

**Parishes of SS Mary & Joseph, Aiskew
and Sacred Heart, Northallerton**

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Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B, 9/10 March, 2024

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6pm. Northallerton
Sunday 9.15am Northallerton
11am. Aiskew

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 10am Northallerton
Wednesday 10am. Aiskew
Thursday 10am. Northallerton
Friday 12 noon Northallerton

Mass intentions

Saturday 6pm. For Charles, Sarah, Sven and Lloyd.
Also for healing from cancer.
Tuesday 10am. Isabel (Issy) Ineson, R.I.P. (1st anniversary)
Thursday 10am. John McMillan, R.I.P. (anniversary 11 March)

(This Wednesday is the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis - we remember him in prayer as he leads the Church in these troubled times)

Next weekend

Sunday 17 March, 11am. Brian Yarker, R.I.P (anniversary).

Response to the Psalm

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not.

The Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of
Love and endless Mercy ! God loved
the world so much that he gave his only
Son ; everyone who believes in him has
eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, King of Love and endless Mercy !**

Readings

Chronicles 36 : 14-16, 19-23
Psalm 136(137) 1-6
Ephesians 2 : 4-10
John 3 : 14-21



All are welcome to tea/coffee
after the Sunday Masses. A time
to meet up with other parishioners.



***Prayer of the Church -
Tuesday and Thursday***

9.40am before Mass

In this, you join with the Church worldwide.
A good start to the day. All are welcome.

SS Mary and Joseph

Deacon Paul will lead

**Stations of the Cross, Fridays, 6pm.,
together with
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**



Lent 2024

Sacred Heart Church

Stations of the Cross

11.45am

Mass

12 noon.

Lent Lunches

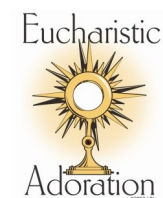
12.30pm.

We need volunteers

to make soup, provide bread
or cheese, and help serve &
clear up afterwards. Please
help if you can. Thank you.

**Please sign
the list in the
Sacred Heart
church porch if
you can help in
any of the ways
listed on the
right. Thank you**

The Stations of the Cross on the Friday of next
week (22 March) will be led by Class 4 (Y5/6)
from Sacred Heart School



SILENT PRAYER,
in the presence of the
Blessed Sacrament,
each Sunday in Lent,
Sacred Heart Church.

All are welcome, either for the full time,
5-6 pm., or for **any part** of it.
Many who have attended have found it a very
spiritual and peaceful time

Life in Christ

Retired missionary Bishop, Bill Godfrey,
will present reflections based on his work and
missionary experience.

This Tuesday, 7 - 8pm.

Sacred Heart Church

Tea/coffee in the hall from 6.30pm. All welcome.

SS Mary and Joseph Parish Centre

This Wednesday, 6pm.

"Home to Rome"

a talk by Geraldine McFaul on her journey to Rome
raising funds for Mary's Meals and Dementia UK.

Tea and refreshments provided. All are welcome.
See poster in church porch

**Retiring collection this weekend
for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund.**

They have given much in service of the people.

***May God bless you and your family
now and always.
Father Michael and Deacon Paul***

*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father.....
Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who builds his house on rock
everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand."*



"The First Christians gave huge importance to Jesus' words. Heaven and earth would pass away ;

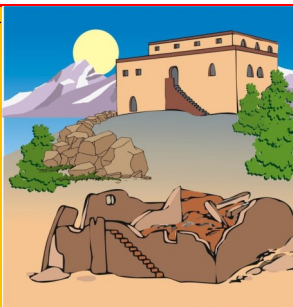
the words of Jesus never would. The Galileans had seen how a word from him could free them from illness, suffering, sin, or fear. Later, the Christian communities saw it bringing truth into their lives, resurrecting them from within, filling them with life and peace.

This parable in Matthew emphasises something important for Christians to remember : to be a Christian means putting Jesus' words into practice, making real his gospel. If we don't, our Christianity doesn't really make sense. We need to learn that this is the first concern of the Christian community : to hear, and act on, the words spoken by Jesus. This is the only way to build a true Church of Jesus' followers, and to build a better world.

The parable forces Christians to ask whether we are building the Church of Jesus on rock, hearing and acting on his words, or are we building on shifting sands that miss the assurance of the gospel. Two men are building their houses. Both are committed to a beautiful and lasting project : building a house. But they're not doing it in the same way. When the storm comes, we see that one has built on a layer of rock, while the other was building on sand.

The teaching is clear : only those who hear Jesus' words and act on them are building on rock. We must ask whether our Christianity is built on the solid foundation of the gospel or on other things which perhaps don't always fit with the spirit of Jesus. In the midst of so much uncertainty, debate and division today, in the Church and wider world, we must, as always, bring ourselves back to the truth of the gospel.

Do we build our Church, and our lives, on the 'rock' of the Gospel ?



Do we fully recognise, as Jesus did, the importance of each human person ? Do we uphold reconciliation and dialogue in the face of confrontation and violence ? Do we show compassion for the victims of our often self-centred society ? Do we see the many people who need affection, tenderness and accompaniment in order to not fall into despair ? Challenging questions !

We need faith in the God of love, the God of hope, the God of healing, for this is the God whom Jesus showed in his life, his death and his resurrection. And we need to pray, daily, that we can build our lives on the rock of the gospel"

Adapted from

Jose A Pagola

"The Way Opened Up By Jesus"

Donations given at the Soup Lunches will be divided between **The Jesuit Refugee Service UK** which supports refugees with friendship, expertise and material help, just when they are most lost and uncertain, and **In2Out**, a Christian charity which gives hope, and works very effectively to reduce re-offending among 15-18 year olds from Wetherby HMYOI, through mentoring and practical support.

*A person needs a little place.
Small as it may be.
Of which he can say,
"This is mine,
here I live,
here I love,
here I find my rest.
This is my land,
this is my home."*

This simple poem was recited in a 1952 speech to the UN General Assembly by the then UN High Commissioner for Refugees. He explained how his father had valued these sentiments, which expressed the longing for a home.



Let's make this Lent a time of prayer,

for ourselves, all whom we meet, and our troubled world.

Sacred Heart School

Parishioners are welcome to attend the following **Lenten Liturgies** in school :
Monday 18 March, Class 3 (Y3/4) 2pm.
Tuesday 19 March, Class 2 ((Y1/2) 2 pm.
Wed. 20 March, Class 1 (EYFS), 2pm.

Gift Aid Envelopes for 2024/25

will be available for collection at the back of church. Anyone interested in being a Gift Aider please contact Linda Lagan.

CAFOD collection

SS Mary and Joseph
£383.50

Many thanks for your generosity