

The week ahead...

Saturday 28 September Vigil Mass for 26 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Nellie, Tom & John Lynch and pro populo
Sunday 29 September 26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 30 September <i>St Jerome, Priest, Doctor</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday 01 October <i>St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor</i>	6:30pm	Mass: Private Intention
Wednesday 02 October <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	9:30am	Mass: Lizzabella & Margaret Jane Morris
Thursday 03 October Thursday of Week 26	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Friday 04 October <i>St Francis of Assisi, Religious</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 05 October Vigil Mass for 27 th Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Pro populo

Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 28 September

Eucharistic Ministers
Angela & Gordon Tosley
Angela Harmston

Readers
Pat Middleton
Rowan Payne

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Michelle Dennis

Welcomers
Halina Holman
Donna Watts

Music
Greg Mearman & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 05 October

Eucharistic Ministers
Teresa & Malcolm Wass
Andrew Aberdeen

Readers
Marie Paily
Stella Foody

Children's Liturgy
Maria Griffiths
Helen Riddles

Welcomers
Paul & Anne Kelly

Music
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

26th 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....

Nellie, Tom & John LYNCH
Frank McGOAY
John WORRALL
Anne WAGGOTT
George WOODWARD

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 and Mary Spears



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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time 29 September 2019

"...at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus..."

WHEN WE HEAR the name Lazarus we usually bring to mind the brother of Mary and Martha whom Jesus raised from the dead in a dramatic scene in the Gospel of John (11:38-44), calling to him "Lazarus, come out!" In this weekend's gospel passage, we come across the other Lazarus mentioned in the gospels, the one who was poor and is contrasted with the rich man who refused to offer any assistance to him. Lazarus lay begging each day at the gate of the rich man who, interestingly, is unnamed in the story, though tradition refers to him as Dives.

Unlike the Lazarus whom Jesus raised from the dead, Jesus does not personally engage with the Lazarus we hear about this weekend, but rather speaks of him in a parable, one of the many parables unique to Luke's gospel.

On the surface, the story appears to be a simple illustration of a lack of charity on the part of the rich. It would be easy for us to understand the principle message being driven home by Jesus as an indictment of the rich and a command for them to share their wealth with the less fortunate. Of course, Catholic social teaching urges us to strive for a world in which there is a fairer distribution of wealth and so to draw this message from the parable would by no means be wrong. But, as is always the case, we are urged to look at the parable more deeply so that we might not miss the message which is meant for each of us to hear, rich or otherwise.

The rich man regrets his lack of charity. Clearly, he did not expect to be experiencing the torment of Hades after his death and wants to spare the same fate for his five brothers. We hear Abraham's response to the rich man's pleadings, ending in a clear reference to the resurrection of Jesus, noting that those who stubbornly refuse to listen to the prophets "will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

For us, there is a warning about the dangers of our comforts and pleasures, however modest they may be. It was the rich man's wealth that made him oblivious to Lazarus, or rather made Lazarus invisible to him. His wealth also made the rich man ignorant of his need of God. It is perhaps this last point which is most relevant for us. We can be tempted to put a price on everything, including our relationship with God. We might think that the cost of this relationship amounts to simply giving to charity occasionally, avoiding serious sin and ensuring we fulfil our Sunday obligation. This doesn't impinge on our comforts and pleasures, at least not too much, and so this is a price we are prepared to pay.

But we are called to give all to God, not just of our excess. This is why Lazarus was rewarded after his death. It is perhaps easier for the poor, whose lives are less cluttered with material goods, pleasures and the power and influence so many others possess, to be open to the work of God in their lives.

Herein lies a lesson for us all: to pursue simple, less cluttered lives, so that we are open to the abundance that God wants to bestow upon us, including the gift of eternal life as was gifted to the poor man Lazarus.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
Fr Robert



£ **LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION** £

Gift Aid: £130 Loose Plate: £252

TOTAL: £382

Mass Attendance: 139

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

What's going on...?

Family Fast Day (CAFOD): Family Fast Day is scheduled for **Friday, 04 October** and a collection will be taken up on 05 October after Mass. Our CAFOD representative, Tricia Whitfield, will read the appeal letter out at Mass next weekend as well as hand out envelopes for the collection the following weekend. As always, thanking you in anticipation of your generosity.

Missio (Mill Hill Missionaries): The Mill Hill Missionaries send any foreign money and old/ used stamps collected from parishes to be converted into cash. Please give any used stamps and foreign currency (that you no longer need) to Michael and Stella Foody. They will send it to Mill Hill Missionaries in Freshfield, Liverpool, on your behalf. Thank you!

School Opening Mass: Thank you to all who helped make the School Opening Mass a success last Monday. Let us continue to pray for our staff and students throughout the year ahead.

Church Linen: A team of three ladies takes turns to wash the small cloths used at Mass each week. Numbers have been reduced from the original five due to illness or death. The team would be very grateful if two or three volunteers would come forward. Please see Margaret Purdom or Claire Lavery if you would be willing to assist.

