

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Year B 25th & 26th July 2015

MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR ANDREW

This year's theme: Cherishing Life - Accepting Death



Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to celebrating and upholding the dignity of human life. The Church teaches that life should be protected and nurtured from conception to natural death. This year's *Day for Life* is celebrated on 31st May in Scotland, 26th July in England and Wales, and 4th October in Ireland. Further information can be found on the *Day for Life* website: dayforlife.org. There will be a retiring collection today to support *Day for Life*.

Kathleen, a much-loved grandmother, collapsed at home and was rushed to hospital with a suspected stroke. The doctors said the situation was serious and that Kathleen might not survive. The priest was called and Kathleen received the Sacrament of the Sick. Kathleen's family faced big questions. What would she want and how could the Church guide any decisions? How do we accept death when it comes and cherish life while we can?

Medical and technological advances mean chronically ill patients can receive life-saving treatments, and we are thankful for this. But each of us will die. Medical advances mean more complex decision-making about appropriate treatment. Faced with the end of life, these two thoughts can guide us:

- We love life. Every person is loved by God and every life is a precious gift never to be destroyed or neglected. It is wrong to hasten or bring about death. God will call us in His time.
- We accept death. There is no requirement to receive medical treatment when it no longer has any effect or harms the patient, or when the risks or burdens are greater than the benefits.

If possible, these difficult decisions need to be faced with others – our spouse, our relations and families. These two questions can guide us: is this decision loving life? And, is this decision accepting death? Depending on the situation, we should look at how to answer yes to both, since life is a gift from God, and death but the gateway to new life with Him. We pray:

- For the Church, the Body of Christ; that through our words and deeds, and by a love for the sick, we may proclaim the compassion of God, who is always close to those who suffer.
- For the healing of those who are sick in mind or body; that they may be restored to health and give God thanks in the midst of his people.
- For those who care for our brothers and sisters who are dying; that they may ease their pain and strengthen them in hope, and so enable them to both cherish life and to accept death.
- For the faithful departed; that having laid down their burdens and washed clean in the blood of the Lamb, they may be led by Christ the Good Shepherd into pastures eternal.

Prayer to St Joseph, Patron of a Happy Death

O blessed Joseph,
who breathed your last in the arms of Jesus and Mary,
obtain for me this grace:
that I may breathe forth my soul in praise,
saying in spirit, if I am unable to do so in words:
"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give Thee my heart and my soul." Amen

Assisted Dying Bill

On Friday 11th September 2015, the House of Commons is debating and voting on a Private Member's Bill to make assisted suicide legal. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. The Assisted Dying Bill is sponsored by Rob Marris MP. It would enable competent adults who are terminally ill to choose to be provided with medically supervised assistance to end their own life. That means it would permit doctors to supply lethal drugs to terminally ill patients to enable them to commit suicide.

Pope Francis said, 'Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live for ever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect'. The Church teaches that life is a gift from God and supports high quality care for the dying and protection for the weak and vulnerable.

If you are concerned that legalising assisted suicide will put vulnerable people at risk, affect palliative care or encourage suicide, please contact your Member of Parliament before the Assisted Dying Bill is debated on 11th September 2015. If you have personal experiences to share with your MP please do so because MPs listen to their constituents and will want to hear about your concerns.

The Bishops' Conference has useful information at: www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/Featured/Assisted-Dying-Bill. Bishop Seamus is also encouraging us to write to MPs, and has provided the following letter:

	(Name of MP) House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
Dear (name of MP)	
I am contacting you regarding Rob Marris MP's Private Member's Bill on Assisted Dying which is due to have its second reading in the House of Commons on Friday 11 th September. If passed, this Bill will have a profoundly negative impact on some of the most vulnerable people in our society. As my Member of Parliament, I hope that you will attend the debate and vote against the Bill at its second reading.	
I would be very grateful if you could let me how you intend to vote on this important matter and how you have taken my views into account.	
I look forward to hearing from you in due course.	
Yours sincerely	

PARISH NOTICES

PARISH WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Tuesday 4th August when Peter Weighill will lead a 6.5 mile walk around Dukefield Arches and Devil's Water. Please meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary church at 9.30am. If you require more info please phone Peter on 0191 2512917.

OUR LADY AND ST EDMUND WELCOME

A warm welcome to Carly Harris who is being received into church this Sunday 26th July. Please remember her in your prayers.

ST EDWARD'S TEA AND COFFEE

Just to remind you that there are refreshments served after 11.00am Mass each Sunday in the church rooms. Everyone is welcome.

ST EDWARD'S PIETY STALL

Rotas are now ready for collection in the Narthex.

RED MISSION BOXES AT ST EDWARD

Red boxes are now due to be emptied for the summer quarter and the books are now ready in the Narthex for collectors. Monies should be handed to Mary by the 31st July. Would those who bring their boxes to church to be emptied please take note.

COMPLINE

After a summer break Compline will resume at St. Edward's on Thursday 10th September at 7.00pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2015/16

We will soon be starting this year's preparation programme for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. If you have a child who will be starting Year 4 in September 2015 and would like them to take part in this year's programme please contact the parish office or Monsignor Andrew for more details. The Programme will start with an initial expression of interest meeting for all parents and carers on 10th September 2015 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, starting at 7.30 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday 3rd December 2015 and the Celebration of Holy Communion will take place on the 7th and 8th May 2016.

