



The Catholic Parishes of

St. Mary Magdalen's
Harbour Walk, Seaham, SR7 7DS

St. Cuthbert's
Mill Road, Seaham, SR7 0HW

St. Joseph's
Church Lane, Murton, SR7 9BT

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
1ST MARCH 2026



"JESUS LED THEM UP A HIGH MOUNTAIN AND HE WAS TRANSFIGURED"

MATTHEW 4

PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr. Charles. C. Ejjeji

T: 0191 581 2368

RETIRED PRIESTS

Rev. Fr. Frank McCullagh

Rev. Fr. John Masshedar

PARISH DEACONS

Rev. Peter Linsley

Rev. Bong Nidea

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary – Brenda Williamson

T: 0191 562 3331

PARISH WEBSITE

www.seaham-catholics.org.uk

PARISH EMAIL

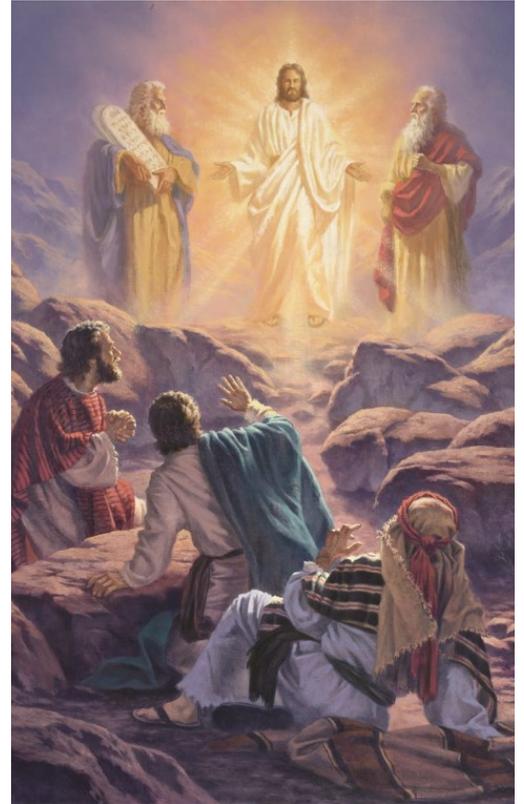
smm.seaham@diocesehn.org.uk

FACEBOOK

@SeahamCatholics

SM SUNDAY MESSAGE

Each year on this second Sunday of Lent we read the account of the Transfiguration. It was the moment when the disciples were shown the divinity of Jesus on the Holy Mountain. The scene is reminiscent of Moses' encounter with God on Sinai, when his face, too, shone like the sun. Moses and Elijah are present because they are the two Old Testament figures who experienced the presence of God on the Holy Mountain. With his usual impetuous generosity Peter attempts to 'freeze' the moment. The public declaration of Jesus as God's Son at the Baptism is repeated, but with the addition that Jesus is the authorized divine teacher; Matthew is alert to the implications for the Church of the presence of Christ as Teacher. The cloud is also a symbol of God's presence, to which the human response can only be to fall to the ground in fear and reverence. The awesome moment of revelation cannot, however, last, and Jesus brings his disciples back to the dire realities before them with the reminder that his death must precede the revelation of his glory at the Resurrection. Until they have experienced the limitless generosity of his death, and the vindication by God of this love, they are not ready to spread the message of Jesus.



What stands out for you in this account of the Transfiguration? How may it help you to deepen your own relationship with Christ?



ST CASIMIR | OPTIONAL MEMORIAL | 4TH MAR

He was the second son of King Casimir IV of Poland. He assiduously cultivated the Christian virtues, especially chastity and generosity to the poor. Zealous in faith, he had a particular devotion to the Eucharist and the Virgin Mary. For several years, while his father was away in Lithuania (the Kings of Poland at this time were also Grand Dukes of Lithuania), he ruled Poland with great prudence and justice. He died of tuberculosis on 4 March 1484.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please ensure all items for the bulletin are with the parish office by 5pm on a Wednesday. Please email to bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH



For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Leone PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR

Roy & Marjorie Wheetman
at St. Mary Magdalen's

Josephine Armstrong
at St. Cuthbert's

Ward & Edwards Families
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St Joseph's

