

10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017 - 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B



ST AUGUSTINE'S  
30 Coniscliffe Road  
DARLINGTON DL3 7RG

## ***PARISH BULLETIN***

BREVIARY WEEK : 2

Fr Gordon Ryan

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Office Hours:    Mon/Tues  9.30 – 2.30  
                          Thur/Fri     9.30 – 2.30

## WORD FOR TODAY

*Is the coming of our God something we should fear  
or welcome with open arms?*

*If our scriptures are to be believed then the advent  
of the Lord is that of a loving God, of someone  
whose only concern is to free us from what holds us  
back and to lead us to where we will flourish. That's  
why the Advent cry of the Church has always been  
"Come, Lord Jesus, come!"*

# ADVENT

## PARTNERSHIP RECONCILIATION SERVICE FOR ADVENT

Tuesday 12th December at St Thomas Aquinas Church 7.00pm.

### *St Augustine's Primary School*

- There will be Mass in School on the following date – Everybody Welcome  
*Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – 10.45am*
- The School Advent Liturgy will take place in Church on Monday  
18<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm

## ST CUTHBERTS CARE – ADVENT ALMS APPEAL

St Cuthberts Care's two Catholic nursing homes provide invaluable peace of mind often to older people with no family and minimal income. Combined efforts from parishes to date have raised just over £16,000 towards our Hardship Fund and your ongoing support is immensely appreciated. They will also be supporting a PACE project to provide lunch, gifts and take-away food parcels to 40+ homeless adults on Christmas Day. Your donation would be helpful. Envelopes available.

## OUTSIDE NATIVITY

Held in the Parish Centre grounds on Saturday 23rd December at 6pm.

Entrance is free – but if you can please bring a donation for the Food Bank, i.e. tinned goods or long-life milk. Join us afterwards in the Centre for a warming drink and there maybe a surprise visitor for the children.

### **CHRISTMAS MASSES IN ST AUGUSTINE'S**

- The Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve will be at 6.00pm
- Midnight Mass at 12 preceded by carols from 11.30pm
- Christmas Day Mass at 10.00am

Do you support Catholic schools and right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic Schools.

## HOGARTH/PARTNERSHIP NEWS/EVENTS

*St William's Carol Service will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. The young children and choir will lead the Service and the Church will be colourfully lit for the occasion. PLEASE COME ALONG*

*St Osmund's Gainford – Pilgrimage to Spain 6-13<sup>th</sup> August 2018. For further details please contact Miss Nicola Reeves, [nicreeves76@hotmail.com](mailto:nicreeves76@hotmail.com), or St Osmund's on 730191*

### **Partnership Matters**

The latest edition of the bi-monthly *Partnership Matters* news update is now available on the front page of the diocesan website ([www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk)). It includes items on engaging young people in partnerships, being a welcoming community and feedback from a recent meeting of partnership chairs and much more. Contributions of news items from Partnerships are always welcome.

### **SVP**

The **Christmas Collection** will be taken today after both Masses.

We gave gifts to 39 guests at last week's Sunday Stop and recently supported several local people in need. We will be giving gifts to those we visit and food parcels to a number of families.

The Christmas Crib will have a donation basket for the Baby Feeding appeal where all the money will go directly to the SVP run Feeding centres in Sudan and South Sudan.

### **NATIVITY PLAY REHEARSALS**

Musicians and more singers still needed for this magical outdoor celebration of Christ's birth. Rehearsal will be at 4.30pm on Saturday 16th December.

Performers, singers and musicians will be needed at 5.00pm on Saturday 23rd to rehearse prior to the performance starting at 6.00pm. It will be followed by refreshments, courtesy of PC & Club Committee and then the Christmas Quiz at 7.30pm. Please call Alice on 07734 049642 for further detail.

### **VACANCIES – in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle**

- Parish Secretary, St Robert, Morpeth 16 hours per week.
- Administration Assistant, St Mary, Sunderland 4 hours per week.
- Refugee Project Worker, Newcastle upon Tyne 18 hours per week.

*For further information and details of how to apply please visit the website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us (0191 243 3301, email [human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk))*

## First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11

Console my people, console them, says your God.  
Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her  
that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for,  
that she has received from the hand of the Lord  
double punishment for all her crimes.

A voice cries, Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God  
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
let every cliff become a plain,  
and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all mankind shall see it;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Go up on a high mountain,  
joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice,  
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear,  
say to the towns of Judah,  
Here is your God.

Here is the Lord coming with power,  
his arm subduing all things to him.  
The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him.  
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,  
gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

## PSALM

God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

## Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

## Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Thank you to all those who have handed in their envelopes or red boxes for the Mill Hill Mission appeal. If you handed in a red box, it has been emptied and will be left in the sacristy for you to collect. Please could any more monies be handed in to church as soon as possible so that I can pay in the remainder by mid-December. Any queries please contact Mary Mustard on 07900 898990.

A box of **Prayer Tags** to hang on the Christmas Tree is available at the back of Church. Please complete one and return it to the box, where it will be placed on the tree. If you wish to make a donation please use any of the boxes on the pillars, Cafod, HCPT, Holy Souls, or perhaps a St Cuthbert's Care envelope.

