

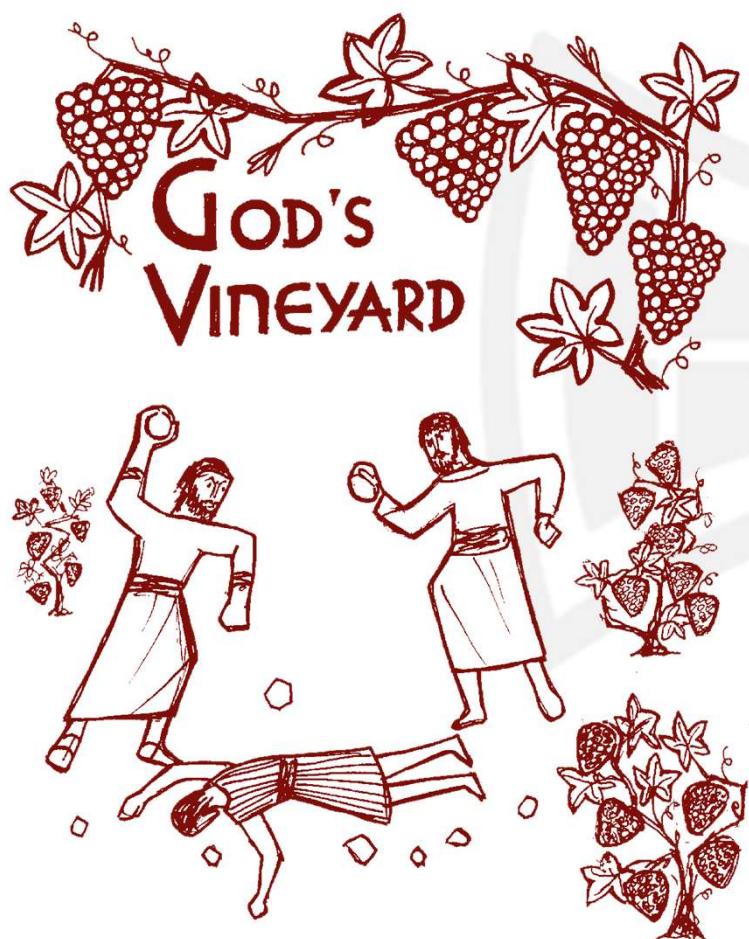


The Catholic Parishes of

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 TWENTY-
SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 4TH
OCTOBER 2026

*"This is the heir. Come, let us kill
him and have his inheritance."*

MATTHEW 21

PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr. Charles. C. Ejieji
T: 0191 581 2368

RETIRED PRIESTS

Rev. Fr. Frank McCullagh
Rev. Fr. John Masshedar

PARISH DEACONS

Rev. Peter Linsley
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FACEBOOK

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**SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

St Mary Magdalen's
Carole Robson

St Cuthbert's
Kelly Lamond

St Joseph's
Vicki Bramley

SUNDAY MESSAGE

Jesus' understanding of the sovereignty of God brought him violent opposition from some of the Jewish leaders. Were they corrupt, or just closed to any new way of thinking, so closed that they could not see that Jesus was the promised Messiah? Anyway, Jesus used this story about the tenants of a vineyard to show that the religious authorities were not leading the people as they should. Everyone would immediately understand the image of the vineyard. The prophet Isaiah had used this image in a well-known poem eight centuries earlier to show that the vineyard of Israel refused to yield a good harvest to God, whatever care God lavished on it. God expected fairness of judgment from the people and all he found was a shriek of agony (the same word is used in Hebrew for 'fair judgment' and for 'shriek' apart from one letter). What does this mean for us? Not that we have to follow every new idea. But it does mean that we must be open to the idea that we may be wrong, that our service of the Lord may be faulty, that people we find tiresome or unacceptable may have more good in them than we credited. God's ways are not our ways. Life may not be mapped out how we think, so we need to watch out for the bend in the road.



What is God asking of you?



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY | 7TH OCTOBER

On 7 October, the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, a day that invites us to deepen our love for Mary and to rediscover the beauty of the Rosary. The Rosary is much more than a repetition of prayers. Through its mysteries, we reflect on the life of Jesus—His birth, ministry, suffering, death and resurrection—with Mary as our guide. Each decade gives us an opportunity to become still, place our joys and concerns before God, and grow closer to Christ. This feast also reminds us of the power of prayer, especially when families and communities pray together. In a busy and often troubled world, the Rosary offers a simple way to find peace, hope and strength. During this month of October, may we make time to pray the Rosary and ask Our Lady to lead us ever closer to her Son, Jesus.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER



For mental health ministry

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Leo PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE

THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR



Thompson and English Families
at St. Mary Magdalen's

The Moorhead Family
at St. Cuthbert's

Bobby Richardson
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St. Joseph's

26th September - Jimmy Haffey

31

at St Mary Magdalen's

27th September

Number 121 - £50

Monthly - 156 - £100



✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

THE JOURNEY IN FAITH

The Journey in Faith begins Thursday 15th Oct @ 6.30-7.30 pm in St Mary Magdalen's Parish Hall. This is for anyone interested in exploring the Catholic faith or wishing to deepen their relationship with God. It is a programme of discovery and community where you will be able to ask questions, share experiences and grow spiritually with those following a similar path, leading to full reception into the Catholic Church. Anyone from all three parishes will be warmly welcome.

