

The week ahead...

Saturday 25 May Vigil Mass for Sixth Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: David & Veronica Parkinson and pro populo
Sunday 26 May Sixth Sunday of Easter	NO MASS	
Monday 27 May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday 28 May Weekday of Easter	6:30pm	Mass: James, Hilda and Joe Condron
Wednesday 29 May Weekday of Easter	9:30am 6:30pm	Mass: Ronnie Jackson Vigil Mass for The Ascension
Thursday 30 May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i> (Holyday of Obligation)	9:30am	Mass: Lizzabella and Margaret Jane Morris
Friday 31 May <i>The Visitation of the BVM</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 01 June Vigil Mass for Seventh Sunday of Easter	5:00pm	Mass: Kathleen Caisley and pro populo

Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES

Saturday 25 May

Eucharistic Ministers
Irene & John Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers

Rowan Payne
Pat Middleton

Children's Liturgy

Carol Bainbridge
Joanne Lidster

Welcomers

Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Music

Greg Mearman & Choir

MINISTRIES

Saturday 01 June

Eucharistic Ministers
Jane Smith, Helen Musham
Wilf Lavery

Readers

Angela Harmston
Claire Lavery

Children's Liturgy

Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers

Pat Middleton
Mary Kitching

Music

Bill Wilkinson & Choir

Sixth 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....

David & Veronica PARKINSON

Ronald JACKSON (Rec. Dec.)

Victims of violence and war



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

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



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £222 Loose Plate: £175

TOTAL: £397

Mass Attendance: 129

DIocese of Hexham and Newcastle
Charity Number 1143450



St Patrick's R.C. Church

A Parish of the Finchale Partnership

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

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

26 May 2019

"...a peace the world cannot give..."

CONTRARY TO THE BELIEF of some, Jesus did not have any desire to create a new religion. He came to offer salvation to all, but this required a new way of thinking and living, not a rejection of Judaism. Certainly, Jesus had issues with the way many of the religious authorities lived and promoted Judaism but, as a Jew himself, Jesus never stated that the Jewish people should reject their faith in order to be his disciples.

Of course, as things turned out, a new religion named after the Anointed One, the Christ, did emerge in the first couple of centuries after Jesus's resurrection but it came about very organically. There was no particular moment in time when a leading disciple declared that Christianity was being instituted as a new faith and all those wanting eternal salvation must belong to this new faith. The early days of the church were characterised by all sorts of issues: the extent to which Jewish worship was still necessary, the shape of the eucharistic celebration, the place of women and children, baptismal practice, persecution, and many other issues, including that of how non-Jewish (gentile) people were to be admitted into the faith. It is this issue that the apostles and elders deal with in the first reading from Acts this weekend.

This incident demonstrates to us that from its very beginning the church has been confronted with conflict and, despite periods of relative peace, it has never known a time without being under an attack of one sort or another.

This makes the words of Jesus in this weekend's Gospel sound rather hollow: "Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you." These words are stated by Jesus in his final discourse to his gathered disciples before his crucifixion, occupying chapters 14 – 17 in John's Gospel.

Of course, Jesus never uttered hollow words. He qualifies the words he speaks about peace when he says that the peace he gifts to his disciples is "a peace the world cannot give." When we think of a "worldly peace" we think of an absence of conflict and suffering, a time of serenity and calm, a time to be savoured before the arrival of the next onslaught, whatever form it takes. The peace Jesus offers is different: it is a peace which pervades our being *despite* the conflicts and unrest which assail us. It is a peace that enabled the apostles and other martyrs to be courageous and trusting of God when enduring torture and facing death; it is a peace which we experience too when we acknowledge that God is present to us in a very real and loving way, even when we are experiencing turmoil. This peace is what enables us to persist in difficult circumstances when we might otherwise give up and abandon ourselves to despair.

Let us savour the peace with which Christ graces us, make it evident to others and fulfil our obligation to work for peace in our world, that we may have a glimpse, at least, of the kingdom to come.

Wishing you a blessed Easter season,

Fr Robert



What's going on...?

Sick & Retired Priests Collection: Thank you for your donations to the Northern Brethren Fund last weekend. Donations totalled **£186.55**. Our next retiring collection will be next weekend, **02 June**, for **World Communication Day**.

Finchale Partnership Open Afternoon: Our Open Day here at St Patrick's will be on the afternoon of **Sunday 02 June**. We are looking for volunteers to show people around our beautiful church from **2:00pm - 4:00pm**. Will you consider signing up this weekend to help in one or more ways? We need welcomers, people to supply and help serve food and drinks and people to guide visitors around the church and perhaps help answer basic questions. Please help!

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 **31 May**.

May Procession: Thank you to all those people who helped out last Sunday, including the students of our school who did a terrific job assisting with reading and the procession and crowning, to Pauline Burnside for organising the order of service, to Bill Wilkinson and the choir and to all those who helped with the preparation and serving of the food and the clean-up, most especially Carol Bainbridge and Shirley Willis. Your input was very much appreciated.

Feast of the Ascension: This year, this feast of the Ascension falls on **Thursday, 30 May** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. To assist those who are unable to attend the usual Thursday 9:30am Mass, a Vigil Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday 29 May** at **6:30pm**. St

Cuthbert's in Durham have a Mass on Thursday at 12:15pm if neither of the Mass times here suit you.

