

**ENGLISH MARTYRS & ST ROBERT'S FENHAM, ST CUTHBERT'S KENTON**  
**3RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR YEAR C** **23RD JANUARY 2022**

Rev A. Mariadass Pagyasamy (PP)  
 Rev John Juliet Ulaganathan (Ass)  
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**THE CYCLE OF PRAYER:**  
**Ordinary Time (Winter)**  
 In the time leading up to Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions :  
 Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick & Those Who Care For Them; Victims of Trafficking & Those who Work To Combat it; the Unemployed

**Mission Statement:-**

"We, the Parishioners of English Martyrs, St Robert's & St Cuthbert's, Kenton recognise each person as a gifted Child of God and strive to foster a loving relationship with Christ & with each other within our community".

**Sunday Readers and Eucharistic Ministers**

	English Martyrs 9.15am		St Cuthbert's 10.15am		St Robert's 11.15am	
Date	Minister	Reader	Minister	Reader	Minister	Reader
<b>23rd January</b>	P.Cross	L.Edache	S.Jenkins	M.McLoughlin	N.Hedley K.Dimambro	M.Hannon
<b>30th January</b>	T.Cross	D.Ajeh	J.Poynter	A.Fisher	V & M Douglass	C.O'Toole

**ST ROBERT'S WEEKDAY MASS READERS ROTA w.c 23rd January 2022** **WEEK B**

**Mass Intentions**

Day	English Martyrs	St Cuthbert's Kenton	St Robert's
<b>Sunday 23rd January</b> 3rd Sunday of the Year Sunday of the Word of God	<b>9.15 am</b> Gigi RIP	<b>10.15 am</b> In Loving Memory of Jimmy Ender RIP (B.E)	<b>11.15 am</b> Eileen Brown RIP
<b>Monday 24th January</b> St Francis de Sales Bp, D	Private Mass Kathleen Moira O'Rawe		
<b>Tuesday 25th January</b> The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle			➔ <b>N.B 10.00am</b> Requiem Mass for Brian Gaffney <b>Rosary before Mass</b> <b>6.30 pm</b> Tony & Mary Waldron & Deceased Members of the Waldron family
<b>Wednesday 26th January</b> SS Timothy & Titus Bps	<b>10.00 am</b> Deceased Members of the Canning Family RIP (W.C)		
<b>Thursday 27th January</b> St Angela Merici V St Gregory of Narek		<b>9.15 am</b> Dennis Duffy	<b>10.00 am</b> Dr John Elliott RIP (E.E)
<b>Friday 28th January</b> St Thomas Aquinas P,D	<b>10.00 am</b> Ann Tennant RIP (M.G)		
<b>Saturday 29th January</b>	Private Mass		
<b>Sunday 30th January</b> 4th Sunday of the Year	<b>9.15 am</b> Stephen Corcoran RIP (J.J)	<b>10.15 am</b> Danny Sharpe RIP (A.P)	<b>11.15 am</b> The Gaughan & Marsden Families

# Spiritual.....

## SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The Sunday of the Word of God is observed annually on the third Sunday of Ordinary Time, ever since Pope Francis established this celebration on 30th September 2019 reminding Catholics of the importance of knowing Scripture. This year it occurs on **23rd January**.

On this day we might want to spend some time reading a section of the Bible.

It is not necessary to read lots of the Bible for it to have an impact. Sometimes, just a few words or a sentence can transform our lives.

One of the most important things we can do before leafing through the Bible is to pray.

The most famous translator of the Bible, St Jerome wrote :

*'We cannot come to an understanding of Scripture without the help of the Holy Spirit, who inspired it.'*

*God of all times, people & places, guide me today, & every step of the way as I read the Scriptures and reflect on your love. Amen*

## START THE NEW YEAR WITH THE SCRIPTURES!

Why not try reading the Bible in a Year using the reading guide created by Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins.

The reading guide is available for free from <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration> and there is also a podcast released every day where Fr. Mike will read the passages for that day, lead a short prayer and give a brief reflection. For 20 minutes a day you could read the entire Bible in a year, so why not give it a go?

