



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 12TH OCTOBER 2025



"THEN ONE OF THEM, WHEN HE SAW THAT HE WAS HEALED, TURNED BACK, PRAISING GOD WITH A LOUD VOICE; AND HE FELL ON HIS FACE AT JESUS' FEET, GIVING HIM THANKS"

LUKE 17

### 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

Rev. Bong Nidea

### PARISH OFFICE

T: 0191 562 3331

### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.seaham-catholics.org.uk](http://www.seaham-catholics.org.uk)

### PARISH EMAIL

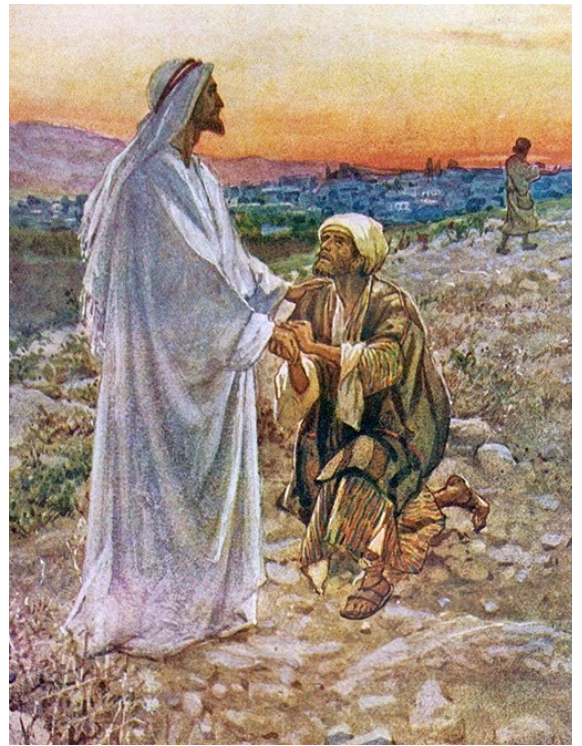
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### FACEBOOK

@SeahamCatholics

# **SUNDAY MESSAGE**

We see why the story of the cure of Naaman the leper has been chosen as our first reading today: in the Gospel reading we find another cure of a foreigner, and not an ordinary foreigner, but a hated foreigner. There was a cordial hatred between Jews and Samaritans: for the Jews, the Samaritans were a wretched hybrid race, who accepted only part of the Jewish Bible, and had their own ideas about the coming Messiah. Yet Luke has already recounted the story of the Good Samaritan, who succours the wounded traveller who had been neglected by Jewish priest and Levite. Now only a Samaritan comes back to thank Jesus for the cure from leprosy. Samaritans are the foreigners geographically nearest to Jesus, but hated by the Jews. If the Samaritans can set an example to the Jews, so can many other foreigners. In his initial proclamation Jesus promises salvation to the gentiles, and Luke misses no opportunity to show us gentiles ripe for salvation: the centurion of Capernaum who built the synagogue and whose son is cured, the guests for the banquet called in from highways and byways. Luke is preparing for his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, where the Good News will spread to the ends of the earth, even to Rome itself.



**Christians believe that no race is superior to another. Why?**



## **ST THERESA OF ÁVILA | 15TH OCTOBER**

St Teresa of Ávila was born in Ávila, Spain, and entered the Carmelite convent at twenty, more from practicality than devotion. Though convent life was comfortable, she advanced deeply in prayer and experienced mystical visions, which she regarded humbly. Seeking greater spiritual perfection, she founded the first Discalced Carmelite convent in 1562, devoted to poverty and reform. Despite severe opposition and persecution—including imprisonment of her followers—her movement gained papal and royal support, becoming independent in 1580. Teresa spent her remaining years founding new convents until her death in 1582. A mystic, reformer, and writer, her works on contemplative prayer remain classics. Declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970, she exemplified prayer in action—trusting God even amid hardship and humour.



