

19th MARCH 2017 - 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A



ST AUGUSTINE'S
30 Coniscliffe Road
DARLINGTON DL3 7RG

PARISH BULLETIN

BREVIARY WEEK : 3

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Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9.30 – 2.00
 Thur/Fri 9.30 – 2.00

WORD FOR TODAY

What do you really want out of life?
What would make your life so complete that
you would feel that you were lacking
nothing?

Jesus tells the Samaritan woman that he has
it on tap.

And it can be yours too.

What is it?

BREAK 4 LENT

Please join them at St Cuthbert's Hall for teas and coffee at 10.30am followed by a talk at 11.00am.

The course they are following is "Receiving Christ in five different ways"

Monday 20th March Rev. Hilary Collinson (URC)

Monday 27th March Mrs Maranny Jones (Churches Together)

Monday 3rd April Rev Dr Andrew Stobart (Methodist)

Start 10.30am, Speaker 11.00am, Finish by 11.30am

As a result of the illness and recent death of Fr. Séamus, it has been necessary to review how best to provide for the sacramental needs of the Darlington parishes. With only two diocesan priests to serve the six town parishes it was decided, as you know, to withdraw two of the nine weekend Masses. The lead up to Holy Week and Holy Week itself present additional pastoral duties and expectations in the celebration of the liturgy. In the spirit of the diocesan's project *Forward in Hope*, the celebration of Holy Week offers an opportunity for the 'Darlington Partnership' of parishes to unite in acts of worship which bring together the gifts and talents of all six parish communities.

Following the custom of previous years, the Lent Penitential Service for all Darlington parish communities will be celebrated on **Tuesday 28th March, at 7.00pm at St. Anne's Church, Welbeck Avenue**. On Maundy Thursday there will be **ONE** celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper for all six town parishes on **Thursday 13th April, at 7.00pm**. This celebration will take place **at St. Teresa's Church, Harris Street**. It is hoped that volunteers (ideally 30 in all) from the six parish communities will take up invitations for the various lay ministries required for the Maundy Thursday celebration at St. Teresa's.

In recent years many parishes have reported a declining attendance at all Holy Week celebrations, which increasingly limits the form of celebration. A single celebration involving all parish communities offers the opportunity for a richer expression of the liturgy and reduces the pressures on priests and people to duplicate services that can now only be sustained with difficulty. Further details of the Maundy Thursday Mass will be released very soon.

Celebrating Fatima 100 Years.

You are invited to a Deanery Mass of Reparation on the first Saturday of each month.

Saturday 1st April 9.30am Holy Family

Saturday 6th May 11am St Augustine's

Saturday 13th May 9.30am Holy Family (This is the date of the 1st apparition)

DARLINGTON COMMUNITY PASSION PLAY Sunday 9th April at 2.00pm in the grounds of St Augustine's Parish Centre. You are invited to be part of the Passion story in words & music. The actors, singers & musicians come from a variety of Darlington Churches - Free Admission.

Mary Sesnan RIP 1st March 2017

Mary was a member of St Anne's parish for many years and taught at St Williams. Following her retirement she did supply work at St Bedes. Mary and her husband John were regulars at St Augustines parish centre and knew many people in the parish. She was a lovely lady who always saw the best in people and was held in high esteem by all who knew her.

The funeral will be held in Bingley on 17th March 2017.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD

Congratulations to our young people from the parish who went to the awards ceremony at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle to receive their Pope John Paul II awards on the 2nd March. The John Paul II awards encourages, recognises and celebrates the contribution that young people make to parishes and the wider community. As part of their service to the parish, Evie Gunnell, Sarah McGovern, and Lauren Sanderson have welcomed parishioners to mass, been part of the music ministry, organised youth masses in the parish and at masses at college. They have been on pilgrimage to Lourdes with HCPT and the diocese supporting and serving other pilgrims, in addition to fundraising and volunteering for a wide range of charities. As a result of their time commitment, all our young people were awarded the gold award. It has been a real joy to see both, this year's recipients of the awards, and those young people working towards the completion of the award next year, having a more prominent role in the parish. We hope that, inspired by the service of their families and the parish, they continue to flourish in their faith and contribution to St Augustine's and any parishes they belong to in the future.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY - HOSPITAL

A part time Catholic Chaplaincy post for Durham & Darlington NHS Trust is advertised on NHS Jobs: www.jobs.nhs.uk

Enter the job reference: 439-AEC-13393-1

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. Why did you bring us out of Egypt? they said. Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle? Moses appealed to the Lord. How am I to deal with this people? he said. A little more and they will stone me! The Lord said to Moses, Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink. This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, Is the Lord with us, or not?

Psalm

Either: O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts.'

