

# The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 20 July</b> Vigil Mass for 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Sally Thompson and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 21 July</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Monday 22 July</b> <i>St Mary Magdalen</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 23 July</b> <i>St Bridget of Sweden, Religious Patroness of Europe</i>	6:30pm	Mass: <b>Susan Michiels (Rec. Dec.)</b>
<b>Wednesday 24 July</b> <i>The Martyrs of the Diocese</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>Private intention</b>
<b>Thursday 25 July</b> <i>St James, Apostle</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>Harry &amp; Malcolm Stoker</b>
<b>Friday 26 July</b> <i>St Joachim and St Anne Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	7:00am	Mass: <b>Private intention</b>
<b>Saturday 27 July</b> Vigil Mass: 17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Teresa Coad and pro populo</b>



**St Patrick's R.C. Church**  
*A Parish of the Finchale Partnership*  
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## 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 21 July 2019

### "It is Mary who has chosen the better part..."

IT IS OFTEN SAID among Catholics that guilt is an integral part of our genetic make-up. Guilt tends to get a negative press in modern, secular society, seen as a remnant of a medieval faith that sought only to keep people in a state of "fear and trembling" in order to control them and allow the Church to maintain its position of primacy.

Of course, there is some truth to that last point, but guilt is not necessarily always a negative phenomenon. It can be positive if it is justified, such as in the case of someone who has committed a sin, great or small; guilt will hopefully lead to contrition and a chance to make amends for the wrongdoing. Conversely, guilt is negative if it is felt without justification, perhaps because someone has been conditioned to feel it under certain circumstances, possibly stemming from a mistaken belief that an innocent act is sinful. This happens more often than you might believe!

I would like to suggest that one example of guilt that is unjustified yet widespread, beyond religious boundaries, is that related to busyness. This is a very modern type of misplaced guilt with people believing that unless they are engaged in frenetic activity their worthiness as a human being is somehow diminished. Activity, productive or otherwise, is linked directly to value as a person.

In this weekend's Gospel we hear the famous story of Martha and Mary. The contrast between the two approaches of these women to the visit by Jesus is pronounced. Neither is doing anything wrong, yet Jesus makes the point that "Mary has chosen the better part." Mary recognises that the presence of Jesus demands she put aside activity and spend time contemplating his words. Martha, on the other hand, responds to Jesus's presence by busying herself with hospitality, a very noble and worthy undertaking but one which Jesus clearly values a little less than Mary's response.

And Mary's reaction to Jesus is an acknowledgement of his nature as one who is sent by God. This recognition and response by Mary is really the heart of the story and provides us with an insight into our own behaviour. If you look over to page three opposite you will see a quote by a Benedictine monk, Christopher Jamison. He speaks of how we see our worthiness in our activity, yet, when we reflect on it, our real moments of fulfillment come at times when we are disengaged from attempting to be "important". It is at these times that we can, like Mary, listen to, and respond to, the voice of God.

If we are to be truly counter-cultural as Christians it is important that we resist the temptation to see any mode of existence other than constant busyness as worthwhile. This does not mean we don't believe in hard work or are promoting idleness but that we consider the time spent, like Mary, contemplating God, to be an investment in true contentment. This will bring us happiness and fulfillment in the present and is certain to hold us in good stead at the final judgement.

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead,*  
**Fr Robert**



*Lord are you not concerned that my sister left me alone to do the household tasks*

### Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 20 July**  
**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Angela & Gordon Tosley  
 Angela Harmston  
**Readers**  
 Maria Griffiths  
 Angela Harmston  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 (In recess over summer holidays)  
**Welcomers**  
 Angela Harmston  
 Christine Tracey  
**Music**  
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 27 July**  
**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Malcolm & Teresa Wass  
 Andrew Aberdeen  
**Readers**  
 Angela Tosley  
 Ann Canavan  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 (In recess over summer holidays)  
**Welcomers**  
 Pat Middleton  
 Mary Kitching  
**Music**  
 Greg Mearman & Choir

**16<sup>th</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....**

Sally THOMPSON  
 Susan MICHIELS  
 Derek ADAIR  
 John HOWARTH  
 John Thomas ROSS  
 Maria Armenta ESPINOZA

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

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

**£ LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION**  
**Gift Aid: £221 Loose Plate: £154**  
**TOTAL: £375**  
**Mass Attendance: 104**  
 DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE  
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



# What's going on...?

**Apostleship of the Sea:** The collection for the Apostleship of the Sea last weekend totalled £203.65. Thank you!

**PDG Parish Representative:** As the Partnership Development Group has passed two years since its inception, the various representatives have served their time and the opportunity exists for a new parish representative to serve our parish. Please speak to Fr Robert if you are interested. Meetings occur about every two months at Gilesgate.

