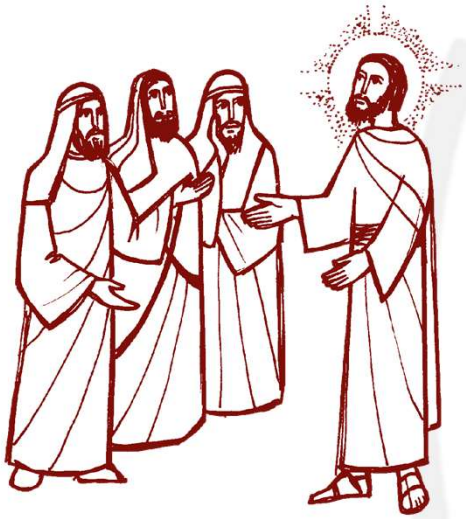
The Catholic Parishes of

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 THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2026

"You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.'

MATTHEW 22

ALL SAINTS

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2026

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

MATTHEW 25



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
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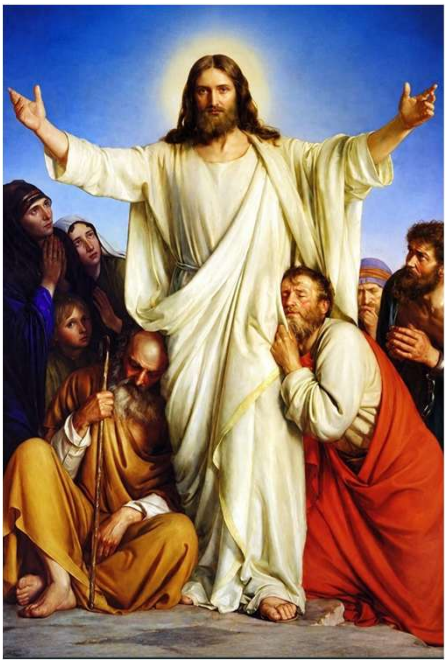
SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

St Mary Magdalen's
Carole Robson

St Cuthbert's
Kelly Lamond

St Joseph's
Vicki Bramley

SUNDAY MESSAGE



Familiarity with Jesus' answer to the question about the greatest commandment blunts our awareness of its startling directness. Many answers could be given, perhaps singling out any one of the ten commandments as the greatest, the most important basis of society. A frequent answer to the question was and is the Golden Rule which exists in many cultures: 'Do not do to another what you would not have done to you'. This is basically a selfish answer, protecting one's own interests. By contrast, Jesus' answer hits home, turning us away from self to God. 'Love' (not 'obey' or 'adore' or 'fear' or 'reverence') is the command. Love is not simply the warmth of companionship or of sex, but is the willing generosity of mother to helpless young child or daughter to helpless old parent, of wife to alcoholic husband or husband to paralysed wife, seeking no reward but the happiness of the receiver. Paul gives a useful check-list about love in chapter 13 of his first letter to the Corinthians. John's first letter provides a useful summary: 'No one who fails to love the brother or sister whom he can see, can love God whom he has not seen'.

How do we put into practice this commandment to love?



ALL SAINTS | NOVEMBER 1ST

These eight blessings stand at the head of the Sermon on the Mount, pointing out eight ways in which we can welcome God into our lives. They are ways of living out God's blessing, possible only if the hand of God is upon us. That is why the first and the last beatitudes knit them all together with 'theirs is the kingdom of heaven'. Jesus came to proclaim the kingship of his Father, and these are ways of living that kingship. For each of the beatitudes, do you know someone in the parish or elsewhere in your life who exemplifies that particular attitude? Or is there a saint whom you consider typifies each of these beatitudes for you? What is your own favourite beatitude? Jesus illustrates the beatitudes in various incidents in the gospels: he enters Jerusalem on a donkey as the gentle king; he shows love in his welcome to sinners; he brings peace to those tortured by disease or contempt; he manifests purity of heart in his singleminded pre-occupation with his Father's will; finally, he accepts persecution for what he knew to be right.

Which of these 'beatitudes' do you most lack?
Which would you most like to acquire?

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Please ensure all items for the bulletin are with the parish office by 5pm on a Wed 4th Nov. Please email *bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk*

BONUS BALL WINNER

at St. Joseph's

17th October
Patrick Varley

50

200 CLUB

at St Mary Magdalen's
18th October
Number 215 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.

Leone PP. XIV

SANCTUARY CANDLE



THE CANDLE THAT BURNS AT THE SANCTUARY IS FOR

Phil Ferguson
Alice & John Scollen *(next weekend)*
at St. Mary Magdalen's

Patricia Toft, Kevin Patterson, John & Millie McAlinden
Reilly & Hodgson Fam *(next weekend)*
at St. Cuthbert's

James and Mary Haffey
Lorraine Bates *(next weekend)*
at St. Joseph's

Information on Saints © Universalis © Wikipedia. Reflections © DOM Henry Wansbrough of Wednesday Word

THE NEWS FOR THE PEWS

BULLETIN: TWO WEEK EDITION

This bulletin will cover news and Masses for the next **two weeks**. Any changes to the schedule and any further announcements will be made by the Priest at Mass. Due to the condensed space, the Mass diary overleaf shows basic information. Please remember that the Holy Rosary is said before all Masses at St. Mary Magdalen's. Confessions are heard before the Vigil Mass at St. Cuthbert's, before Mass on a Sunday at St. Joseph's and after Mass on a Saturday at St. Mary Magdalen's. Coffee is available in the Hall after Mass on a Sunday at both St Mary Magdalen's and St. Joseph's. Please ensure all items for the next bulletin are with the parish office by Wednesday 4th November at 5:00pm. Please email all items to bulletin@seaham-catholics.org.uk.

