



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 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SUNDAY 19TH
JULY 2026**

**" LETS BOTH GROW
TOGETHER UNTIL
THE HARVEST "**

MATTHEW 13



THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**SUNDAY 26TH
JULY 2026**

**" THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS
LIKE A TREASURE HIDDEN IN A
FIELD "**

MATTHEW 13

PARISH PRIEST

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Rev. Fr. John Masshedar

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FACEBOOK

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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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Sunday 19th July

The Gospel of Matthew gathers together a whole set of pictures which Jesus used to describe the society of God's servants which he was intent on setting up. Matthew calls it 'the Kingdom of Heaven'. Jews avoided bandying around the name of 'God', so Matthew calls it by the place where God is enthroned, Heaven. The first picture, the wheat and the darnel, shows that in some of those called the good seed has been overlaid by weed. In its early growth this weed, the inedible darnel, is incredibly difficult for a non-farmer to distinguish from good barley. No more can we presume to sort out who is seeking God and who is not; it is dangerous to despise or to dismiss anyone at all. The explanation given by Matthew constitutes a warning that the harvest, the judgment, will come in the end.

**Do we have any right to judge others (or may we be mistaking wheat for darnel)?
What is the darnel in us that needs weeding out before the judgment?**



The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Sunday 26th July

St Matthew presents us this week with three final pictures from his collection of Jesus' images about the Christian community. Matthew likes pairs of parables: the dragnet pairs with last week's darnel-parable, the treasure pairs with the pearl. The Kingdom is an exciting and unexpected treasure which can change our whole life; it's like winning the pools or the lottery – except that God's gifts change us only for the good, and fill our lives with meaning and joy. Of course we know that God's call is demanding: you've got to pay a price for the field in which the treasure lies, or for the genuine pearl found in a junk-shop! The very last picture - the householder bringing down different food-packets, pots and jars off the shelf - is encouraging too: some are old favourites (perhaps like the Christian values and prayers which we inherited from our families), but some add new flavours too, which we have discovered or been taught ourselves. If we listen, the Spirit is always there to show us new ways of living out our Christian calling, revealing to us an opportunity for prayer or help or service. This 'householder' is often thought to be Matthew's secret signature for himself: he brings out old and new in the Christian message.

How can we learn new ways of living out our Christian calling?

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please ensure all items for the bulletin are with the parish office by 5pm on a Wednesday 29th. Please email bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk



POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY



For respect of human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Leo PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE
THAT BURNS AT THE
SANCTUARY IS FOR

19th July
Bryan Barrow & Barrow Family
26th July
Thompson & Tempest Families
at St. Mary Magdalen's

19th July
Dr Zakariya Waqar-Uddin
26th July
Harry & Beatrice Corkhill DFM
at St. Cuthbert's

19th July
Tom & Mary Scurfield
26th July
George & Edith Dobson
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St Joseph's

11th July
Hughie Penman

41



at St Mary Magdalen's

12th July
Number: 163
Prize: £50

✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

FORTNIGHTLY SUMMER BULLETIN

Throughout the summer months, when news can be in short supply and our school children are enjoying their break, we are going to produce a two-week edition of the bulletin, rather than a weekly publication. This begins **this weekend**. Overleaf you will find two weeks of Masses and Services. If there are any amendments to the diary, an announcement will be made at Mass and on the Facebook page. The best way to keep up to date with the news over the summer, particularly if you are going on holiday, is to add your name and email address to the mailing list or 'like' the Facebook page. To sign up online head to seaham-catholics.org.uk/bulletin. Please submit your Mass intentions early so we have sufficient to cover the two week periods, particularly St Mary Magdalen's and St Cuthbert's where we sometimes receive last minute Mass Intentions. We have had to condense the layout of Masses and Services overleaf to accommodate another week of information over the summer. This is a reminder that there is Adoration before the Service of the Word and Holy Communion on Monday at St. Cuthbert's. There is Holy Rosary before Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St Mary Magdalen's. There is Adoration and Benediction before Mass on Saturday at St Mary Magdalen's and Confessions after Mass. There is coffee in the Parish Hall at both St Joseph's and St Mary Magdalen's every Sunday after Mass. There are Confessions before Mass at St Cuthbert's on a Saturday evening and at St Joseph's before Mass on a Sunday morning.

