

## First Reading: In Praise of Divine Wisdom

### Wisdom 9:13-18

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

### Response to the Psalm:

**O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.**

### Second Reading: Paul and Philemon

#### Philemon 9-10. 12-17

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him - I could say - a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant and teach me your decrees. Alleluia!**

### The Gospel: The Cost of Discipleship

#### Luke 14: 25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. "If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.' Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions." lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again."

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### Please Note

Usual groups & activities in the Parish will take place as normal.  
**Only cancellations will be listed,  
if there is a shortage of space in the Newsletter.**

## St Robert of Newminster School

**Adoration at St Robert's School:** Thursday, 11.00am - 3.00pm.

### Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw

**Divine Office:** 15 minutes before daily Mass or Communion Service.

Monday: 11.00am, **Sewing Club.** New members welcome.

6-6.45pm, **Confessions & Exposition.**

7.30pm, **Woman's Guild,** in the Parish Centre. New members welcome.

Tuesday: 10 am, **Meditation Group,** all welcome.

7.30pm, **Bingo,** in the Parish Centre all welcome.

Friday: 9am - 3pm, **Adoration.**

### Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington

Thursday: **Drop In:** This week: Grace House, Sunderland.

Saturday: 10.30 - 11.30am **Confessions .**

**Cleaning:** Group 4.

**CAFOD Well:** All donations sent to CAFOD.

**Thursday Drop-In Appeal:** Great Air Ambulance Appeal

**Youth Cancer Research Appeal:** Table top sale to raise funds for this charity will be held on Sunday 22 September.

**600 Club Winners:** No.137 T. Glaze (Penshaw), No.38 T. Lamb, No.443 S. Herrick, No.135 S. Davies, No.35 V. Reed (SNR), No.121 D. Cunningham, No.568 D. Stephenson, No.181 M Casey.

## St Bede's, Usworth

Monday: 1pm, **Parish Bingo,** (Lindisfarne Room).

5.30pm, **Church Cleaning,** Team B

7pm, **Vocations Prayer Group** in Church. All welcome.

Tuesday: 6pm-6.45pm, **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.**

7.30pm, **Coffee Evening,** (Lindisfarne Room).

**200 Club:** Winners for September: No.176 M. Durkin, No.34 M. Kenyon, No.210 J.Watt, No.239 J.Lourie, No.205, M.Dragone.

**Justice and Peace Group:** CAFOD self-denial envelopes due for collection this weekend.

**Church Cleaning:** New rota available in the Church Porch.

**APF Red Boxes:** If your box is not emptied regularly please bring it to church and hand it to Joe or Joan Formosa. Thank you for your co-operation.

## St John Boste, Oxclose

**Autumn Afternoon Tea and Tombola** will be held in the Dryburn Room at 2pm on Saturday 28 September. Tickets £5 each (to include a glass of Prosecco!) available from Tracy, Liz or Veronica in the choir, or call Veronica on 07795 144007.

## Parish Information

**Meditation Group:** 10am, Tuesday 24 September at St Bede's.

**Special Collection:** This weekend: Catholic Education

Next weekend: Home Mission Sunday

**The Requiem Mass for Adrian Parker** will be held on Thursday 12 September at 10am at All Saints Church, Lancaster.

**SVP Shop at Wrekenton** urgently require good clean clothing, i.e. children, ladies and gentlemen. Good shoes also needed. Many thanks for your help.

**The Missionaries of St Paul:** Following the recent visit of Fr Walter Ezenwosu, you have donated a magnificent total of £2,227.40. Fr Walter gives a huge thank you for all your prayers and support.

**Annual Walk For Peace:** Sunday 15 September 2019. Meeting from 10am at the Hindu Temple, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9QB. The Walk will begin at 11am. For further information please contact Hari Shukla on 0191 243 3620.

**Portraits of Courage: Oscar Romero by Eliot Smith Dance:** Wednesday 18 September 2019, 7.30pm at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary. Eliot Smith Dance presents an evening of bold and exciting contemporary works to captivate audiences, presented in partnership with Newcastle's Cathedral Church of St. Mary as part of their 175th Anniversary. Portraits of Courage is a powerful and historical informative dance work choreographed by Eliot Smith, which is inspired by the genius and courage of; William Armstrong, Emily Wilding Davison and George Stephenson. This performance includes the premiere of a new portrait inspired by St. Oscar Romero. Tickets are £8 (concession available) and can be purchased from [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/portraits-of-courage-oscar-romero-by-eliot-smith-dance-tickets-64465205164](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/portraits-of-courage-oscar-romero-by-eliot-smith-dance-tickets-64465205164) or from Pauline Book Shop or Cathedral Café.

