

Saturday 18th October 2025	5pm: <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions:</i> HOLY ROSARY 5.30pm: <i>The Holy Rosary will prayed at the</i> HOLY ROSARY CHURCH 6pm: <i>Mass for a Private Intention:</i> HOLY ROSARY
Sunday 19th October 2025	9.30am: <i>Intention to be announced at Mass:</i>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY 11.00am: <i>Mass for David Bentham (Birthday remembrance - RIP):</i> ST MICHAEL’S 11.00am: <i>Mass for the Intentions of Deacon Norman:</i> ST LEONARD’S *Celebrated by Carmelites
Monday 20th October 2025	No Masses today
Tuesday 21st October 2025	9.30am: ST LEONARD’S 12.30pm: <i>The Funeral Service of Joan Glazebrook:</i> St Michael’s 7.00pm: <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction:</i> ST MICHAEL’S
Wednesday 22nd October 2025	9.00am: <i>Mass in ST CUTHBERT’S SCHOOL (Post code is SR4 8HP), Parishioners welcome.</i> 10am: <i>Mass for Jim Rigby:</i> ST MICHAEL’S (<i>Adoration and confessions before Mass</i>)
Thursday 23rd October 2025	9.30am: <i>The Holy Rosary will be prayed at</i> IMMACULATE HEART 10am: <i>Mass for the repose of the soul of Anthony Robson:</i> IMMACULATE HEART
Friday 24th October 2025	10.00am: <i>Mass for the repose of the soul of David Crowe:</i> ST MICHAEL’S 12 noon: <i>Intention to be announced at Mass:</i> HOLY ROSARY
Saturday 25th October 2025	5pm: <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions:</i> HOLY ROSARY 5.30pm: <i>The Holy Rosary will prayed at the</i> HOLY ROSARY CHURCH 6pm: <i>Mass for the Intentions of Father Marc:</i> HOLY ROSARY
Sunday 26th October 2025	9.30am: <i>Mass for Mary and Syd Cook (RIP):</i> IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY 11.00am: Mass: <i>For</i> at ST MICHAEL’S 11.00am: <i>Mass for the People of the Parish:</i> ST LEONARD’S *Celebrated by Carmelites



PARISH ECHO



Holy Rosary, Immaculate Heart and St Leonard's,
Sunderland & St Michael's, Houghton-Le-Spring.

Parish Priest: Fr Marc Lyden-Smith

Resident at: Holy Rosary, Arbroath Road, Farringdon, Sunderland, SR3 3LD

Contact Number 0191-5281992 | *Email:* sunderlandpriest@outlook.com

Parish Secretary: Pat Dawson | *Telephone:* 0191-5842142 |

Email: stmichael.houghtonlespring@diocesehn.org.uk

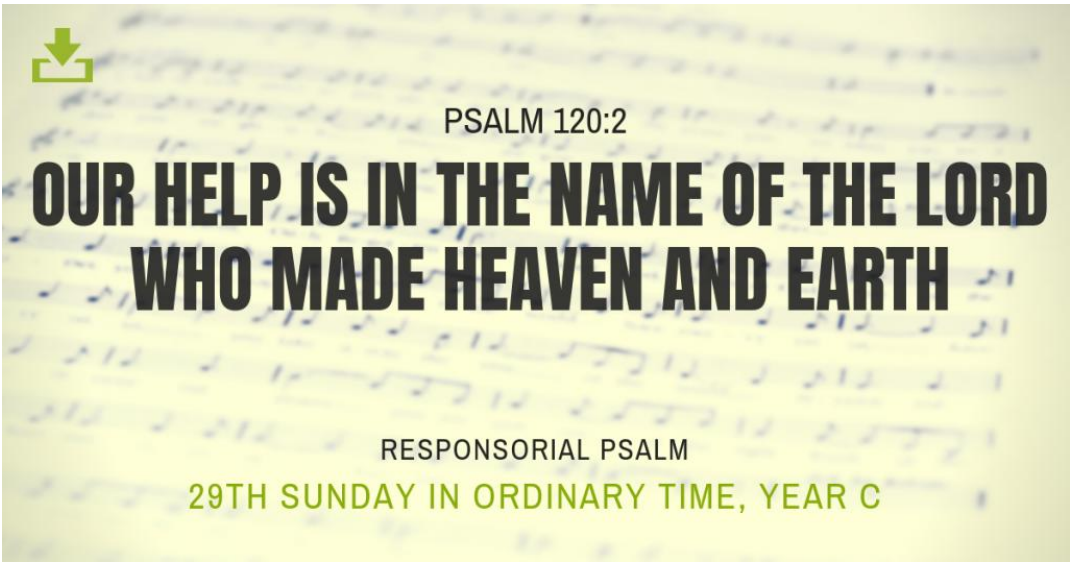
Parish Office is open: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30am – 1.30pm

The parish of Jeanne Jugan...

