



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

**HE IS NOT HERE
FOR HE HAS RISEN!**

**EASTER SUNDAY
TWO WEEK EDITION**

PARISH PRIEST

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PARISH DEACONS

Rev. Peter Linsley

Rev. Bong Nidea

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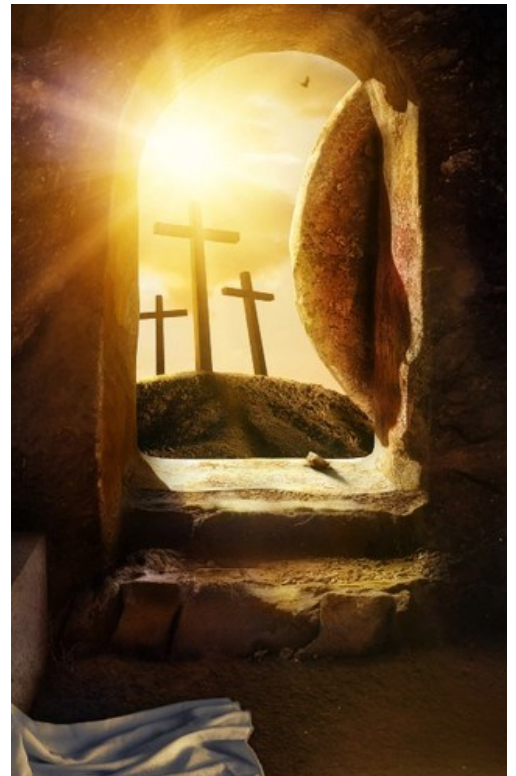
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FACEBOOK

[Facebook.com/SeahamCatholics](https://www.facebook.com/SeahamCatholics)

SM SUNDAY MESSAGE

There are several accounts in the various gospels of the discovery of the empty tomb. The slight variations between them show all the marks of oral tradition, for in genuine oral tradition each 'performance' is different. Different people tell the story slightly differently, stressing different aspects. This story in John's Gospel stresses the proof that the tomb really was empty, for the apostles examine the evidence carefully. Other accounts concentrate less on the evidence and more on the message, that the disciples will meet the Risen Lord in Galilee. It was important to establish that the tomb was empty, to prevent the charge that the meetings with the Risen Christ were simply ghost-appearance accounts. Apart from the proof that this was a real, living and bodily person, these encounters stress two factors, the power of the Risen Christ and the commission given to the disciples. The disciples are to go out into the whole world and spread the message, always accompanied by and strengthened by Christ himself. In this account Simon Peter is clearly the senior, the authority figure, to whom the Beloved Disciple defers. But it is the love of the Beloved Disciple which immediately brings Peter to faith.



**If Jesus were not risen, how would my life be different?
What is the best way in which I can 'proclaim the Good News' of Christ's resurrection?**



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY | 12TH APRIL 2026

As the faithful prepare to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, it is important to review the meaning and historical significance of the day. On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the Canonisation of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. She wrote in her diary that He said: "I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it... My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy"

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please ensure all items for the bulletin are with the parish office by 5pm on a **Wednesday 15th April**. Please email to bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL



For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Leo PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR

James Plummer
Next Week - **June & Gerald McHugh**
at *St. Mary Magdalen's*

Cowan Family
Next Week - **Rose & Arty Smith**
at *St. Cuthbert's*

Tapping, Flatz & Latzer Families
Next Week - **Peter & George Dobson**
at *St. Joseph's*

BONUS BALL WINNER

at *St Joseph's*
28th March
Sarah Smith

18



at *St Mary Magdalen's*
29th March
Number: 118 Prize: £50
Monthly Draw
Number: 341 Prize: £100

✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

EASTER IS UPON US

A huge congratulations to all who will be baptised and received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Thank you to everyone who has helped make Easter so special this year in our parish community. A thank you to those who have read and ministered so willingly. To the musicians, flower arrangers, cleaners and those who helped in any way, your efforts are much appreciated. Finally to those who attended the services, it makes everything we try to do worthwhile.

BULLETIN: TWO WEEK EDITION

This bulletin will cover news and Masses for the next **two weeks**. Any changes to the schedule and any further announcements will be made by the Priest at Mass.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO FATHER CHARLES

Our parish community wish Father Charles a well deserved break while he visits his homeland and family. It is more than three years since he has seen his mother and family. We pray for him and look forward to him being back with us in May.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING—WITH THANKS

A huge thank you to the newly formed parish council who met for the first time on Wednesday evening. Thank you for Vicki Bramley for taking up the roll of Secretary of the Council. We look forward to meeting again when Fr. Charles returns. Thank you to the council members who include, Fr Charles Ejieji, Deacon Peter Linsley, Vicki Bramley, David Kimmitt, Brenda Williamson, Jayden Foley, Ebere Onyekaozuu, Lester Miranda, Paul Hunter, Des Pounder, Milad Alsammak, Carole Robson, Kay Tivnan, Liam Porter, Molly Frost and Erika Johnson.