**Credit Union Meeting:** We now have a plan for the rollout of the Credit Union Service Points. If you volunteered at the last meeting or would like to get involved please attend a short meeting at St John Boste on Wednesday 18 September at 7.45pm after Mass. All welcome.

**A CAFOD Creation Mass** will be celebrated at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Penshaw at 11am on Saturday 21 September. Please come along to find out about CAFOD's Common Home Campaign and see what more we can do to avoid the worst effects of climate change.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day:** You are invited to an evening with CAFOD'S Mark Chamberlain who will speak about his work

## Please pray for those of our parish who are sick:

**Michael Anderson, Andrew, Mary Askew, Maria Barrell, Vivien Bell, Tricia Carr, Hilary Cassidy, James Thomas Charlton, Christine Cox, Ophelia Davies, Willie Day, Baby Luke Defty, Lynn Ditchburn, Mary Dragone, Bernard English, Fred and Freda Fletcher, Terry Ford, Anne-Marie Foster, Barbara Foster, Molly French, Jenny Gilmaney, Margaret Gleeson, Rene Gordon, Raymond Halton Jr, Brian Harland, Sheila Hepple, Stan Horwood, Andrew Hughes, Holly Hunter, Raymond Irwin, Godfrey Keefe, Jade Kemp, Daniel Mason, Mary Maw, George McAfferty, Joseph McIntyre, Lloyd McLinden, Ann Metcalf, Kathleen Monaghan, Madge Mullen, George O'Donnell, Jack Sant, Molly Shiel, Ronnie Shields, Mary Skilcorn, George Stagg, John Tilley, Vicky Tindall, Frank Tracey, Wendy Tufton, Stephen Willey, Kitty Johnson.**

**Recently Deceased: William Blakely, Allan Millward, Helen McPartlin, Teresa Laidler.**



overseas from 6-8pm on Thursday 26 September 2019 at St. Hilda's Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle NE15 7PY. The Evening will begin with a shared meal so please bring something for the table. To book call 0191 384 4847 or on website [hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk](mailto:hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk).

**The Franciscan Legacy from the 13th Century to the 21st:** An International Conference hosted by the Centre for Catholic Studies in partnership with the Capuchin Franciscans of Great Britain. Assessing the Continuing Significance of St. Francis and Franciscan Traditions of Theology, Spirituality and Action. A Conference in Honour of the 800th Anniversary of St Francis' Meeting with Sultan Malek Al-Kamil on Tuesday 5 - Thursday 7 November 2019 in Durham. Registration now open through our conferences page. **Deadline for registration is Monday 30 September 2019.** Centre for Catholic Studies email: [ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk) or tel.: 0191 334 1656. See poster for full details.

**St. Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre** are looking for volunteers Monday to Saturday, morning and/or afternoon to join our Welcoming Group. They will meet visitors, assist them in where to find topics they are looking for and borrowing and returning resources. Volunteers are also needed to assist groups who use the facilities and also to sort and ticket new additions to the library. Someone to care for several pots and a small area of Garden around St Hilda's. We are also looking for mobile storage units with plastic trays if any school has any to donate. If you are interested please contact: [pat.kennedy@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:pat.kennedy@diocesehn.org.uk).

**A Special Thank You:** The bulletin team would like to thank Winifred for all the hard work she has put into the bulletin for many years. Her flexibility and "can-do" attitude will be missed within the team. Thank you for your support through the good and bad times. If anyone would like to join the bulletin team please contact Christine via email [christine.cox73@ntlworld.com](mailto:christine.cox73@ntlworld.com). Training will be given, a knowledge of Publisher, Word and Excel is essential.

**THANK YOU!** My Mam Mary and all our family have been very moved and are deeply appreciative of the Mass intentions, prayers, candles and cards of condolence we have received following the death of my Dad Allan and even those who travelled a 200 mile return trip to be at the funeral. Words are not enough, it is so comforting to be held in love and prayer by such wonderful people in our churches.  
**God bless, Fr Mark.**

