

2nd Sunday of Lent 17th March Sat. 6.00 pm Vigil	St. Cecilia's	Albert, Rene & Mary White(R.I.P.)
8.00 am	Convent	Vera Ratton(R.I.P.)
10.30 am	St. Mary's	People of the Parish
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	Miriam Barraclough(R.I.P.)
Monday 18th March 9.30 am	Convent	Sr Angela Grant's Sister(R.I.P.)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Kathleen & George Collins (R.I.P.)
Tuesday 19th March 9.30 am	Convent	Ann Brantingham (R.I.P.)
12.05 pm	St Mary's	Holy Souls
7.00pm	St Cecilia's	Sr.M.Calasanctius (R.I.P.)
Wednesday 20th March 9.30	Convent	Convent Liturgy
12.05pm	St Mary's	Sr. M.Calasanctius (R.I.P.)
Thursday 21st March 9.30am	Convent	Win Guthrie (R.I.P.)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Flora Thompson (R.I.P.)
Friday 22nd^h March 10.00 am	St. Cecilia's	ADORATION & BENEDICTION
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Sr.M.Calasanctius (R.I.P.)
5.30 pm	Convent	Mrs Grant (R.I.P.)
Saturday 23rd March 9.30am	Convent	Sr M. Loreto (R.I.P.)
11.00 am	St. Mary's	Sheila Burns (R.I.P.)
Sunday 24th March 6.00 pm (<i>Saturday Evening</i>)	St. Cecilia's	Bernadette Lawson (R.I.P.)
8.00 am	Convent	Ann Brantingham (R.I.P.)
10.30 am	St Mary's	Clive Parker (R.I.P.)
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays in the Mercy Chapel (Confessions): 10.15 – 10.45 am and 11.30 – 12.15 pm
St. Cecilia's confessions: Before Mass, or by appointment.

Thank you for being part of this community.



Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Parish, Sunderland.
Made up of:

St. Mary's Church, 27 Bridge Street, Sunderland, SR1 1TQ
St. Cecilia's and St. Patrick's Church, Ryhope Road, Sunderland, SR2 7TG
St. Anthony's Convent, Tunstall Road, Sunderland, SR2 7JR
Sunderland University Catholic Chaplaincy (Located at St. Mary's)

Telephone: (0191) – 567 5354

Parish Email: stmaryscatholicparish@hotmail.com

Parish Twitter: @St_MarysRC

Parish Website: www.sunderlandcatholic.com

Parish Priest: Father Marc Lyden-Smith
Assistant Priest: Canon A.H. Barrass (Retired)
Parish Deacon: Rev. Eddy Barker
Parish Sister: Sr. Raphael

17th March 2019 – 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT



Part of the Catholic Partnership of Monkwearmouth, Sunderland. In the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle.

Registered Charity: 1143450

From both St. Mary's and St. Cecilia's churches: Please remember especially in your prayers....

Pat Lawrence, John Turnbull, Doreen Duffy, Pat Henty, Valerie, Janet Buckland, Jackie Turner, Rebecca Amundsen, Avril Hogg, Simon Nyoike, Margaret Graham, Maureen Walton, Catherine Marshall, Molly South, Nicholas Wilson, Stephen Hall, Eddie Ashburner, Jean Liddle, Ann-Marie Rain, Christopher Browne, Norah Morris, Luca, Peter, Clara, Patrick Barraclough Cecilia Harper; Molly Donkin, Patricia Rutter, Ann Felton, John McConville, Kathleen Conlon, Dorothy Thompson, Jean Ashurst, Hilda, Ronnie Mitchinson, and Dave the Rave who are all sick at this time.

Parish Lottery

THE WINNERS:

First Prize – Canon Barrass, Second Prize – Helen Metcalf, Third Prize – Freda Duffy. Congratulations to you all. 😊
If you would like to join the Parish Lotto for £1 a week, you are very welcome to do so – see Fr. Marc and you could be a winner.

The Parish Office is usually open Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 11.45 am. Sister Raphael will endeavour to assist with all relevant enquiries, including Baptism and Marriage enquiries, Mass Intentions, Planned Giving & Gift Aid donations and any forthcoming events in St Mary's and our Parish centre.

Parish Text Service

If you would like to be included in our Parish Text Service for ABSOLUTELY FREE, then you can be.
Simply Text the word CATH to 82228 from your mobile. When you text CATH (as in Catholic), you will receive any parish news or events, or inspirational quotes from the saints or Catholic resources. Please don't worry, you will not be inundated, probably two or three a week, and you will receive them free of charge. You can also stop them any time by texting CATHSTOP to 82228.
Why not try this free service from your parish this Lent.
So Text CATH to 82228 today.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The North East Annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine of Walsingham is on Friday 23rd August – Sunday 25th August. For further details please contact John Ross on: 0191-4404391 or Theresa Ivory on 0191-5523747

Thank you so much for being here at Mass. You are all very welcome. We come here to pray with and for one another and our community.

