

St Anne, St Augustine, Holy Family, St Mary, St Osmund

# Hogarth Partnership

## ST AUGUSTINE'S

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## 27<sup>TH</sup> December 2020 – Feast of the Holy Family – Year B

### REFLECTION – The greatness of our humanity

Sometimes people expect something extraordinary,  
or even miraculous to happen at Christmas.

But when Christ came on earth,  
he came clothed, not in the extraordinary,  
but in the ordinary.

He came dressed in the cloak  
of our weak, fragile, mortal humanity.

'They wrapped the baby in swaddling clothes,  
and laid him in a manger.'

Like an acorn that falls to earth, silently and unheralded,  
in a remote corner of the forest,  
and which grows into a great oak tree,  
so from these lowly origins Jesus grew up  
to show us the greatness of our humanity.





### First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.

My Lord, Abram replied, what do you intend to give me? I go childless... Then Abram said, See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood. Then taking him outside he said, Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants, he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

### The Psalm

**He the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.**

### Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8.11-12.17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

### Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master,  
you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

## ADVENT TRAIL

We hope you enjoyed following our Advent Trail. Each day the windows will be lit between 4-8pm until 6<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you to everyone who hosted a window and the amazing artwork that was produced.

Please follow current government guidelines when visiting the windows! Feel free to take photos and send them to the church Facebook Page. Enjoy!



Day 1	Number 10 St Augustine's Court Larchfield Street
Day 2	Elton Road (nr Milbank Road)
Day 3	Greenmount Road
Day 4	Southend Avenue (Nr Harewood)
Day 5	Cleveland Avenue (Nr Langholm Cres)
Day 6	Humersknott Avenue (Nr St Hild Close)
Day 7	Leconfield (off Cleveland Terrace)
Day 8	Greenmount Road
Day 9	Montalbo Rd, Barnard Castle DL12 8DD and Southend Ave (nr Harewood)
Day 10	Stanhope Road (nr Woodland Rd)
Day 11	Elton Road (nr Cleveland Tce)
Day 12	Merrybent Drive, Merrybent & Cleveland Avenue (nr Milbank Rd)
Day 13	Baydale Road
Day 14	Carmel Road North (nr Clareville Rd)
Day 15	Coniscliffe Road (nr Beechwood Ave)
Day 16	Cleveland Avenue (nr Coniscliffe Rd)
Day 17	Pierremont Drive
Day 18	Stanhope Road North (nr Woodlands Rd)
Day 19	Cleveland Avenue (Nr Uplands Rd)
Day 20	Coniscliffe Road (Nr Cleveland Tce)
Day 21	Oakdene Avenue

Day 22	Cleveland Terrace
Day 23	Greenmount Road
Day 24	Lawton's Court, High Coniscliffe, DL2 2LX AND Marwood Crescent DL3 OJU AND Elton Grove
Day 25	Leconfield (off Cleveland Tce)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Number 10
January 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Number 10

**THANK YOU** to those parishioners who donate by standing order every month, and those who have changed from envelope to standing order.

If you would like to change your envelope donation and pay direct:  
(can you please use your name and envelope number as the reference)  
our bank details are as follows:

DHN Darlington St Augustine A registered Charity  
(HSBC) Bank Account No. **11163914** Sort Code **40-34-18**

### MASS INTENTIONS

We are running low on Mass intentions. If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular person or intention please let us know. It is traditional to make a monetary offering according to your means.

**FOOD BANK** – please take any donations *direct* to the Food Banks.

**King's Foodbank** Opening Times: Mon, Wed & Fri, 1pm – 3pm

Find us on Facebook Tel. 01325 469884

King's Church, Prospect Place, Whessoe Road, Darlington DL3 0QT

**St.Columba's** Opening Times: Friday, 11:00am – 12:00noon

St.Columba's Church, Clifton Ave, Darlington DL1 5EE

If you know of anybody in need please contact John Kilgour at,  
JohnK@svp-tyne.org.uk or phone the office (266602) and leave a message.  
You can donate directly by bank transfer to The SVP or Kings Foodbank for details please contact John on the email - [JohnK@svp-tyne.org.uk](mailto:JohnK@svp-tyne.org.uk).

<u>December 27<sup>th</sup> 2020</u>		<u>Feast of the Holy Family – Year (B)</u>	
SUNDAY (The 9.15am Mass will continue to be livestreamed)	St Augustine's	9.15 am	Kath Webber RIP
	St Augustine's	6.30 pm	Stan Glendenning RIP
MONDAY	St Augustine's	10.00 am	Bernard Carrigan RIP
TUESDAY			
WEDNESDAY	St Augustine's	7.00 pm	Thanksgiving (Jose Family)
THURSDAY	St Augustine's	12.15 pm	Jim Beaver RIP
FRIDAY – NEW YEARS DAY	St Augustine's	10.00 am	People of the Parish
SATURDAY	St Augustine's	10.00 am	In Thanksgiving
SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas (Year B)	St Augustine's & Live-Streamed St Augustine's	9.15 am  6.30 pm	Osmund & Betty Poad  D/m Humphrey & McCann Families
THOSE WHO ARE SICK	Please remember Fr Gary Dickson, Fr Richard Harriott, Fr Wilfrid Elkin, and all priests and religious in the diocese and people of the parish who have health problems. Also the sick & housebound of the parish - Michelle Butler, Anne Kee, Betty Smith, Michael Grogan, Doris Trees, Sylvia McGee & Robyn Drummond and all those looking after them.		
LATELY DEAD <b>+</b>			
ANNIVERSARIES	<b>December Anniversaries</b> – Stella Davies, Emma Howard, Keith Cowan, Mary & James Courtney, Teresa Conway, Jean Carter, Francis O'Hare, Moira Griffin, Joe Lyonette, Hilda McCallum, Anthony Millett, James Christey, Aldo Di-Duca, Caroline Bainbridge, Christine Fawcett, Paul McGregor, Peggy Coatman, Alan Sisk, Bernard Carrigan, Mike Bennett, Jonny McTaggart, Jim Beaver. <i>May they rest in peace.</i>		

### ***An Act of Spiritual Communion***

My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there,  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.