This weekend, the Vicar General Father Mark Milward, will join the Stewardship Committee for their latest meeting. Together they will analyse the data collected from last weeks surveys, looking at the numbers, age profile and, most importantly, the needs of parishioners in each church. Areas considered include, for example, how many people would need lifts, or parish organised taxis etc should a church close to enable parishioners to get to Mass and so maintain the parish community. The committee will then assess each church under the following criteria: Operating costs, projected capital gains, Mass attendance and participation, demographics and potential growth, ministries, community life, accessibility, geography, mission alignment and proceeds from any future sale. Please remember to email or speak to Father Marc with any comments and thoughts that you have for the future.



Let us pray WITH and FOR one another at Mass this weekend.



The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When the Lord comes, will He find any faith on Earth?

Today's Gospel comes from Luke (18:1-8). The liturgy this Sunday draws attention to our own attitude to prayer.

This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about *prayer*. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond.

The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, "*Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?*" In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.

Saint Quote of the week:

"The Most Blessed Sacrament is Christ made visible. The poor sick person is Christ, again made visible."
— St. Gerard Majella

Quote of the week:

"The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts." — Marcus Aurelius

Holy Rosary Parish Hall:

Would you like to book the Parish Hall? Booking info: Janette Kingsley. Telephone: 0191-5280176

News from the parish, Diocese and beyond...

Journey of Faith (RCIA)

This year’s journey of faith will be held on Thursday evenings at The Holy Rosary. The course will be led by Father Marc and start on Thursday 23rd October at 6.30pm, with each session lasting approximately one hour. If anyone from Houghton-le-Spring requires a lift it can be arranged. The RCIA is for anyone wishing to become a Catholic, or wanting to learn more about their faith. If you intend to come, please email Fr Marc to let him know.

Fr Marc is currently living at St Michael’s presbytery:

Please note that Father Marc is currently living at St Michael’s Presbytery so has not been accessing the phone at the Holy Rosary. Any sick calls or any urgent calls should go through St Michael’s Presbytery until he moves into the Holy Rosary, hopefully by next week.

First Holy Communion children: Our First Holy Communion programmes have begun; Year 4 children need passports stamps by Fr Marc after Mass.

Parish Ceilidh at Holy Rosary Parish Centre with the Mussell Square Boys.

Parishioners from all four churches are warmly welcome on Saturday 25th October at 7.30pm. This promises to be a great night and an ideal opportunity for the four parishes to come together. Tickets £8 adult, £4 child. Raffle, Bar. Contact Phil Boyle 07745061661 for tickets. (Ring or text him). All profits to parish funds. 90 tickets available, first come, first served. See you there!

St Leonard, Pray for us!



Immaculate Mary of the Rosary, Pray for us!

St Michael, Pray for us!

Keeping Gaza in our prayers

A fragile peace

Catholic social teaching’s commitment to the inherent dignity of all persons and their right to life encourages us to be attentive to those who are most vulnerable, and to make assisting and accompanying them in their struggles a primary concern. Both Israelis and Palestinians suffer tremendously in the Holy Land—the two communities have experienced great trauma and violence. Still, the Palestinian loss of life is much higher, and they bear the brunt of an unequal system, which amounts to structural violence and discrimination. In the West Bank and East Jerusalem, Palestinians live under Israeli military occupation with only pockets of Palestinian civil or security control; as a stateless population, they are denied many basic rights. In Bethlehem, the place of Jesus’ birth, a large concrete separation barrier and numerous illegal settlements choke off this city from its historic connection to Jerusalem. In the Palestinian territory of Gaza, both before and during the recent war, an Israeli blockade by land, air and sea has meant that the entry and exit of people and goods is very limited. Acknowledging these realities and advocating for Palestinian rights is wholly consistent with a commitment to ensuring the rights, safety and dignity of Jewish Israelis. Catholics have a responsibility to hold these commitments together. Upholding the preferential option for the poor is not about “taking sides” but ultimately is about caring for the most vulnerable, identifying root causes of violence and injustice, and working toward solutions that benefit all. This connects to the notion of the “common good”—working toward a reality where social conditions facilitate human flourishing for all, not just some.

