

St Bede's, Usworth

Monday: 11am, **Meditation**, in School
1pm, **Parish Bingo** (Church Hall).
5pm **Church cleaning**, All Teams. Extra help greatly appreciated.
7pm, **Passover Meal**. No booking required. Two course meal with vegetarian option. All welcome.

Tuesday: 6.30pm, **Adoration**.
After 7pm Mass, **Seven Circles of Prayer & Healing Group**.
7.30pm, **Coffee Evening** (Church Hall).

Wednesday: 12.15pm, **Keep Fit** (Church Hall).
Thursday: 9pm, **Altar of Repose**. Could you watch one hour with me?
Stations of the Cross lead by Children; Time to be announced at Mass.
Saturday: **Confessions Cancelled**.
Remember A Loved One at Easter. List in the church porch if you wish to add the name of anyone recently deceased to The Easter Cross.
Lenten Alms. Basket at the back of church for donations to St Cuthbert's Care.
Flowers for Easter. Donations gratefully accepted.
200 Club: Winners for April; 182 Maria Formosa; 63 E. Blythe; 34 M. Kenyon; 285 C. Hall; 269 R Lourie.
Justice & Peace Group. CAFOD self-denial envelopes due for collection this weekend.

St Robert's School

No Adoration or Mass until after the Easter Holidays.

Our Blessed Lady, Washington

Palm Sunday: 4pm, **Stations of the Cross and Benediction**.
Tuesday: 11-11.45am **Confessions**.
Thursday **Drop In**: Cancelled. A donation of £250 has been sent to Grace House, Sunderland. The April Appeal will be for SVP Youth.
Saturday: **No Exposition or Confessions**.
The Lenten Well for Cafod is at the back of the church again for your donations. So far in Lent we have collected £464.98, well done, keep it up.

600 Club: April winners: 290 Tom McGee; 519 C. Madden; 106 Helen Kelly; 245 J. Wilkinson; 144 L. Newton; 66 J. McPartlin; 59 Pat Hogg; 117 M. Powell. May subscriptions will be collected on Sunday 30th April.
Carol Dyson will be taking part in **Race for Life Cancer U.K.** on Sunday 4th June in Herrington Park in aid of St. Benedict's Hospice. There is a sponsor form on the noticeboard in the Church porch.
Anyone wishing to Read or Minister at the Easter Services, please sign the list in the porch.

St John Boste, Oxclose

Monday: 9.15am, **Meditation** in School.
7pm, **Craft Group**.
Wednesday: 10am, **Stations of the Cross** lead by Children. (in school)
Mass will be at 7.00pm (note time change)
Saturday: 9.40am **Morning Prayer**.
Lottery. We are coming to the end of another year of our lottery bonus ball game. Thank you again for your support which enables us to send parishioners to Lourdes each year. We are able to give everyone two free weeks at the beginning of April due to small winnings. Can all who settle up annually pay £51 per number by the middle of April. There are spare numbers if anyone would like to join.
Tombola and Raffle. Carol Dance is putting on one of her spectacular Tombola and raffles on Easter Sunday after Mass in aid of the Lourdes Fund. Please stay behind and support the event.
The big Easter Church Cleaning will be on Wednesday 12 April at 10.45am. Everyone welcome to help.
Potted plants are needed for the Altar of Repose in the Dryburn room on Maundy Thursday. If anyone has a plant they would like to loan to the church could you please bring to church on Wednesday 12th after 10am mass. Thank you.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw

Prayer of the Church: 15 minutes before Mass / service.
Monday: 5-5.45pm, **Exposition and Confessions**.
(Note change of time)
7.30pm, **Women's Guild** (Parish Centre).

Tuesday: After Mass, **Stations of the Cross** lead by the Children
Bingo 7.30pm (Parish Centre), all welcome.

Wednesday: Noon, **Stations of the Cross** followed by soup lunch.
Revised Date: A Meditation in Song and Pictures on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ by David Ritson, TODAY at 3pm at OLQP. All welcome.
The Primary School Chapel will be open every Wednesday at 8.30am during Lent for personal prayer.
Would you like to read during one of the Services over Easter? If so please put your name on the list in the porch. Thank you.
Emily would like to thank everyone who supported and helped with the curry evening. It was a great success and raised £430 towards her First Aid Africa appeal.
Fairtrade - can you make the swap for one of your regular purchases? Remember we have Fairtrade products which are not available in supermarkets.

Parish Information

Collection for Holy Places after all Masses this weekend.
Stations of the Cross at St Michael's led by young people, TODAY at 5pm, followed by pizza. All welcome.
Mass on **Tuesday 11 April, 6.30pm** will be at the home of Terri Trotter. Please ask Fr Mark or the hosts for addresses.
Holy Thursday: 11.00am **Chrism Mass**, St Mary's Cathedral.
Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence.
Good Friday **Walk of Witness** with our friends from other Christian churches will start at 11am outside Trinity Methodist Church, Shiny Row when we will follow the cross and remember Jesus passion arriving at Our Lady Queen of Peace for refreshments. Please join us for this very moving service and help us remind our local community of this special day.

