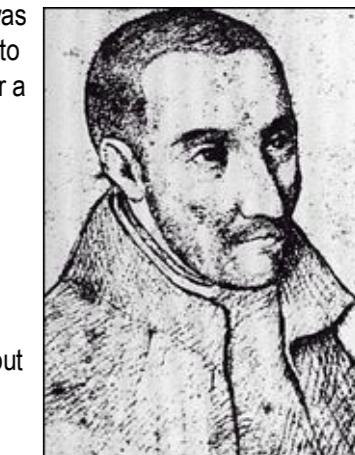
St Robert Southwell - 21 February

Robert was born in Norfolk in 1561 and spent part of his childhood in Sussex. In 1576, Robert was sent to school at Douai and then to Paris. He decided to join the Jesuits and walked all the way to Rome as this was his only opportunity to join the Jesuits. He was ordained priest in 1584 and for a time was Prefect of Studies at the Venerable English College in Rome.

He was sent to England in 1586 where he exercised his talents as a poet and writer. He was regarded by the authorities as "the chief dealer for the papists in England" since he was responsible for getting candidates out of the country for their training abroad, and for finding accommodation for those returning to work in England.

Robert was forcibly betrayed by a Catholic girl, Anne Bellamy, and, after being tortured he was tried for treason and condemned to be hung, drawn and quartered, the sentence being carried out on 21 February 1595 at Tyburn.

(Information taken from [Universalis](#))



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for February

For a generous welcome of victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

"Hear the cry of our many brothers and sisters who are criminally trafficked and exploited. They are not merchandise. They are human beings, and they must be treated as such."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Prayer Group & Bible Study

The monthly **Prayer Group** is held in the presbytery here at St Patrick's. Next meeting: **Tuesday, 19 February**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments are served from 9:15am.

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



“QUOTE OF THE WEEK”

"The first and most important aim of religions is to believe in God, to honour Him and to invite all men and women to believe that this universe depends on a God who governs it. He is the Creator who has formed us with His divine wisdom and has granted us the gift of life to protect it. It is a gift that no one has the right to take away, threaten or manipulate to suit oneself."

Pope Francis (b.1936) and The Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Ahmad Al-Tayyeb (b.1946)

A Document on Human Fraternity
04 February 2019



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....