ST MARY MAGDALEN'S 200+ CLUB ANNUAL DRAW

The annual 200+ Club draw will take place on Sunday 26th July. The rules state that Members must pay 52 weeks to qualify for the yearly draw which takes place on the 52nd week of the 200 Club calendar. Please check with Allan at the back of church to see if you are up to date with your payments. The new draw year begins again on Sunday 2nd August 2026.

WEDDING BELLS!

Please remember in your prayers Katrina Campbell & David Casey who are getting married at St Joseph's Church on Saturday 25th July at 12:00pm and to Sarah Hill & Christopher Field who are getting married at St Mary Magdalen's on Friday 31st July at 11:30am. We wish them well as they embark on this next chapter in their lives!

SECOND COLLECTIONS - WITH THANKS

Thank you to those who contributed towards to Sea Sunday retiring collection. St Mary Magdalen's raised £150.36, St Cuthbert's raised £136.00 and St. Joseph's raised £213.60.

DONATION TO THE SALVATION ARMY

St Joseph's parish has donated £100 to the Salvation Army from the community fund. They are most appreciative!

ST MARY MAGDALEN'S - TEACHING ASSISTANT VACANCY

St. Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary school wish to appoint a Teaching Assistant from September 2026. We are seeking a TA who can work with an identified child with additional needs and also a class-based position. The role will require someone who is able to manage behaviour effectively and actively contribute to planning and promote progress, someone who is flexible and adaptable to the demands of the teaching assistant role and has good organisation and communications skills. Candidates must be able to work as part of a team and have excellent written and verbal skills. The successful candidate will be committed to the values and ethos of our Catholic school and will join our team of dedicated, hardworking TA's who all strive for high standards for all of our children. Completed application forms should be submitted by email to office@stmmschool.co.uk by **9am on Monday 14th September 2026**

RENEW OUR PEWS - PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

We warmly invite you to support the refurbishment of pews in St Mary Magdalens. Work as already commenced but it is anticipated there are at least 80 pews in need of attention. There will be a basket at the back of church for the month of July and all donations greatly received will go towards the work that is being undertaken to complete the restoration which is estimated to take about £3000. Our parish representatives in the finance group will take care of any amount received. Thank you for your generosity and continued support. **Last Sunday we received £205 towards the campaign.**

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Leo Pyle who has died. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Stephen at St Mary's Hexham on Wednesday 29th July at 12noon. **REQUIESCAT IN PACE.**

✠ TWO WEEKS 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 18th July THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	10:30am MASS Peter Alexander & Annie Hassan	4:30pm VIGIL MASS Ann Williams	
Sunday 19th July THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	9:30am MASS John Foreman		11:00am MASS Bette Foley (LD)
Monday 20th July <i>Weekday in Ordinary time or</i>		9:30am <i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Tuesday 21st July <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time or</i>	10:00am MASS Pippa Middlemass (for healing)		
Wed 22nd July <i>St Mary Magdalen</i>		9:30am MASS Magaret Charlton (RIP)	10:00am MASS Bette Foley
Thurs 23rd July <i>St Bridget of Sweden</i>	10:00am MASS Mona Ali Alsanie (for healing)		
Friday 24th July <i>The Martyrs of the Diocese</i>			10:00am MASS George Dobson (A)
Saturday 25th July THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	10:30am MASS Private Intention (A&E)	4:30pm VIGIL MASS Cat Cooke	
Sunday 26th July THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	9:30am MASS Antonia Amina O'Connor		11:00am MASS Tom & Mary Scurfield (A)
Monday 27th July <i>Weekday in Ordinary time or</i>		9:30am <i>Eucharistic Service</i>	
Tuesday 28th July <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time or</i>	10:00am MASS For those with sight problems		
Wed 29th July <i>ST Martha, Mary and Lazarus</i>		9:30am MASS Elizabeth McKenna (sick person)	10:00am MASS John Miller & Shirley Stones
Thurs 30th July <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	10:00am MASS Bernard Robson & Family		
Friday 31st July <i>St Ignatius Loyola, Priest</i>			10:00am MASS Val Rountree
Saturday 1st Aug THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	10:30am MASS Antonia Amina O'Connor	4:30pm VIGIL MASS Connor Drinkwater	
Sunday 2nd Aug THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	9:30am MASS Mona Ali Alsanie (for healing)		11:00am MASS Catherine & Bobby Smith & DFM