

The week ahead...

Saturday 17 August Vigil Mass for 20 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Bridie, Ray and Bernadette Winnard and pro populo
Sunday 18 August 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 19 August Monday of Week 20	NO MASS	
Tuesday 20 August <i>St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor</i>	6:30pm	Mass: Private intention
Wednesday 21 August <i>Dedication of St Mary's Cathedral</i>	9:30am	Mass: Susan Michiels
Thursday 22 August <i>The Queenship of Mary</i>	9:30am	Mass: Thomas & Marie Carey
Friday 23 August Friday of Week 20	7:00am	Mass: Private intention
Saturday 24 August Vigil Mass for 21 st Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Susan Michiels and pro populo



St Patrick's R.C. Church
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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 August 2019

“...son against father, mother against daughter...”

IT IS OFTEN SAID, quite rightly, that scripture ought to make us feel uncomfortable, that we shouldn't be reading it with the main objective to make us feel contented and at peace. Of course, when we are feeling distressed or anxious, then it is quite appropriate that we seek words of comfort. But scripture was not written for that purpose; it was written, at least in part, to shake us out of complacency as we encounter the truth.

And this weekend's gospel is a prime example of that. What we hear strikes us immediately as being uncharacteristic of Jesus, perhaps because Jesus has for many generations been sanitised, compartmentalised and turned into a mawkish caricature of the real Jesus. By his very nature, Jesus was a divisive figure and the fact that he was crucified is surely testament to that! Both his preaching and his actions divided opinion and it is clear from the scriptures that Jesus had both his supporters and his detractors, most of the former among the “common people” and the latter from the learned elite.

Perhaps it is the manner in which Jesus speaks that is most disconcerting: “I have come to bring fire to the earth...”, and soon after that stating that he has come to bring division to the world. It sounds as though it is Jesus's *desire* to cause this division rather than a natural result of his positive and life-giving message, as if Jesus were a power-hungry psychopath, intent on wreaking havoc at all costs. We know, of course, that this is not true. Luke is trying to stress that Jesus's mission is of such importance that everyone needs to make a choice to either embrace Jesus's message or reject it. Inevitably, choices will be made on both sides, often within the same family, hence Jesus's list of family divisions that make up the last part of this weekend's gospel.

Such is the inevitable result of making a choice for Christ. It is fair to say that in these times in which there has been a decided shift towards a more confrontational and partisan style of political discourse, there has been something of a parallel with regard to society's attitudes towards faith, especially Christian faith. No matter how devotedly we live out our faith as Christians, there will be people who reject Christianity outright without having made the effort to investigate its basic message. Mind you, the Church hasn't endeared itself to people with its betrayal of so many young and vulnerable people through the sexual and emotional abuse which has been brought to light in recent times.

This means that those of us who are seeking to live out the Christian ideal need to be prepared for rejection, even by those close to us at times. This is the cross we must bear. Despite our efforts to show the face of Christ to others, the response we receive will not always be favourable. At times it may be rejection, but at other times, probably most of the time, it will be indifference.

Whatever the case, let us not be discouraged from our efforts. After all, what if Christ had decided to simply give up his mission because of an unfavourable response?

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 17 August
Eucharistic Ministers
 John & Irene Carey
 Harry Curran
Readers
 Rowan Payne
 Pat Middleton
Children's Liturgy
 (In recess over summer holidays)
Welcomers
 Angela Harmston
 Christine Tracey
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 24 August
Eucharistic Ministers
 Gordon & Angela Tosley
 Angela Harmston
Readers
 Stella Foody
 Marie Paily
Children's Liturgy
 (In recess over summer holidays)
Welcomers
 Pat Middleton
 Mary Kitching
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

20th 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....
 Bridie, Ray & Bernadette WINNARD
 Vera LUMSDON (Rec. Dec.)
 Harry ABERDEEN
 Fr Michael MARR
 Judith BYRNE

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

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

£ **LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION** £
Gift Aid: £194 Loose Plate: £191
TOTAL: £385
Mass Attendance: 115
 DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

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 have been posted on the noticeboard. 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.

Partnership Development Group (PDG): The minutes of the latest meeting of the PDG (25 July) are now on display on the noticeboard. The next meeting is scheduled for 01 October.

Play Area: Parents and carers are welcome to take babies and toddlers to this area at the rear of the church at any time before or during Mass. Please ensure that babies and toddlers are supervised at all times and please try to leave the area tidy after use. A baby change-table has also been installed in the bathroom for your convenience.

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.

