



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-
NINTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 18TH
OCTOBER 2026

*"Render to Caesar the things
that are Caesar's, and to God
the things that are God's."*

MATTHEW 22

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

Secretary — Brenda Williamson | T: 0191 562 3331

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FACEBOOK

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

**SAFEGUARDING
REPRESENTATIVES**

St Mary Magdalen's
Carole Robson

St Cuthbert's
Kelly Lamond

St Joseph's
Vicki Bramley

SUNDAY MESSAGE

They must really have thought they had their victim sewn up! If Jesus said he paid the Roman taxes, he recognised the Emperor, not God, as his Lord. If he said he didn't pay, he was a traitor to Rome. Jesus turns the question back on them. First he makes them admit that they themselves recognise Rome as overlord by carrying a Roman coin, for the coin would carry the Emperor's head. Next he puts them a question: what do they consider is due to Caesar? Finally he goes beyond their question, to interrogate their ultimate loyalty: in the last analysis, just what is due to God? At a superficial level this seems a little verbal tussle, in which Jesus outwits his opponents. But the story was remembered and passed on in the Christian community not because of Jesus' cleverness, but because at a deeper level it is a question which Jesus puts to each of us: just where do our loyalties and priorities lie? Money? Respect? Sex? Fame? A good holiday? Comfort? Power? Jesus is not a dictator who imposes his will. He just asks the question and leaves us to give our own answer. To those who question him he gives no easy response, but always replies with another question.



What takes priority in my life? Does God get a look-in? In what way?

ST JOHN PAUL II | 22ND OCTOBER

Karol Józef Wojtyła was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. After his ordination to the priesthood and theological studies in Rome, he returned to his homeland and resumed various pastoral and academic tasks. He became first auxiliary bishop and, in 1964, Archbishop of Kraków and took part in the Second Vatican Council. On 16 October 1978 he was elected pope and took the name John Paul II. His exceptional apostolic zeal, particularly for families, young people and the sick, led him to numerous pastoral visits throughout the world. Among the many fruits which he has left as a heritage to the Church are above all his rich Magisterium and the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as the Code of Canon Law for the Latin Church and for the Eastern Churches. In Rome on 2 April 2005, the eve of the Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy), he departed peacefully in the Lord. He was canonized by Pope Francis on 27 April, the Second Sunday of Easter 2014.



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



BONUS BALL WINNER

at St. Joseph's

10th October - B. Williamson

21

at St Mary Magdalen's

11th October

Number 172

Prize - £50



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

Barrett and Paul Murray
at St. Cuthbert's

**George, Lizzie
and Anthony Collins**
at St. Joseph's

✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

PRAYING FOR POPE LEO XIV

Last Sunday, during his Angelus address in St Peter's Square, Pope Leo XIV announced that he would soon undergo surgery to remove a lung nodule which had thankfully been detected at an early stage. Little did we realise that the surgery would take place so soon, on Wednesday of this week. The Vatican have since announced the welcome news that the operation was successful, and we give thanks to God for this encouraging outcome and for the skill and dedication of the medical team who cared for our Holy Father. At times such as these, we are reminded that even those entrusted with the greatest responsibilities in the Church are not immune from the frailties of human life. Our Holy Father carries the immense responsibility of shepherding the universal Church, and now, as he takes time to recover, we are invited to support him in a very special way through our prayers. As a parish family, let us unite with Catholics throughout the world in praying for Pope Leo, asking the Lord to grant him healing, renewed strength and peace of mind.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY & THE CLERGY TRAINING FUND

This 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 this weekend (17th / 18th October). Next 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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish Office is closed from Tuesday 20th October and will reopen on **Monday 2nd November**. If you have an urgent matter requiring attention during this time, please contact **Fr Charles directly**. Alternatively, you are welcome to leave a message with the Parish Office, and Brenda will get back to you as soon as possible upon her return. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

CONFIRMATION VOLUNTEER GROUP

The volunteer group for the Confirmation will be meeting on Tuesday 20th October at St. Mary Magdalen's Parish Hall at 6:00pm with a representative joining us from the Youth Ministry Team.

HOLY MASS

Every Mass is the re-enactment of Our Lord's sacrifice on the cross. We gain a lot of blessings attending Masses. We are encouraged to attend every weekend and when possible, during the week with our families to prayer together offering praise and thanksgiving as members of the family of God.

WITH THANKS

With thanks to St Joseph's parish who have donated £200 to Fr. Charles' parish back home in Nigeria which will help the children get to school. A further thanks to a parishioner at St. Joseph's who has supported the full cost of replacement altar cloths at St. Joseph's.

THE JOURNEY IN FAITH

The Journey in Faith continues every Thursday 6.30pm - 7.30pm 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.

AVE MARIA CLUB – CHARITY FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Monday 26th October, the Ave Maria Club will be hosting a special fundraising event in support of **men's and women's cancer charities**. Come along and join our regulars for a wonderful selection of hot and cold savouries, sandwiches, cakes and scones, along with **special raffles, bingo and entertainment**. There will be something for everyone to enjoy! Cancer can affect anyone, and we know only too well the emotional and practical challenges it brings to individuals and their families. By coming together as a community, we can help raise much-needed funds to support those facing these difficult times. **Please come along, bring a friend and support YOUR club as we raise funds for these very worthy causes.** Your generosity and support will make a real difference. Everyone is warmly welcome!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY RETURNING TO ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

We are delighted to share the good news that St Joseph's Church is planning to reintroduce Children's Liturgy during Sunday Mass. The date for the return of Children's Liturgy will be confirmed and announced shortly. We look forward to welcoming our younger parishioners to this special opportunity to grow together in faith.

✠ 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 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>
Monday 19th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word & Holy Communion</i>	
Tuesday 20th October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS The Jackson Family		
Wed 21st October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>		9:30am MASS Liz & Joe Gascoigne	10:00am MASS Mary Faill
Thurs 22nd October <i>St John Paul II</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Joan Teresa Robinson		
Friday 23rd October <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>			10:00am MASS Margaret Christie
Saturday 24th October <i>St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop</i> THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00am <i>Adoration and Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Thanks to SS Jude, Lucy & Carlo <i>Confessions after Mass</i>	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS Margaret Keen	
Sunday 25th October THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:30am MASS James Snr and Kitty Bagley and DFM <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>		10:30am Confessions 11:00am MASS Lorraine Bates <i>Coffee in the Hall after Mass</i>

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