

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

# Hogarth Partnership

St Teresa, St Thomas Aquinas, SS William & Francis De Sales

## ST AUGUSTINE'S

30 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington DL3 7RG

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[www.staugustineschurch.org.uk](http://www.staugustineschurch.org.uk)

Rev. Gordon Ryan

Fr Greg Price	St Teresa's/St Anne's/St Williams	257681
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Chaplaincy Office Memorial Hospital (Mrs Carol Moody - 01325 743029)

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle – Reg Charity No: 1143450

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 [www.facebook.com/diocesehn](https://www.facebook.com/diocesehn)

*19<sup>th</sup> December 2021 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year C*

## WORD FOR TODAY

Advent draws to a close and Christmas is upon us. We've no doubt spent the last few weeks getting everything ready for the festivities. What have we done to prepare the way for the advent of our God in our lives? Are we as ready for him as we are for the turkey and Christmas crackers?



*St Augustine's Church is open for Sunday 9.15am & 6.30pm Mass along with weekday masses*

*The number to ring to book in for Sunday 9.15am mass*

**07786 615638**

*(This phone is only available on a Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 6.8pm)*

*The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended,*

Sunday 19<sup>TH</sup> December 9.15am – Jim & Elsie Lawley RIP  
Sunday 19<sup>TH</sup> December 6.30pm – Rose & Keith Cowan RIP  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm – Joyce Connolly RIP  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December 7pm – Frank & Mary McMahan RIP  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December Midnight – Duncan Taylor RIP  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10am – Vincent McCullah RIP  
Sunday 26<sup>TH</sup> December 9.15am – Dorothy Tobin RIP  
Sunday 26<sup>TH</sup> December 6.30pm – Ints. of Allen Reid

*Bishop Robert has asked us to retain most of the COVID control measures and cleaning protocols that are in place. These were reviewed again in November with no change - and will be reviewed in February.*

### **A REMINDER for when attending Mass:**

- You must continue to book for Sunday 9.15am Mass. The number to ring  
**07786 615638 Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 6-8pm ONLY**
- No bookings required for the Sunday evening or weekday masses
- Please continue to wear a face covering
- Sanitise hands on entry to the Church
- Social distancing- please sit in the places marked, family groups can sit together. There should be 1m between each household.
- You can now join in the singing behind your mask.



## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve – Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

St Augustine's	4.00 pm
St Augustine's	7.00 pm
St Augustine's	midnight

### Christmas Day – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>

St Augustine's	10.00 am
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### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December

St Augustine's	9.15am
St Augustine's	6.30pm

All places need to be booked from Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December **6-8pm ONLY**  
07786 615638 (80 units max per Mass)  
All the Christmas masses will be live-streamed.

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### CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS



We will be practising this Sunday  
after the 6.30 p.m. Mass.

(Socially distanced, in the gallery!)

If you would like to help lead the music  
at Midnight Mass, please come and join us



### First Sunday of each month from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022



We are looking forward to returning to lead the singing  
once a month at the 9.15 a.m. Mass.

No musical training required.

As long as you can carry a tune in a bucket and  
commit to regular rehearsals (1 hour max)

please come and join us!

Call 01325 380434 to find out more.



The most familiar journey is the Road to Emmaus which gives us the signposts on our Synod pilgrimage. We are invited to recall our experiences, re-read those experiences in greater depth, open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and gather the fruits to share. We are pilgrims 'journeying together' whose listening and speaking is that of those who seek and not that of those who believe they have found.

The synod questions are framed within Emmaus to help us see where the questions are pointing and where the Holy Spirit is guiding us as we reflect together on this Synod pilgrimage.

- Who walks with us on the path of our faith and life journey? Who can we see on the edge of the path? How might we walk with them? How do we meet, walk and welcome those curious about faith because of the pandemic?
- How do we listen to each other in these post-pandemic days? What do we hear? How do we make our listening "a listening of the heart" and not just about hearing what's being said? How do we listen to the signs of the times outside the Church and respond to them?
- How well do we communicate with each other in our groups, parish, partnership, diocese? Do we have the freedom, truth and charity to speak with candour, directness and sincerity (*parrhesia*) and prudence? How are we living out our prophetic vocation to speak the truth as revealed by Jesus, given at baptism?

## JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

**Palestine/Holy Land** - If Joseph & Mary were making their way into Bethlehem today they would be met by a wall, an 8ft wall. They'd have to queue up and show their documentation. They probably would not get in. That is the daily circumstances for Palestinian people today.



**Appeal for Tent of Nations** - This is a Palestinian Christian farm, just south of Bethlehem, that has been working the land for decades. Over the past ten years or so it has welcomed thousands of pilgrims and volunteers to help them cultivate the land - and grow seeds of hope by building bridges between people.

