

# The week ahead...

<b>Saturday 26 October</b> Vigil Mass for 30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: <b>Susan Michiels and pro populo</b>
<b>Sunday 27 October</b> 30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Monday 28 October</b> <i>SS Simon and Jude, Apostles</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday 29 October</b> Tuesday of Week 30	6:30pm	Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Wednesday 30 October</b> <i>The Martyrs of Douai College</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>Fr Joe Hughes &amp; Peter Murphy</b>
<b>Thursday 31 October</b> Thursday of Week 30	9:30am 7:00pm	Mass: <b>Harry &amp; Teresa Coad</b> Vigil Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Friday 01 November</b> <i>All Saints' Day</i> (Holyday of Obligation)	9:30am	Mass: <b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 02 November</b> <i>All Souls' Day</i>	9:30am	Mass: <b>All the Faithful Departed</b>
<b>Saturday 02 November</b> Vigil Mass for 31 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: <b>John Kennedy and pro populo</b>



**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

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 27 October 2019

**“God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”**

ALTHOUGH THE SACRAMENT of Reconciliation seems to be a lot less popular than it once was, even a generation ago, I always enjoy celebrating it as a confessor (less so, perhaps, as a penitent!) It is humbling to hear people being vulnerable and speaking of the times they have failed to live out their Christian calling, sins which I know only too well in my experience as a fellow Christian and struggling pilgrim.

Of course, the manner in which people celebrate the sacrament as penitents varies a great deal. Some people are used to the “shopping list” style of telling their sins to the priest, others will take a more general approach, focusing on a particular area that concerns them the most. Most interestingly, there is the occasional penitent who comes to confession to talk more about the sins she or he has *not* committed and less about those she or he has.

This approach speaks volumes about the state of mind of the penitent, which clearly is focused on bolstering self-esteem by highlighting those sins that have been avoided over those that have been committed. The Pharisee in this weekend's gospel is evidently of the same ilk, though to a greater extent because he doesn't make the effort to confess any sins at all! His approach is to emphasise his goodness relative to the tax collector's sinfulness and try to sanctify it by thanking God for his (the Pharisee's) goodness.

And it is this point that is worthy of our consideration. The Pharisee most likely was not “grasping, unjust or adulterous” and probably did indeed fast and pay tithes as he claimed. Pharisees, despite the bad press they get based on their encounters with Jesus, were by no means inherently bad people. Jesus did not have an issue with them *per se* but in the way they placed the Law above people, inhibiting their relationship with God. This Pharisee, by comparing himself to the tax collector, whose very existence involved the sins of stealing and greed, feels that being relatively good meant that he was at rights with God.

It is evident that many people, perhaps all of us at one time or another, try to justify their beliefs and actions on the basis that our sins are relatively minor compared to all the “terrible” people we see and hear about in the news. In our frailty and insecurity, we feel a need to know that we are loved and, for those of us who profess a belief in God, to know that God loves us and, conversely, despises those “worse” than us. After all, we are not murderers or adulterers and have never had anything worse against our name than a speeding or parking ticket, so why do we need to concern ourselves about our relationship with God? Surely, we are “all right”?

This attitude is dangerous because it fails to acknowledge that Jesus calls us not to avoid the pitfalls of others but to actively do good, living as Jesus himself did during his time on earth. Merely saying that we avoid the worst of sins only distracts us from the many, possibly numerous, “small” sins that may well be habitual and need to be dealt with.

May we adopt the humility of the tax collector as we reflect on where we stand in our relationship with God, rather than the arrogance of the Pharisee.

*Wishing you a blessed week ahead,*  
Fr Robert



**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 26 October**

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Angela & Gordon Tosley  
Harry Curran

**Readers**  
Claire Lavery  
Marie Paily

**Children's Liturgy**  
Maria Griffiths  
Michelle Dennis

**Welcomers**  
Halina Holman  
Donna Watts

**Music**  
Greg Mearman & Choir

**MINISTRIES**  
**Saturday 02 November**

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Ambrose & Pauline Burnside  
Angela Harmston

**Readers**  
Brendan Payne  
Angela Tosley

**Children's Liturgy**  
Maria Griffiths  
Helen Riddles

**Welcomers**  
Paul & Anne Kelly

**Music**  
Bill Wilkinson & Choir

**30<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....**

Susan MICHIELS  
Stefan Joseph SZELAG  
William MURPHY  
Joseph KENNY  
Anne HAMILTON  
Maria WILKINSON

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

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

£ **LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION** £

Gift Aid: £221    Loose Plate: £196

**TOTAL: £417**

Mass Attendance: 134

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE  
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



# What's going on...?

**Family Fast Day (CAFOD):** Final chance to place an envelope in the collection basket this weekend if you haven't done so thus far to support CAFOD. Envelopes are at the back of the church. You can also contribute online at [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk). The collection so far comes to **£505.65**. As always, thank you for your generosity.

**Mission Sunday Collection:** The retiring collection for Mission Sunday last weekend came to a total of **£178.10**. Thank you!

**Prisons Week:** Please don't forget the collection box at the rear of the church for donations to NEPACS for prisoners being released from HMP Low Newton (women). Suitable items to contribute are toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, deodorant, flannels, combs etc. Donations will be taken to St Cuthbert's **after this weekend**. For more information visit [www.nepacs.co.uk](http://www.nepacs.co.uk), phone 0191 375 7278 or see the NEPACS poster on the noticeboard.

**Christmas Flower Donations:** We all love to see the church decorated beautifully with flowers at special times of the year such as Christmas. That being so, there will be a bowl for donations near Our Lady's statue in the narthex next week and throughout November and early December for donations. Thank you for your generosity!

