

The week ahead...

Saturday 07 September Vigil Mass for 23 rd Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Bryan Cheeseey and pro populo
Sunday 08 September 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 09 September Monday of Week 23	NO MASS	
Tuesday 10 September Tuesday of Week 23	NO MASS	
Wednesday 11 September Wednesday of Week 23	9:30am	Communion Service
Thursday 12 September Thursday of Week 23	NO MASS	
Friday 13 September <i>St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor</i>	NO MASS	
Saturday 14 September Vigil Mass for 24 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Maughan & Kitching families 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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 08 September 2019

"None of you can be my disciple unless..."

IT HAS BEEN SAID that if there is one person from history you would not invite to a dinner party it is Jesus. This is because Jesus was a straight talker and would not be sympathetic to many of the niceties that are characteristic of most dinner parties. He would undoubtedly see through the pretentiousness that marks many formal parties and gatherings. I think the same could be said about having Jesus as a manager at a workplace because Jesus was undoubtedly a demanding character. He wasn't one for half-measures or someone not giving themselves wholly to their task. And there is probably no better gospel that illustrates this than the one presented to us this weekend.

In the gospel three weeks ago Jesus declared, quite astonishingly, that he came to bring division to the earth, not peace. From that point on, he said, "a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three." The words were shocking but we might have comforted ourselves with the thought that this was an isolated incident. Yet, this weekend the words of Jesus jolt us out of any comfort we might have lulled ourselves into because we hear Jesus shocking us with this declaration: "If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother ... and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple." Clearly, what we heard three weeks ago was no aberration.

So, what's going on here? Why would Jesus, the essence of whose message was to love God and neighbour, say that in order to be his disciple we must hate those closest to us?

Jesus was making the point, in his usual undiluted way, that discipleship involves a cost. Many of those who followed Jesus undoubtedly fell away when they came to realise that the kingdom he preached was not one in which his followers would be in a privileged place above others who were not disciples. When they heard him speak of sacrifice and of the cross, they couldn't reconcile this with their notions of power and privilege. It is hardly surprising they lost interest in following Jesus: there was an unexpected cost and it was too high.

Jesus makes the fact that there is a cost to discipleship by giving examples of people weighing up the costs before embarking on ambitious projects, namely building a tower and going to war. The price we must pay for our discipleship is to eliminate selfishness in order that we may love both God and our neighbour unconditionally. This is the point Jesus is making in his initial words about hating mother, father, and so on. If we are prepared to go only so far, then we cannot be truly his disciples.

In counting the cost of discipleship however, we must understand that we are not called to selflessness and unconditional love for its own sake. Out of his love for us, Jesus asks total commitment to him in order that we may inherit his kingdom. That we can get a foretaste of that reward here on earth by living as Jesus's true disciples will hopefully give us the incentive we need to continue on our pilgrim journey and the sacrifices that are an integral part of it.

The price we pay is minuscule relative to the reward that is promised, but it must nonetheless be paid.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 07 September

Eucharistic Ministers
John & Irene Carey
Kevin Boyle

Readers
Ann Canavan
Angela Tosley

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Helen Riddles

Welcomers
Paul & Anne Kelly

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 14 September

Eucharistic Ministers
Helen Musham, Jane Smith
Wilf Lavery

Readers
Margaret Purdom
Claire Lavery

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

23rd 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...

Bryan CHEESEY
Marie CAREY
Glenda FISHER
Thomas WINTER

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

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

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £239 Loose Plate: £199

TOTAL: £438

Mass Attendance: 140

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

Gathering after Mass this week: As always on the first Saturday Vigil Mass of the month, we will be gathering in the school hall after Mass today for fellowship over some drinks and nibbles. Everyone is welcome!

Missio September Quarterly Collection: Red boxes and brown envelope contributions will be collected by sponsors this month. Your monies go directly to helping the most needy in our foreign mission countries.

Retiring Collections: There will be two retiring collections taken this week and next week. Today's collection is for **Catholic Education**. **Next weekend's** collection is for **Home Mission Sunday**. This particular collection goes towards assisting the mission of the Church in England and Wales. As always, please be as generous as you can with both these collections, the first for some time. 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.

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 from **01-20 September**. We welcome Fr Andrew Downie here this Saturday and Fr Paul Tully next Saturday. The 9:30am Mass on Wednesday 11 and 18 September will be replaced with a Service of the Word with Communion. Because there will be 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.

