



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 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 15TH FEBRUARY 2026



"IT WAS SAID TO THOSE OF OLD; BUT I SAY TO YOU."

MATTHEW 5

PARISH PRIEST

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RETIRED PRIESTS

Rev. Fr. Frank McCullagh

Rev. Fr. John Masshedar

PARISH DEACONS

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SUNDAY MESSAGE

Jesus is the completion of the Law of God, given to Israel through Moses. He has come not to sweep it away but to perfect it. In this part of the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew has gathered together six instances (four this week, two in next Sunday's Gospel) of the ways in which Jesus brings the Law to perfection. The first factor to notice, however, is that Jesus does not hesitate to adjust the divine Law on his own authority, for he too has divine authority. Each amendment begins with a statement of the Old Law and boldly goes on, 'But I say this to you...'. Each of the alterations has its own character. The first is about enmity, the sixth about love. About enmity, it is not enough merely to forego violent injury; we must even expel enmity from our hearts, positively seeking reconciliation, whether the offence is our fault or not. About lust, it is similarly not enough to forego acts of lust; we must not even harbour such thoughts in our hearts. About truth, it is not enough to keep a legal oath; we must be people whose every word can be relied upon. These are Jesus' demanding standards.

**Have I allowed any enmity to fester? Can I solve it now?
Am I a person whose every word can be trusted as true?**

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

*10 ideas for a
more meaningful
Lenten Season*



1. Give up sin

Show your love for God by keeping his commandments. Turn away from sins.

2. Fast

An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. Give the money you saved on food to others in alms.



3. Pray

Be in constant prayer. Pray for your family and friends, for those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.

4. Do good works

Help those in need. Pray for them and be ready to serve them in their time of need.



5. Give alms

Help the poor and support the good works of the Church. Give cheerfully to God who has given us everything we have.



6. Abstain

Give up meat or other desirable foods during Lent, especially on Friday, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross.



8. Control desire for possessions

Build up treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Cut down on material possessions, eliminate frills, lessen wants, share yourself – your time and your talents – with others.



7. Do meditative reading

Nourish your faith by spending time in quiet reading and reflection. Prayerful reading of God's word each day will open your heart to the Spirit, and let God's thoughts and ways influence yours.

9. Control desire for entertainment

Too much entertainment and other distractions can lead to less or no time for the works of the Lord.

10. Carry out duties in life

Serve God by living out your vocation in love each day. God is calling each of us to be a living sacrifice. Offer your daily life through Christ!

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



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For children with incurable disease

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Leo PP. XIV



BONUS BALL WINNER

at St Joseph's

7th February

Mary Beth Muncaster

40



at St Mary Magdalen's
353 - £50 Prize

SANCTUARY CANDLE

THE CANDLE
THAT BURNS AT THE
SANCTUARY IS FOR

The Ward Family
at St. Mary Magdalen's

George Vickers
at St. Cuthbert's

**David Bramley
and Pat Avery**
at St. Joseph's



✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

WE WELCOME CAFOD TO OUR PARISHES

Today we are delighted to welcome CAFOD, who are with us at all weekend Masses. They will talk about their work and also explain the CAFOD Family Fast Day, taking place in all parishes on Friday 27th February. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Today is a special day of Prayer for the Unemployed, which is always observed on the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. This special day looks to support those seeking work through reflection, prayer, and advocacy. It focuses on asking for hope, dignity, and opportunities for job seekers while advocating for fair economic policies.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Geoffrey Savage who has died. His Funeral Service will be at St. Mary Magdalen's on Thursday 19th February at 1:00pm. **REQUIESCAT IN PACE.**

ASH WEDNESDAY - 18TH FEBRUARY

The season of Lent begins this week with **Ash Wednesday** on **18th February**, a day of fasting and abstinence, in preparation for Holy Week and Easter in April. Mass with distribution of Ashes will be celebrated at 9:30am in St Cuthbert's, 10:00am in St. Joseph's and 6:00pm at St. Mary Magdalen's.

WITH THANKS FROM BISHOP STEPHEN

Bishop Stephen sends his appreciation to St. Joseph's Murton and the School for their warm reception and gifts.

THANKS TO THE AVE MARIA CLUB

Many thanks to Ave Maria coffee club for £250.00 donation received into St Cuthbert's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will be Stations of the Cross every week at our Churches. St. Mary Magdalen's (Friday 2:30pm), St. Cuthbert's (Sunday 3:00pm), St. Joseph's (Sunday 3:00pm).

ST. MARY MAGDALENS 200+ CLUB

Support your Parish and be in with a chance to win! The St. Mary Magdalens 200+ Club costs just **£1 per week per number** and offers the following prize draws: **£50 weekly, £100 monthly, £1,000 annually** (drawn in July). We currently have numbers available. If you would like to join or purchase a number, please speak to **Allan at the back of St. Mary Magdalens Church on Sunday morning**. All profits go directly to Parish funds. Thank you for your continued support.

FR FRANK'S BIRTHDAY

We wish a big Happy Birthday to Fr. Frank who is 80 years young this Friday 20th February! There will be a Mass of thanksgiving at St. Joseph's on Sunday 22nd February at 11:00am, followed by a get together afterwards in St. Joseph's Parish hall. All are most welcome to attend.

FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

A huge thank you to the parishioners who donated the lovely hurricane lamps, displayed on St. Joseph's Church windowsills.

MASS CANCELLED ON 20TH FEBRUARY

There will be no Mass on Friday 20th February because of the Priests Safeguarding training at Durham which starts at 9:00am.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed and the phones will be unmanned from 21st February - 1st March. In the event of an emergency please contact Father Charles by phone or email (details on the front of this bulletin)

ANIMA CHRISTI

All through lent, the "O Sacrament Most Holy" that we say after communion will be replaced with "Anima Christi". *Soul of Christ, sanctify me, Body of Christ, save me, Blood of Christ, inebriate me, Water from Christ's side, wash me, Passion of Christ, strengthen me, O good Jesus, hear me, Within Thy wounds hide me, Suffer me not to be separated from Thee, From the malicious enemy defend me, At the hour of my death call me, And bid me come unto Thee, That with Thy saints and Thy angels, I may praise Thee, forever and ever, Amen.*

✠ 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 14th Feb <i>St Cyril and Methodius</i> FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Thanksgiving to St. Joseph <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Pat Harman	
Sunday 15th Feb SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS Deceased Members of the Henry Family <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Catherine Finan <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>
Mon 16th Feb <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tues 17th Feb <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Bagley & Lawson Families		
Wed 18th Feb ASH WEDNESDAY	6:00pm MASS John Foreman	9:30am MASS Veronica Smith	10:00am MASS Ann & Charles Carmichael
Thurs 19th Feb <i>Weekday in Lent</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Sr. M Cyril & her family		
Friday 20th Feb <i>Weekday in Lent</i>	<i>No Masses or Services today.</i>		
Saturday 21st Feb <i>St Cyril and Methodius</i> THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS St. Scholastica's Intentions <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Josephine Armstrong	
Sunday 22nd Feb THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	9:30am MASS Ronnie & Maria Curwen <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Jack & Peggy Cram <i>Celebration in the hall after Mass for Fr. Frank's birthday</i>

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www.seaham-catholics.org.uk/bulletin