

St Theresa's, St Thomas Aquinas, St Mary, Holy Family, St Anne

Westgarth Partnership

St Augustine, SS William & Francis De Sales, St Osmund



ST TERESA'S CHURCH

Harris Street Darlington DL1 4NL - Parish Priest Father Greg Price

Tel. 01325 257681 email: stchurch@outlook.com

If a priest is needed at Darlington Hospital, please contact Chaplaincy office 01325 743029 If it is urgent ask for the Catholic Priest on duty.

December 2020/21 Feast of the Holy Family - Year B

Brother Robert and myself are celebrating daily Mass, we remember you all, as we always do. Post Intentions to Fr Greg at the above address, or hand to him on Sunday. Let us keep praying for one another. **Love and God bless. Fr. Greg.**

Saturday 26th Mass David Cory (St T)

Sunday 27th Mass **Feast of the Holy Family Vigil** Hogg & Vasey Families (St A)
9am - Pat Harpin(Askew) (St W)
10.30am - David Gale (StT)

Monday 28th Mass Neylon Family

Tuesday 29th Mass Deceased Members of Westgarth & Giacinto Families

Wednesday 30th Mass Lynch Family

Thursday 31st Mass Pickering Family

Friday 1st Mass **Mary the Mother of God** Jo, Ian and Family

Anniversaries: December 25th - 31st Mildred Barr, Lilian Bramley, John Guthrie, Nancy Pickles, Elizabeth Burnside, Elizabeth Campbell, Patricia Lord, Margaret Moran, Carole Taylor, Margaret Oliver, Witold Szturo, Hilda Dalkin, Arthur Lee, Peter Carlisle, Richard Hall, Pamela Legg, Joseph Roddy, John Simon, John Applegarth, Catherine Baker, Lucy Barker, Martha Moore, Gladys Strangeway, Leo Catterick, Wilhelmina Hawly, Francis Smith. **May they Rest in Peace.**

Feast and Memorial Days. **Saturday** St Stephen 1st Martyr. **Monday** The Holy Innocents. **Tuesday** St Thomas Becket. **Saturday** SS Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen.

Thank You. Brother Robert and I would like to thank everyone for their kind good wishes, cards and gifts this Christmas, and we wish you and your loved ones every blessing of this Holy Season. God bless, Fr. Greg.

Please remember in your prayers

Priests and religious of the diocese, all the sick in our Partnership, and those who lovingly care for them. Also all the people who are sick with Covid 19, and those who have died, their families and friends.

Prayer Requests.

We ask for your prayers for the repose of the soul of Linda Russell, mother of Fr David Russell who died recently. Please also keep Fr. David in your prayers. **May she rest in peace.**

*Michael Cox. *Kurt and wife Karen
*David and Family.

Front Line Workers. Let's also remember all the health service staff who will be working over Christmas, in our hospitals and Care Homes, in the community, caring for the sick and saving lives. The police, fire service, social workers, armed forces, religious, prison and probation. There are many more, too many to mention. But we know who they are, and let's keep them all in our prayers.

Northern Catholic Calendar. Are now available for sale £3 each

Standing Orders 15.12.20 Offertory £709.01; Wall plaques £100; Masks for Missio £10.

18/12/20 Offertory £92.03; Piety St Teresa's £10; Piety St Anne's £20.

Thank you all for your continued support

Pope Francis has declared 2021 the year of St Joseph to mark the 150th Anniversary the declaration of St Joseph Patron of the Universal Church.

CRIB COLLECTION

Once again we shall be supporting the Pope's Charity, Missio under the auspices of Mission Together. This is a special part of Missio which has the slogan 'Children Helping Children' so it is apposite that the Child Jesus in the Crib reaches out to children in need. But He can only do this with your help, so once again I ask you to be generous with your donations to the Crib Collection which will be open as soon as the Crib goes up. You will see the basket in there. This will stay open until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. **Many thanks, and God bless you and your family. Fr. Greg Price, Diocesan Director of Missio.**



First reading

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3 ©

Your heir shall be your own flesh and blood

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 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. 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.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 104(105):1-6,8-9 ©

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

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,

make known his deeds among the peoples.

O sing to him, sing his praise;

tell all his wonderful works!

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

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

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

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.

O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose.

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

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,

the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.

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

Second reading

Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19 [©](#)

The faith of Abraham and of Sarah

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 Acclamation	Heb1:1-2
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Alleluia, alleluia!

At various times in the past
and in various different ways,
God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
but in our own time, the last days,
he has spoken to us through his Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel	Luke 2:22-40 ©
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My eyes have seen your salvation

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.