

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;
hide not your face from me, alleluia.

Cf. Ps 26:7-9

THE COLLECT

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his abiding presence among us.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. 1:15-17. 20-26

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers - there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: 'Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus

- after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours.

'In the Book of Psalms it says:

Let someone else take his office.

'We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling around with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us - and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.'

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, 'Lord, you can read everyone's heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.' They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Ps 102:1-2. 11-12. 19-20. R.v.19

R) The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord;
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R)**

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **(R)**

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St John 4:11-16

My dear people,
since God has loved us so much,
we too should love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
but as long as we love one another
God will live in us
and his love will be complete in us.
We can know that we are living with him
and he is living in us
because he lets us share his Spirit.
We ourselves saw and we testify

that the Father sent his Son
as saviour of the world.

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
God lives in him, and he in God.
We ourselves have known and put our faith in
God's love towards ourselves.

God is love
and anyone who lives in love
lives in God,
and God lives in him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, alleluia!**

cf. Jn 14:18

I will not leave your orphans, says the Lord;**I will come back to you,****and your hearts will be full of joy.****Alleluia!****GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.

John 17:11-19

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Holy Father,

keep those you have given me true to your name,
so that they may be one like us.

While I was with them,

I kept those you had given me true to your name.

I have watched over them and not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.

But now I am coming to you

and while still in the world I say these things
to share my joy with them to the full.

I passed your word on to them,

and the world hated them,
because they belong to the world

no more than I belong to the world.

I am not asking you to remove them from the world,
but to protect them from the evil one.They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.Consecrate them in the truth;
your word is truth.As you sent me into the world,
I have sent them into the world,
and for their sake I consecrate myself
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

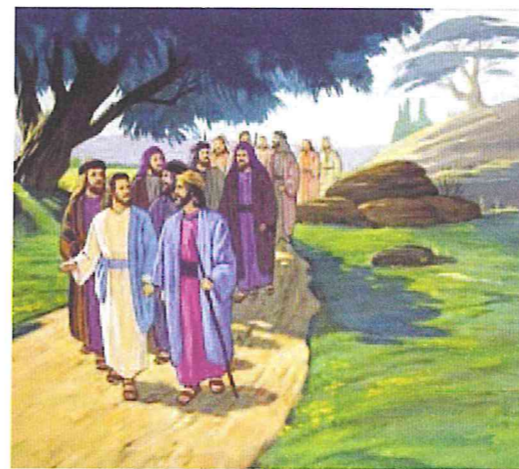
Jn 17:22

Father, I pray that they may be one**as we also are one, alleluia.****PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Hear us, O God our Saviour,
and grant us confidence,
that through these sacred mysteries
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



He dies on a cross, because it is the will of the Father. Today's Gospel is nothing other than Jesus' prayer to the Father. He knows now that he will soon be 'returning' to the Father and he wants to protect his followers from the 'evil one'. He is not asking the Father to remove us from the world, but to consecrate them in the truth. Here Jesus is talking about all of us, Christians of the 21st century. As Christians we are 'in' the world, but not 'of it.

The Gospel of John has a different quality to that of the so-called synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. It deals especially with the relationship between Jesus and the Father. Jesus come on this earth, because it was the will of the Father.

But what does that mean? And how can we be consecrated in the truth? First of all, we must live in such a way that we see this earthly life as a preparation the real life, the life with God in paradise. The world tries to persuade us that riches and

material possessions are what life is all about. If we are 'consecrated in the truth', we know the real meaning of life. The devil. The Prince of this world is the Master of Lies. There are so many situations in the world today where lies are presented as truth and truth as lies. If we have been consecrated in the truth, we have the strength to see through all the falsehoods that are being presented to us as the truth. Thus we can be a light in the darkness for a society which has lost its way.



EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



THE POLITICS WE NEED

179. Global society is suffering from grave structural deficiencies that cannot be resolved by piecemeal solutions or quick fixes. Much needs to change, through fundamental reform and major renewal. Only a healthy politics, involving the most diverse sectors and skills, is capable of overseeing this process. An economy that is an integral part of a political, social, cultural and popular programme directed to the common good could pave the way for "different possibilities which do not involve stifling human creativity and its ideals of progress, but rather directing that energy along new channels".¹⁶⁴

164. Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'* (24 May 2015), 191: AAS 107 (2015), 923.