**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC):** The PPC met on Wednesday evening and the minutes will be available shortly. The next meeting is scheduled for 25 September. I'd like to thank Helen Musham for her many years of service. Due to other commitments Helen has decided to stand down from the PPC which leaves us with a vacancy. If you are interested in nominating or simply wish to find out more, please see Fr Robert.

**Parish key register:** Over the summer break, beginning next weekend, I will be seeking to ask all those who are in possession of a parish key to sign the key register in the sacristy before or after Mass. You will need to have your key with you when doing this. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Vacancies:** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

- Cleaner, St Cuthbert's, Durham – 10 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date: 24 July.

- Caretaker, St Aloysius, Hebburn – 7 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date: 22 July.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us 0191 243 3301, email [human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Noticeboard:** As always, there are plenty of events happening both around the partnership and around the diocese which there isn't room here to mention, so please look at the noticeboards regularly to find out about events that may interest you. There are plenty of activities over the summer break, especially at Minsteracres, so please check the noticeboard and the Minsteracres website for more information. The Tuesday evening prayer group, beginning at 7:00pm at 14 Goatbeck Terrace, will continue meeting throughout the summer too.

**Rosary Rally at Minsteracres:** On Saturday 10 August there will be a Rosary Rally at Minsteracres. It starts with celebration of the Eucharist at 12 noon, followed by picnic (please bring a packed lunch, coffee and tea will be provided), Rosary Procession through the grounds and Benediction. The day will finish at around 4:00pm. All are welcome! For more information contact the Retreat Administrator, 01434 673248 or [info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org).

**Pastoral Care of the Sick and Housebound:** Do you know someone who lives in the parish but cannot get to Mass and is in need of the sacraments? It is our responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters who cannot gather with us each week. If you know someone in this situation who is in need of pastoral care, please pass their details on to Fr Robert.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I can say one good thing about myself.' We shared the letter of St Paul, to the people of Corinth, encouraging them to use their many and varied gifts, to help God's family. We talked about the importance of spreading the kingdom of God, through our loving words and actions.

### End of Year Mass

Thank you to all those who joined us in the celebration of Mass on Thursday to mark the end of the school year. Special thanks to Father Robert, for leading us in the celebration and to Bill Wilkinson, for providing the music. The school choir and Year 6 pupils, also gave valuable support – thank you!

### Leavers' Assembly

On Tuesday, we gathered together and enjoyed a wonderful assembly, prepared and delivered by our Year 6 pupils. These pupils have been a joy to have in school and we wish them well: Nicole, Charlotte, Tiana, Jessica, Aimee, Olivia, Aidan, Vanessa, Ella S, Christian, Ella W, Harry and Siska.

### St. Patrick's Got Talent!

We held a talent show, on Wednesday afternoon, which all the children really enjoyed. Many pupils opted to show off their talents and all those who took part received a 'thank you' treat. Well done to the winners: Holly – 1<sup>st</sup> place, Carys – 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Jenson – 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and to Talia, Tiana and Siska – 4<sup>th</sup> place.

### Thank You

Thank you to those who have supported our school community throughout the past year, with particular thanks to Fr Robert for his strong support and unwavering generosity, both as our priest and as a governor. Special thanks, to Mary Rowe and Jennie Staff, for coming into school each week, to listen to our children read.