MONDAY CLUB AT ST EDWARD'S

The Monday Club will not be meeting during the holiday period, but we'll return on 14th September and the charity coffee mornings will be held during August. Best wishes to everyone and have an enjoyable summer.

PETITIONS FOR LOURDES

If you wish to have a petition delivered to Lourdes with the Diocesan Pilgrimage, please place it in the box in front of Our Lady's statue at each church and light a candle. Your petition will be delivered to the Grotto, and a candle will be lit there during the Pilgrimage in continuation of your offering of prayer. The last date for submission of petitions is this Sunday 26th July. If anyone wishes to have a candle lit or a Mass offered for their intention please place your donation/stipend in a separate envelope clearly marked 'MASS CANDLE' in the same box as above by 26th July.

JUSTICE & PEACE CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

Monday 3rd August in the Parish Rooms at St Edward's, 10.00—11.30am. Home made cake, raffle and good company on offer. Your pre-loved 'bling' jewellery, summer scarves and ladies handbags (in good order) would be gratefully received to sell on our very popular Accessories Stall. Please leave donations in the J&P cupboard in the Narthex. Money raised will be given to the 'Walking With' project in Wallsend to support their work with refugees in the local area. All parishioners and friends are very welcome.

INVITATION TO MUSICIANS

As those who attend Saturday evening Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church are aware, we now have a small instrumental ensemble. Peter and Adele would like to invite any musicians to join them. Please either speak to them at Mass or email Adele at wilsonadele1@sky.com. They look forward to hearing from you!

OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S 100 CLUB WINNERS

PRIZE	MAY 2015	JUNE 2015	JULY 2015
1ST	Gina Strike (65)	Hetty Routledge (49)	Lucy Steele (13)
2ND	Lauren Stephenson(62)	Michael O'Brien (87)	Janet Murphy (24)
3RD	Margaret Robson (5)	Pat McGuire (53)	Ron Lippe (33)
4TH	Alison Donnelly (36)	Lexi Brown (64)	Maureen Cave (68)

OTHER NOTICES

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION TALK

"All Gas and Gaiters, Anglo-Catholicism" - a talk by Fr. David Twomey from St George's Cullercoats. At St Mary's RC Church Hall, Farringdon Road, Cullercoats, NE30 3EY on Wednesday 29th July at 7.30pm, all welcome.

PSALMS AS SOUL-FOOD

Saturday 19th September, 11.00am—3.00pm led by Alison Adam (Member of the Iona Community). Spend a day on Lindisfarne with the power of the psalms and the potency of the island to refresh and renew you. (Causeway Open 09:55am—17:25pm.) To book, please telephone 0191 2433302 or email spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Office opening hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am—12.00noon.

For bulletin entries please contact the Parish Secretary - telephone 0191 2527066 or email to parishofficeolss@btconnect.com

Items for inclusion in the bulletin should be received by 12 noon on Thursdays.

MASS INTENTIONS			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S
Saturday 25th July ST JAMES	9.30am Maurice Moore 10.00am Confessions	6.00pm People of the Parish, especially the safety of all holidaymakers (Pastoral Care Team)	NO SERVICE
Sunday 26th July	11.00am Charles Richard Peck (RM)	5.00pm June Carroll (LC)	9.30am Margaret Barie
Monday 27th July	9.30am Mary Garborino (MS)	10.00am Word and Communion	NO SERVICE
Tuesday 28th July	7.00pm Bill Atkinson (P&GR)	10.00am Deceased members of Holland & Maguire families (PM)	NO SERVICE
Wednesday 29th July ST MARTHA	9.30am Word and Communion 8.00pm Prayer Group	10.00am Keiron Maguire	9.30am Peter Jenkin (AJ)
Thursday 30th July ST PETER CHRYSOLOGUS	9.30am John Leeder (EF)	10.00am Ted McIntosh (JM)	NO SERVICE
Friday 31st July ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA	9.30am Moira Bullen (J&MR)	10.00am Kath Jones (CB)	NO SERVICE
Saturday 1st August ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI	9.30am Mary Garborino (FJ) 10.00am Confessions	6.00pm Leslie Taylder	NO SERVICE
Sunday 2nd August	11.00am Joan Imelda Parker (BP)	5.00pm People of the Parish	9.30am Joseph Convey (TW)

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill and unable to attend Mass, particularly, Mary Dalby, Maureen Bell, Norma Smith, John Jameson, Steve Heywood, Bob Howe, Charlie McCuigan, Veronica Clarke, Joan Waugh, Father Michael Corbett and Michael Snowdon. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently especially Mary Garborino.

BAPTISMS	ST EDWARD
Sunday 26th July, 12.30pm	Lucia Rose Saban Muffitt
Sunday 2nd August, 11.00am Mass	Evie Beau Willits

Hospital Chaplaincies

North Tyneside General Hospital, Rake Lane: Father David Nixon MSC 03448 118111 Ext 4268 or 0191 2934268.

RVI, Freeman & Walkergate: Please phone St Mary's Cathedral on 0191 2326953

Newcastle General Hospital: Sister Teresa, 0191 2336161 ext 28465

Priests' telephone numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley 0191 2528021, Father Martin Stempczyk 0191 2513770, Father Peter Stott 0191 2575801

Parish e-mail addresses for bulletins:

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Office parishofficeolss@btconnect.com (0191) 252 7066

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Cluster Website

www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk