

The week ahead...

Saturday 04 May Vigil Mass for Third Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Moran family and pro populo
Sunday 05 May Third Sunday of Easter	NO MASS	
Monday 06 May Weekday of Easter	NO MASS	
Tuesday 07 May Weekday of Easter	6:30pm	Mass: Carole Caile
Wednesday 08 May Weekday of Easter	9:30am	Mass: Fr Jim Doherty
Thursday 09 May Weekday of Easter	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Friday 10 May Weekday of Easter	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 11 May Vigil Mass for Fourth Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Terry Farthing 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:** (01388) 818 544

Third Sunday of Easter 05 May 2019

“Yes, Lord, you know I love you.”

YOU COULD BE FORGIVEN for thinking that last weekend's Gospel reading from John marked the end of that Gospel, especially considering the final words we heard: “There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book...”. This weekend however, we hear from the final chapter of John, following on immediately from Jesus's post-resurrection appearances to the disciples that we heard about at Mass last weekend. Included in this weekend's Gospel is the famous dialogue between Jesus and Peter in which Peter affirms his love for Jesus three times to compensate for the three times he denied knowing Jesus on the night before the crucifixion.

What I find most interesting about the Gospel are the final words of Jesus to Peter. Having outlined the “kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God”, a gruesome one at that, Jesus says to Peter, “Follow me.” There is something that seems almost comical in these two simple words. After all, if ever there was a reason *not* to follow Jesus it would surely be knowing that doing so would result in one's death. Yet there is a matter-of-factness about the words of Jesus that seem to imply that though there is a price to pay for discipleship, following Jesus is worth that price.

As it was for Peter and the other disciples, so it is for us. Jesus calls us to follow him and also knows our fate and the cost of our discipleship. Yet we are often reluctant to embrace all that is involved in being a follower of Jesus. If we were in the same position as Peter and were to hear Jesus proclaim our fate to be the same as his, would we respond with the same fervour as Peter? Yet this is what we are called to do. Only God knows the cost of being a disciple and we are called to embrace all that being a disciple entails, safe in the knowledge that whatever our fate, living out our faith in an active and joyful manner is worth the cost, for what awaits us at the final judgement is so wonderful than any suffering or hardship we endure on earth will pale into insignificance.

If we wish to compare this situation with one which is familiar to many of us, consider what it is to be in a loving relationship with another. We find it easy to fall in love and commit ourselves to pursuing a relationship with another and usually do so without thinking of the consequences. Nonetheless, we feel that the prospects of happiness and personal fulfilment are worth embracing all that is entailed in a loving relationship with another, even if, as sometimes happens, that relationship doesn't follow the course we had anticipated.

Yet with Jesus, there is no fear of any lack of enthusiasm or infidelity or any of the other struggles that all too often are the hallmark of human relationships. We can be confident that the struggles of discipleship are well worth it and that when we find ourselves in a situation that seems to demand of us more than we expected or are able to bear, we will, like Peter and the others, have the wherewithal to do what is asked of a disciple of Jesus who, out of love for him, doesn't count the cost.

Wishing you a blessed Easter season,
Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES

Saturday 04 May

Eucharistic Ministers
 Ambrose & Pauline Burnside
 Harry Curran

Readers
 Angela Tosley
 Angela Harmston

Children's Liturgy
 Maria Griffiths
 Helen Riddles

Welcomers
 Pat Middleton
 Mary Kitching

Music
 Greg Mearman & Choir

MINISTRIES

Saturday 11 May

Eucharistic Ministers
 Gordon & Angela Tosley
 Angela Harmston

Readers
 Claire Lavery
 Margaret Purdom

Children's Liturgy
 Maria Griffiths
 Michelle Dennis

Welcomers
 Halina Holman
 Janet Harrigan

Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

Third Sunday of Easter

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
 Terry FARTHING (Rec. Dec.)
 Thomas McKENNA



Victims of violence and war

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

*Margaret Pouton, Vera Lumsden,
 Mary Spears, Frances Harland,
 Sylvia Kelly, Rose Crick,
 Frank Moran, Doreen Carroll,
 Tom Taylorson, John Byrne,
 Ann Canavan and Jack Tobin*



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £177 Loose Plate: £186

TOTAL: £363

Mass Attendance: 127

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

First Communion Candidates: We once again welcome our First Communion Candidates and their families as the children continue learning about this sacrament in preparation for receiving their first Communion next month. Please keep them in your prayers.

Marist Mission Appeal: Br John McAllister s.m. will speak at Mass this weekend on behalf of the missions of the Society of Mary (Marist Fathers and brothers) working in education and pastoral care in Oceania, South Asia, Africa, and South America, for which there will be a retiring collection. I know you will make Br John welcome and give generously to the work of the Marists.

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 this evening for fellowship over some drinks and nibbles. Everyone is welcome!

Collections in May: As well as the collection for the Marist Missionaries this weekend, there will also be a collection for the **Little Sisters of the Poor** on **11 May** and one on the **18 May** for the Northern Brethren Fund which supports our sick and retired clergy.

Celebration of Marriage: Bishop Robert Byrne CO will celebrate Mass in St Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday 18 May** at 11:00am to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage. He has invited each parish community to be represented by at least two couples, young or old, newly married or celebrating a significant anniversary. In addition, everyone is welcome to attend. This promises to be a wonderful celebration and will provide affirmation and support for Marriage across the Diocese and the wider North-East community.

