

## St Bede's, Usworth

Monday: 2pm **Ladies Club** (Church Hall),  
5.30pm **Church Cleaning** Team A.  
Tuesday: **Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament** 6.30pm,  
**Coffee Evening** 7.30pm (Church Hall).  
Wednesday: **Keep Fit** 12 noon (Church Hall).  
Saturday: **Confessions** 12 noon-12.30pm.

## St John Boste, Oxclose

Monday, 7.30pm: The **Craft Group** has been knitting clothes for premature babies in the Special Care Baby Unit at University Hospital, Durham. A speaker from the unit is visiting us and you are **invited to come for a coffee** and a chat. There's no obligation to join the group.  
Saturday: **Morning Prayer** 9.40am.

Monday 7 March, 7.30pm in the Dryburn Room: **Pie and Pea Supper** in aid of the Lourdes fund. Cost £2.50.

*At the church council meeting it was suggested that it would be easier for **Eucharistic Ministers** if they stood at the bottom of the steps in front of the altar, thereby removing the necessity to walk down the steps, especially with a full chalice. We will try this from next Sunday.*

## Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw

**Prayer of the Church:** 15 minutes before Mass / service.

Monday: **Exposition & Confessions** 6 - 6.45pm,  
**Women's Guild**, 7.30pm (Parish Centre). New members welcome.

Tuesday: **Bingo** 7.30pm (Parish Centre), all welcome.

Wednesday: **Journey in Faith** 7.30pm.

Friday: **Adoration**, 9am - 7pm (Evening Prayer 6.40pm).

**Readers:** There will be a short meeting for all readers in the small liturgy room after Mass on Sunday 26 February.

**Wishing Well Update:** We will be presenting the cheque to Gill from the Safewater Trust on Monday 27 February at the Catholic Womens' Guild meeting in Penshaw Catholic Club. Gill will be demonstrating how the water filters work. All Parishioners are invited to attend. Refreshments provided.

**Fairtrade Fortnight:** at OLQP we will be promoting Fairtrade household essentials such as kitchen roll, washing up liquid and soap; all products which are not available in the supermarkets. We will have samples to try and products to buy during and after Fairtrade Fortnight.

## Our Blessed Lady, Washington

Saturday: **Exposition** 8am, **Confessions** 10.30 - 11.30.  
**Cleaning Group:** 2.

**600 Club February winners:** 264 - L Pickles, 26 - S Myers, 262 - M McLoran, 632 - K Cook, 191 - M Robson, 56 - D Bramley, 603 - A Hurst, 238 - M Barry.

**OLOFF Club:** Tuesday 21 February coach leaves Black Bush 11.15am.

**Thursday Drop In:** February appeal for HCPT raised £100. Thank you. This week's appeal is for Grace House.

## Parish Information

Friday 17 March at The Stella: **Parish Ceilidh.** Tickets now available. Raffle / tombola donations welcome.

## Future Information

**Youth Ministry Meeting Invitation:** All parishioners who are concerned about how we can support young people on their faith journey are invited to a co-workers' gathering at the Emmaus Youth Village on **Sunday 26 February at 3.30pm.** There will be tea, coffee and cake and a chance to chat from 2.00pm. An important aspect of the new partnerships is to explore how we can deepen our relationship with young people. The Youth Ministry Team (YMT) will share a number of opportunities with you and this will also be a time to share good practice and network with other parts of the diocese. Please let YMT know if you are coming on 01207 592244 or [admin@ymt.org](mailto:admin@ymt.org)

**Fairtrade Fortnight** (Feb 27 – March 12): As Christians it's time to choose. Are we on the side of 'anything for a bargain' and 'who cares where my food comes from' or are we on the side of Christ who identified with the poor and lived and died sacrificially for others?

## Forward Together in Hope

A 'Great cloud of witnesses' from across the Diocese gathered at the Lancastrian Suite in Gateshead and Carmel College in Darlington to hear the decisions made by Bishop Séamus following the residential Diocesan Board meeting in January. They heard how the 150 parishes in the diocese are now gathered into 18 partnerships.

The message from Bishop Séamus states that:

**"A partnership is a group of parishes agreeing to work together, to share resources, both human and material, to become stronger and better equipped for furthering the Kingdom of God".**

Our Partnership will be: **St Joseph Birtley, St Cuthbert Chester-le-Street, St Bede Sacriston, St Mary Easington Lane, St Michael Houghton-le-Spring, St John XXIII Washington & Penshaw.**

Please see link on the parish website for the full document, by clicking the **Forward Together in Hope** banner on the Home page.

## Contacts for the Newsletter

If you would like an article published in the Newsletter please send it to the contact listed below for the applicable Church. If you would like a message to go in the Parish section send it to any of the contacts below. Items need to be sent no later than the Tuesday 7pm of the week prior to when you want it to be published.

Please put '**Newsletter information**' in the subject line.