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, and is open to a visit, please pass their details on to Fr Robert.

Finchale Partnership Open Afternoons: People often say they would like to know more about the other parishes and churches in the partnership. The next in our series of open afternoons is on **Sunday, 15th September**, from 2:00pm -4:00pm, at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham. St. Cuthbert's was opened in 1827 and is home to the University Catholic Chaplaincy as well as to the parish. The people of St. Cuthbert's are looking forward to welcoming visitors from across the partnership to look around, chat over refreshments, and learn a little about the parish. The afternoon will finish with simple vespers at 3:50pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. You don't have to sign up in advance, but if you need a lift to Durham, or if you are able to offer someone else a lift, please let Fr Robert know.

Changes to Mass Schedule in September: Please note that I will be on leave next month from 01-20 September. This means that there will be no weekday Masses, though the Saturday Vigil Mass will still be celebrated with Fr Andrew Downie here on 7th and Fr Paul Tully on the 14th. The 9:30am Mass on Wednesday 04, 11 and 18 September will be replaced with a Service of the Word with Communion. Because of there being no weekday Masses, please be aware that no Mass intentions can be offered in my absence. Weekday Masses will return to the usual schedule beginning on Tuesday 24th.

Willington Afternoon Tea: A reminder that this Sunday, **18 August**, Willington parish is holding a fundraising afternoon tea from **3:00pm - 5:00pm**. Cost is £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children. All are welcome!

Twitter: Please don't forget St Patrick's has a Twitter account and something is tweeted each day. These tweets are both of a spiritual and practical nature. Simply search for **St Patrick's Langley Moor**. Twitter is free to use and can be accessed on any computer or mobile device.

The Kids' Bulletin

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 18, 2019

Match the parts to find out!

"I have come to set the earth on fire,	and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."
There is a baptism with which I must be baptized,	and a son against his father,
Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?	and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!
From now on a household of five will be divided,	No, I tell you, but rather division.
a father will be divided against his son	and a daughter against her mother,
a mother against her daughter	and how I wish it were already blazing!
a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law	three against two and two against three;

What did Jesus say in today's Gospel reading?
Match the parts to find out!

Follow the Leader Fill-in-the-Blanks

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks and unscramble the letters from the boxes to fill in the spaces at the end!

Brothers and sisters:
Since we are surrounded by so _____ a cloud of witnesses, let us rid _____ of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in _____ the race that lies before us while _____ our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and _____ of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before _____ he endured the cross, _____ its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the _____ of God. Consider how he _____ such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow _____ and lose heart.



ENDURED
OURSELVES
PERFECTER
KEEPING
WEARY
HIM
GREAT
DESPISING
THRONE
RUNNING

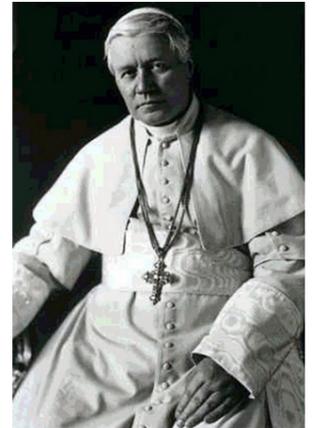
SAINT OF THE WEEK

Pope St Pius X – 21 August

Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto was born in 1835 in the village of Riese, near Venice, one of ten children of a very poor family. He was ordained to the priesthood at the age of 23. He was successively bishop of Mantua and of Venice, and was elected Pope, against his wishes, in 1903. In his time as Pope, he sought to "restore all things in Christ." He insisted on the separation of Church and State, revised the Code of Canon Law, founded an institute for scriptural studies, and initiated the revision of the Latin translation of the Bible and the reform of the liturgy.

He lived in great poverty even when he was Pope and preached sermons every Sunday in the courtyards of the Vatican. He died on 20 August 1914, just after the outbreak of the First World War.

(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 09 September** 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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30



"Try your best to enter by the narrow door."

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Let us make God great in public and in private life. This means making room for God in our lives every day, starting in the morning with prayers, and then dedicating time to God, giving Sundays to God. We do not waste our free time if we offer it to God. If God enters into our time, all time becomes greater, roomier, richer."

Pope Benedict XVI (b.1927)
Assumption Homily 2005



CONGRATULATIONS.... to the parents, the godparents and other family members of **Raphael Sebastian THOMPSON-KING** who was baptised here last Sunday afternoon. Please keep Raphael and his family in your prayers, that he may come to know the joy of life as a Christian disciple.