21st February
Bill Atkinson

19



at St Mary Magdalen's
TBC

✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

DAY OF PRAYER FOR CANDIDATES OF SACRAMENTS

This weekend at all Masses we celebrate a Day of Prayer for candidates of the Sacraments. It is a dedicated day allowing us to pray for those preparing to be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil this year. It focuses on deepening faith, repentance, and preparation for full communion with the Catholic Church.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

I would like to offer our sincere thanks to all our parishioners who have expressed an interest in serving on the Parish Pastoral Council, as well as to those who have kindly suggested names. Your willingness to step forward is a wonderful sign of our shared commitment to work closely together for the good of our parishes. Each parish requires four representatives—one Safeguarding representative, one Eucharistic Minister, and two additional parishioners. I would particularly like to encourage a younger member from each parish to consider taking up one of these places, so that their insight can help us find meaningful ways to engage the younger generation in the life of our church. I will now collate the names received and speak with each person to ensure they are happy to be part of the Council. Once confirmed, we will share the full membership with the parish community so that they can begin their first task: helping all of us take forward the “Pastoral Strategy” in response to the Bishop’s Pastoral Letter read last Sunday.

PASTORAL STRATEGY AND DISCERNMENT TOOLKIT

I would like to encourage our parishioners to log into the Diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk for the “Pastoral Strategy and Discernment Toolkit” documents. Your ideas and contributions will be gathered by the Pastoral Council immediately after inauguration.

WITH THANKS FROM FR. FRANK

A big thank you to all Parishioners of St. Joseph’s Murton who helped celebrate our dear Fr. Frank’s 80th birthday. He appreciates and thanks you all for making the time to celebrate with him, for your kind gifts and promises to keep us all in his prayers.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS THROUGHOUT LENT

During Lent, to support you in keeping your Lenten promises, we will be offering the Stations of the Cross at several times across our parishes: on Friday mornings after Mass at St. Joseph’s, Murton; on Friday afternoons at 2:30pm at St. Mary Magdalen’s; and on Sunday afternoons at 3:00pm at St. Cuthbert’s. Lent is not only a time for fasting and abstinence, but also an opportunity to make a little extra time for the Lord, and these moments of prayerful reflection can help us walk more closely with Him during this sacred season

MINI VINNIES COFFEE MORNING

The Mini Vinnies from St Mary Magdalen’s school will be holding a coffee morning for parishioners after Mass on Tuesday, 3rd March in the church hall.

WITH THANKS

Grateful thanks from St Cuthbert’s SVP for a donation of £229.31, in memory of Theresa Hill

DIOCESAN CHRISM MASS 2026

The Chrism Mass for this year at the diocese will be on Wednesday 1st April at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Newcastle. It would be great if you could attend to represent our Parishes. Please mark it in your diary if you would like to attend.

MURTON CHURCHES TOGETHER

St. Joseph’s in Murton will host a world day of prayer on Friday 6th March at 3:00pm. All are most welcome to attend.

✠ THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES ✠

A = Anniversary | **(LD)** = Lately Deceased | **(DFM)** = Deceased Family Members

	St Mary Magdalen's SEAHAM HARBOUR	St Cuthbert's NEW SEAHAM	St. Joseph's MURTON
Saturday 28th Feb <i>Weekday in Lent</i> THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS John Foreman (BD) <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Pat Harman	
Sunday 1st March THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	9:30am MASS Jane Mullan <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>	3:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Shaun Ebbelwhite <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>
Mon 2nd March <i>Weekday in Lent</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tues 3rd March <i>Weekday in Lent</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Rebekah Jackson		
Wed 4th March <i>Optional: St. Casimir</i>		9:30am MASS Maureen and Thomas McGann	10:00am MASS John Burnham (LD)
Thurs 5th March <i>Weekday in Lent</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Gloria Bowdler		
Friday 6th March <i>Weekday in Lent</i>	2:30pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>		10:00am MASS Lavinia Dobson 10:30am <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 7th March <i>Weekday in Lent</i> THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Fr John Clark's Intentions <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Gary Brunning	
Sunday 8th March THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	9:30am MASS Margaret Williams <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>	3:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS John Miller & Shirley Stones <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please subscribe at
www.seaham-catholics.org.uk/bulletin