## **ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH | 17TH OCTOBER**

He was the third bishop of Antioch, the first being St Peter until he moved to Rome, and the second being Evodius. He was arrested (some writers believe that he must have been denounced by a fellow-Christian), condemned to death, and transported to Rome to be thrown to the wild beasts in the arena. In one of his letters he describes the soldiers who were escorting him as being like “ten leopards, who when they are kindly treated only behave worse.” In the course of his journey he wrote seven letters to various churches, in which he dealt wisely and deeply with Christ, the organisation of the Church, and the Christian life. They are important documents for the early history of the Church, and they also reveal a deeply holy man who accepts his fate and begs the Christians in Rome not to try to deprive him of the crown of martyrdom. He was martyred in 107 and his feast was already being celebrated on this day in fourth-century Antioch.

## **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](mailto:bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk)



## **POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER**



## **For collaboration between different religious traditions**

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

## **BONUS BALL WINNER**

at St Joseph's

4th October  
Bet Foley

42

## **SANCTUARY CANDLE**



THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR

**TBC**  
at St. Mary Magdalen's

**Cath Cooke**  
at St. Cuthbert's

**Pauline Fail**  
at St. Joseph's

# ✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

## THIS WEEKEND - PRISONERS SUNDAY

This weekend, **11th/12th October**, we celebrate Prisoners' Sunday. Prisoners' Sunday is a time to think about how we as individuals, as a Church and as communities are serving those affected by imprisonment. Prisoners, people with convictions, their children and families often find themselves on the margins of our society. Yet Jesus challenges us with His words "I was in prison and you came to me". *We will pray especially for all prisoners at our Masses this weekend.*

"I was in prison and you came to me..."

## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - NEXT WEEKEND

This is the one day in the year when the entire global Church comes together in support of mission – and it will happen next weekend **18th / 19th October**. Coordinated by Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, World Mission Sunday is an opportunity to support every mission diocese and faith community which are in need of our help.

## MISSION APPEAL - POSTPONED

As announced at Mass last weekend, the Mission Appeal that was due to take place this weekend has been postponed until the Sisters of the needy can arrange an alternative date.

## JOURNEY OF FAITH INTRODUCTION - THIS WEEK!

This coming week, on **Thursday 16th October**, we begin our Journey of Faith with an introductory meeting at St. Mary Magdalen's. All parishioners from all parishes are warmly invited to attend. If you want to learn more about the Catholic faith, support children in Catholic schools, or refresh your spiritual life, this programme is for you. Sessions start **23rd October**. Recent participants are especially encouraged to join and share their experiences.

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of William McCabe who has died. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 15th October at 10:45am at St. Mary Magdalen's. **REQUIESCAT IN PACE.**

## QUINQUENNIAL PARISH INSPECTIONS

the process of undertaking Quinquennial Parish Inspections are now due for Murton St Joseph and Seaham Harbour St Mary Magdalen for 16th October, 2025. The Quinquennial Parish Inspection is a buildings inspection which is intended to help the Parish plan building maintenance works for the coming five years.

## PASTORAL VISIT

Bishop Stephen Wright will be visiting St. Joseph's Murton for Pastoral Visit, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026. He will also visit St. Joseph's Primary School on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

## FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

There will be a fire risk assessment the Parishes of St. Mary Magdalen's, St. Cuthbert's Seaham and St. Joseph's Murton scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.

## PIE AND PEA AFTERNOON AT ST. JOSEPH'S - CORRECTION

It was advertised last weekend that there would be an afternoon tea in St. Joseph's Parish Hall on Tuesday 28th October 12:00pm - 2:00pm. This has been changed to a 'Pie and Pea' afternoon instead. Tickets are on sale at the back of Church or in the Coffee Morning after Mass at St. Joseph's on a Sunday. All parishioners from all parishes are most welcome to attend.

## OCTOBER DEVOTION

We are encouraged to say our Rosary daily, especially in this month of October.