Finchale Partnership open afternoons: People often say they would like to know more about the other parishes and churches in the partnership. So, the parish of Bl. Edmund Duke will be hosting an open afternoon on **Sunday, 05 May**, from **3:00pm – 5:00pm**. They are looking forward to welcoming visitors from across the partnership at St Joseph's, Coxhoe, DH6 4DA, to look around, chat over refreshments, learn a little about the parish and experience the spirituality of Church. Everyone is welcome to attend. You don't have to sign up in advance, but if you need a lift to Coxhoe, or if you are able to offer someone else a lift, please leave your details on the sheet on the noticeboard.

Our Open Day here at St Patrick's will be on the afternoon of Sunday 02 June. We will be looking for volunteers to show people around our beautiful church from **2:00pm - 4:00pm**. Will you consider signing up shortly?

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): The next meeting of the PPC is scheduled for **Wednesday 15 May** at **7:00pm**. Please see the noticeboard for the minutes of the last meeting held in March and a draft agenda. There is also a sign-up sheet at the rear of the church, for those who wish to attend

Forty Great Days—Easter to Ascension: Check the noticeboard for details of this Churches Together event. There are four more weeks of meetings (at St Andrew's, Brandon), each **Friday afternoon** from **2:00pm—3:00pm**. Next meeting is **03 May**.

May Procession: Scheduled for **Sunday, 19 May**, starting at **2:00pm**, followed by parish family picnic. All welcome! More details next week.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Damien of Molokai – 10 May

Joseph de Veuster was born in Belgium in 1840 and took the name Damien on entering the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary at Leuven (Louvain). He landed in Hawaii in 1864, fulfilling his dream of becoming a missionary. In 1873, at his own request, he took up residence at the leper colony at Kalaupapa and ministered to its spiritual and material needs until he caught leprosy himself and died on it in 1889. The 1999 Australian-made film *Molokai: The Story of Father Damien* depicts the story of this selfless priest.



(Information taken from *Universalis*)

~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for May

May the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, be the seed of unity among its members and a sign of hope for this continent.

"The Kingdom of God grows in a mysterious and surprising way throughout the world with the power of a tiny seed."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly **Prayer Group** will be held at **St John's, Meadowfield** on **Tuesday 21 May**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments are served from 9:15am.

The **Bible Study Group** will next meet on **Monday 13 May**, 3:30pm - 4:45pm at St Andrew's, Brandon. Refreshments beforehand.

All are welcome at both of these gatherings!



SCHOOL NEWS

Worship

The focus of this week's worship has been the celebration of the Easter season. The children heard about the appearances of Jesus, following his resurrection. We have reflected on the command Jesus gave to his disciples, to spread the Good News, and the importance of us doing the same, by ensuring our words and actions bring peace, joy and light into the world. We know that the Holy Spirit can strengthen and guide us in this mission.

First Holy Communicants

Those children preparing to receive the holy Eucharist for the first time in June join us in the celebration of Mass this evening. In their session before Mass, they have been learning more about the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Please keep these children in your prayers.

Masses

This coming half term, pupils will join our parish family, in church, for the following Masses:

Year 5 @ 9:30am Mass, on **Thursday 09 May**

Years 3 & 4 @ 9:30am Mass, on **Wednesday 15 May**

Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 @ 9:30am Mass, on

Thursday 16 May

Year 6 @ 9:30am Mass, on

Wednesday 22 May

Twitter

You can follow us on Twitter @StPatsLM, to see what our children have been doing during the school day.

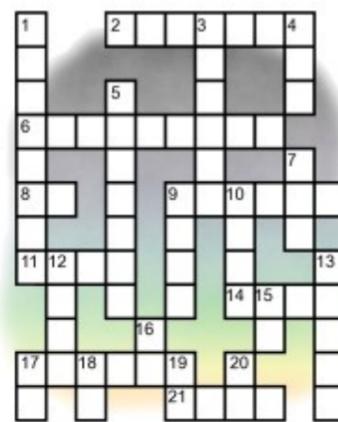


The Kids' Bulletin

Psalm 30 Cross-Word

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks in the Psalm and the puzzle.

ANGER GOD
HELPER DAWN
WEEPING LET
REJOICING AT
OVER LORD
PRAISE BE
HOLY TO
FOREVER ON
MOMENT ME
GIVE IN
MOURNING MY
INTO



I will extol you, _____, 10D for you drew me clear and did not _____ 7D _____ 17D enemies rejoice _____ 21A me. O Lord, you brought _____ 18D up from the netherworld; You preserved me from among those going down _____ 12D the pit.

Sing _____ 3D to the Lord, you his faithful ones, and _____ 11A thanks _____ 19D his _____ 9D name. For his _____ 13D lasts but a _____; 17A A lifetime, his good will. _____ 15D nightfall _____ 2A enters _____, 8A But with the _____, 14A _____, 6A

Hear, O Lord, and have pity _____ 16D me; O Lord, _____ 20D my _____, 9A You changed my _____ 1D into dancing; O Lord my _____, 4D _____ 5D I will give you thanks.



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that there is a great deal of symbolism, especially in relation to numbers, in the scriptures?

We are all familiar with the prominence of the number forty in the scriptures (forty years in the desert, forty days of rain for the great flood, forty days of fasting by Moses and Jesus and so on) but other numbers are prominent too. Among those is the perfect number seven, such as the number of disciples in today's Gospel. As for the 153 fish that were caught (John 21:11), your guess is as good as mine!



"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"God is thirsty for unity, he longs to bring together all the children of God who have been dispersed. He longs to break down the walls which separate us from each other so that life can spring forth. God weeps before division."

Jean Vanier (b. 1928)
Philosopher, theologian and founder of L'Arche



PLEASE PRAY....for the following intentions during the Easter season as requested by Bishop Robert: **New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.** Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