Mass Times & Intentions - Week Beginning Monday 09 September 2019			
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Monday 09 September	St Bede	09.05	Word & Holy Communion
	St John Boste	09.15	Word & Holy Communion (PY)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09:15	Word & Holy Communion
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	<b>Margaret Collins</b>
Tuesday 10 September	St John Boste	09.15	Word & Holy Communion (EM)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Word & Holy Communion
	St Bede	19.00	<b>Sr. Cecilia Wilkinson</b>
	St Joseph	19.00	<b>Vocations to the Priesthood</b>
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word & Holy Communion
Wednesday 11 September	St Joseph	09.00	<b>Special Intention</b>
	St Bede	09.05	Word & Holy Communion
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Word & Holy Communion
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word & Holy Communion
	St John Boste	19.00	Word & Holy Communion
Thursday 12 September	St Bede	09.05	Word & Holy Communion
	St John Boste	09.15	Word & Holy Communion (SB)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	<b>09.15</b>	<b>Special Intention</b>
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10.00	Word & Holy Communion
	St Joseph	12.05	<b>Golden Wedding: Frank and Teresa McAnaney</b>
	<b>St Bede</b>	<b>13.45</b>	<b>Funeral Service: William Blakely</b>
Friday 13 September	St Joseph	09.00	<b>Holy Souls</b>
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Word & Holy Communion
	St Bede	09.15	Word & Holy Communion
	St John Boste	09.30	<b>In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart</b>
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word & Holy Communion
Saturday 14 September	Our Lady Queen of Peace	09.00	Word & Holy Communion
	St Bede	09.05	Word & Holy Communion
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	<b>Dick Bailey</b>
	St John Boste	10.00	Word & Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 15 September - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			
Vigil	St Bede	17.00	<b>John Graham</b>
	St Joseph	18.00	<b>Derek Grady</b>
Sunday 15 September	St Bede	08.30	<b>Our Parish Family</b>
	St John Boste	09.30	<b>John Frazer</b>
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10.00	<b>Gina Maggiore</b>
	St Joseph	10.00	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11.00	<b>Golden Wedding: David and Mary Barry</b>
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	18.00	<b>Charles McGivern &amp; Deceased Family</b>

## Parishes of St John XXIII & St Joseph, Birtley

Incorporating:

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

Administrator: Audrey Huntley 0191 4163583 sj23office01@gmail.com

**In the Partnership of Benedict** Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Penshaw,  
Sacriston, Washington

### 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 07 SEPTEMBER - 08 SEPTEMBER 2019

Vigil	St Bede	17:00	<b>Maurya &amp; Thomas Cushlow</b>
	St Joseph	18:00	<b>Mary &amp; William Elliott</b>
Sunday 08 Sept	St Bede	08:30	<b>Our Parish Family</b>
	St John Boste	09:30	<b>Marion &amp; Bob Slavin</b>
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10:00	<b>Stephen Richardson</b>
	St Joseph	10:00	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11:00	<b>Golden Wedding: Vincent &amp; Honor Reed</b>
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	18:00	<b>Our Parish Family</b>

### The Cost of Discipleship

Jesus does not pull his punches, and here delivers a series of devastating body-blows to anyone who is looking for easy discipleship. All through this journey which culminates in Jesus' own death at Jerusalem the cost of discipleship has been a recurrent theme: 'Let the dead bury their dead' (13th Sunday), the Parable of the Rich Fool (18th Sunday), 'From one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded' (19th Sunday), 'Father against son, son against father' (20th Sunday), and now 'Hate father and mother' and 'Give up all your possessions'. A certain amount of the vigour of these demands may be attributed to a Semitic (Hebrew/Aramaic) mode of expression (they would often use superlatives and rarely use comparatives), but there is no doubt about the absolute demands made on the disciple. When Jesus made these demands he knew what lay ahead of him, and was only asking his disciples to follow his own course. We must count the cost before beginning to build the tower. Most of us have, of course, already started to build the tower by responding to Jesus' call. There is no turning back from the plough (13th Sunday); only pray for a courage and loyalty which exceed our own powers.

**Why does Jesus use such fierce language? What is the hardest thing about trying to be a disciple of Christ?**

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

Did you know our Parish is online?! As well as our website, [washingtoncatholic.org.uk](http://washingtoncatholic.org.uk), you can find regular prayers, reflections and images on our social media pages throughout the liturgical year. Use **@ParishStJohn23** on Twitter and search for **"Parish of St John XXIII"** on Facebook. If you have any issues, comments, suggestions, or would like to support this work, please email: [SJ23Social@disciples.com](mailto:SJ23Social@disciples.com).

Fr Jim O'Keefe 0191 416 3805  
Fr Mark Millward 0191 416 3583  
Fr Paul Hopper 0191 410 2923

Deacon Frank O'Neill 0779 115 5845  
Deacon Peter Lavery 0730 505 9297  
Deacon Chas Ferguson 0783 663 1963  
Deacon Tony Joy 0779 989 3419