WHILST FATHER CHARLES IS AWAY

Next weekend there will be a mission appeal in all three Parishes, with a missionary priest from the Columbian Fathers staying with us. The missionary priest will celebrate all weekend Masses, he will also say Masses at St. Mary Magdalen's on Tuesday 14th, Thursday 16th and St Cuthbert's on Wednesday 15th. The following weekend we thank Father Benneth who will supply at St Cuthbert's and St Mary Magdalen's. The remaining weekend Masses, while Fr. Charles is away, will be said by our retired priests, Fr Frank and Fr John. We thank all those helping in the parishes over this five-week period. There will be no weekday Masses at St Mary's Magdalen's or St Cuthbert's whilst Fr. Charles is away (other than when the missionary priest is with us), however, St Joseph's will continue the usual midweek schedule of Wednesday and Fridays at 10:00am. If you wish to attend weekday Mass please come to St. Joseph's and join together as one parish family.

EASTER DRAW AT ST. CUTHBERT'S

Many thanks to Helen and Bernadette for organising the Easter Raffle at St. Cuthbert's, raising £273.00 for parish funds.

THE AVE MARIA CLUB

The AVM newsletter can be picked up at the back of the church at both St Mary Magdalen's & St Cuthbert's. Included on our parish Facebook page are a selection of photos of some of the prize winners from the Ave Maria Club Easter raffle on Monday 30th March. Fr Charles came to wish all members a Happy Easter & thank them for their support. The Ave Maria club is CLOSED on Easter Monday. We thank all who bought tickets for the AVM raffles: £273 was raised for St Cuthbert's (all prizes claimed), & £230 donated to St. Mary Magdalen's parish funds. Donations were also given to St. Mary Magdalen's schoolchildren for Lenten walk fund and to our local junior cricket team.

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT AT THE GALA THEATRE

Durham Musical Theatre Company's upcoming production of "The Prince of Egypt" - the musical, brings the story of Moses and the Exodus to life in an engaging and moving way. The production, with a cast of nearly 60 and a live orchestra of 16 musicians, promises strong storytelling, memorable music and a visually engaging theatrical experience. The production takes place Tuesday 12th to Saturday 16th May 2026 at Durham's Gala Theatre. For more information head to galadurham.co.uk

ST MARY MAGDALEN'S MISSIO BOXES

I have been approached by several parishioners asking what they should do about the contents of their Missio Boxes. At St. Cuthbert's the boxes are emptied just twice a year at the beginning of June and the beginning of December and the contents are placed in a bag or envelope with a name included. They are given to me directly or are left in day chapel at St. Cuthbert's where they are placed in the safe. If box holders from St. Mary Magdalen's would like to do the same I am more than willing to send off your donations to Missio - *Teresa Watson*

ST. JOSEPH'S EASTER AFTERNOON TEA

St. Joseph's will host their annual Easter Afternoon Tea in the parish hall on Tuesday 21st April, 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Tickets are £3.50 and will be available for purchase next weekend at the back of Church and in the coffee morning, you can also email for tickets to our parish secretary, Brenda, on the email address on the front of the bulletin. Parishioners from all three parishes are most welcome to attend.

✠ THE NEXT TWO WEEKS IN OUR PARISHES ✠

	St Mary Magdalen's SEAHAM HARBOUR	St Cuthbert's NEW SEAHAM	St. Joseph's MURTON
Saturday 4th April HOLY SATURDAY	<i>No Mass this morning</i>	6:00pm THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT In Thanksgiving for recovery	
Sunday 5th April EASTER SUNDAY	9:30am MASS John M. O'Connor		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS John Robinson and Mary Haffey
Mon 6th April <i>Easter Monday</i>		8:45am Adoration 9:30am <i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Tues 7th April <i>Easter Tuesday</i>	<i>No Masses or Services Today</i>		
Wed 8th April <i>Easter Wednesday</i>			10:00am MASS Stephen & Margaret Wilson
Thurs 9th April <i>Easter Thursday</i>			
Friday 10th April <i>Easter Friday</i>			10:00am MASS Wilson and Cain DFM's
Saturday 11th April DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY		4:30pm VIGIL MASS Mary Duffy	
Sunday 12th April DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY	9:30am MASS Rebekah and Ruth Jackson		11:00am MASS Tom & Mary Scurfield
Mon 13th April <i>St Martin I, Pope, Martyr</i>		8:45am Adoration 9:30am <i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Tues 14th April <i>Weekday in Eastertide</i>	10:00am MASS Robert Drinkwater		
Wed 15th April <i>Weekday in Eastertide</i>		9:30am MASS Patrick & Theresa Duffy	10:00am MASS Mary Fail
Thurs 16th April <i>St Bernadette Soubirous</i>	10:00am MASS Bruno & Betty Mellenthin		
Friday 17th April <i>Weekday in Eastertide</i>			10:00am MASS Ward & Edwards Families
Saturday 18th April <i>Weekday in Eastertide</i> THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER		4:30pm VIGIL MASS Theresa Hill	
Sunday 19th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9:30am MASS Eamon & Margaret McVeigh (RD)		11:00am MASS Tapping, Burns, Latzer and Flatz Families

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www.seaham-catholics.org.uk/bulletin