



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 NINETEENTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 9TH
AUGUST 2026**

**" JESUS IMMEDIATELY
REACHED OUT HIS HAND
AND TOOK HOLD OF PETER,
SAYING TO HIM, 'O YOU OF
LITTLE FAITH, WHY DID YOU
DOUBT? "**

MATTHEW 14

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**SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

St Mary Magdalen's
Carole Robson

St Cuthbert's
Kelly Lamond

St Joseph's
Vicki Bramley

SUNDAY MESSAGE

The Christian people are often depicted as a boat, with Peter at the helm. As in a boat, everyone has their part to play: kids to bring the excitement and the challenge, parents to take the responsibility, grandparents just to be there to comfort and reassure. Without Jesus the disciples were getting exhausted, frustrated and probably bad-tempered and quarrelling. When Jesus appears everything changes: first, terror and awed amazement, then Peter rushes to meet him – and loses confidence, only to be swiftly rescued. How does Jesus come to me? In the joys of family? In the unwelcome criticism of an angry neighbour who tells me the truth about myself? In the worries of a job or the agonies of a failed relationship? In the staggering beauty of creation? In physical pain? In all these situations we may discover God's presence, and without that presence we cannot expect to cope. Jesus does not force himself upon us. He just jogs us, and says, 'Here I am if you want me.' He may disappear into the sea-mist again for a time, and we may sink into the water like mistrustful Peter. But it all ends with a welcome and a recognition that Jesus can help, even in a life-threatening situation.

Why is Peter such a good role-model for us?



ST CLARE, VIRGIN | TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST

She was born at Assisi and came under the influence of Saint Francis. She left home at the age of 18 and, under Francis's guidance, began a community that grew to become the order of the Poor Clares (she was later joined both by her sister and by her widowed mother). In its radical attachment to poverty the Rule of the order was much more severe than that of any other order of nuns. In 1215 Clare obtained from the Pope the privilege of owning nothing, so that the nuns of the order were to be sustained by alms and nothing else. Such a rule was (like the Franciscan rule) both a challenge to established structures and a risk to those who followed it, and successive Popes tried to modify it. In 1247 Pope Innocent IV promulgated a new Rule that allowed the ownership of communal property: Clare rewrote it. A later attempt at mitigation in 1263 partly succeeded (perhaps because Clare was dead by then): some communities followed the old, strict rule and some followed the new. Clare was a noted contemplative and a caring mother to her nuns. She died at Assisi in 1253. The drift towards laxity and the desire for strictness are part of the history of every religious order. In the history of most monasteries, for example, one can find both a steady relaxation of the rule and a desire on the part of some members of the community to be more severe and ascetic – possibly even to become hermits. The Maronist Saint Sharbel Makhluf is one example; the Trappist Thomas Merton is another. In our own lives, too, we are always oscillating between being too strict and being too lax. It seems to be a universal tension in the human race.

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 AUGUST



For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Leone PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE
THAT BURNS AT THE
SANCTUARY IS FOR

The Middleton Family
at St. Mary Magdalen's

Lucas and Waites Families
at St. Cuthbert's

**The Dobson and
Richards Families**
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St Joseph's

1st August
Keith Mullen

29



at St Mary Magdalen's

2nd August
Number 214
Prize £50

✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass of the Solemnity according to the diocesan diary will be celebrated on Sunday the 16th of August. However, we are going to hold a Rosary Procession on the morning of Saturday 15th August starting from the grotto at St. Mary Magdalen's processing into the Church with the Statue of Our Lady. The Rosary will start at 10:00am at the grotto, followed with some Marian hymns in Church before the Mass of Our Lady at 10:30am

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Julia Mason and Mary Faill who have died. Julia Mason's Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 25th August at 11:00am at St. Joseph's. Mary Faill's funeral details will be shared in due course. **REQUIESCENT IN PACE.**

INVITATION TO THE JOURNEY OF FAITH OR RCIA

I warmly invite you to this year's Journey of Faith. Would you like to know more about the Catholic faith? Do your children attend a Catholic school and you would like to support them? Could you do with a "booster" to improve your faith life? If the answer is 'Yes' to any of these questions, then you are welcome to come to the Journey of Faith programme which begins 15th October in St Mary Magdalen's, Seaham. **This is for anyone interested from all three parishes.** At the initial meeting at 6.30pm on Oct 15th, we will explain what is involved and answer any questions you may have, including choosing a time suitable to the majority. Then, we will begin in earnest on 22nd Oct. We would welcome particularly those who have made the Faith Journey in the last few years to share their experiences and maybe fill in the gaps! We would also welcome anyone who would like to be part of the team going forwards – to accompany and support candidates and to make tea! This is a real, practical way in which you can further the mission of the church. Please have a word with Fr Charles or Sr Michael as soon as possible.