The farm is now surrounded by Israeli settlements, and this Monday, the 13th December, there will be an important meeting at the Israeli Military Court that may finally decide the fate of their farm. Justine Welby writes:- *please join me in offering prayers for the Nassar family, that justice may finally prevail in their longstanding court case. Please pray that they would be allowed to keep possession of their farm without further harassment - and continue their faithful witness to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, in pursuing hope, justice and reconciliation.*

## SVP SOUTH SUDAN CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Once again, we will be asking for your crib donations to support the SVP in South Sudan. Circumstances have changed. Floods, rampant inflation and COVID has delayed planned development programmes. It is planned to support a baby feeding centre in Lologu and rations at the Displaced Persons Camp through this. £50 will feed a child for a year. Support also continues at the SVP Health Care Centre where free health care services are provided. This Health Care Centre is looking at a vaccination programme for babies and young children and developing a maternity unit. The SVP is also working with several charity partners on a Vocational Training Centre and this project is essential for rebuilding the country and the lives of individual families.

**ECO-THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:-** "The environment is where we all meet; where all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share." —*Lady Bird Johnson*

## CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

This will be divided between the SVP and the Refugees.

## First Reading: Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
the least of the clans of Judah,  
out of you will be born for me  
the one who is to rule over Israel;  
his origin goes back to the distant past,  
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them  
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.  
Then the remnant of his brothers will come back  
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock  
with the power of the Lord,  
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power  
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

## The Psalm

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

## Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,  
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;  
then I said,

just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,  
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts

and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

### Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

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### REFLECTION - Come, Lord Jesus

Lord Jesus, come into our weakness.

Come into our fears.

Come into our anxieties.

Come into our failures.

Come into our divisions.

Come into our grieving.

Come into our loneliness.

Come into our darkness.

Come into our doubting.

Come into our despair.

Come into our poverty of heart.

Come into our searching.

Come into our joys and hopes.

Come into our dying.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

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## THANK YOU

A big thank you to everyone who came to the Wreath Making workshops last month. We raised **£1,300** in total for the SVP Sunday Stop, which is an impressive amount and will help provide a hot meal for people in need every month in the Parish Centre.



## SUNDAY COFFEES AFTER MORNING MASS

We will have coffee this Sunday, but NO COFFEES on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December. Normal service will resume on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022. If anybody would like to help in January please contact the office.

## DHN JUSTICE & PEACE REFUGEE PROJECT

This project is gradually re-opening, and they now need your food donations. Any of the following priority items will be gratefully received: - *tinned tomatoes, chickpeas, fish (tuna, sardines in oil or water only), toilet rolls, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant*. A basket will be at the back of Church, under the shelf, where you can leave your donations. If you would prefer to make a financial donation you can do so either by bank transfer to: - A/C name: - DHN Justice & Peace Refugee Project, Sort Code: - 40-34-18 A/C No: - 52854058 or by Cheque in the name of above account and sent/given to me. Marjory Knowles (J & P Treasurer) [Marjory.knowles@gmail.com](mailto:Marjory.knowles@gmail.com)

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](mailto: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)

## MISSIO RED BOX

It is time for me to collect and deposit the money from your Missio Red Boxes. There are a number of ways that we can do this - you can empty your box and bring the contents into church and leave them in the Presbytery. I am also happy to collect the money from you, or you could drop it off at my house. However, the easiest way is by one of the options in the notice below which involves you emptying your own box, counting the money, depositing it in your own bank account and sending a cheque, giving online, via text, by phone or by bank transfer. Please let me know via text if you do this, so I can keep track of the donations from our parish. If you would like your box collected and emptied by me, or if you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Mary Mustard, on 07900 898990. Many thanks for your generosity and support.

### Please count the money in your Red Box and:



#### Send a cheque

Make it payable to **Missio-Mill Hill** and post it to **Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU**



#### Give online

Scan the QR code above or go to [missio.org.uk/redbox](https://missio.org.uk/redbox)  
You can use the camera on your phone, just use it to look at the QR code above



#### Give via Text

Text **REDBOX 5** (to donate £5) or **REDBOX 10** (to donate £10) to **70085**  
This costs £5 or £10 plus your standard rate message



#### By phone

Call us on **020 7821 9755** during office hours to donate with your credit or debit card



#### Bank transfer

Account Name: **Missio**  
Sort Code: **16-00-16**  
Account Number: **10824230**  
Reference: **RB+ your postcode**

Please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers overseas and all missionaries who share God's love - they tell us the love and strength they receive from us keeps them going.

