

The week ahead...

Saturday 18 January Vigil Mass for 2 nd Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: John McGough and pro populo
Sunday 19 January 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Monday 20 January Monday of Week 2	NO MASS	
Tuesday 21 January <i>St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr</i>	6:30pm	Mass: Kitching & Blakey families
Wednesday 22 January Wednesday of Week 2	9:30am	Mass: Carey & Wilson families
Thursday 23 January Thursday of Week 2	9:30am	Mass: Private Intention
Friday 24 January <i>St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor</i>	7:00am	Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 25 January Vigil Mass for 3 rd Sunday	5:00pm	Mass: Veronica & David Parkinson and pro populo



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2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 19 January 2020

“I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.”

THIS WEEKEND MARKS the end of the first week of Ordinary Time, denoting the end of the Christmas season which concluded last weekend with the feast of The Baptism of the Lord. This being so, we might expect to move on this weekend from any mention of the baptism of Jesus, but this is not to be. John the Baptist takes centre stage in this weekend's gospel and emphasis is given to his baptism of Jesus. Jesus is in the wings, not speaking a word in today's gospel, yet he is, of course, still very much central to the reading.

Though we are in Year A of our Sunday liturgical cycle, a year in which Matthew dominates our weekend gospel readings, today's gospel is taken from John. In John's gospel we hear many titles attributed to Jesus, some coming from his own mouth. In his seven "I am" statements, we hear Jesus refer to himself as the Bread of Life, the Light of the World, the Gate, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, the Way, the Truth and the Life, and the Vine. John the Baptist refers to Jesus by two titles in this weekend's short gospel: the Lamb of God and the Chosen One of God.

John the Baptist naturally speaks of Jesus in purely religious terms. Calling Jesus the Lamb of God is a direct reference to the Jewish Passover lamb, and the title Chosen One of God is based on his recent baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan and the supernatural experience of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus and hearing the voice of the Father speaking from heaven. John's references are based on his own experiences and his cultural context.

As we begin our year in Ordinary Time, an opportunity presents itself for us to reflect on our understanding of Jesus in our own context: if we could give Jesus a title based on our relationship with him, what would it be? As Catholics, we easily default to the titles we hear often in church such as Saviour, Lord and Messiah. Yet, if we want to make our faith more meaningful and personal, we should spend some time reflecting on the way Jesus works in our life. Perhaps we feel Jesus most at work in our relationships and so thank him for the times we have resisted the temptation to escalate a dispute and therefore call him Peacemaker. We might thank Jesus for the work he has done to help us, or someone we love, through an illness, and so call Jesus a Healer or Comforter. On another occasion we might experience a previously unknown feeling of confidence in approaching a task which we had thought insurmountable and so name Jesus our Strength.

These are just a few examples of titles that we, like John the Baptist and others, might attribute to Jesus as a means of acknowledging the One who takes a personal interest in every person and who seeks to make his presence known in each disciple. May we not only attribute these titles to Jesus but thank him too with lives that are lived in gratitude for all Jesus, the Anointed One, does for us.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead,
 Fr Robert



Confessions available after all Masses or by appointment

MINISTRIES
Saturday 18 January
Eucharistic Ministers
 Ambrose & Pauline Burnside
 Harry Curran
Readers
 Marie Paily
 Stella Foody
Children's Liturgy
 (No Children's Liturgy this weekend)
Welcomers
 Pat Middleton
 Mary Kitching
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

MINISTRIES
Saturday 25 January
Eucharistic Ministers
 Angela & Gordon Tosley
 Angela Harmston
Readers
 Ann Canavan
 Margaret Purdom
Children's Liturgy
 Maria Griffiths
 Helen Riddles
Welcomers
 Halina Holman
 Donna Watts
Music
 Bill Wilkinson & Choir

The Second Sunday

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....

John McGOUGH
 John MORAN
 John KITCHING
 Vera KITCHING

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

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

£ **LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION** £
Gift Aid: £252 Loose Plate: £169
TOTAL: £421
Mass Attendance: 117
 DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
 CHARITY NUMBER 1143450



What's going on...?

Sunday of the Word of God: Next weekend we celebrate the first "Sunday of the Word of God". Pope Francis has declared that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time be devoted to 'the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God'. It is very timely that this first celebration of it falls in our national 'Year of the Word: the God Who Speaks'. One way that it could be marked in our parish is with a blessing of bibles. I encourage you to bring along your bibles for a blessing next Saturday evening.