**SB:** Joan Watt-joanwattstbedes@gmail.com

**SJ:** Christine Cox-christine.cox73@ntlworld.com

**OBLI:** Patricia McElroy-patriciamcelroy@btinternet.com

**OLQP:** John Hindmarch-john.hindmarch@talk21.com

## Services This Week

Mon 20 Feb	<b>SB</b>	<b>09.05</b>	<b>Special Intention</b>
	SJ	09.15	Communion Service (AT)
	<b>OBLI</b>	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Requiem Mass Joan Scott</b>
	OBLI	13.45	Funeral Service Ernest Cooper
Tue 21 Feb	<b>OLQP</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>Sheila Pattison</b>
	<b>SJ</b>	<b>09.15</b>	<b>Priest's Intention</b>
	<b>OLQP</b>	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Rosemary Hillam</b>
	<b>OBLI</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>	<b>Betty Healy</b>
Wed 22 Feb	<b>SB</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>Thomas Blackburn</b>
	SB	09.05	In Thanksgiving
	OBLI	09.15	Communion Service
	<b>SJ</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>In Thanksgiving (DM)</b>
Thu 23 Feb	OLQP	19.00	Communion Service
	<u>SB</u>	<u>09.05</u>	<b>Mass Ena Cornforth</b>
	SJ	09.15	Communion Service (MB)
	<b>OBLI</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>Requiem Mass Keith Mitchell</b>
Fri 24 Feb	<b>OLQP</b>	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Martin Curran</b>
	OBLI	09.15	Communion Service
	SB	09.05	Communion Service
	<b>SJ</b>	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Priest's Intention</b>
Sat 25 Feb	<b>OLQP</b>	<b>19.00</b>	<b>Martin Curran</b>
	OLQP	09.00	Communion Service
	SB	09.05	Communion Service
	<b>OBLI</b>	<b>09.15</b>	<b>John &amp; Margaret Barrett</b>
	<b>SJ</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>Sheila Pattison (Rosary Group)</b>

Next week-end: 25/26 February 2017

Vigil	SB	17.00	Leo Heppell
Sun 26 Feb	SB	08.30	Our Parish Family
	SJ	09.30	John O'Brien
	OLQP	10.00	Karen Bartram
	OBLI	11.00	Marie Theres Roberts
	OBLI	18.00	Chris & Kitty Whitfield

### Please remember in your prayers:

Michael Anderson,  
Andrew, Mary Askew,  
Maria Barrell, Vivien Bell,  
Debbie Binns,  
Billy Bulch,  
Tricia Carr,  
Pat Coyle, Ophelia Davies,  
Willie Day,  
Lynn Ditchburn,  
Fr Seamus Doyle,  
Fred and Freda Fletcher,  
Brian Flurry, Katy Foggin,  
Barbara Foster,  
Jenny Gilmaney,  
Beth Heppell,  
Sheila Hepple, Mary Hill,  
Andrew Hughes,  
Holly Hunter,  
Godfrey Keefe,  
Annette Keitel, Jade Kemp,  
Stephen Kenyon Jnr,  
George McAfferty,  
Joan McHale,  
Joseph McIntyre,  
Rose McMahon,  
June Matthews,  
Peter Milroy,  
Madge Mullen,  
Maureen Naylor,  
George O'Donnell,  
Chris Palmer, Brian Purvis,  
Marie Robson, Molly Shiel,  
Ronnie Shields,  
Mary Skilcorn,  
George Stagg,  
John Sweeney,  
John Tilley, Vicky Tindall,  
Frank Tracey, Wendy Tufton,  
Liz Ward, Stephen Willey,  
Freda Winter

### Recently deceased

Joan Scott

Fr Mark Millward 4163583  
Fr Anthony Cornforth 4163805  
(07923683046)

[anthony.cornforth@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.cornforth@gmail.com)

Rev Chas Ferguson 3854573  
Rev Frank O'Neill 07791155845

[washingtoncatholic.org.uk](http://washingtoncatholic.org.uk)

# ST JOHN XXIII



Incorporating:

**Our Blessed Lady Immaculate**, Washington  
**Our Lady Queen of Peace**, Penshaw  
**St Bede**, Usworth  
**St John Boste**, Oxclose

19/20 February 2017 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A

## GO TWO MILES

Roman occupation forces controlled Palestine. They held a kind of life-and-death power over Jewish citizens. If a Roman officer tapped a Jewish citizen on the shoulder with his sword, the citizen had to do whatever the officer commanded him to do. He could order them to carry some object for a distance of one mile (Simon of Cyrene?). In the face of this Roman law, Jesus tells his disciples, "If one of the soldiers forces you to carry his pack one mile, carry it two miles."

When Jesus tells his disciples to walk "two miles", he is saying in effect, not to let the demands of others control you. Don't let it fill you with hate or resentment." Why? When people hate their enemies and resent them, they end up hurting themselves far more than they hurt their enemies. When we hate our enemies we give them power over us - power over our sleep... power over our blood pressure... power over our health and happiness. Our enemies would dance for joy if they knew how our hatred tears us apart. Our hatred is not hurting them at all. It only turns our own days and nights into a hellish turmoil." In other words, the only way the bullet of hate and the bullet of resentment can hurt our enemies is if it passes first through our own bodies - so wear the body armour of love and forgiveness.



Vigil	SB	17.00	Joan & Tommy Moran
Sun 19 Feb	SB	08.30	Our Parish Family
	SJ	09.30	William Burlinson
	OLQP	10.00	June Falloon
	OBLI	11.00	Dean Hill
	OBLI	18.00	Thomas Smyth