



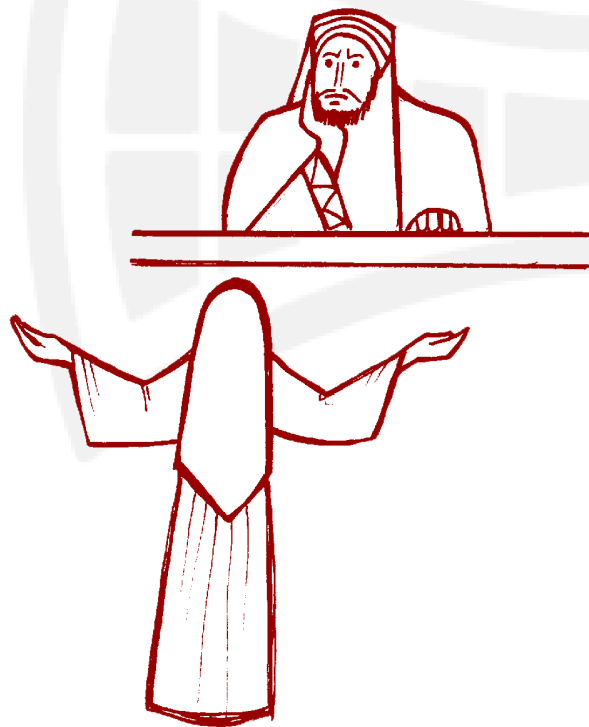
The Catholic Parishes of

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
19TH OCTOBER 2025



"GOD WILL GIVE JUSTICE TO HIS ELECT, WHO CRY TO HIM "

LUKE 18

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

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SUNDAY MESSAGE

We often think of prayer as mere asking, and this parable encourages us to pester God as the wronged widow pestered the Unjust Judge. But that is only one aspect of Luke's teaching on prayer. He also shows us what our attitude in prayer should be in the parable which immediately follows today's passage from the gospel: the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector. The tax-collector wins approval because he just stands there, admitting his sins. Most instructive, however, is Luke's teaching on Jesus at prayer: he reminds us that Jesus is always quietly at prayer to his Father. He needs to slip away to spend the night in prayer. Especially he prays at the most important moments of his life: at his Baptism, when he chooses his team of disciples, before he teaches them to pray, at the approach of his Passion, finally forgiving and comforting others at his death. Paul tells us we should pray continually. The prayer of asking must be built on a relationship of love and dependence, just as the request of child to parents is built on their loving relationship. It does not matter if the child is at times naughty; the deep relationship between parent and child is one of love. So too we do not need to be perfect to make our requests to our Father.



When and how do you find it best to pray?



ST JOHN PAUL II, POPE | 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 canonised by Pope Francis on 27 April 2014



ST JOHN OF CAPISTRANO | 25TH OCTOBER

He was born in Capistrano in the Abruzzi in 1386. He studied law at Perugia and for some time held the office of a judge. He joined the Friars Minor and was ordained. He travelled throughout Germany, Poland, Transylvania, Moldavia, and Russia, leading an apostolic life, strengthening Christian morals and combating heresy. When the Turks were invading Europe in the wake of the fall of Constantinople, they laid siege to Belgrade, then a border fort of the kingdom of Hungary. John preached a crusade against them and took part in the battle on 22 July 1456 in which John Hunyadi, his army and John's peasant crusaders lifted the siege and defeated the Turks, keeping Christian Europe safe from Turkish invasion for the next 70 years. Plague spread through the camp and John died of it, at Ilok, in what is now Croatia, on 23 October 1456. He is the patron saint of military chaplains.

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 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.

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR

TBC
at St. Mary Magdalen's

Kevin Paterson
at St. Cuthbert's

Joey & Dora Kenyon
at St. Joseph's

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St Joseph's

11th October
George Muncaster

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✠ THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS ✠

MISSION SUNDAY - THIS WEEKEND

On World Mission Sunday, the whole Church unites in prayer and generosity to support Catholic communities across the world facing poverty, conflict, and hardship. Pope Francis chose '*Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples*' as this year's theme, reminding us of our call to be messengers and builders of hope in this Jubilee Year. Rooted in Christ's resurrection, this hope has the power to transform lives and heal our world. Prayers and donations on this day directly sustain young and struggling faith communities, support vocations, and enable missionaries to bring the Gospel to remote and often dangerous places. Together, we help communities grow in faith, dignity, and self-reliance. This day of prayer and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love for all peoples. Thank you for your continued support of Missio.