### **CAFOD EVENTS**

- Afternoon Tea and Christmas Sing-a-Long - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm till 5pm tickets priced at £4.00 and available after Mass, in the Parish Centre or contact Carole Springfield 07860 826707.
- Christmas Cafod Quiz – after the nativity on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 7.30pm – 8pm.

### **CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARMEL COLLEGE, HOLY FAMILY & ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOLS 2019/20**

Where changes to admission arrangements are intended, all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published.

The policy for consultation for 2019-20 is available at

<http://carmel.org.uk/admissions-policy/>

[www.holyfamilyprimary.org.uk/information/admissions](http://www.holyfamilyprimary.org.uk/information/admissions),

<http://staugustinesacademy.org.uk/admissions-policy/>.

The consultation will run from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 - Monday 22 January 2018. A consultation response form is available to download or by request from the College. The Directors of the Carmel Education Trust will consider all comments received before they determine the arrangements for 2019-20.

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – STUDY DAY**

Will be held at St Hilda's Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 10.30-3.30pm. please contact [liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk) if you wish to attend.

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## ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH CLUB/CENTRE INFORMATION

### PARISH CENTRE INFORMATION

To book the Parish Centre : email [staugspc@gmail.com](mailto:staugspc@gmail.com) or  
telephone 07909 747145

Bar Opening Time: Sunday 7-10.30pm

### BOOK CLUB

This Wednesday at 2pm. If you want to join us you will be most welcome. We choose from a broad range of titles.

### TUESDAY LUNCHEON CLUB

19<sup>th</sup> December 2017 from 12.30 pm 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.

NATIVITY PLAY in the PC grounds on Saturday 23rd December at 6pm. Free Entry, except for tinned food or long-life milk donations will be sent to the Food Banks – they like to build up their stocks for distribution in January.

Join us afterwards in the Centre for a warming drink and there maybe a surprise visitor for the children.

This will be followed by the **CAFOD QUIZ** 7.30-8pm

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING – Thank you to all those who came along, in doing so a fantastic **£1,950** has been passed onto First Stop, a very worthwhile cause.

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**HCPT Group 195** would like to invite you to their *New Year's Eve Ceilidh* at St Augustines Parish Centre, 7.30-12.30am.

HCPT are a charity who take disabled and disadvantaged children on pilgrimage holiday for a week, in Lourdes, France.

To reserve your tickets priced at £7.00 for adults (includes New Year's Eve toast) and £2.00 for children. Family tickets also available (2A + 2C for £15.00) please text/phone Julie Watson on 07809 340321.



**COFFEES AFTER MASS**  
Are hosted by Carmel School  
Peru Project



If anyone would like Fr Gordon to visit a parishioner who is sick or housebound, please let him know with **written** contact details of name/address etc.

DECEMBER 10 <sup>th</sup>		2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B	
SUNDAY	St Augustine's St Augustine's	9.15 am 6.30 pm	Cliff & Louisa Hutchinson RIP Charlie Frank RIP
MONDAY	St Augustine's	12.15 pm	Eucharistic Service exposition follows till 3pm
TUESDAY	St Augustine's	12.15 pm	Eucharistic Service
WEDNESDAY	St Augustine's	10.15 am 7.00 pm	Req.Mass –Patricia Richardson Special Intention
THURSDAY	Primary School St Augustine's	10.45 am 12.15 am	Mass in School Francis Baldwin RIP
FRIDAY	St Augustine's	7.00 pm	Ints of Fitzgerald Family
SATURDAY	St Augustine's	10.00 am	Andrew Keough RIP Followed by Confessions
SUNDAY 17 <sup>th</sup> December 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year (B)	St Augustine's St Augustine's	9.15 am 6.30 pm	Peter Harrison RIP Joseph McIntyre 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 - Maureen Harrison, Michelle Butler, Anne Kee, Betty Smith, Lillian Brown, and those looking after them.		
LATELY DEAD	Patricia Richardson		
ANNIVERSARIES	<b>December Anniversaries</b> – Stella Davies, Emma Howard, Thomas Wake, Keith Cowan, Mary & James Courtney, Teresa Conway, Ralph Pearson, Anne Decosemo, Alan Love, Jean Carter, Dennis Beaumont, Erin Adam, John Fay, Francis O'Hare, Moria Griffin, Joe Lyonette, Hilda McCallum, Anthony Millett, James Christey, Aldo Di-Duca. May they rest in peace.		
MINISTERS	SUNDAY 17 <sup>th</sup> December		
	9.15 am		6.30 pm
WELCOMERS	P & F Ingham		R Ivanec
OFFERTORY	Peter Joyce		Mr & Mrs Hughes
READERS	J King/R Frank		J Owens/A Gibbon
COUNTERS TEAM (A) P Anwyll/C Webb/J Brown			
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December		£ 472.36	
		£ 305.13 (£381.41 gift aided)	
		£ 777.49	