



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- EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SUNDAY 11TH
OCTOBER 2026**

*"The servants went out into the roads
and gathered all whom they found, both
bad and good. So the wedding hall was
filled with guests.".*

MATTHEW 21

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SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

St Mary Magdalen's
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St Cuthbert's
Kelly Lamond

St Joseph's
Vicki Bramley

SUNDAY MESSAGE

A wedding is a time of joy and of completion after long preparation, a time of love and of complete satisfaction. In Judaism at the time of Jesus, the coming of the Messiah is often compared to the joy of a wedding-feast. The marriage-feast at Cana must have been some party! At Mary's request Jesus produced 900 litres of wine. The Letter to the Ephesians teaches that the love in a human wedding is only a foretaste of Christ's love for his bride, the Church. In the story of the royal wedding in this Sunday's Gospel, however, two things go drastically wrong. First, the original wedding guests refuse to come. Not only do they refuse, but they brutally maltreat the innocent messengers, and the king (who must represent God) ruthlessly burns down their city. Secondly, the man who has no weddinggarment is thrown out: a wedding-garment is a standard Jewish image for works of generosity expected of every faithful Jew. For us Christians too, the story constitutes a double warning.



Are we alert and listening for God's call? Do we rest secure in being called Christians and leave the challenging jobs to others?



ST TERESA OF AVILA | 15TH OCTOBER

St Teresa was born in Ávila, Spain, and entered a Carmelite convent aged 20. Despite ill health, she developed a deep contemplative prayer life and experienced mystical visions, which she initially viewed with suspicion. Seeking a more perfect religious life, Teresa founded a Discalced ("shoeless") Carmelite convent in Ávila in 1562, emphasizing poverty and simplicity. Despite fierce opposition from unreformed Carmelites, she established many more convents. Her reforms faced serious setbacks, and followers including St John of the Cross were imprisoned. In 1580, with King Philip II's support, the Discalced Carmelites became independent. Teresa died in 1582, exhausted by her work. Her influential writings on contemplative prayer remain important today, and Pope Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church in 1970. Her life demonstrates how contemplation can inspire action and a close, honest relationship with God, expressed through both devotion and humour even during hardship and suffering.

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

Nickolas and Margaret Beale
at St. Mary Magdalen's

Sheila Moreton and son David
at St. Cuthbert's

Pauline Fail
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St. Joseph's

3rd October - Kevin Dixon

33

at St Mary Magdalen's

4th October
Number 137
Prize - £50



✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

PRISONERS SUNDAY – THIS 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.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY & THE CLERGY TRAINING FUND

Next weekend we have a day of prayer for the Evangelisation of the world (Home Mission Sunday). Home Mission Sunday is a special day in the Catholic Church - when Catholics pray for and financially support the Church's missionary work at home, rather than overseas. There will be a second collection for this cause at all Masses next weekend (17th / 18th October). The following weekend 24th / 25th October there will be a second collection for the Clergy Training Fund. Money given to the Clergy Training Fund collection is designated for the formation of future clergy within the Diocese.

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES AT ST MARY MAGDALEN'S

There are six unclaimed prizes from the Macmillan raffle at St Mary Magdalens. The list of winners is at the back of church. We raised the fantastic amount of £544 for Macmillan. A big thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the day.

AUTUMN – DURING ORDINARY TIME

During Ordinary Time from September to Advent, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; the Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.

THE JOURNEY IN FAITH

The Journey in Faith begins Thursday 15th Oct at 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.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

In line with the National Eucharistic Congress in London started 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.

✠ 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 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>
Monday 12th October <i>St. Wilfrid, Bishop and Missionary</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tuesday 13th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time or St Edward the Confessor</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Joan Teresa Robinson		
Wed 14th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time Or St Callistus, Pope, Martyr</i>		9:30am MASS Pamela Walker	10:00am MASS Mary Faill
Thurs 15th October <i>St Theresa of Avila, Virgin, Doctor</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Persecuted Christians in Nigeria		
Friday 16th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>			10:00am MASS Ferguson, Parnaby & Hall Families
Saturday 17th October <i>St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</i> THE TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration and Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Joan Teresa Robinson <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS James Smith & Phil Ferguson	
Sunday 18th October THE TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS Mary & Jacky Green <i>(Mary's 90th Birthday)</i> <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Catherine, Charles and Elizabeth Honnor <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>

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