THE AVE MARIA CLUB - RABY CASTLE TRIP

There are still a few places available on our **Ave Maria Club trip to Raby Castle on Monday 10th August.** The total cost is **£20 per person**, with the remaining cost generously subsidised by AVM. The price includes: Coach travel, Entry to the beautiful Deer Park and Gardens and a light lunch. This trip is open to members of **all three parishes**, so everyone is welcome to join us. To book your place, please speak to: **Helen or Bernadette at St Cuthbert's**, any **AVM member at St Mary Magdalen's**, **Brenda at St. Joseph's**. Or visit the **AVM Club** between **1.00 pm and 3.00 pm on Monday** to make your booking. We look forward to a wonderful day out together!

YOU'RE INVITED TO ST JOSEPH'S ANNUAL AFTERNOON TEA

Everyone is warmly invited to our **Annual Afternoon Tea at St Joseph's, Murton, on Tuesday 11th August, from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.** Come along and enjoy a relaxed afternoon with delicious refreshments, friendly conversation, and the opportunity to catch up with friends old and new. It promises to be a wonderful occasion of fellowship and community. **Tickets are £4 per person**, and members from **all three parishes** are very welcome to attend. Whether you come on your own or with family and friends, we'd love to see you there.

THE HISTORY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Its Origin, Spiritual Significance, and Catholic Teaching



1 THE LAST SUPPER
(c. AD 33)
Jesus institutes the Holy Eucharist.
Matthew 26:26-28

2 THE EARLY CHURCH
The Eucharist was reserved for the sick and revered with deep faith from the beginning.

3 MEDIEVAL DEVELOPMENT
Public devotion to the Blessed Sacrament grew throughout Europe.

4 FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI
(1264)
Pope Urban IV established the universal Feast of Corpus Christi.

5 EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION
The faithful gathered for prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament.

6 PERPETUAL ADORATION
Many churches today offer continuous Eucharistic Adoration.

ADORATION IS NOT THE MASS

HOLY MASS	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
The Eucharistic Sacrifice of Christ. Highest form of worship.	Worship of Christ already present in the Blessed Sacrament. Flows from the Mass and leads us back to it.

WHY DO CATHOLICS ADORE THE EUCHARIST?
Because Jesus is truly present.

TRULY PRESENT	REALLY PRESENT	SUBSTANTIALLY PRESENT	In His:
			BODY
			BLOOD

CCC 1374 | Council of Trent, Session XIII

SPIRITUAL FRUITS

- ✓ Deepens our prayer
- ✓ Increases love for Christ
- ✓ Brings interior peace
- ✓ Strengthens faith
- ✓ Encourages conversion
- ✓ Fosters vocations
- ✓ Leads to holiness

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"
Matthew 26:40

"The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth."
- St. Teresa of Calcutta

ADDITIONAL TEXT:
Eucharistic Adoration is a school of love. The more time we spend with Jesus, the more we become like Him.

Be Prayerful. Be Inspired

catholicdailies

✠ 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 8th Aug THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Thanksgiving and Special Intentions (CI) <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Mona Ali Alsanie (for healing)	
Sunday 9th Aug THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS Maria Cowan <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Tom & Mary Scurfield (A) <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>
Monday 10th Aug <i>St Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tuesday 11th Aug <i>St Clare, Virgin</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Ernie Myers		
Wed 12th Aug <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>		9:30am MASS Celestine Ejieji	10:00am MASS Pat Brady & Jim Sinclair
Thurs 13th Aug <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Philip Page (LD)		
Friday 14th Aug <i>St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest</i>			10:00am MASS Two grandchildren
Saturday 15th Aug ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	10:00am <i>Holy Rosary at the Grotto</i> 10:30am MASS For those with hearing problems <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Dorothy Martin	
Sunday 16th Aug ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9:30am MASS John Foreman <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Peter Smith <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>

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