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2.5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel: John 4:5-15.19-26.39-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering
and who it is that is saying to you:
Give me a drink,

you would have been the one to ask,
and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water
will get thirsty again:
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give
will never be thirsty again:
the water that I shall give
will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming

when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we do know;
for salvation comes from the Jews.
But the hour will come - in fact it is here already -
when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth:
that is the kind of worshipper
the Father wants.
God is spirit,
and those who worship
must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

REFLECTION - The further thirst

There is a thirst in every human heart.
Each of us is like that lonely Samaritan woman.
We are thirsting for something,
something that will satisfy all our longings.
But often we search in the wrong places.
We draw water from many wells:
the water of praise to quench our thirst for self-esteem;
the water of success to quench our thirst for importance;
the water of pleasure to quench our thirst for joy ...
but we still get thirsty:
only God can give us what we are looking for.
He alone can cause a spring to well up inside us.
The water from this spring will sustain us
in our journey to the Promised Land of eternal life.

LENTEN SERVICES

- **LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE** for our Deanery will be at St Anne's on Tuesday 28th March 7pm
- **HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE** will be held for all the Deanery at St Teresa's Church. We are hoping that there will be representatives from each parish taking part in various roles. Details to follow.
- **GOOD FRIDAY** Deacon Jurgen Muller will help us celebrate our Good Friday Service at 3pm.
- **EASTER VIGIL** – We will still have the Easter Vigil here in St Augustine's at 8pm and Mass on Easter Sunday at 9.15pm. There will be no 6.30pm Mass.

PASSOVER

Every year it is a struggle to get people to help prepare/set-up for this event, and although the evening is always a success the numbers have declined, so this year we are planning to take a break and hopefully it will start again next year with renewed enthusiasm.

CAFOD FAST DAY please return your envelopes as soon as possible.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH CLUB/CENTRE INFORMATION

PARISH CENTRE INFORMATION

To book the Parish Centre : email staugspc@gmail.com or
telephone 07909 747145

Bar Opening Time: Sunday 7-10.30pm

Luncheon Club

The next lunch will be held on Tuesday 21st March from 12.30pm with last orders at 1.30pm. We anticipate a finish time of 2.30pm. Cost is £2.50 which includes homemade soup, bread and cake. Everybody welcome.

Date for your Diary

Elvis Tribute Act Saturday 1st July 2017. Further details to follow.

Ushaw 2017 Season. Ushaw reopens to the public on 18th March. Opening times are, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 1.00pm -5.00pm
For information on the many planned events see
WWW.ushaw.org or 0191 3738500

Annual Pilgrimage To Lourdes 2017

Depart Newcastle Airport Friday 28th July Return On Friday 4th August.

For full information about costs, details of care offered and booking / application forms please contact Fr Peter Stott on 01670 513410 or email lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk



PRAYER MEETING

Each Tuesday in the Parish Centre at 7.00 pm

PADDINGTON BEAR

12 th March	£ 7.31
Money in Bank	£171.16
Total Collected	£31,459.22



COFFEES AFTER MASS
Sarah McGovern
& friends

MARCH 19TH		3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A	
	St Augustine's	9.15 am	Andrew Keough RIP
	St Augustine's	6.30 pm	Mark & Mary Dunn RIP
MONDAY	St Augustine's	12.00 pm	Eucharistic Service followed by Exposition till 3pm
TUESDAY	St Augustine's	12.15 am	Mrs Lucy Hui RIP
WEDNESDAY			
THURSDAY	St Augustine's	12.15 pm	Eucharistic Service
FRIDAY	St Augustine's	12.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
	St Augustine's	7.00 pm	Self & Deane Families
SATURDAY	CONFESSIONS 10.30-11.30 am		
SUNDAY 26 th March	St Augustine's	9.15 am	Brenda Bennett RIP
4 th Sunday of Lent – A	St Augustine's	6.30 pm	John Long RIP
THOSE WHO ARE SICK	Please remember Fr Gary Dickson, Fr Richard Harriott, Sister Evelyn and all priests and religious in the diocese who have health problems. Also the sick and housebound of the parish - Joan Foster, Maureen Harrison, Michelle Butler, Anne Kee, Teresa Hughes, Betty Smith, John Hodge, and those looking after them.		
LATELY DEAD			
ANNIVERSARIES	March Anniversaries – Lily Daley, May Sellers, Maurice Conway, Stanley Butterfield, Delia Lancaster, Betty Baldwin, Josephine Ward, Margaret Maddison, Margaret Costello, Irene McRedmond, Dorothy Smith, Patrick McMullan, Janet Horner, Winifred Hewitt, Patricia Stewart, Kathleen Kelly, Rona Gunnell, Jean Patricio. May they rest in peace.		
MINISTERS	SUNDAY 26th March		
	9.15 am		6.30 pm
READERS	M Daley/J McGovern		A Webster/A Ivanek
OFFERTORY	Mr & Mrs Kilgour		P Widdall
WELCOMERS			
COUNTERS TEAM (C) B Humphrey/G Lynch/P Owen/L Eastham			
12 th March 2017		£ 371.21	
		<u>£ 306.85</u>	(£ 383.56 gift aided)
		<u>£ 678.06</u>	