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY - FOR TRUE HUMAN FRATERNITY

Let us pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination & persecution ; may their own rights & dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers & sisters in the human family

## MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to have Holy Mass celebrated for a particular person or intention, please write down the relevant details & hand into Fr Mariadass or Fr John with your Mass Offering. If it is for a specific date, then please give as much notice as possible.



## SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

Please keep all our children who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist in your prayers.

## PLEASE KEEP THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND THEIR CARERS IN YOUR PRAYERS ESPECIALLY:

Russell Bond, Rosemary Green, Tony Knox, Eamon Maloney, Tom Dudley, Stella Swinburne, Michael Temperley, Rosemary Burke, Tony Carr, Kath Wood, Ann & John Emmerson, Betty McGurk, Rita Foreman, Norma Charlton,



## CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK 18TH - 25TH JANUARY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is traditionally celebrated between January 18th and January 25th.

This year's theme is 'We Saw His Star in the East'.

The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is a very familiar one. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that come to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

You are warmly invited to join Churches Together in Fenham at a service prepared by the Churches of the Middle East., who are conscious of the difficulties faced around the world & the need for us all to work together in unity for the good of our future.

A service will be held at **Holy Cross Church, Lanercost Drive, Fenham** this **Sunday 23rd January at 6.30pm**.

## BLESSED JOHN INGRAM

Blessed John Ingram (1565 - 1594) was a local reformation martyr, who was executed at Gateshead for ministering to the faithful of this region. During his ministry, he was assisted & sheltered by local aristocrats, but was eventually apprehended & convicted on a charge of high treason.

To support the campaign for his canonisation, please type **John Ingram Petition** into the search engine & then click on the first entry.

Alternatively click on the link below

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/cause-of-canonisation-of-blessed-john-ingram>

## GIFT AID & MASS OFFERINGS

White envelopes for Mass offerings are to be found at the back of the church. If you wish your offering to be Gift-aided, please fold the white envelope & insert in a green envelope, then complete the Gift Aid declaration on the front.

Contact Tony Lowery at St Robert's, Joan Crozier at English Martyrs or Dave Hudson at St Cuthbert's for further information.

## ANNIVERSARIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED 23RD JANUARY - 30TH JANUARY

- John Robert Carr, Marie Monica Dixon, Rose McDermott, Gerard McKendry, Frank Digham, Wilfrid Wood, Maureen Birks, James Shanley, Louise Davy, Sheila Oliver
- Trevor John Saunders, Teresa Queen, James William Garrity, William Armstrong, James Jeffrey, Norah Robson, William Atkinson, Joan Brogan
- Dorothy Stubbs, Lily Ann McCartan, Barbara Mullins, Kathleen Moira Murling, James McCabe, Patrick Coyle
- Oswald Cairns, Peggie Whittonstall, William Gallagher, John Brett, William Bell, Madeline Sparrow, Kathleen Gallagher
- Dr John Elliott, Johanna Neesham, William Cooney, May Gurr, Francis McGuckin, John Jones, Eleanor Kettle, Dorothy Gibson
- William Gill, Jane Finnegan, Ronald Balmbra, Margaret Davison, David O'Driscoll
- Maud Reid, Joan Coombe, Isabella Gorman, John Keenan, Mary Lynch, Terence Knight, Sarah Laurence, Mark Duffy, David Boyle, Annie McGurk, Lawrence Harper



## English Martyrs .....

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

From next Sunday 30th January, the Offertory collection will be taken during Mass, at the usual time after the Prayers of Intercession.

### READERS

If you would like to be a reader at Mass and want to find out more about it, please speak to Susan Picola at end of Mass.

### SPIRITUALITY

We are starting up our spirituality group again. If you are interested and want to find out more, or to join us, please speak to Susan Picola at end of Mass.

### THANK YOU

The People's Kitchen thank everyone at English Martyrs for their kind donations during Advent.

There will be another collection during Lent.