## THE AVE MARIA CLUB

A reminder that the Ave Maria Club is open every Monday in St Mary Magdalen's Hall from 1:00pm for hot food, drinks, bingo, tombola and entertainment. The invite is open to all three of our parishes. A club monthly newsletter is also available in all three churches.

## SICK CALLS

If you know someone who is housebound and would like a priest to visit, please inform Fr. Charles and make him aware of the name, address, post code and contact number. It would be nice if he could be accompanied by a friend or a relative on his first visit making the introduction easier.

# ✠ THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES ✠

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

|                                                                                                                                | St Mary Magdalen's<br>SEAHAM HARBOUR                                                                                   | St Cuthbert's<br>NEW SEAHAM                                                                                                        | St. Joseph's<br>MURTON                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 11th Oct</b><br><i>St John XXIII, Pope</i><br><b>The Twenty-Eighth</b><br><i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>           | <b>10:00am</b><br><i>Adoration &amp; Benediction</i><br><br><b>10:30am MASS</b><br>Robert Drinkwater (RIP)             | <b>4:00 - 4:20pm</b><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br><b>4:30pm VIGIL MASS</b><br>Margaret and James Atkinson                          |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Sunday 12th Oct</b><br><i>The Twenty-Eighth</i><br><b>Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                                           | <b>9:30am MASS</b><br>Arthur and Linda Brunning<br><br><i>Coffee in the Hall</i><br><i>after Mass</i>                  |                                                                                                                                    | <b>10:30am</b><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br><b>11:00am MASS</b><br>George and Edith Dobson<br><br><i>Coffee in the Hall</i><br><i>after Mass</i>                                       |
| <b>Mon 13th Oct</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i><br><i>or St. Edward the Confessor</i>                                   |                                                                                                                        | <b>8:45am</b><br><i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i><br><br><b>9:30am</b><br><i>Service of the Word &amp; Holy Communion</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Tues 14th Oct</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i><br><i>or St. Callistus, Pope, Martyr</i>                               | <b>9:40am</b><br><i>Holy Rosary</i><br><br><b>10:00am MASS</b><br>For the Staff & Pupils at St. Mary Magdalen's School |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Wed 15th Oct</b><br><i>St. Teresa of Avila, Virgin,</i>                                                                     | <b>10:45am REQUIEM MASS</b><br>William McCabe                                                                          | <b>9:30am MASS</b><br>Robert Jackson                                                                                               | <b>10:30am MASS</b><br>Pauline Faill (A)                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Thurs 16th Oct</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i><br><i>or St. Hedwig, Religious</i><br><i>or St. Margaret Alacoque</i> | <b>9:40am</b><br><i>Holy Rosary</i><br><br><b>10:00am MASS</b><br>In thanksgiving                                      |                                                                                                                                    | <b>10:30am MASS</b><br>People of the Parish                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Friday 17th Oct</b><br><i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>                                                                        |                                                                                                                        | <b>9:30am MASS</b><br>Pat & John Dunn                                                                                              | <b>10:30am MASS</b><br>Ferguson, Parnaby & Hall Families                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Saturday 18th Oct</b><br><i>St. Luke, Evangelist - FEAST</i><br><b>The Twenty-Ninth</b><br><i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>   | <b>10:00am</b><br><i>Adoration &amp; Benediction</i><br><br><b>10:30am MASS</b><br>Fr. Tom Burke (RIP)                 | <b>4:00 - 4:20pm</b><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br><b>4:30pm VIGIL MASS</b><br>James Smith & Phil Ferguson                          |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Sunday 19th Oct</b><br><i>The Twenty-Ninth</i><br><b>Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                                            | <b>9:30am MASS</b><br>Sr. Michael (for her birthday)<br><br><i>Coffee in the Hall</i><br><i>after Mass</i>             |                                                                                                                                    | <b>10:30am</b><br><i>Confessions</i><br><br><b>11:00am MASS</b><br>Peter, Cornelius & Lilian Robson and the People of the Parish<br><br><i>Coffee in the Hall</i><br><i>after Mass</i> |

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