

The week ahead...

Saturday 03 August Vigil Mass for 18 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: James & Helena Harrison and Lena Cummins and pro populo
Sunday 04 August 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 05 August Monday of Week 18	NO MASS	
Tuesday 06 August <i>The Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	6:30pm	Mass: Harry & Malcolm Stoker
Wednesday 07 August Wednesday of Week 18	9:30am	Mass: Anne Keenan
Thursday 08 August <i>St Dominic, Priest</i>	9:30am	Mass: Private intention
Friday 09 August <i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin, Martyr, Patroness of Europe</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private intention
Saturday 10 August Vigil Mass for 19 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Pauline Pepper and pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church
A Parish of the Finchale Partnership

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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 04 August 2019

“...be on your guard against avarice...”

“VANITY OF VANITIES. ALL IS VANITY” is one of the more enigmatic and misunderstood phrases in the Hebrew scriptures. Once again, we encounter the problem of translation: a word is used which is understood in a particular way in the modern era whereas in the past it was understood more broadly. On hearing the word “vanity” we immediately think of excessive pride, whereas in the context of today’s first reading it means futility or worthlessness. King Solomon is conveying his belief that all on earth is futile, including, most particularly, human labour.

The link with the gospel is clear. Jesus makes the point in two ways: firstly, by refusing the request of a man in the crowd to have his brother give the man his share of their inheritance, and secondly, through illustrating with a parable his point about the futility of storing up material wealth. Jesus understands that the problem with material wealth is that the one who accumulates it never has enough, just as someone with an addiction never feels satisfied. The futility is illustrated by the fact that the wealthy man in the parable will never have the use of his stored goods for he will shortly die, and his goods given to another. He would have done better to have used his prodigious wealth to relieve others’ suffering, and so invested in what lies beyond his death.

Of course, it’s very easy to take pot shots at the wealthy and though Jesus speaks of a wealthy man in the parable, this is not to say that only the affluent are prone to avarice. Those who have little are sometimes of the same mentality as the rich man of the parable, guarding what they have jealously and not being willing to share when they can, whilst some who are well-off share generously with little or no concern about guarding all that they own.

It’s not just the lure of wealth which we need to be on guard against: power, influence and popularity are equally insidious. Pursuing these blindly for their own sake is rather like building an elaborate sandcastle on a beach as the tide comes in: we might build something magnificent and worthy of admiration, but it is all for naught as it will inevitably be destroyed.

Let us pray this weekend that we will have the wisdom to take the words of Jesus to heart. May we understand that whilst receiving something brings some short-term happiness, real and lasting happiness comes with giving to benefit others. Seeking to accumulate wealth, power or influence primarily as a means of securing our future or bolstering our sense of self-worth is a recipe for disaster, not only here and now, since it brings only anxiety and stress, but it jeopardises our future beyond this life.

May we welcome material things as gifts from God and put them to use with one eye on their provider. Any other approach is futile, or, as King Solomon would say, vanity. To quote St Basil the Great: “Now you are going to leave your money behind you here whether you like it or not, but on the other hand you will be taking with you to the Lord the credit obtained for your good works.”

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 03 August

Eucharistic Ministers
John & Irene Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers
Claire Lavery
Margaret Purdom

Children’s Liturgy
(In recess over summer holidays)

Welcomers
Halina Holman
Donna Watts

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 10 August

Eucharistic Ministers
Jane Smith, Helen Musham
Wilf Lavery

Readers
Brendan Payne
Greg Mearman

Children’s Liturgy
(In recess over summer holidays)

Welcomers
Paul & Anne Kelly

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

18th 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....

James & Helena HARRISON
Lena CUMMINS
Vera LUMSDON (Rec. Dec.)
Allen JOHN
Joseph CONDRON
Veronica HUTTON

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

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

£ **LAST WEEKEND’S COLLECTION** £

Gift Aid: £328 Loose Plate: £178

TOTAL: £506

Mass Attendance: 134

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

Gathering after Mass this week: As always on the first weekend Mass of the month, we will be gathering after Mass this evening for fellowship over some drinks and nibbles. If the weather is fine, we hope to gather in the garden behind the church. Everyone is welcome!

The Assumption: The Solemnity of the Assumption is, of course, a **hollyday of obligation**. There will be two Masses here at St Patrick's which hopefully will mean that all parishioners can attend Mass. There will be a **Vigil Mass at 6:30pm, Wednesday 14 August** and a **9:30am Mass on Thursday 15 August**. If you can't make either of these Masses, **St Cuthbert's** are having a Mass at 7:00pm on Wednesday and a 12:15pm Mass on Thursday. **St Godric's** will have Mass on Thursday at 10:00am and **St Joseph's**, also on Thursday, at 7:00pm.

