



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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Sunday 21st January 2024

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus is portrayed as discerning that the time is right for people to respond to the preaching of the Kingdom. God's call is based on His love and compassion for us. The early apostles sensed that Jesus was inviting them to a higher way of life; He gave them a glimpse of the greatest of their potential. They reacted with enthusiasm and they left everything to follow Jesus.

Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to follow you as disciples. Help us to respond wholeheartedly without counting the cost. Lord Jesus Christ, you invite us to proclaim your gospel of hope and salvation here at home and to all nationals and peoples. Teach us to be faithful evangelists in word and in action. You have called us to follow your son, give us courage and wisdom to be faithful disciples. Amen.

We would like to invite you all to our Holocaust Memorial Service which will be taking place at Our Lady and St. Bede School on Thursday 25th January 2024 in Hall A. The service will begin at 6pm with light refreshments afterwards. Our theme for this year will be 'Fragility of Freedom.' We would love to see as many of you as possible at this service and we thank you for always showing us your care and support.

Sunday of the Word of God was instituted by Pope Francis in 2019 and is observed on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. "A Sunday given over entirely to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people. Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world." (Aperuit Illis 2)

Lord God, our Father, you keep speaking your Word to us through your Son Jesus Christ. Make us listen to that word and welcome it with all that is in us. Let that word change our mentality and our ways that it may direct our life to make it a lived message of Good News for all to see, to be inspired by, and to follow. Let it be the living power that leads all to give you praise and glory. Amen.

SPUC White Flower Appeal – Sunday, 28th January 2024. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies by highlighting this crisis. Many thanks.

Double knitting wool needed in white and pastel colours for new baby matinee coats and hats. Do you have any spare double knitting wool that you can donate to help Paulene Major carry on her loving knitting project for babies in need? (Only white and pastel colours please.) Please leave in the church porch marked for the attention Paulene Major. Thank you.

3rd Sunday of the Year			
21	Sunday	9.00am	Brian Coyle (1 st Anniversary)
22	Monday	9.15am 5.30pm	Father Michael Hussey Medjugorje Rosary ~ All welcome
23	Tuesday		
24	Wednesday		
25	Thursday	6.00pm	SVP Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
26	Friday	9.15am	Repose of a soul in purgatory
27	Saturday	9.15am	Andre Tasser
4th Sunday of the Year			
28	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Margaret Morton, Fr. Michael Hussey, Andre Tasser, Ernest Toulson, David Hall	
		Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, Brian Lee, Kathleen Hanley, Samuel Kiberu Brian Wetherell, Sheila Kerr	
Reader for Sunday 28th January ~ Gwen Gallagher			
Feast Days: 24th Jan. St Francis de Sales: 25th Jan. The Conversion of St Paul: 26th Jan. SS Timothy and Titus			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



2024 Year of Prayer

Prayer is time to come and see who the Lord is, and who we are ourselves.

In the time leading up to Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Peace on Earth: Christian Unity: Openness to the Word of God: The Sick and those who care for them: The Unemployed: Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Holy Island SVP Camp . . . Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2024? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island. They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities.. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs a donation of £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday please visit our website for further details at: <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island>

Youth Ministry Conference – 3rd February 2024: This Youth Ministry and Practical Theology Conference is YMT's first conference since the COVID-19 pandemic and we look forward to gather with youth ministers, catechists, clergy, teachers, staff and volunteer co-workers from across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and beyond! The theme for the conference is "Investing in the Fearlessness of Youth", inspired by a quote from Pope Francis' letter, Christus Vivit (Chapter 7 no. 233). We hope you can join us for this Youth Ministry Conference. Booking is now open and you can either email nsalkeld@ymt.org or book online here: www.ticketsource.co.uk/youthministryteam. Online booking will apply booking fees.