Matt Maher Music Workshop

On Wednesday 29th May from 7-9pm, the diocese are hosting an evening of Praise, Worship and Adoration led by 8 time Grammy nominee, Matt Maher.
This will be a powerful and moving evening and entry is by ticket only.
Places are limited so book early. Tickets are £10 and can only be bought online: buytickets.at/cathedraltour

Ministry of Consolation

On Saturday 23rd March the diocese will have a Ministry of Consolation Day. The theme is "Spirituality in Times of Trauma" and the speaker is Bishop John Wilson, who was involved in supporting people in the aftermaths of the murder of Ann Maguire in Corpus Christi school in Leeds, and the Grenfell Tower Fire. The day will be held at Ushaw College from 10.15am – 3.30pm with lunch provided. It should be a very interesting day. To book onto it for free (although donations on the day welcome), please ring the diocese on 0191-2433302

Penitential Service for Sunderland

There will be a penitential service based around the 7 sorrows of Our Lady on Monday 1st April at 7.00pm in St. Benets Church.
This will provide you with the opportunity to make a confession during lent, so please do come along.
Reminder that confessions times are on the back of this newsletter for our parish

Congratulations

To all of our young people who received the sacrament of confirmation on Friday night. Please keep them in your prayers that they will continue to grow in faith.

Word on Fire

Would you like to follow Jesus more closely? Encourage others to do the same?
Gain a deeper insight, knowledge and understanding of authority, beauty and joy of the Catholic faith?
Grow stronger as a parish family?
Then I strongly recommend that you download app Word on Fire Digital, for your smart phone. There is a monthly or yearly subscription charge for the app. But it provides all kinds of resources and videos for you to watch and learn more about your faith.
Hopefully in the future we will offer a series of talks drawing from Word on Fire, which is a global Catholic outreach program which has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics around the world.
It is well worth the investment.

Weight Watchers

Could you do with losing a few pounds? (Then put it in the collection!) But if you would like to lose a little weight this summer, weight watchers runs every Saturday and Sunday morning from 9am in St. Mary's Parish Centre.

Walk for Autism

The North East 'Walk for Autism' will take place on Friday 12th April from 10.00am in Herrington Park, Sunderland. To take part costs £5.00, but 15 year olds and under go free. The walk is one mile and is wheelchair and pushchair friendly.

The route will include an Easter egg rolling activity, certificates from Pawsum Panda, music, face painting and games. All welcome. If you would like more information call: 0191-4109974

St. Anne's Primary School - Lent

St. Anne's school in Pennywell, would like to invite all people from Sunderland parishes to their Lenten reflection on Thursday 21st March starting at 6.30pm in St. Anne's Church.

Over 60's

Can I remind you all that we have a wonderful over 60's group operating from St. Mary's Parish centre every Tuesday after the 12.05pm Mass. It is always open to new people coming along, so why not give it a try? You could be enjoying the fun, games, bingo or just a nice chat. All welcome.

Sunderland Symphony Orchestra

Spring into Jazz concert will be on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm at West Park Church in Sunderland.

How is your Lent going?

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More Important Gift Aid News

The new GIFT AID BOXES/ ENVELOPES for 2019-20 are now at the back of church.

Please collect them ready for April.

Thank you to everyone who has signed their updated Gift Aid Declaration form. If you are still to sign up please leave your name and contact number at the parish office. Thank you.

The Upper Room

The Upper Room, upstairs in the Parish Centre, is open during the week for Students of Sunderland University. With free Wi-Fi and tea/coffee, study space, and a chill out zone, students are welcome to use this space free of charge. Home of the Catholic Society, all students welcome.

Please remember that we have our drop in centre, Open House, every Thursday morning, where anyone is welcome for a meal.

Second Sunday of Lent:

Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Luke 9:33 (Year C)

Peter was excited, perhaps beyond any excitement he had experienced before. In fact, to say he was excited is most certainly an understatement. It may be more appropriate to say that he was overwhelmed! Why was this the case? Because he had just been given a very small glimpse of the glory and splendor of God! This is the Transfiguration. Jesus took Peter, James and John and they went up a high mountain together.

These three Apostles had no idea what was coming. Most likely while on the way they were complaining interiorly, wondering why they had to go up the mountain. But the mountain is a symbol of our upward journey to Heaven. It takes focus and drive, commitment and resolve to go there, and it's an elevated place, a place away from the ordinary occurrences of life. So they were on this difficult climb up the mountain and suddenly they stopped in shock and awe. They saw before their eyes Jesus changed in a glorious way, His clothing being whiter than any white they had ever seen. And Moses and Elijah, the great Law-giver and the great Prophet, were there before them conversing with Jesus.

And what was going on in Peter's head? What was he experiencing? He was experiencing a small glimpse of the glory and splendor of God. Jesus, who up until this moment had kept His divinity veiled, lifted the veil ever so slightly. And with the lifting of that veil, His divinity shone

through brighter than anything this world could ever contain. And Peter, James and John did not know what to think. But Peter cried out that he wanted to build three tents, one for Jesus, one for Moses and one for Elijah! For within that momentary experience, he experienced the desire to remain there forever. So why did Jesus give these Apostles this very brief experience of His glory? Because they would need that taste of His goodness for the road ahead. They would need to forever remember what their final destiny was. They would need to hold this experience close as they endured the many crosses and sufferings ahead. And they would use this experience to remind themselves that whatever they had to endure on the journey up the mountain of life is worth it. Because on the summit is a glory so great that no hardship they would have to endure would ever prove to be too big. God wants to give that message to us through them. He wants us to ponder this experience they had and He wants us to try to enter into it so that we too can willingly press on during the journey.

Reflect, today, at the beginning of Lent, on the glory of God that makes the crosses we endure all worth it. Take advantage of this experience of Peter, James and John and try to make their experience your own. Be consoled by God's glory and never forget that this is the ultimate promise He gives to all who press on.

Lord, may I be consoled by Your glory and splendor. May I believe in this glory and keep it ever in my mind as I press on through the hardships and challenges I face. You travel the road ahead of me and You will lead me on my journey if I only trust in You. Jesus, I do trust in You!