School Opening Mass: The Mass to mark the beginning of the school year will be held on **Monday 23 September** at **9:30am**. All parishioners are welcome to this Mass, a great way to show your support for our wonderful primary school and its dedicated staff.

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 Heart of Prayer: An Introductory Day on Centring Prayer: Ushaw College, Saturday 21 September, 10:00am – 3:30pm, led by Elizabeth Smith. Elizabeth has given numerous retreats and workshops on Centring Prayer, sharing the teaching of Fr Thomas Keating. Thomas was Elizabeth's mentor and friend. Elizabeth founded Contemplative Outreach UK with Fr Keating's blessing and support in 1989. The cost for the day is £10 per person, including tea/coffee in the morning and in the afternoon. Light meals may be purchased in The Refectory. Booking is essential. To purchase a ticket, go to www.ushaw.org. See noticeboard for details.

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.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Osburg – 09 September

Saint Osburg was the first abbess of a monastery founded at Coventry by King Canute at the beginning of the eleventh century. She died around 1018. Although nothing else is known about her, there was a strong cult to St Osburg in the City of Coventry during the Middle Ages. In the nineteenth-century revival of Catholicism, Bishop Ullathorne dedicated the first Catholic Church in the city to her. The ninth of September is the date when Bishop Wiseman consecrated the new church to St Osburg in Coventry in 1845.



(Text taken from *Universalis*)

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for September

That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

“Political activity must truly be conducted at the service of the human person, with respect for creation and for the common good.”



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~

Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly **Prayer Group** will be held at **St John's, Meadowfield** on **Tuesday 17 September**, 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!



SCHOOL NEWS

Start of the School Year

On Wednesday, we welcomed pupils to the start of a new school year. Some pupils and families are new to our school. So, a special welcome to Dylan, Oscar, Leon, James, Makayla, Blanka, Benediktas, Ava, Maddox and Finn, who started school in Reception Class, and to Courteney, Emilia, Millie, and Klaudia, who joined our junior classes, from other primary schools.

Worship

This week, staff and pupils gathered together to pray for God's blessing on the new school year. We reflected on our need of God's help, so that we can be fully alive and be the people God wants us to be.

Opening Mass

Mass, to mark the opening of the new school year, will be celebrated at 9:30am on Monday 23 September, in St. Patrick's Church. Pupils new to the school will be presented with a bible at the close of the celebration. We hope that many of our parishioners and families are able to join us in the celebration.

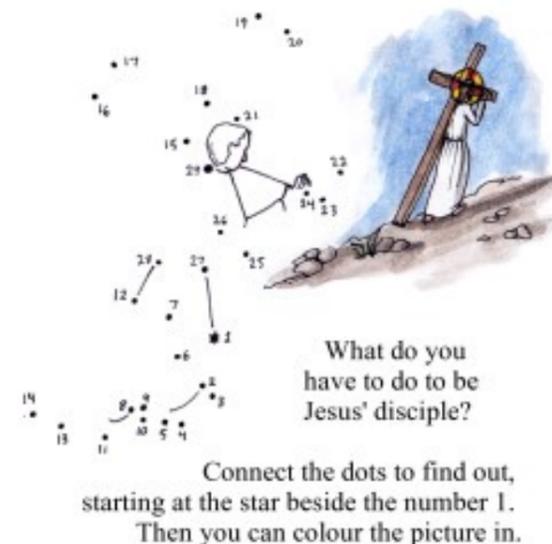
Twitter

You can follow us on Twitter (@StPatsLM), to read about some of the activities the children have been engaged in and to see some of their work. New items are posted daily.



The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 8th, 2019



*Today is also Our Lady's Birthday!
What can your family do to celebrate Mary's Birthday?*

Next Week's Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-32



“QUOTE OF THE WEEK”

“When we are linked up by the power of prayer, we, as it were, hold each other's hand as we walk side by side along a slippery path; and thus by the bounteous disposition of charity, it comes about that the harder each one leans on the other, the more firmly we are riveted together in brotherly love.”

St Gregory the Great (c.540 - 604)
Pope and Doctor of the Church



PLEASE PRAY FOR....the following intentions during Ordinary Time in autumn as requested by Bishop Robert: **Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.**

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