Partnership Day – 30 June: The Finchale Partnership is organising a Partnership Day at Ushaw College on Sunday, 30 June. There will be Mass at 12.30pm (including children's liturgy), followed by activities and prayer for the rest of the afternoon. There will be a schools' choir concert and games for families, information about all the parishes in the partnership, a Memory Cafe for those affected by dementia, treasure trails and guided tours. Please see the poster on the noticeboard, and there will be more information on the programme for the afternoon and how to sign up for guided tours or if you need a lift to Ushaw, in the coming weeks.

Partnership Development Group: The minutes of the recent meeting of the Partnership Development Group are on the noticeboard. The meeting reviewed the plans of our six sub-groups and shared key issues from across our parishes. The full minutes can also be found on the Partnership webpages hosted at <http://www.stcuthberts-durham.org.uk/the-finchale-partnership/partnership-development-group-information>

Senior Citizens' Party: This will be held at the usual venue, The British Legion, on **Saturday, 15 June**, beginning at 12:00noon. There is a sign-up sheet at the rear of the church. Raffle tickets will be on sale over the next two weekends.

Church Cleaning: In anticipation of visitors to the parish on the Open Day on **02 June**, we will have a church cleaning hour on **Saturday, 01 June** from **10:30am - 11:30am**. A sign-up sheet is at the rear of the church.

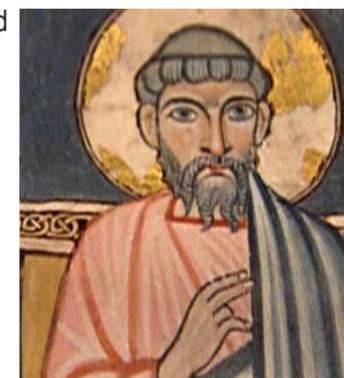
SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Augustine of Canterbury – 27 May

Pope Gregory organised a party of thirty monks to travel to south-eastern England and spread the Gospel there. And chose as their leader Augustine, prior of the monastery of St Andrew in Rome. They landed in 597, and were welcomed by the king of Kent, Ethelbert, who became a Christian along with many of his subjects. A second wave of missionaries arrived in 601. Augustine went to Arles, in France, where he was consecrated archbishop of the English, and then returned to Canterbury to set up his see. The mission prospered, and he founded two more sees, at London and at Rochester in Kent.

Augustine died at Canterbury on 26 May 604 or 605.

(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 18 June**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments from 9:15am.

DH7's Pentecost Praise will be happening right here at St Patrick's on **Sunday, 09 June**, beginning at **6:00pm**. There will be a guest preacher and refreshments to follow.

All are welcome at both of these gatherings!



SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I understand the importance of peace'. We heard, in St John's Gospel, that Jesus bestowed his followers with the gift of peace. We talked about putting our trust in God, in order to find peace, in any situation.

May Procession

Thank you to all those who came along on Sunday and attended the May Procession.

Thanks to Wilf, for the preparing the statues and to Malcolm for his help with the banner, ahead of the day. Particular thanks to Father Robert for leading us in the celebration and to Vaidotas for serving on the altar. Thanks to Ella for crowning the statue in church and to Adam, who assisted her; to Izabel for crowning the statue in the grotto and to Michael who assisted her. Many thanks to those who read – Lilly O, Graye, Harris and Joanna; to Aimee for carrying the banner and to Lilly O. and Lily N., for assisting her and, of course, to Bill Wilkinson and the choir, for the wonderful singing.

It was a lovely occasion and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful afternoon tea that Carol Bainbridge prepared, helped by Solvita, Alise, Ane and Roberts, and which was served by Joanne Lidster, Kate Cummings and Shirley Willis. A huge thank you to them all!

Also, a big thank you to Mr Treციokas, for providing all of the children with an ice lolly, after the celebration.



Half-term Break

School closed for the half-term break on Friday and will re-open on Monday 03 June.

The Kids' Bulletin

Gospel Match-up

*How well do you know today's Gospel?
See if you can match up the parts of the sentences.*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. If a man loves me, he | ● | A. make our home with him. |
| 2. My Father | ● | B. is my gift to you. |
| 3. We will come to him and | ● | C. will not keep my words. |
| 4. He who does not love me | ● | D. will keep my word. |
| 5. These things I | ● | E. have spoken to you, while I am still with you. |
| 6. The Holy Spirit | ● | F. will love him... |
| 7. A peace that the world cannot give, this | ● | G. will teach you all things. |



DID YOU KNOW...?

...that chapters 14 - 17 of John's Gospel constitute what is referred to as the "farewell discourse" of Jesus?

Actually, this discourse begins just before the end of chapter 13 at verse 31, which we read last weekend, in which Jesus gives the "new commandment." Jesus refers to the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, in this speech, and also speaks of himself as the vine to which his disciples must be attached. After Jesus reassures his disciples he then prays for them to the Father, a prayer which occupies all of chapter 17.

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"The tiny oak leaves are just beginning to unfurl, and are waking up to springtime. If I could tell them about the vast network of branch and trunk and root that holds them in being, they would never believe me. An obvious reality for me - an impossible leap of imagination for them. How far am I, then, from understanding the sources of your love that hold me in being?"

Margaret Silf (b. 1945)
Catholic writer and speaker



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....

