

St Bede's, Usworth

Monday: **Parish Bingo** 1pm (Church Hall).

Tuesday: **Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament** 6.30pm,

Vigil Mass for Ash Wednesday 7pm followed by a 'Seven circles of prayer and healing' prayer group every Tuesday in Lent and will follow the seven circles of prayer, beginning with listening. Will also include a time of prayer for healing, **Coffee Evening** 7.30pm (Church Hall).

Wednesday: **Keep Fit** 12 noon (Church Hall).

Thursday: **Stations of the Cross** 7pm.

Friday: **Hunger Lunch** 12 noon (Church Hall).

Saturday: **Confessions** 12 noon-12.30pm. - **Cancelled**

200 Club: Subscriptions for March draw collected after both Masses this weekend.

St John Boste, Oxclose

Monday: **Craft Group** 7.30pm.

Saturday: **Morning Prayer** 9.40am.

St John Boste: We are hoping to produce an updated book on the life of St John Boste and the development of our church. If you have any photos and information regarding the school and church, especially the early days please get in touch (01914163805 / 07923683046).

Pie and Pea Supper in aid of the Lourdes fund. **Tuesday** 7 March, 7.30pm in the Dryburn Room. Cost £2.50. Tickets from Jen in the kitchen.

Rosary will be held every Tuesday during Lent starting 7 March

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),

Monthly Prayer Group 7.30pm.

Stations of the Cross followed by soup and bread at 12 noon each Wednesday during Lent starting 8 March. All

welcome. Donations to Fr Mariadas for his work in India.

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

Wishing Well Update: We will be presenting the cheque to Gill from the Safewater Trust on Monday 27 February at the Catholic Women's' Guild meeting in Penshaw Catholic Club. All Parishioners are invited to attend.

Our Blessed Lady, Washington

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

Thursday Drop In: March appeal is for Marie Curie Nurses.

Stations of the Cross: Sundays in Lent 4pm.

600 Club: Subscriptions for March draw collected on Sunday 5 March after both Masses.

Cleaning Group: 3.

St Robert of Newminster School

Adoration at St Robert's School Thursday 10am, Holy Mass 11.20am followed by adoration until 3pm.

Parish Information

Ash Wednesday: A day of fasting & abstinence.

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

Fairtrade Fortnight - Feb 27 – March 12

Our Lady's: St Bede's Fairtrade will be holding a sale at Our Lady's after Mass, 12 March. Please come along and buy something to show your solidarity with the Fairtrade organisation and the farmers and artisans who produce the goods we sell to provide for their families and build up their communities. They cannot do it without us trading fairly with them. All profits generated go to support education projects in the developing world.

Our Lady Queen of Peace: We will be promoting Fairtrade household essentials such as kitchen roll, washing up liquid and soap. There will be samples to try and products to buy during and after Fairtrade Fortnight.

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can all do small things with great love" (Mother Teresa)

Any Activities in the Parish: Please phone Anne Casey on 4162262. Thank you for your co-operation.

Emergency Appeal: Please, please remember your tins of corned beef.

Future Information

Women's World Day of Prayer: Service at St George's Church, Vigo Lane, Harraton 2pm, Friday March 3. All welcome.

A Diocesan Sacramental Day for Reconciliation & Eucharist: Saturday, 4 March 2017 10am - 3pm

St Joseph's Parish Hall, Gateshead, NE8 1LX. No charge, please bring a packed lunch, contact: adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk or 0191 243 3313.

Hexham Galilee Talks: Joe Hughes talks on 'Catholic Education; why bother?' Saturday 11am, 4 March 2017, St Mary's RC Church, Hencotes, Hexham NE46 2EB. Free admission (donations requested), refreshments available from 10.30am.

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.

Services This Week

Mon 27 Feb	SB	09.05	Mary & Kevan Kirkham
	SJ	09.15	Communion Service (VC)
	OBLI	09.15	Communion Service
	OLQP	19.00	Michael Walker & Walker Family
Tue 28 Feb	SJ	09.15	Priest's Intention
	OLQP	09.30	Martin Curran
	OBLI	12 Noon	William & Mary Smith & Theresa Clarke
	Vigil	SB	19.00
Ash Wed 1 March	SJ	09.30	Our School Community
	SB	10.45	Deceased Hardy Family
	OLQP	11.00	Our Parish Family
	OBLI	09.30	Children of St Joseph's School
	SJ	19.00	Our Parish Family
Thu 2 March	SB	9.05	Communion Service
	SJ	09.15	Communion Service (TJ)
	OBLI	09.15	SVP Intentions
	OLQP	10.00	Father Roy
Fri 3 March	OBLI	09.15	Communion Service
	SB	09.15	Children of St Bede's School - in school
	SJ	09.30	In Thanksgiving (DM)
	OLQP	19.00	June Falloon
Sat 4 March	OLQP	09.00	Communion Service
	SB	09.05	Communion Service
	OBLI	09.15	May Taylor
	SJ	10.00	Intentions of John & Monica Holleran

Next week-end: 25/26 February 2017

Vigil	SB	17.00	Paddy Gleeson
Sun 5 March	SB	08.30	Our Parish Family
	SJ	09.30	Our Parish Family
	OLQP	10.00	Joseph Edgar
	OBLI	11.00	Joseph, Grace, Nan & son John Sweeney
	OBLI	18.00	Harry Watson

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,
Fred and Freda Fletcher,
Brian Flurry, Katy Foggin,
Terry Ford, 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
Fr Seamus Doyle,

Fr Mark Millward 4163583
Fr Anthony Cornforth 4163805
(07923683046)

anthony.cornforth@gmail.com
Rev Chas Ferguson 3854573
Rev Frank O'Neill 07791155845

washingtontcatholic.org.uk

ST JOHN XXIII

Incorporating:

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



26/27 February 2017 - 8th Sunday Year A

I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU



One of the strange things about ancient literature is the fact that although basically all societies were male dominated, there are some very strong female characters and feminine imagery, and the bible is no exception.

One of the earliest books still in existence is the Odyssey of Homer, the story of Odysseus taking ten years to return home from fighting in the Trojan War. From the central figure of his wife, Penelope, and the goddess Athena, there are strong female characters and without them it would have been a simple story of a man battling various challenges and returning home, and almost certainly would be a story now forgotten. With the bible it is different in the sense that God is clearly seen as a masculine figure and without the female imagery the bible would still be with us. But with that imagery, it helps us to see where we fit into the picture of God and his relationship with the human race. Our theology tells us that the Church is the 'Bride of Christ', and so with Jesus as our Saviour we have a clear identity of who we are - the beloved of God. The image of today's first reading is the opposite, and so shows that God's love for us is perfect and complete. God is recognised as a mother and ourselves as the child. This iconic image, especially of breast feeding, shows a perfect unity between God and his people. We are one with Him.

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