Car drivers

Please think of offering a lift to those without transport to the **Maundy Thursday** Mass at St John's. If you need a lift please don't be shy about asking.

Services this week

Mon Apr 10	SB	09.05	Joan Curtin
	SJ	09.15	Communion Service (VC)
	OBLI	09.15	Communion Service
	OLQP	18.00	In thanksgiving Bentham Family
Tue Apr 11	SJ	09.15	Priest's Intention
	OLQP	09.30	Our School
	OBLI	Noon	Alec Bell
	SB	19.00	John & Janet Walker
Wed Apr 12	SB	09.05	Special Intention
	OBLI	09.15	Mary Trint
	SJ	19.00	Priest's Intention
	OLQP	19.00	Communion Service

Holy Thursday

SJ	19.00	Commemoration of the Last Supper
SJ	20.00	Exposition (Watching)
SB	21.30	Exposition (watching) until 11pm

Good Friday

SB	10.00	Stations of the Cross
OLQP	11.00	Walk of Witness (see Notice)
SJ	11.00	Stations of the Cross
ALL	15.00	Commemoration of the Passion

Saturday—Easter Vigil

SB	17.00	Our Parish Family
OBLI	19.00	Harry Watson
SJ	19.00	Our Parish Family
OLQP	20.00	Those received into Church

Easter Sunday Yr A

Sun Apr 16	SB	08.30	Michael Pittiglio
	SJ	09.30	Kieran Defty
	OLQP	10.00	Andrew Long
	OBLI	11.00	Jack & Vera Lawless & John Callaghan
	OBLI	18.00	Our Parish Family

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,
Sheila Hepple, Mary Hill,
Andrew Hughes,
Holly Hunter, Paul Iley,
Godfrey Keefe,
Annette Keitel, Jade Kemp,
Stephen Kenyon Jnr,
George McAfferty,
Joan McHale,
Joseph McIntyre,
Rose McMahon,
June Matthews, Mary Maw,
Lloyd McLinden
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:

Michael Pittiglio, Joan Curtin, Beth Heppell

Fr Mark Millward 4163583
Fr Anthony Cornforth 4163805
(07923683046)

anthony.cornforth@gmail.com

Rev Chas Ferguson 3854573
Rev Frank O'Neill 07791155845

washingtongatholic.org.uk

ST JOHN XXIII

Incorporating:

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

8/9 April 2017 Palm Sunday Yr A

Last week we heard an actual account of the events on Westminster Bridge recently by Alexander Willis, grandson of Veronica Birrell, one of our parishioners. Today we have a fictional account by the son of the owner of the donkey on which Jesus rode into Bethlehem.

The disciples brought the donkey to the Master. I held the lead rope as Jesus put a small blanket over its back and sat on it. As soon as his weight settled on Sarai, she raised her front hooves off the ground but he patted her and said something low and comforting. She settled down immediately and, even in all the shouting and confusion to follow, she carried him with a certain quiet majesty (demonstrating the intelligence of donkeys). As we entered the city the crowd were cheering and pretty soon I was shouting 'Hosanna' also. As I watched Jesus, I began to see tears run down his face and bury themselves in his beard. The Teacher was weeping. As I listened, I heard him speaking quietly and I realised he was speaking to the city itself. Quietly, longingly, tearfully, sadly, personally, almost like a broken-hearted father might plead with a rebellious child. I didn't understand it then, but less than forty years later the Romans lay siege to the city and destroyed it, just as Jesus had foretold. But I was just a boy and it seemed like such a party. What could I know? As he got down from the donkey, the crowd moved with him into the temple. I could see him still. I waved. He didn't wave back, just nodded and I could see his lips form the words, "Thanks, Jake." (how did he know my name?) He turned and disappeared into the temple. Thank *you*, Jesus, I thought. Thank *you*. I held Sarai's rope until the crowds had passed and the road was mostly clear. Then, slowly I led Sarai up the long hill back to Bethphage. I thought of his tears, his tears for me and mine, for my family and my people. And as I walked I chanted, step after step, as I trudged up the hill. It *began* as a chant anyway and ended as a kind of prayer: "Hosanna! Son of David. Save us from our sins!"

Sat	SB	17.00	John Graham
Sun Apr 9	SB	08.30	Our Parish Family
	SJ	09.30	90th Birthday Celebration
	OLQP	10.00	Our Parish Family
	OBLI	11.00	Ted & Betty Lank & Margaret Payne
	OBLI	18.00	Tom Jobling & Lesley King