THE CLERGY TRAINING FUND

This weekend we have a retiring 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.

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

Next Sunday, **1st November**, we celebrate the **Solemnity of All Saints**, honouring all those who have gone before us in faith and now share in the glory of heaven. On **Monday, 2nd November**, we celebrate the **Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)**, a special day when we remember and pray for our deceased loved ones and all the faithful departed. Although we do not normally celebrate Mass on a Monday, in recognition of the importance of this occasion, **Mass will be celebrated at 10:00am at St Joseph's and St. Mary Magdalen's and 6pm at St Cuthbert's.** All parishioners are warmly invited to join us as we remember and pray for those who have gone before us.

WITH THANKS – CONFIRMATION PREPARATION GROUP

We thank the Volunteers for the confirmation preparation group, the representative from the YMT (Youth Ministry Team), the Chaplains from St. Bede's and St. Aidens and St. Joseph's. Our first meeting to plan the program for the confirmation was very successful. The parish volunteers will meet again on Tuesday 3rd of November to finalise on the programs. The parents/guardians with the candidates for confirmation will meet with the priest, deacon and the parish volunteers on Tuesday 10th of November at St. Mary Magdalen's Parish Hall at 6:00pm, to discuss on the program and activities for the Confirmation. There are forms at the back of the Churches for confirmation. Please pick a copy, fill it in, and return to us.

ST MARY MAGDALEN'S MINI VINNIES

St Mary Magdalen's Mini Vinnies will be at Mass on Tuesday 10th November and will hold a coffee morning for parishioners afterwards in the parish hall.

SECOND COLLECTIONS – WITH THANKS

Thank you to those who have contributed to recent second collections. The collection for CAFOD raised £105 at St Cuthbert's, £10 at St Mary Magdalen's and £239 at St Joseph's. The collection for Prisoners Sunday raised £97.10 at St. Cuthbert's, £109.44 at St Mary Magdalen's and TBC at St. Joseph's. The collection for Mission Sunday raised £210.53 at St Cuthbert's, £201.80 at St Mary Magdalen's and £206.36 at St Joseph's. Thanks to all for your generous donations for these very worthy causes.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Weekday Masses are available, please join us at the parishes on both Sundays and weekdays for the Eucharistic celebration and adoration

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish office continues to be closed 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.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kathleen Elliott who has died. Her Funeral Service will take place at St. Cuthbert's Church on Friday November 6th at 12noon. **REQUIESCAT IN PACE.**

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**.

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. It will commence on Sunday 1st November (next weekend)

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 24th October **THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**10:30am MASS** Thanks to SS Jude, Lucy & Carlo	**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		**11:00am MASS** Lorraine Bates
Monday 26th October *SS Chad and Cedd*		**9:30am** *Service of the Word & Holy Communion*	
Tuesday 27th October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	**10:00am MASS** Valerie Barlow *(for a successful operation)*		
Wed 28th October *SS Simon and Jude*		**9:30am MASS** Pamela Walker	**10:00am MASS** Marie Carr
Thurs 29th October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	**10:00am MASS** Sick Person, Elzabeth McKenna & DFM		
Friday 30th October *Martyrs of Douai College*			**10:00am MASS** Bette Foley
Saturday 31st October **ALL SAINTS**	**10:30am MASS** Mrs Corless (LD)	**4:30pm VIGIL MASS** Gordon Traynor and Family	
Sunday 1st November **ALL SAINTS**	**9:30am MASS** John Carrigan		**11:00am MASS** Margaret Christie
Monday 2nd November *The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed*	**10:00am MASS** The People of the Parish	**6:00pm MASS** The People of the Parish	**10:00am MASS** The Holy Family & All the Saints (for healing)
Tuesday 3rd November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	**10:00am MASS** Joan Teresa Robinson		
Wed 4th November *St Charles Borromeo*		**9:30am MASS** Fr Charles – *thanksgiving for the gift of life*	**10:00am MASS** Michael Finan
Thurs 5th November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	**10:00am MASS** John & Alice Scollen		
Friday 6th November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*		**12noon – Funeral Service** Kathleen Elliott	**10:00am MASS** Pat Avery
Saturday 7th November **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**10:30am MASS** Val & Brian Roberts	**4:30pm VIGIL MASS** Peter Smith	
Sunday 8th November **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**9:30am MASS** Rose and Colin Thompson	*REMEMBERANCE SUNDAY*	**11:00am MASS** Frederick & Julia Mason