**Fr Ejaz Project:** The latest report and financial statement from Fr Ejaz has been posted on the noticeboard at the rear of the church. If you wish to receive a copy, please see Fr Robert.

**Partnership Development Group (PDG) Minutes:** The minutes of the latest PDG meeting earlier this month are now available on the noticeboard. Note also the folder at the rear of the church on the table adjacent to the statue of Our Lady which contains all of the material related to the PDG for your information.

**All Saints' and All Souls' Masses:** These two days are just around the corner. A reminder that the Feast of All Saints is a **holyday of obligation**. As usual, to allow as many of the faithful as possible to come to Mass on All Saints, there will be two Masses celebrated: a Vigil Mass at **7:00pm on Thursday, 31 October** and **9:30am on Friday, 01 November**. The usual 7:00am Mass will be cancelled for that day. Mass for All Souls will be celebrated at **9:30am on Saturday 02 November**. The usual Vigil Mass at 5:00pm on 02 November will be for the 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**All Saints' in nearby parishes:** If you are unable to come to Mass here for All Saints', St Cuthbert's in Durham will have a Vigil Mass on Thursday at 7:00pm and on Friday at 12:15pm. Durham Martyrs will have a Mass at St Bede's on Friday at 9:30am and also on Friday at St Joseph's at 7:00pm.

**Remembrance Sunday:** This year Remembrance Sunday will be celebrated in two weeks' time on 10 November.

**Church Lighting:** You will (hopefully) have noticed as you walked into the church this evening, that the lighting of the nave is brighter than it has been. New LED lights were installed last Tuesday which also highlight the crucifix over the sanctuary.

**End of Daylight Saving:** Don't forget to put your clocks **back** one hour before bed tonight!

**Retiring Collection:** In two weeks' time (**10 November**), we will take up a retiring collection for the Clergy Training Fund.

**Day of Reflection:** With Sr Rosarie Spence RSM at Ushaw College on Wednesday 27 November, 10:30am – 3:30pm. An opportunity to step aside, experience different ways of praying and enjoy a time of personal prayer, all in the beautiful surroundings at Ushaw. The cost is £10 per person, including tea/coffee at the beginning and end of the day. Lunch may be purchased in the Refectory. Booking should be made at [www.ushaw.org](http://www.ushaw.org).

**Social Night:** The Social Committee would like to thank all who attended the social night last Friday, 18 October. A big thank you to the Social Committee for their hard work is well-deserved too! There is still one unclaimed raffle prize for orange/white ticket **651**. Please see Irene Carey or Angela Harmston if you hold this ticket.

## The Kids' Bulletin

### All Saints Word-Find

The Feast of All Saints is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

STEPHENABALVB  
CATHERINENUIG  
DOMINICNRDCNE  
LRMSPSHENRYCM  
UOIIAAOLAEEM  
KBCMUALIDWINA  
EEHOLCAZEAJT  
FRANCISATSUHT  
ATERESABTMSOH  
WILLIAMEEATME  
INMARKATERIAW  
JAMESJOHYNST

*This list has the names of just some of the many saints in heaven. Do you have a saint name? If you don't, maybe you can become the first saint with your name!*

ANDREW	JAMES	MICHAEL
ANNE	JOHN	NICHOLAS
BERNADETTE	JUSTIN	PAUL
CATHERINE	KATERI	ROBERT
DOMINIC	LIDWINA	SIMON
ELIZABETH	LUKE	STEPHEN
FRANCIS	LUCY	TERESA
GEMMA	MARK	THOMAS
HENRY	MARY	VINCENT
ISAAC	MATTHEW	WILLIAM

I want to \_\_\_\_\_ !

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St Marcellus the Centurion – 30 October

Marcellus was a centurion from Tingis (modern-day Tangier in Morocco) who not only refused to worship Roman gods but also threw down his soldier's insignia in front of the legion's standards. As he did this, he proclaimed his Christian identity, his allegiance to the Lord and rejected the worship of gods made of stone and wood. He was put to death by the sword around the year 300.



(Text taken from *Universalis*)

### Pope Francis' Mission Statement for October

**That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary "spring" in the Church.**

*"God impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond."*



### ~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~ Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly **Prayer Group** will be held here at **St Patrick's** on **Tuesday 19 November**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments from 9:15am.

The next **Bible Study Group** will meet on **Monday 11 November** 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

### Statement to Live By

This week's statement was, 'I understand that rights match responsibilities.' We shared the parable of the sheep and the goats and reflected on the importance of treating everyone as kindly as we would like to be treated, especially those in need.

### The Great Engineers' School Challenge

Years 5 and 6 attended the Locomotion Museum, to take part in the Great Engineers' Challenge. The children took along six Meccano structures, that they had built in school. All structures were awarded points and our school came in second place, against 20 other schools!

### Mission Together

Each year, **Mission Together** campaigns on behalf of one of its many projects that support children across the world. This year's campaign focuses on Johannes, an eleven-year-old resident at St John's Care Centre, in South Africa. This week, our own children heard about the work of St John's, and how it cares for orphaned children, some of whom are sick. This evening, the children will bring forward a gift, in support this campaign.



## Next Week's Readings

### 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Wisdom 11:22 - 12:2**

**2 Thess. 1:11- 2:2**

**Luke 19:1-10**



"Zacchaeus was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was..."

## "QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"We know certainly that our God calls us to a holy life. We know that He gives us every grace, every abundant grace; and though we are so weak of ourselves, this grace is able to carry us through every obstacle and difficulty."

**St Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
(1774-1821)

Foundress of the Sisters of Charity

*Grace*

**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....