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 minutes of the July meeting will be available shortly. The next meeting is scheduled for **02 October**. 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 I am asking all those who are in possession of a parish key to sign the key register in the sacristy before or after any of our Masses. You will need to have your key with you when doing this. Thank you for your co-operation.

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 orinfo@minsteracres.org.

Day of Reflection for all Ministries: "Serve the Lord with Gladness". This day of reflection is to be held at Ushaw College on **Saturday, 28 September, 10:30am - 3:30pm** and will be led by Fr Mark Millward. I feel that it is important that all of those involved in ministries here at St Patrick's, be they Minister of the Eucharist, readers, welcomers, children's liturgy assistants, musicians and others, make the effort to get to this day. Ongoing formation is crucial to ensuring that we undertake our ministry with enthusiasm and purpose. Please see Fr Robert to put your name down. Cost is £10.00 but the parish will cover these costs because of the investment such a day provides for the parish. See the poster on the noticeboard for more details. I've had three people express an interest but would like to see a few more!

Job Vacancy: Care Assistants Required - **Little Sisters of the Poor, Westmorland Road, Newcastle**. St Joseph's Home is a large residential care home for the elderly run by The Little Sisters of the Poor in Newcastle. Full and Part-Time Hours available. Shifts are 8:00am-3:00pm, 3:00pm-9:00pm. For more information please contact Lee-Marie Thornley on 0191 273 1279 or send an email at lee.marie@london.co.uk

Foodbank: County Durham Foodbank has sent a thank you notice informing us that so far in 2019 we, as a parish, have collected **244kg** of food which has been enough to supply **305 meals** for those in need. Well done - let's keep up the great work!

The Kids' Bulletin

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 4th, 2019

Use the code at the bottom to find out what the rich farmer in today's Gospel wasn't thinking about.



1 6 3 - - 3 2 0 + 3 X 4 3

9 8 8 + 5 7 - 9 5 + 5 X

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 + - X
A B D E H I L N O P R S T

The Rich Farmer Word-Find

"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does NOT consist of POSSESSIONS." There was a rich man whose LANDS PRODUCED a BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. He asked himself, "What shall I do, for I do not have SPACE to store my harvest?" And he said, "This is what I shall do: I shall TEAR down my BARNs and build LARGER ones. There I shall store all my GRAIN and other GOODS and I shall SAY to MYSELF, "Now as for you, you have so MANY good things STORED up for many years, REST, EAT, DRINK, be MERRY!" But GOD said to him, "You FOOL, this NIGHT your LIFE will be DEMANDED of you; and the THINGS you have PREPARED, to whom will they belong?"

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not RICH in what matters to God.

M D O P B A R N S E A T
E N P R O D U C E D T B
R R O E U E D R I N K M
R I S P N M Y S E L F A
Y C S A T A E G R A I N
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O R S E F D N O T G A G
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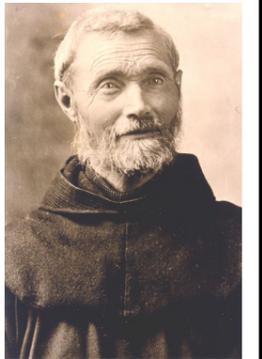
Find the words from today's Gospel that are written in CAPITALS. Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Blessed Frédéric Janssoone – 05 August

Frédéric was born in Flanders in 1838, the youngest of thirteen children. When he was nine years old, his father died, and he left school to help support his mother, until her death in 1861. He then joined the Franciscans and became a priest. After serving as a military chaplain and preaching in the Holy Land, he was sent to Canada on a fund-raising tour in 1881, settling there permanently in 1888. By his preaching and writing he led many people to bear authentic witness to the Gospel and share his closeness to Christ. He died in 1916.



(Text taken from *Universalis*)

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for August

That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth".

"Prayer is most precious, for it nourishes a daily commitment to love."



~ 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!



Next Week's Readings

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12

Luke 12:35-40



"See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit."

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"We really live outside of ourselves. There are very few humans who truly live inside themselves and this is why there are so many problems ... In each person's heart, there is something like a small, intimate space, where God comes down to speak alone with that person. And this is where a person determines his or her own destiny, his or her own role in the world. If each of the people with so many problems were to enter at this moment this small space, and, once there, were to listen to the voice of the Lord which speaks in our own conscience, how much could each of us do to improve the environment, society, the family with whom we live?"

St Oscar Romero (1917-1980)
Archbishop of San Salvador



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....

