

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Hencotes Hexham Northumberland NE46 2EB

(Part of the Heavenfield Partnership of Parishes)



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Parish Priest: Father Christopher Warren KHS

Assistant Priest: Father Peter Stoddart

Deacon: Reverend Martin Bell

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 15th October 2017

Sunday Cycle: A

Weekdays: Year I

REFLECTION

Even when we refuse to come, our King continually sends out invitations to us. God is relentless in calling us to live in the “kingdom of heaven” and participate in the divine wedding feast. This reminds us of how much God wants to share divine Life and salvation with us. God sent the only Son to live among us and bring us salvation, even at the risk of the son being killed. God’s banquet of Life is worth any cost to God. It ought to be worth any cost to us. While none of us would be so foolish as to refuse, for example, an invitation to to dinner at Buckingham Palace, we do often refuse God’s many invitations that are far more important. We are invited, for example, to the Eucharistic Feast every Sunday. We come, but do we truly participate in this banquet? We are invited to a feast of generosity through many opportunities to share our gifts with others less fortunate than ourselves. Do we willingly donate time, energy and/or resources to others? We are invited to a feast of relationships within family, workplace, neighbourhood. Do we share our values and spirituality with others? Which is the feast that we choose? Will we come?

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25: 6-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 22

RESPONSE: **In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R)**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R)**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The word was made flesh and lived among us,
to all who did accept him,**

he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 22: 1-14

Readings from The Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd. Psalm © The Grail (England) published by HarperCollins

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Today, the **First Holy Communion** preparation sessions begin after 10:00am Mass. Please pray for all young people within the Heavenfield Partnership.

Monday – there will be a **Social Committee** meeting at 6:00pm in the Presbytery.

Monday - there will be a meeting of the **Parish Buildings Sub-Committee** at 7:00pm in the Presbytery.

Wednesday – there will be a meeting of the **Heavenfield Partnership Development Group** at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre.

Thursday – there will be a meeting of the **Justice and Peace Group** at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thursday – the Parish **Polish Night**, an early celebration of St. John Paul's Day, will take place at 7:30pm at the Barbecue House Restaurant in Hexham.

Saturday – the second in the series of **Hexham Housing Debates** will take place from 11:00am in the Parish Centre. The debate is entitled "Is Private Rented Housing Fit For Purpose? Should it be Controlled?". Everyone is welcome to attend.

Saturday – the "shared table" celebration to welcome Fr. Peter Stoddart into our Parish will take place in the Parish centre from 7:00pm until 10:00pm.

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE ...

St. Mary's Church will be CLOSED from 4th to 30th November, to enable essential work to be completed to the internal plasterwork. During this period of closure, Sunday Masses on 12th, 19th and 26th November will be celebrated in St. Mary's First School. Weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Chapel at St. Mary's.

THANK YOU ...

To the Sunday Coffee Club for their recent donations totalling £100 to the Church Restoration Appeal.

To everyone who donated and/or bought books as part of our recent sale. The fantastic sum of £394.93 was raised for the Church Restoration Appeal.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS WITHIN THE PARISH:

Sunday 22nd October – there will be a **retiring collection in aid of World Mission Sunday**.

Sunday 22nd October – 10:00am Mass will commemorate the **100th anniversary of the birth of Blessed Archbishop Oscar Romero**.

Saturday 28th October – The second of this year's Galilee talks will take place in the Parish Centre. Jan Dekkers (Senior Lecturer in Bioethics at Newcastle University, a Senior Lecturer in Health Care Ethics in the School of Medical Education and academic lead for ethics of the Institute for Sustainability) will talk about "**Three Parent Babies**". Refreshments will be served from 10:30am, with the talk starting at 11:00am.

Saturday 28th October – we will be lobbying Guy Opperman regarding the ongoing attempts to make abortion more widespread. We now have a core group of people who will be presenting our case, but we would like as many people as possible there in support, ideally from all parts of the constituency. If you are able to come along on Saturday 28th to St Mary's Centre between 15:30 and 17:00 to give moral support please give your name to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Sunday 29th October – Back by popular demand! There will be a **bacon buttie event** in the Parish Centre, after 10:00am Mass. This is to raise money for the Church Restoration Fund. The cost will be £3.00 to include a bacon buttie and tea/coffee. If you'd like to join us, please forward your name and requirements to the Parish Office before 25th October.

Tuesday 31st October - the **Journey in Faith** programme will be held in the Parish Centre, after 7pm Mass. This is a course of instruction and prayer for those who wish to know more about Jesus Christ and the Church He founded. It is mainly for those who desire to become Catholic (whether or not they are already baptised), although adult Catholics who are not yet Confirmed and want to receive this Sacrament are also welcome, as well as anyone who simply wants to learn more about their faith. No need to register. Just come to the first meeting.

Saturday 9th December Why not join us for a Christmas meal at the Black Bull, Corbridge at 7:30pm? Cost is £25 per head, to include up to three courses and a donation to the Church Restoration Fund (drinks to be purchased separately). If you are interested, please forward your name and a £10 per head (non refundable) deposit to the Parish Office before 27th October.

THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November Dead List – please find envelopes and slips of paper at the back of Church for completion. All donations received will be used for Masses for the Holy Souls, to be celebrated throughout 2018.

Sunday 19th November – Fr. Christopher will **bless graves at Hexham** Cemetery from 3:00pm.

