



The Catholic Parish of St. John Boste. Serving: Penrith, Alston, Appleby & Kirkby Stephen

Parish Priest: Fr. John B. Winstanley, Deacons: Rev. Charlie Conner and Rev. David Greaves

The Rectory, St. Catherine's Church, Drovers Lane, Penrith, Cumbria. CA11 9EL

T: 01768 862273 E: parishoffice.stcatherines@btinternet.com W: www.stcatherinepenrith.org.uk

St. Wulstan's Church, Kings Arms Lane, Alston, Cumbria, CA9 3JF Our Lady of Appleby Church, Garth Heads Road, Appleby in Westmorland, CA16 6UA

The Haydock Community Centre at St. Catherine's: Bookings via parish website, T: 07976 255145, E: haydockcc@btinternet.com

Parish Contacts for Safeguarding: Rosemary (Penrith), Mike (Appleby) & Jeanette (Alston). 07469 511974, safeguarding.stcatherines@btinternet.com

7 April 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Day of Divine Mercy)

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:

Masses & Services at St. Catherine's unless otherwise stated

- Sat 6 **Easter Saturday** No morning Mass, Confessions, Adoration
6pm Vigil Mass at St. Wulstan's Alston People of the Parish
- Sun 7 **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy)**
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8.30am Margaret Plasom
10.30am Gareth Butterworth
12 noon Baptisms at St. Catherine's
4pm at Our Lady of Appleby Fr. Michael Butler
- Mon 8 **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD** No Mass
- Tue 9 No Mass
- Wed 10 No Mass
- Thu 11 **7pm St. Stanislaus Adoration, Rosary & Benediction**
- Fri 12 **12 noon** Fr. Jim McElroy
- Sat 13 **9am** Sylvia Mary Ford
6pm Mass at St. Wulstan's Alston
Mary Shields & Norah Frizzle
- Sun 14 **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8.30am Mary Magdalena Sang
10.30am Rodolfo Fermilan
12 noon Baptism of Benjamin Arthur Stephenson
4pm at Our Lady of Appleby People of the Parish

CONFESSION TIMES: (also, anytime on request)

No Saturday morning Confessions at St. Catherine's on 6 April.
Saturday morning Confessions resume on 13 April: 9.30am -10am.
St. Wulstan's, Alston: Saturdays 5.30pm
Our Lady of Appleby: Sundays 3.30pm

DEVOTIONS: This week on Thursday at 7pm, Adoration, Rosary and Benediction. Adoration on Saturday: 9.30am - 10am.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

To be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church:
Vanessa O'Dea on Pentecost Sunday, 19 May, at the 10.30am Mass.

Marriage: Benedict Craft & Gigha Gibson in St. Catherine's on Saturday 20 April at 2pm.

The Sick: Barbara Carter, Eileen Holland, Maureen Richardson, Des & Pat Prior, Vivienne Knowles, Jackie O'Neill, Ken Oakley, Helen Farrow and Kath Rigby.

Lately Dead: *May they rest in peace.*

Anniversaries: Peter Burke, Bernard Rowan, Lydia Wills, Margaret Plasom, Peter Simonini and Edward Beard.

BAPTISMS TODAY: At 12 noon in St. Catherine's, we welcome into the Faith of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Tadana Chakunda, Naniso Chakunda, Taylor Chirere, Josephine Austin and Rosemary Austin. *Congratulations!*

TEA & COFFEE after Sunday Mass: 8.30am & 10.30am every week. At Appleby 1st Sunday. All welcome.

CAN YOU HELP? We need an extra volunteer to complete the tea and coffee rota for 8.30am Mass (working in pairs). If you can help, please contact Mary Coen directly or via the Parish Office.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION TODAY

7 APRIL 2.30 – 4pm at St. Augustine's church, 10 Waverley Rd, Carlisle, CA3 9JU. The Celebration will include adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, veneration of the image, reflection and confession, followed by refreshments. All are very welcome.

'**MISSIO - Red Boxes at St. C's** will be collected after morning Masses on Sunday 14th April, so please bring boxes to church. Empty boxes will be returned to the Narthex as soon as possible after the 14th for you to collect. Many thanks, *Lorna Mullett and Denis Smith*

HAPPY EASTER SEASON! Fr. John thanks you for your most generous Easter Offerings. A huge 'thank you' to all involved in celebrating the Holy Week and Easter liturgies in our three churches and the many involved behind the scenes. Our praise and worship of God in this way is only possible because of your faith, hard work, dedication and care. To one and all, our heartfelt thanks, and our thanks for your cards, gifts and greetings. Every blessing, *Fr John, Dcn Charlie & Dcn David*

THIS WEEKEND Fr. John attends his niece's wedding and then takes a few days break. Fr. Ted Gannon celebrates the Mass at Alston and Fr. Jerome all the Sunday Masses and Mass on Friday. Our thanks to them both. Grateful thanks also to Fr. Jerome for his Holy Week supply at Alston.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM with Bishop Paul Swarbrick on 2-6 September 2024. Deacon Charlie is the pilgrimage organiser. Email: charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk. Pick up point in Penrith. More information in the narthex.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES COMMENCING 7TH APRIL 2024

Blue Special Collection envelopes: For donors who **do not** use yellow envelopes, please consider taking a box of blue Special Collection envelopes. Boxes of these (with the envelopes pre-printed and in date order) are available in the Narthex. If you take a box of blue envelopes, please write your details on the form (beside the box number taken). This is for Gift Aid reclaim purposes. **Pink Visitor envelopes:** These are intended for Visitors only. If you donate regularly, please do *not* use the pink envelopes. If you would like to donate regularly, please consider doing so by Standing Order, or alternatively, please ask for a set of yellow (including blue special collection) envelopes.