PRISONERS SUNDAY – NEXT WEEKEND

Prisoners' Sunday is the national day of prayer and action for prisoners and their dependents as marked by the Catholic Church and across the Christian denominations. It is a day to direct our thoughts and prayers to prisoners, their families and children. Prisoners' Sunday is the time to reflect on how we as individuals, as a Church and as a community are serving those affected by imprisonment.

AVE MARIA CLUB NEWS

The Ave Maria Club provides a friendly place to meet, socialise and enjoy good food while raising funds for local causes. The club is run by parish volunteers who generously give their time and talents to make everyone welcome. With the school holidays over, we are also delighted to welcome the children of St Mary Magdalen's. School back to our Monday afternoons, where they will share their many skills and talents. **Special Cancer Charity Afternoon – October** We will hold a special afternoon raising funds for **women's and men's cancer charities**. Come along for homemade food and cakes, a cuppa, special raffle, bingo and entertainment. Full details will appear in the bulletin nearer the time. Cancer touches many families, and these charities provide invaluable support and advice at a difficult time. If you cannot stay on the day but would like to contribute, donations can be left with any member of the Ave Maria team. This month, the club has donated to the **Bradley Lowery Foundation** (via the Great North Run), **George Elmy Lifeboat**, our **local food bank**, and **£250 to St Joseph's Parish funds**. Finally, we sincerely thank Seaham Councillors **Rob Smithson and Paul Graham** for their generous donations. Their support will benefit our members and help us continue providing our much-loved club for the parishes. **Thank you to everyone for your support!**

ROSARY PROCESSION AT ST. CUTHBERT'S

To mark this year's Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, there will be a Rosary Procession involving Parishioners and Children of St. Cuthbert's School, starting from the Grotto of Our Lady at St. Cuthbert's at 9:10am to the Church. Then Mass at 9:30am

FUNERAL OF EILEEN CLARKE

The funeral service for Eileen Clarke will be at 12:30pm on Thursday 8th October at St. Mary Magdalen's

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL MASS

We welcome our school children to Mass on Friday 9th October.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

In line with the National Eucharistic Congress in London starting on the 10th of October, the Bishop has requested that we hold a time of Adoration at our local Churches to be part of this great moment. Our Eucharistic Adoration will hold as usual at St. Mary Madalen's in Seaham on Saturday 10am.

FLAME 2027

Flame 2027 takes place on **Saturday 6th March** at Wembley Arena, with the theme '**TAKE COURAGE**'. It is open to young people from school Year 9 to university/young adult age; under 18s must attend with an organised group. YMT hopes to take up to 1,000 young people and accompanying adults. **Cost: £55 per person**, including return rail travel, Wembley ticket and London travel card, generously subsidised by Significance. To take part, speak to your school chaplain, catechist or parish priest. For more information, contact Mary Madziva at mmadziva@ymt.org.

A QUIET DAY AT MINSTERACRES

Thursday 29 October 2026, 10am–4pm - When life is busy, it can be difficult to find time to stop, think and simply be. This Quiet Day at Minsteracres offers the opportunity to step away from everyday pressures and spend some time in peace and quiet. The day will provide space for personal prayer, reflection and contemplation, as well as the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Minsteracres. You may come looking for some spiritual refreshment, a chance to think through something that is happening in your life, or simply because you need a day away from the usual demands of everyday life. There is no pressure and no particular expectation. Just time to slow down, reflect and recharge. The day runs from 10am to 4pm and includes lunch and refreshments. Suggested donation: £45.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – 2 OCTOBER 2026

This Harvest season, CAFOD's Family Fast Day was on Friday 2 October invites parish communities to put their faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Through support for CAFOD's Harvest Appeal, our parishes can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe and in other African countries to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Further information and parish collection resources are available at cafod.org.uk/parish. Please be assured donations go a very long way in transforming lives.

✠ 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 3rd October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> THE TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration and Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Brian Crozier <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Maureen Scollen	
Sunday 4th October THE TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS Charles and Mable McGann <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Maureen & Denis Whalen & Margaret Christie <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>
Monday 5th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time or St Faustina Kowalska</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tuesday 6th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time or St Bruno, Priest</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Robert Drinkwater		
Wed 7th October <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>		9:30am MASS Gordon Traynor & DFM	10:00am MASS Jenny & Ernest Burns & DFM
Thurs 8th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Keith and Kathleen <i>(Diamond Wedding)</i>		
Friday 9th October <i>St John Henry Newman</i>			10:00am MASS Julia Mason
Saturday 10th October <i>St Paulinus of York</i> THE TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration and Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Mr Innocent Mbonu <i>(Healing and recovery)</i> <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Marie and Joe Woolett	
Sunday 11th October THE TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS Arthur (A) and Lynda Brunning <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS James, Mary & Pauline Faill <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>

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www.seaham-catholics.org.uk/bulletin