Wednesday 22nd November – the **Bereavement Mass** will take place at 7:00pm at St. Mary's, followed by light refreshments.

Sunday 26th November – Fr. Peter will **bless graves at Corbridge** Cemetery from 3:00pm.

CHURCHES TOGETHER EVENTS:

Friday 3rd November – Youth Alpha will start at West End Methodist Church, 7:15-8:30pm for 8 weeks. This will be a great opportunity for young people in schools years 9-13 to explore faith and the big questions. For more information, please contact youth@hexhamtrinity.org.uk

Wednesday 8th November – Big Questions – any answers. This event will be held at 7:30pm at Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham, when Dr. Kim Stansfield (Warwick University) will talk about “The rise of the intelligent machines – friend or foe?”. Free admission, Refreshments from 7:00pm.

EXTERNAL EVENTS:

Saturday 21st October – “From Conflict to Communion: Still Reforming?” An ecumenical day to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation will be held 2:00pm-5:15pm at Brunswick Methodist Church. For more information, please see the posters at the back of Church and in the Narthex.

Sunday 15th November - Interfaith Peace Walk, starting 12.30pm at the Hindu Temple, West Rd. Newcastle. For more details, please see poster on notice board in the Narthex.

Friday 17th November – the Lourdes Pilgrimage charity fund raising lunch will be held at 1:00pm at Eslington Villas, Gateshead. Tickets cost £30 per person and all proceeds will go towards the Lourdes Hospitalité Fund. Further information and tickets can be obtained from Elaine Scannell (0191 4787864 or elaine.scan@btinternet.com)

PARTNERSHIP EVENTS:

Minsteracres holds a special place in the hearts of countless people who have benefited from their visits here over the years. They want to carry on providing this much loved facility for future generations and so need support to enable this. As a result they have launched a scheme for friends to support them through a programme of regular giving. The target for the first year is at least 100 pledges. If you would like to know more you can simply [email info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org) or call 01434 673248.

Thursday 2nd November - The St. Oswald's, Bellingham, Parish History Group will host their next event from 7:00pm. Temple Willcox will give a talk “The Origins of Christianity in Northumbria”. For more details contact Freddie Everatt (01434 220236)

Friday 24th and Saturday 25th November - a **Partnership Retreat** at Minsteracres; arrive on Friday evening and leave on Saturday evening. If you are interested in taking part, or would like further information such as cost, please contact Minsteracres (01434 673248).

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

As the violence in El Salvador continued, Romero continued to speak out. Every Sunday his sermon was broadcast by radio. The whole country listened. Romero's life was often threatened. Romero was a CAFOD partner and when his radio station was bombed, CAFOD rebuilt it.

In his sermon on 23 March 1980, Romero ordered the army to stop killing people: “In the name of God, and in the name of this suffering people whose cries rise to heaven more loudly each day, I beg you, I implore you, I order you, in the name of God, stop the repression!” The next day, a shot killed Romero as he said Mass.

CELEBRATIONS AND SERVICES AT SAINT MARY'S

Sunday 15 th October	6:00pm(Vigil)	Mass at Corbridge for James Glancey	<i>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>
	10:00am	Mass for Nicholas Stevens	
	11:00am	Mass at St. Oswald's, Bellingham	
	5:00pm	Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6:00pm	Mass for Michael Byrne	
Monday	9:15am	Mass for Ann Twizell	<i>St. Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>
Tuesday	12:15pm	Requiem Mass for Sheila Myers	<i>St. Ignatius of Antioch</i>
Wednesday	10:00am	Mass for Stella Thompson	<i>St Luke</i>
Thursday	9:00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
	9:15am	Mass at Bellingham	
	10:00am	Mass for the Batey Family	
Friday	10:00am	Holy Mass (<i>No Intention</i>)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
Saturday	10:00am	Mass for Susan Miller	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
	10:30am	Confessions	
	5:30pm	Confessions (at Corbridge)	
Sunday 22 nd October	6:00pm(Vigil)	Mass at Corbridge for Sheryl Cain	<i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
	10:00am	Mass for Aunty Joan (Forster) (<i>Parish Romero Mass</i>)	
	11:00am	Mass at St. Oswald's, Bellingham	
	5:00pm	Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6:00pm	Mass for People of the Parish	

Rosary	Before Mass Tuesday – Saturday
Morning Prayer (Lauds)	8:30am Monday – Saturday in St. Mary's Chapel

Readers		Today	Next Sunday
Corbridge (Vigil)	6:00pm	Joan Sinnett	Matt Findlay
Hexham	10:00am	Jane McKee	Rosemary Theobalds
Hexham	6:00pm	Pamela Stephens	Paul Ryan
Other ministry rotas		Today	Next Sunday
Offertory (Hexham)	10:00am	Spiers Family	Kilsby Family
Eucharistic Ministers		Team 1	Team 2
Children's Liturgy	10:00am	Rosemary Theobalds	Amy Lenton
Sacristans (Hexham)	5:30pm	Team 3	Team 4
Counters	6:15pm	Team 8	Team 1
HGH Eucharistic		Pat Miller	Pat Miller
Sunningdale		Pat Miller	No Visit
Hospital visitors		Team 11	Team 12
Church cleaners		Team 9	Team 10
Papers next Sunday		-----	A.Waters

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERINGS: £

BULLETIN – ITEMS BY TUESDAY 12:00 NOON TO THE PARISH OFFICE