Thank you for being at Mass, you’re always warmly welcome here.

Members of St Cuthbert’s Mini Vinnies recently surprised George, the oldest season ticket holder at Sunderland, on his 99th birthday. The children took him cards from all the classes and celebrated with cake and juice, along with Sunderland legend Jimmy Montgomery. Thank you, children, for your kindness.

Sanctuary Light burning this week in St Michael’s is for Audrey Gaffney

St. Michael’s Christmas Fayre: will take place on Saturday 29th November in the Welfare Hall, Houghton, DH4 5AF. Doors open at 1pm for the event which is expected to last from 1.00pm – 3.00pm. **Can you help?** We are looking for new and used (good condition) toys, books, brick-a-brac, 'bottles', biscuits, sweets, cakes, home baked items, and donations. All donations can be left in the Parish Centre but please note that no clothing, shoes or electrical items can be accepted. All profits from the event will be donated to church funds. For further information, or if you would like to volunteer to look after a stall, please contact Alison Turnbull (07780831366) or Elizabeth Scott (07908665546).

Unity in the community

This weekend is a special weekend for Sunderland with our ‘Unity in the Community’ events. These will be held in the Sunderland Minster on Saturday between 11am and 2pm and in the Beacon of Light on Sunday between 12 noon and 5pm. These are free events and include live music, arts and crafts, dance and food from all the different communities living in Sunderland. All are welcome.

Mass intentions: We have not had many Mass intentions. Envelopes are at the back of church if you would like a Mass to be said for someone. No greater gift!



A DAY FOR MINISTERS: Father Marc and Sister Michael, will lead a day of recollection and training session for all Eucharistic ministers from *Holy Rosary, Immaculate Heart and St Leonard's* on **Saturday 25th October from 10.30am**. This is for anyone that has acted as a special minister in the past, and would like to renew their ministry again, so we can give out communion under both kinds at Mass. Some might also consider visiting the sick. We will be finished by 1.45pm at the latest. You **MUST** inform Father Marc that you are coming.

Concert Tickets on sale NOW
A fabulous fundraising concert will take place in Holy Rosary Church on Friday 21st November at 7.00pm. The amazing Fortissimo Choir will be joined by *The Whole Shebang* to provide an evening of song covering all genres from musicals to classics to folk and back.

Tickets are £10 and every penny raised will go to the upkeep of our churches. The bar will be available in the hall after the concert and if anyone would like to bring food for a shared table that would be fabulous.

Tickets are on sale at the back of church or contact Mary Winetroube on 07734849410

This will be a great night, all welcome, but only 200 tickets are available. First come, first served.

Please pray for those who have died recently...

Susan Vallely RIP - Please keep Susan, who died last week, in your prayers. Her funeral will take place in The Holy Rosary on Tuesday 4th November at 10am.

Geoffrey Pringle RIP - Please keep Geoff in your prayers. Geoff's funeral will take place on Friday 7th November at 11am in Durham Crematorium.

Joan Glazebrook RIP - Please keep Joan in your prayers. Joan's funeral will take place on 21st October at 12.30pm in St Michael's church.

We keep them and all their families and friends especially in our prayers at this time.

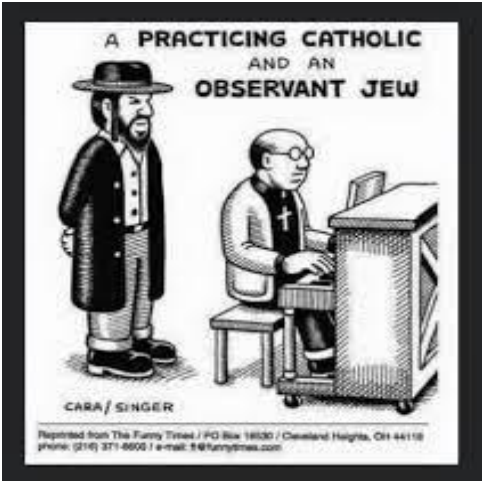
Baptism Requests:

If you want your child to be baptised in any of our churches you must fill out a Baptismal Request Form. These forms are available at the back of our churches and can be collected after attending Mass.

One or the Other 2

One letter from each vertical pair below is correct. Choose the correct letters to form a quotation from St. Aloysius Gonzaga. The pairs are presented without spaces or punctuation.

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Food Bank Collections...

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring an item each week to Mass for the boxes in all our churches. This is helping people more than you will ever know. Let's keep it up.

Readers: Could you be a reader at Mass? Please see Father Marc if you are willing to try.