Gift Aid scheme: A Gift Aid tax reclaim will be submitted to HMRC shortly. Please notify us if you are no longer a taxpayer or if you paid insufficient tax during 2023/24 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities during the tax year. At the present basic rate of tax of 20%, 25p is reclaimed for every £1 donated. **If you changed address during the tax year, please ensure that you notify the Parish.** If you are a taxpayer and would like to commence gift-aiding your offerings, please ask for a Gift Aid declaration form (or alternatively you can complete a declaration online via the Parish website). Should you prefer to donate by Standing Order, please get in touch to request a bank mandate form, or you can find the mandate on our website using the link <https://www.stcatherinepenrith.org.uk/so-gift-aid>. Thank you.

Ann Roncoli (Gift Aid Organiser giftaid.stcatherines@btinternet.com)

Attendance at Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday 7pm Mass 200

Good Friday 3pm Penrith 158 + Alston 15 + Appleby 30 = 203

Holy Saturday Vigil 7pm 125 + Easter Sunday 8.30am 116 + 10.30am 276 + 4pm Alston 27 + 4pm Appleby 40 = 584.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN): Many thanks to the Hospitality Group at St. Catherine's for providing the Friday Soup Lunches in Lent and to all who supported them. A wonderful £491.20 was raised for ACN to support our brothers and sisters in parts of the world where Catholics face persecution and hardship.

ALSTON CHURCHES TOGETHER: Thanks to those who came to the Lent Lunches. They were a real blessing in the thought provoking talks & delicious food provided. £620.20 was raised for the Bethlehem Appeal through your generosity. *John & Pauline at the Chat Room*

Fire and Light with Cor et Lumen Christi Community – 8 May
8-10pm worship and powerful ministry around the Blessed Sacrament at The Old Convent, St Cuthbert's, Wigton. Contact: stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org.

THE *Wednesday*
WORD



Encountering Christ
The Wednesday Prayer Custom
for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

1

Read

The Gospel for Sunday 14th April 2024

FISH FOR SUPPER

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you!" In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, "Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, "This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled." He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this."

Taken from Luke 24:35-48 *The Third Sunday of Easter, Year B*

2

Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

The two disciples had met Jesus on their way to Emmaus. There Jesus had used the Eucharistic meal to reveal himself to them, for the Eucharist is always an occasion for us to get to know the Risen Christ better. Now he meets the whole group of disciples in their refuge, the Upper Room. It is perhaps an account of the same incident that we heard last Sunday, but with different emphasis. Now the stress is on the meeting with a real person, and not with a ghost. That is why Jesus eats a piece of fish. The important lesson of this is that, in our resurrection to true life, it is the whole person that is raised, not just the soul. Christian teaching is that a person is an animated body. We work out our salvation with fingers and toes and other bodily members, and all will be raised to life. It is not just a matter of thoughts and intentions! The whole body is baptised into Christ and is the instrument of our salvation. The body will be changed, and St Paul reminds us that we should not get bogged down with worrying about what sort of body we will have at the resurrection, but rejoice that each of us will be raised as a whole person. **What do you imagine the risen life to be like? Is love, friendship and companionship part of this?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3

Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, joy, forgiveness, hope or something else.

4

Pray for Families

This Wednesday's word for our school families is BELIEVE!

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Share the Prayer! Why not forward a digital copy of this Parish Version to your friends : wednesdayword.org

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 14th April 2024**



1st Reading: Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

Peter's Speech to the People of Jerusalem

Peter said to the people, "You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses. Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out."



This reading is the final section of Peter's speech to the people of Jerusalem after Pentecost, when he is explaining to the crowds the significance of the first miracle worked by the apostles in the power of the Spirit. Like all the speeches in Acts, it is not a word-for-word, tape-recorded report, but is a sample of Peter's preaching to the people. He lays the blame for Jesus' rejection squarely on them, but shows that it was just as scripture had foretold. All of the speeches end with an invitation to repent. This does not mean simply to get all weepy about past sins, thinking 'how dreadful and wicked I have been'. It means that the listeners (and this includes us) must change our ways and adopt God's system of values (as fully revealed by the Risen Christ). To convert means that, whereas before I was going in one direction, now I turn round and go in another. Then the way I look at the world becomes different: I see things from a different angle – from God's, from Christ's angle. This sort of conversion does not so much look at the past with regret as look at the future with confidence. It is the new determination that allows God to wipe out our sins.

What does repentance mean to you? What are God's values, those values revealed in Christ?



2nd Reading: 1 John 2:1-5

Our Advocate with the Father

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.



This second reading advances a step further beyond the first. The first is about conversion, the second about blotting out former failures. Jesus Christ is our Advocate with the Father, 'standing at the right hand of the Father', because he takes our sins away. How does he do this? By his act of obedience on the Cross, Jesus wipes out the disobedience of Adam, that is, of all humanity. Adam (which is the Hebrew word meaning 'man') is the figure of all humanity, and Adam's sin is the symbol of all human sin, a sort of 'prequel' of all sin, an act of turning away from God, of independence and disobedience. On the Cross, Jesus was perfectly united to the Father, in an act of utter obedience in love, to which the Father in love responds, with a renewal of love for all humanity. For us, too, it is true that if we know God, if we have any appreciation of God and any personal bond to God, we cannot but obey him. God's commands are not arbitrary, but are the way of keeping close to him. By the command of love God reveals himself and invites us to be like him.

Obedience is often understood as doing as we are told, as limiting our freedom. What is Christian obedience about and how would you explain this to somebody else?

**“ God's commands ...
are a way of keeping
close to him. ”**

The Wednesday Word Encountering Christ: Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God

**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**