The Fire of Love*

THE PURGING EFFECTS OF THE FIRE OF LOVE

When the fire of love has taken hold of us, it enables us to put away all vice, all that is trivial and unnecessary, and creates beauty in every virtue. The tendency to small sins may remain, yet the fire of love will eventually burn up even sins of which we are unaware.

We have to be ready to give up everything that does not lead us to God, for God will have nothing to do with a divided heart.

Loving God and delighting in him enables us to delight in the present world as well. For what is more delightful than praising Jesus, nothing more delectable than hearing him. We can rejoice therefore as if saying:

We are wanting your honour and glory.

We are rejoicing in your delights.

The pleasures of mere vanity have been put away.

And although we cannot yet see your face our longing is still so ardent that, were we to live for ever like this, we would seek no other object of our love.

*The Fire of Love by Richard Rolle Published by Acterna Press




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Ei  **7th SUNDAY OF EASTER**
 www.facebook.com /rcdhnbillingham
Week Beginning: 12th May 2024
Prayer Week: 3

www.diocesehn.org.uk

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|---|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday 12th May <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> | 10:00am | Parishioners | Holy Rosary |
| Monday 13th May | 10.00am | Stephen Herring | Holy Rosary |
| Tuesday 14th May <i>St Matthias, Apostle</i> | 10.00am | Holy Souls | Holy Rosary |
| Wednesday 15th May | 7.00pm | Linda Plant | Holy Rosary |
| Thursday 16th May | 10.00am | Arelene Smith | Holy Rosary |
| Friday 17th May | 10.00am | Cath Welch | St John's |
| Saturday 18th May <i>(Vigil Pentecost)</i> | 5.00pm | Fred & Margaret Butters | St John's |
| Sunday 19th May <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> | 10:00am | Parishioners | Holy Rosary |

Please pray for the sick : Rev. Dan Mckie, Sarah McAllister, Max Simpson, Carol Brownlee, Grace Ollie, Judy Houchen, Peter Smith, Cai Rive, Avril Wordsworth, Lily Ward-Thurlbeck, Rose Wall, Christine Rooney, Brian Kane, Margaret Hitchinson, Helen Webb, Jim Hodgson, Fr Stephen Dye, Judith Sowerby, Kate Williams, Maureen Maddren, Maureen Braithwaite, Baby Cassian, Sheila Allen, Sheila Holmes, Michael Bickers, Ann Christeson, Denise Tamblingson
Lately Dead- Bridget Kelly, Jack McDonald, Bill McCamley, Sister Philip

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY

The pope's theme for this year – "Artificial Intelligence and the wisdom of the heart" He speaks of the need for a fully human approach to guide this transformation to secure a good purpose. "Machines must not replace human thinking"

JUBILEE YEAR-

The Pope has solemnly proclaimed the Holy Year with its theme of "Pilgrims of Hope". He will open the Holy Door in St Peter's on Christmas Eve, and at St John Lateran's (the papal cathedral) on 29th December when ever other bishop throughout the world is asked to celebrate Mass in his own cathedral church. On 1st January 2025 and on 5th January the Holy Doors will be opened in the basilicas of St Mary Major and St Paul's outside the walls respectively. The Year ends on 28th December 2025. The Pope prays that the Jubilee will deepen "that hope which never fades, our hope in God".

Advance notice-

- a) **Corpus Christi:** Eucharistic procession and adoration of the Blessed sacrament at Ushaw. 2nd June, led by the Bishop, starting at 3pm in St Cuthbert's chapel. Weather permitting the procession will go through the gardens returning to the Chapel for Benediction. Teas and coffees available afterwards. No ticket required.
- b) **Significance Festival Weekend,** Saturday 29th June from 10am. The Youth Ministry Team invite to various activities, guest speakers, live music and Mass at 3.15pm with the Bishop. All welcome- to book nsalkeld@ymt.org. The event is to support Fr Dermot Donnelly's charity.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2024

Please- remainder of cost in an envelope marked "**Walsingham**" and your name. Cheques to "St Thomas of Canterbury" or cash: £194 per person

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father,
 In baptism you called us by name and made us members of your family, the Church. Help all your people to know their vocation in life, And to respond by living a life of holiness. For your greater glory and for the service of your people, raise up dedicated and generous men who will serve as priests for the Church of Hexham and Newcastle. Send your Spirit to guide and strengthen our communities, our seminarians, and all who are discerning their vocation. Amen
 Our Lady Immaculate and St Cuthbert, pray for us.

MASS INTENTIONS- please ensure you hand in as soon as possible so that I can register them before leaving.

NO CONFESSIONS NEXT SATURDAY