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): The next meeting of the PPC is scheduled for **Wednesday 09 October**, starting at **7:00pm**. The minutes of the last meeting are on the noticeboard along with a draft agenda and a sign-up sheet for those wishing to come to the meeting is also at the rear of the church.

Church Cleaning: You might remember that around a year ago we

undertook a major cleaning of the church and vowed to make this an annual event. The time has come! Our next major clean will take place on **Saturday 19 October** from **10:00am - 1:00pm** followed by lunch. Come for all or a portion of this time. Sign-up sheet at the rear of the church.

Last Night of the Proms: This event is happening at Ushaw College on **Saturday 12 October, 7:30pm**. Tickets £10.00. Contact Ushaw College on 0191 373 8500 or www.ushawboxoffice.com.

HCPT Coffee Morning: A huge thank you to everyone who supported and gave so generously at the recent coffee morning held in Saint Patrick's school hall. The amount raised was £1250 which was an amazing amount of money and far surpassed all our expectations. The money raised will sponsor children to travel to Lourdes Easter 2020. Saint Patrick's Parish continues to support us so very generously for which we are extremely grateful. Rest assured all our supporters will all be remembered in our daily prayers, Masses and liturgies, when we visit Lourdes at Easter 2020. Thank you! HCPT Group 25.

Autumn Bible Studies: As well as the regular monthly Bible study that takes place at St Andrew's Methodist in Brandon, there is another weekly gathering (next on **Friday 04 October, 2:00pm - 3:00pm**), which is looking at Paul's Letter to the Colossians. See the poster on the noticeboard for more details. All welcome!

Finchale Partnership open afternoons: The last of this year's series of open afternoons is on **Sunday, 06 October, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm, at St Joseph's, Gilesgate**, one of the churches in Durham Martyrs parish. The people of Durham Martyrs are looking forward to welcoming visitors from across the partnership to look around, chat over refreshments, and learn a little about the parish.

SCHOOL NEWS

Start of School Mass

Thank you to all who came along to the celebration of Mass on Monday morning, to mark the beginning of the new school year. Special thanks to Father Robert, for leading us in the celebration; to Bill Wilkinson, for providing the music and to the children who gave particular support - Michael, Joanna, Jessica, Leo, Ella and Jack.

St. Leonard's Mass of Welcome

A Mass of Welcome took place at St. Leonard's School, on Thursday evening. Father Robert was the celebrant, whilst Mrs Burnside joined with other head teachers in the St Leonard's cluster, to mark the start of the secondary school education of pupils who transferred there, at the beginning of this academic year.

Start of School Liturgy

Thank you to those who came along to the liturgy on Friday afternoon, when our Reception pupils, who started school this year, were given a special welcome. This celebration was followed by a cake sale, to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

School Football Team

This week, the football team won 1-0, in a very close game, against Kelloe. They lost the next game 2-1, against Sacriston.

Masses and Liturgies

The following celebrations will take place, in our school chapel, over the next two weeks:

Liturgy with Reception on **Wednesday 02 October** @ 3:00pm

Liturgy with Years 1 & 2 on **Wednesday 09 October** @ 3:00pm

Everyone is always welcome!



The Kids' Bulletin

Sort-the-Pictures Lazarus and the Rich Man



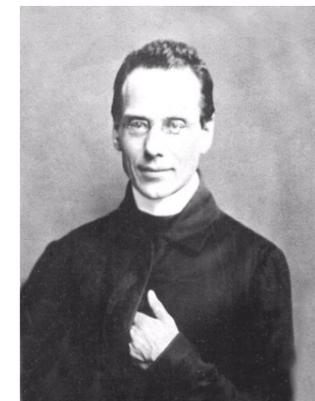
In this story are Lazarus, the rich man, and Abraham. The pictures are not in order, though. Can you put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the corners to show their proper order?

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos - 05 October

Francis Xavier Seelos was born in Füssen, In Bavaria, in what is now Germany, on 11 January 1819. He entered the diocesan seminary. Coming to know the charism of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists), he joined that congregation and was sent to North America. He was ordained a priest in 1844.

He began his pastoral ministry in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as assistant pastor of his confrère St John Neumann, serving also as Master of Novices and dedicating himself to preaching. He became a full-time itinerant missionary preacher, preaching in both English and German in a number of different states. He died in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 04 October 1867.



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

The next **Bible Study Group** will meet on **Monday 07 October** 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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4

2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Luke 17:5-10

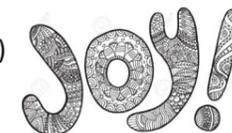


"We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"In other words, joy is not something determined by our state of mind or situation; it lies far deeper than happiness or unhappiness, consolation or desolation, pleasure or pain. It is not something we feel but something we do. It is something to be chosen, a choice God calls us to. In calling us to himself, he calls us to joy, for he is our joy. This is why we can always "rejoice in the Lord", even when we have a thousand reasons for being sad or upset."

Sr Mary David Totah (1957-2017)
Benedictine nun



CONGRATULATIONS.... to the parents, the godparents and other family members of **Ayla-Grace HARRIETTE** who was baptised here last Saturday afternoon. Please keep Ayla-Grace and her family in your prayers, that she may come to know the joy of life as a Christian disciple.