Money given through the Red Box goes to support both the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries:

[missio.org.uk](https://missio.org.uk)  
Registered Charity No 1056651

[millhillmissionaries.com](https://millhillmissionaries.com)  
Registered Charity No 220690



**missio**  
Today. Tomorrow. Together.

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

our bank details are as follows:

St Augustine

(HSBC) Bank Account No. **11163914** Sort Code **40-34-18**

Thank you for monies received in November 2021

Loose Plate £1,029

Gift Aid £3,329

Non Gift Aid £471

## PROPOSED BUILDING WORK

- YOUTH HALL ROOF

We have had a quote to repair the roof between the Simpson Room, Youth Hall and STARS wardrobe, this has come in at around £35K. A further quote will be obtained and then we will be going to the Diocese for permission to commence this work in the new year. To demolish the building would cost as much if not even more and the carbon footprint would be bigger.

- PARISH CENTRE KITCHEN

We are also hoping to commence the kitchen extension early next year, although the price has increased.

Both of these were discussed at the Parish Council and Finance Meetings last night and agreement was given for the repair of the Youth Hall roof and the increased cost of the kitchen.

### AGM PARISH CLUB/PARISH CENTRE - 19TH DECEMBER 2021 AT 7.45PM

The AGM for the Club and the Parish Centre Committee will be held in the Parish Centre at *7.45 p.m. today Sunday 19th December 2021*. All members are invited to attend.

The centre is now open for coffees after 9.15 Mass and the bar is open on Sunday evenings.

At the meeting the Directors of the Club and the members of the Parish Centre Committee will be standing for re-election. There are vacancies for both Committees.

### PARISH CLUB/CENTRE

All events, private and parish have to be risk assessed and approval given, along with some other forms that need completing. Each event must have a designated leader who will ensure that everybody follows the guidelines outlined by the Diocese. Face coverings still to be worn, unless seated.

The Bishops of England & Wales have issued a joint statement regarding our observance of Sunday. Given the prevailing conditions, they have decided that it would not be right to reinstate the Sunday obligation to attend Mass at the present; however, they strongly urge us all to place the worship of God at the centre of Sunday, attending Mass where possible, but also trying to make sure that other activities do not draw us away from him.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-statement-honouringsunday/>

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Will be on **Mondays** from 11-12 noon, before the 12.15pm Mass. Please consider coming to sit with Jesus for a while. No need to stay the whole time, a short visit is fine.

*Not wishing to appear presumptuous but if anybody has any intention of giving me a Christmas present I would like to say thank you in advance but if you would like to go to CAFOD World Gifts, Friends of the Holy Land or send it to Zaytoun to plant olive trees in Palestine that would be appreciated.*

*Their contact details are: [contact@zaytoun.org](mailto:contact@zaytoun.org). or website [www.zaytoun.org](http://www.zaytoun.org).*

### *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.

<u>19<sup>th</sup> December 2021</u>	<u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year C</u>		
SUNDAY	St Augustine's & Live-Streamed St Augustine's	9.15 am 6.30 pm	Jim & Elsie Lawley RIP Rose & Keith Cowan RIP
MONDAY	St Augustine's	11.00 am 12.15pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 12 noon D/M Kilgour Family
TUESDAY			
WEDNESDAY	St Augustine's	7.00 pm	Hugh McBride RIP
THURSDAY	St Augustine's		NO MASS
FRIDAY – Christmas Eve	St Augustine's St Augustine's St Augustine's	4.00 pm 7.00 pm Midnight	Joyce Connolly RIP Frank & Mary McMahan RIP Duncan Taylor RIP
SATURDAY – Christmas Day	St Augustine's	10.00 am	Vincent McCullah RIP
SUNDAY 26 <sup>th</sup> December 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	St Augustine's & Live-Streamed St Augustine's	9.15 am 6.30 pm	Dorothy Tobin RIP Ints of Allen Reid
THOSE WHO ARE SICK	Please remember Fr Gary Dickson, Fr Richard Harriott, Fr Michael McKenna 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, Betty Smith, Michael Grogan, Doris Trees, Sylvia McGee, Iris McCready, Anna Lloyd, John Appleton and all those looking after them.		
LATELY DEAD <b>+</b>	Anne Kee, Elizabeth Shafto, Rose Sehi, Amy Purvis		
ANNIVERSARIES	<b>December Anniversaries</b> – Stella Davies, Emma Howard, Keith Cowan, Mary & James Courtney, Teresa Conway, Jean Carter, Joe Lyonette, Francies O'Hare, James Christey, Aldo Di-Duca, Caroline Bainbridge, Christine Fawcett, Paul McGregor, Peggy Coatman, Alan Sisk, Bernard Carrigan, Mike Bennett, Jonny McTaggart, Kathleen Webber. <i>May they rest in peace.</i>		