White Flower Appeal: We will take up a retiring collection this weekend for the White Flower Appeal, with funds going to SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children). You can see the poster on the noticeboard urging you to sign a postcard, available near the doors of the church, which SPUC will send to Westminster to help protect the unborn.

World Day of Prayer: There will be a meeting in preparation for the World Day of Prayer. The meeting will take place on **Wednesday 22 January** from 1:00pm - 3:00pm at St Andrew's Methodist Church. The afternoon will consist of a DVD about Zimbabwe, crafts (making of African animals and bracelets) and organising the speakers for the day. Refreshments will be available. All enquiries to Ann Canavan (Secretary) on 0191 378 2729.

Molokai: The Story of Father Damien: You might remember that last weekend I mentioned this film in my homily. It was released in 1999 and is an Australian production, featuring David Wenham as Fr Damien, and also starring Leo McKern, Peter O'Toole and Derek Jacobi. If you have a DVD player and would like to watch this excellent film, please see Halina who will be only too happy to lend you a copy.

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**.

Church Photos: If you haven't looked at the parish website lately, I would encourage you to do so as there are some stunning photos that were taken a couple of months ago with a drone, both inside and outside the church building. They are on the homepage and under the "Gallery" tab.

Remembering the Sick: With regard to our responsibility to care for the sick and housebound, there is a basket on the table at the rear of the church which has a book for names of those regular parishioners who have not been able to attend Mass for some time. A card will be organised for delivery to the named person to remind them that they are not forgotten and are being remembered in prayer.

Change to Mass Schedule: Please note that I will be away from the parish for the week beginning **Monday 27 January** through to **Friday 31 January**. This means that there will be no weekday Masses. A Communion Service will be celebrated on **Wednesday 29 January** at 9:30am. Thank you for your understanding.

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.

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 is installed in the bathroom for your convenience.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Sebastian - 20 January

Nothing is known about St Sebastian except the fact that he was martyred early on in the persecutions of Diocletian. St Ambrose knew of him and states that he was already venerated in Milan in the fourth century. One of the seven chief churches in Rome was built over his grave in 367.

All else (his youth, his martyrdom by arrows) is fiction, some of it dating from more than a thousand years after his death. But what we know is what we need to know. For the Christians of the fourth century the important, the true, the sufficient fact about Sebastian was that he was a martyr, and they venerated him as such. It should be enough for us as well.



(Information taken from Universalis)

SCHOOL NEWS

Statement to Live by

This week's Statement to Live by was, 'I know I belong to a community that includes my school'. We shared the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, which describes how the community of the friends of Jesus lived. We reflected on what it takes for a group of people to be united in love.

First Holy Communion Candidates

Many congratulations to our First Holy Communion candidates who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this week. The children continue their journey of preparation and will receive the Eucharist for the first time in June.

Welcome

We were very happy to welcome another two pupils to our school this week. Two sisters, Eleanora and Sophia joined us in Year 6 and Year 3, respectively.

Police Dog Visit

Reception Class enjoyed an exciting visit from Ben, a police dog with Durham Constabulary. The children learnt about some of the jobs Ben does for the police and got the chance to stroke him, if they wanted to. You can view some photographs of the visit on our Twitter account.

Forthcoming Celebrations

The following celebrations will take place over the next couple of weeks:

Reception will lead a liturgy in our school chapel on **Wednesday 22 January** @ 3:00pm

Years 3 and 4 will attend Mass in church on **Thursday 23 January** @ 9:30am

All are welcome!



The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 19, 2020



What did Saint John the Baptist say about Jesus?
Use the code to figure it out!

7 0 9 0 x 1 - 3 / < 0 e
A D E F G H I N O S T V

Pope Francis' Mission Statement for January

May all Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill, promote peace and justice in the world.

"Blessed are those who believe and who have the courage to foster encounter and communion."



~ CHURCHES TOGETHER IN DH7 ~ Prayer Group & Bible Study

The next monthly **Prayer Group** will be held here at **St Patrick's** on **Tuesday 21 January**, 9:30am - 10:15am. Refreshments from 9:15am.

The next **Bible Study Group** will meet on **Monday 10 February** 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

Third Sunday of the Year

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4:12-23



"...Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'"

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"Every one of you should form a choir, so that, in harmony of sound through harmony of hearts, and in unity taking the note from God, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father. If you do this, he will listen to you and see from your good works that you are members of his Son."

St Ignatius of Antioch (d.107)
Bishop and Martyr
Letter to the Ephesians



PLEASE PRAY FOR....the following intentions during Ordinary Time (Winter), as requested by Bishop Robert: **Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; the Unemployed.**

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