### Diary Dates

**Thursday 18 July** - 3:15pm - School closed for the summer break

**Wednesday 04 September** - 8:50am - School re-opens for the start of the new school year

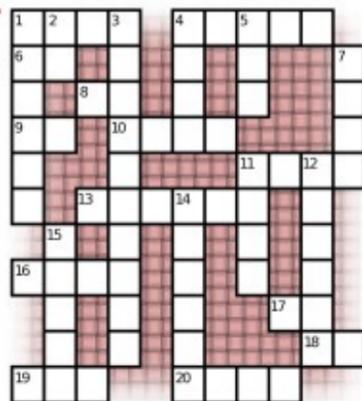
**Monday 23 September** - 9:30am - Start of School Mass - Whole School. Everyone is welcome!



## The Kids' Bulletin

Martha  
and  
Mary

cross  
word  
puzzle



Across:

- The \_\_\_\_\_ came to Martha's house
- Mary \_\_\_\_\_ the better part
- Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ Martha's house
- "One thing \_\_\_\_\_ needed."
- Jesus said \_\_\_\_\_ her, "Martha, Martha."
- "Do you not care? \_\_\_\_\_ tell her to help me!"
- Martha was concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ things.
- Which sister was working in the kitchen?
- Mary sat at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.
- "Mary has chosen the better part, which shall not \_\_\_\_\_ taken..."
- "\_\_\_\_\_ you not care?"
- "...away from \_\_\_\_\_."
- Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to her, "Martha, Martha."

Down:

- Mary just wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus speak.
- She sat \_\_\_\_\_ the ground near Him.
- Martha was \_\_\_\_\_ with much serving.
- "Lord, do you not \_\_\_\_\_ that my sister has left me to serve?"
- "\_\_\_\_\_ thing is needed..."
- The better part would not be taken \_\_\_\_\_ from Mary.
- Which sister was not in the kitchen?
- "...one thing is \_\_\_\_\_."
- Martha was anxious about many \_\_\_\_\_.
- "My sister has left me to \_\_\_\_\_ alone."

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

### Blessed Rudolph Acquaviva & Companions – 27 July

Blessed Rodolfo Acquaviva was an Italian Jesuit. He joined a mission to India in 1578. After teaching at St Paul's College in Goa he was sent to the court of the Emperor Akbar the Great. As the ruler of a diverse empire, Akbar sought to promote harmony and organised debates on questions of religion between Hindus, Muslims and Christians. However, the Jesuit mission itself seemed to be a failure (other than as an intellectual spectacle) and Acquaviva returned to Goa. Upon his return he led a mission to the Hindu Kshatriyas of Salcette, south of Goa, with four companions: Fathers Pacheco, Berno and Francisco and Brother Aranha. The local villagers attacked them and killed them in July 1583.



(Text taken from *Universalis*)

### Pope Francis' Mission Statement for

July

**That those who administer justice work with integrity, and may injustice present in the world not have the last word.**

*"To all people of good will who are working for social justice never tire of working for a more just world, marked with greater solidarity."*



Feed the hungry

### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

#### Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly Prayer Group will be held at St John's, Meadowfield on Tuesday 20 August, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments from 9:15am.

The next Bible Study Group will meet on Monday 12 August at St Andrew's Methodist Church, Brandon from 3:30pm - 4:45pm.

All are welcome at these events and all events organised by Churches Together!



### DID YOU KNOW...?

**...that the name Mary was the popular name for Palestinian woman at the time of Jesus?**

According to Wikipedia, "A common Roman Catholic tradition includes six New Testament saints called *Mary*: Mary, mother of Jesus; Mary Magdalene; Mary, mother of James and Joses; (Mary) Salome (who is also identified as the mother of James and Joseph the sons of Zebedee); Mary of Clopas; Mary of Bethany, sister of Martha and Lazarus."



### "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Each of us needs consciously to find ways to lay aside the tendency constantly to "be busy being important". We can do this by wasting time creatively, such as playing with our children or by giving time to those who at the material level give nothing back, such as visiting the sick or the lonely. We can do this by wasting time spiritually, spending time in meditation or reading spiritual books. We all know that such "wasted time" makes us happier than any amount of "being busy". The reason is that these are acts of loving kindness that come from a pure heart."

Christopher Jamison OSB (b. 1951)  
Benedictine monk  
*Finding Happiness* (2008)



**PLEASE PRAY....**for the following intentions during Ordinary Time as requested by Bishop Robert: **A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.**

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer....