In the meantime, the donations box is still there at the back of church for anyone wishing to donate to the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa Sisters)

## St Cuthbert's Kenton

### ST CUTHBERT'S 200 CLUB



The St Cuthbert's 200 club has now officially closed.

Father Michael and Mel would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the club over the years. A special thank you to Ann Fisher who ran the club prior to Mel.

The bank account has been closed and £7000 has been paid into the parish funds.

However, if anyone would like to run a 200 club, then please see Fr Mariadass.

## St Robert's .....

### PERUVIAN CRAFT STALL

A huge heartfelt thank you for your amazing support at the Christmas Cafe in the Hall event. A fantastic £255.50 was raised for the poor of Lima, Peru, with thanks to you all.

Every penny raised will have reached them and helped them at Christmas.

A detailed end of year newsletter will soon be available and shared with you all.

Thank you & God Bless

*Becky & Hannah*

### ST ROBERT'S 200 CLUB



Can you please check to make sure that you have renewed your membership for this year?

If you would like to renew by cheque, please make it payable to 'St Roberts 200 Club' annual payment of £52, half yearly £26, and pop it through the presbytery door.

If you need a standing order form, or any other query, please email me at [strobertsfenham@btconnect.com](mailto:strobertsfenham@btconnect.com).

Many Thanks

Cecilia

### NORTHERN CROSS

Copies of this month's Northern Cross are available at the back of church at a cost of £1.50.

## General Notices

### "INFORMATION NOW"

This organisation provides helpful information on local services, events & activities.

The latest update of information on many issues for people in Newcastle is now available at [www.InformationNOW.org.uk](http://www.InformationNOW.org.uk)

### SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

The name was originally inspired by the work of the Weiße Rose (White Rose) movement, a non-violent, intellectual resistance to the Nazis in Germany at the height of the Second World War. They became known for an anonymous leafleting and graffiti campaign that lasted 8 months between 1942 and 1943.

In February 1943 Hans & Sophie Scholl, two of the group's core active members, were caught and arrested. Following interrogation, they were tried by the Gestapo and beheaded along with four others. The Weiße Rose and Sophie Scholl have been the subject of a number of films retelling the story of their bravery to new generations.

If you wish to donate to the White Flower Appeal a basket will be available at the back of our churches this weekend.

## Did you know? .....

### ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Monday is the feast day of St Francis de Sales.

He was born in Savoy, France, his wealthy family provided him with an excellent education. After qualifying as Doctor of Law, he returned home, leading a hard-working life as Senate advocate.

But in his heart, Francis knew he was being called to be a priest. His father was very disappointed when told, but Francis spent lots of time in prayer, & final he won over the family & was ordained in December 1593.

In those times Christians were bitterly divided, so he offered to go to a dangerous area of France to win back Catholics who had become Protestants. With his cousin, Fr Louis de Sales, they soon learned how to live with insults & physical discomforts & their lives were often in danger.

Francis explained the teachings of the Catholic faith in simple, clear language. His gentle way with everyone, slowly brought many back to the Roman Catholic Church. When he was thirty-five years old, Francis became the bishop of Geneva, Switzerland.

Francis wrote wonderful books about the spiritual life & the way to become holy. The books, "Treatise on the Love of God" & "Introduction to the Devout Life", are still available in book stores today & are considered spiritual "classics."

He died at Lyons in 1622, at the age of fifty-six. Because of his good work that brought many people back to God and the Church, he was given the special title "Doctor of the Church." He is also the patron saint of journalists.

### PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF :



Brian Gaffney who died recently  
Please keep his family, friends & loved ones in your thoughts & prayers.

The Requiem Mass for Brian will be celebrated on **Tuesday 25th January** at **10.00am** in **St Robert's Church**.

May he rest in peace.

## Diocesan.....

### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Due to the on-going uncertainty of COVID-19 and the continuing rise of infection rates & having sought advice from our Health & Safety Advisor it is with regret the Diocese has decided to cancel the two Holocaust Memorial Evenings, due to take place on Tuesday 25th January and 27th January 2022.

An online event will go live from **10am on 27th January**. Go to the home page of the diocesan website and type Holocaust Memorial in the search box

### IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A PRIEST?

The Diocesan Vocations Team have organised an overnight retreat for men aged 18+ to discern whether God is calling them to the Priesthood.

Date **Friday 25th February 2022 5.00pm to Saturday 26th February** (after lunch)

Place Minsteracres Retreat Centre, Minsteracres, Consett, DH8 9RT

Cost £50 (including meals and accommodation)  
Spaces are limited.

Bookings to be made by **Thursday 10th February**  
Contact Fr Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information.

Email [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk)  
Telephone 01670 812 200

## Volunteers Wanted.....

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION – VOLUNTEER FOR CAFOD

A vital aspect of church is people being willing to share their talents, experience and energy. Could your New Year's resolution be volunteering for CAFOD?

We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as:

In the parish - where you will be highlighting CAFOD's work to support communities globally who are living with injustices and in poverty.

In local schools – where you'll deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work. No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided.

Coordinating volunteers to help us support, encourage and bring together a small group of volunteers.

If you'd like to know more about volunteering for CAFOD, please get in touch with them by phoning Mark Maughan on 07779804243 or email him at [mmaughan@cafod.org.uk](mailto:mmaughan@cafod.org.uk)

## Vacancies .....

### DIOCESAN HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER

The Diocese is looking to appoint a Health & Safety Officer to co-ordinate & manage all aspects of health & safety across the Diocese of Newcastle. This will include, but is not limited to ensuring that all Diocesan personnel are kept safe & that the Diocesan properties & projects & associated activities are safe & without risk as far as is reasonably practicable.

Full time - permanent.

Closing date **27th January**

For further information & details of how to apply, please visit our website or contact us on 0191 243 3301

### SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR (EDUCATION)

A Senior Administrator is required by the diocese to manage and provide high quality administration support for the Department of Education.

Full time - permanent

Closing date **31st January**

For further information and details of how to apply please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) or contact us on 0191 243 3301

## Reflection .....

### *The Nazareth Page*

### *A gospel meditation for your home*

*January 23rd, 2022 -*

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Luke 1: 1-4 ; 4:14-21*

We are reminded right at the beginning of Luke's Gospel that he is writing this gospel to give an accurate historical account of the words, the deeds and the life of Jesus Christ. And how blessed are we and how grateful we should be that he has done so. Along with the other gospel writers. How many of us have based our lives on what's written in the four gospels? As a Catholic and Christian, and as a professional theologian, professor and author, I cannot even imagine my life without the gospels.

So, I begin this reflection by thanking Luke, Mark, Matthew and John (and whoever assisted them) for their efforts in creating the gospels.

And how serious we should all be as students of the gospels. They are unique among the writings that constitute all religious literature. Yes, we know a few features of the lives of Buddha, Confucius, Moses and Mohamed, but not nearly as much as we know about that itinerant preacher who travelled the paths and byways of ancient Palestine, especially in Israel, Samaria and Judea.

And from personal experience, I can say that the well from which we draw ideas and insight from the gospels provides a limitless source of knowledge and wisdom. I have been writing versions of these Nazareth Pages for more than twenty years. And I will let you in on a secret. I never repeat myself. I never look back to previous reflections and simply copy them every four years. I begin each and every one with a blank page. I put myself into a mindset that tries to create in me a sense of wonder as if I am reading it for the first time.

A well-respected biblical scholar, Marcus Borg, wrote a book a few years back called Meeting Jesus for the First Time. In that work he invited the reader to re-imagine the person of Jesus, along with his words and deeds in a way one would if encountering that historical figure for the first time. In other words, set aside childhood images of Jesus or even a lifetime of listening to sermons or homilies about him, and then take up the gospels and read them afresh. I try to do that as much as I can.

And that's possible to do partly because the risen Christ remains among us, closer to us than we might ever imagine. And he continues to teach us. He only needs us to listen with open eyes and ears and a receptive heart. I imagine that if Jesus ever returned to live a second life with us right now, he would do much the same he did two-thousand years ago. Except, he might also be on twitter or have regular podcasts.

*David M. Thomas, PhD*