SAFEGUARDING

We thank Vicki Bramley for accepting to be our Safeguarding representative for St. Joseph's Murton. We also thank Kelly Lamond for accepting to be our safeguarding representative for St. Cuthbert's Seaham. Carol Drinkwater still remains our Safeguarding representative for St. Mary Magdalen's. They are all DBS checked and we pray that God will strengthen them and give them the Graces they need to serve us.

FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS

We just had the fire risk assessment for our three Churches and the 5 yearly check for the buildings at St. Joseph's and Mary Magdalen's. We are waiting for the reports. We thank our Health and Safety representatives for our Parishes

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Harry Dunn and James Derek Willey who have died. Harry Dunn's Requiem Mass will be at St. Cuthbert's on Friday 24th October at 10:00am. James Derek Willey's Funeral Service will be at St. Mary Magdalen's on Tuesday 28th October at 12noon. **REQUIESCENT IN PACE.**

MAKE YOUR GIVING GO FURTHER WITH GIFT AID!

Did you know that if you're a UK taxpayer, your donations to the parish can go even further at **no extra cost to you**? With Gift Aid, the government adds 25% to your gift, helping us support our church, ministries, and community projects even more! It's simple to sign up and makes a huge difference: your regular donations go further, you help the parish care for our community and facilities, it costs you nothing extra! Sign up today by contacting your parish Gift Aid Organiser: Barbara Weetman - St Cuthberts, Charlotte Bagley - St Mary Magdalens, Brenda Williamson - St Josephs or visit <https://forms.office.com/e/BrxQTPnn3a?origin=lprLink>. Together, we can strengthen our parish and continue our mission to serve God and our community. Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH SECRETARY - WITH THANKS

We are immensely grateful to Brenda Williamson for graciously volunteering to be the parish secretary for all three parishes. May God be with her as she starts this important work in our parish community.

OCTOBER DEVOTION

At the end of the General Audience on 24th September, the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, asked all the faithful to pray the Rosary for peace during the month of October – traditionally dedicated to the recitation of the Rosary. "Dear brothers and sisters, the month of October, is dedicated in the Church to the holy Rosary. Therefore, I invite everyone, each day of the coming month, to recite the Rosary for peace — personally, in the family, and in the community."

JOURNEY OF FAITH

Thank you to all who attended the Journey of Faith introductory meeting last week. The official programme begins this coming **Thursday 23rd October at 6:30pm** at **St. Mary Magdalen's**. 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.

CLERGY TRAINING FUND

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Clergy Training Fund. This fund helps contribute towards the formation of clergy at a time where more vocations are essential.

PIE AND PEA AFTERNOON AT ST. JOSEPH'S

There is a pie and pea lunch on Tuesday 28th October 12:00pm - 2:00pm. 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.

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 SEAHAM HARBOUR	St Cuthbert's NEW SEAHAM	St. Joseph's MURTON
Saturday 18th Oct <i>St. Luke, Evangelist - FEAST</i> <i>The Twenty-Ninth</i> <i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Fr. Tom Burke (RIP)	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS James Smith & Phil Ferguson	
Sunday 19th Oct <i>The Twenty-Ninth</i> <i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am MASS Sr. Michael (for her birthday) <i>Coffee in the Hall</i> <i>after Mass</i>		10:30am <i>Confessions</i> 11:00am MASS Peter, Cornelius & Lilian Robson and the People of the Parish <i>Coffee in the Hall</i> <i>after Mass</i>
Mon 20th Oct <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>		8:45am <i>Adoration of the</i> <i>Blessed Sacrament</i> 9:30am <i>Service of the Word</i> <i>& Holy Communion</i>	
Tues 21st Oct <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS Brian Crozier RIP		
Wed 22nd Oct <i>St. John Paul II, Pope</i>		9:30am MASS Priest's Intention	10:00am MASS Living and Deceased Members of the Ward and Edwards Families
Thurs 23rd Oct <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>or St. John of Capistrano, Priest</i>	9:40am <i>Holy Rosary</i> 10:00am MASS For the souls in Purgatory		
Friday 24th Oct <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>or St. Antony Mary Claret, Bp</i>		10:00am REQUIEM MASS Harry Dunn	10:00am MASS Hoole & Foley Families
Saturday 25th Oct <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>The Thirtieth</i> <i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	10:00am <i>Adoration & Benediction</i> 10:30am MASS Mary Coxon RIP	4:00 - 4:20pm <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm VIGIL MASS The People of the Parish	
Sunday 26th Oct <i>The Thirtieth</i> <i>Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am MASS Bobby Dodds (A) <i>Coffee in the Hall</i> <i>after Mass</i>		10:30am <i>Confessions</i> 11:00am MASS Lorraine Bates (A) <i>Coffee in the Hall</i> <i>after Mass</i>

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