

THE WEAVINGS

Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Department for Spirituality

April 2018

50(+) Days of Renewal

With Lent starting on Valentine's Day and Easter falling on 1 April, we Christians certainly look a bit out of kilter with the rest of the world! We can choose to be embarrassed about this—or we can reflect on what it means for us—and for what we can offer the wider world.

Most of us see Lent as the time for a spiritual spring-clean but Easter time gives us an opportunity to build on that—to savour where we have come to and to see where the new growth is. We will look at the second half of Eastertime next month.

1 April Easter Sunday—the day when it all changes—when death gives way to new life. Without the resurrection, St Paul tells us, our faith is in vain. We are either “all fools” - or keepers of the greatest story ever told!

+ *How does faith in the Risen Jesus give life to my heart—my mind—my spirit? And how does it show?*

8 April—Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday.

Jesus comes among the disciples to bring peace, forgiveness and reassurance to them. His mercy in the face of their shortcomings transforms their lives.

+ *When has an encounter with the mercy of God changed me? Who do I know who needs to experience that mercy—perhaps through me in the first instance?*

15 April—Third Sunday of Easter—Jesus makes it very clear that his Resurrection is not just a spiritual event—he encourages the disciples to touch him and eats grilled fish with them.

+ *Why does it matter that Jesus appeared in his physical body not just a spiritual presence? What does it teach me about how I touch people? And where and how I eat—perhaps with others?*

22 April—Fourth Sunday of Easter—Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who lays his life down for his sheep; as the shepherd who has many flocks and desires to bring them into one under his care and protection.

+ *Who are the people in the “other” flocks? How do I show the same care and concern for them as Jesus does?*

28 April—Fifth Sunday of Easter—Jesus describes himself as the Vine and us as the branches he hopes will bear fruit in plenty.

+ *What is the fruit in my life? How does it make the world a better place?*



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Adoremus: Let us adore



Over the weekend of 7-9 September, there will be a National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage. This will be held in Liverpool and will give us an opportunity to reflect on the Sacrament in which Christ becomes present in our midst.

Invitations are heading out to Partnerships to send delegates along, but there are also ideas for local churches to join in the prayer and reflection.

A few are already uploaded to the Bishops' Conference Liturgy Office website: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/> (look for the Adoremus section).

More to come after Easter—but, for now make a note in your diary and start to think how you might respond to the invitation to come into the Presence of the Lord and encourage others to do the same.

One thought to get you started happens before the Congress itself. There is a suggestion that we might include Adoration at the Diocesan Festival—even more than our usual lunchtime opportunity. The idea is that people might come along and, as others attend talks or activities, hold them and the diocese in their prayer before the Blessed Sacrament—ideally at Emmaus Village but in your own church if preferred. If this seems to ring a bell in your heart, get in touch and we can explore the idea together!

Ministry of Consolation update

Arrangements are being made to rollout the formation course in the Ministry of Consolation around the Diocese. Watch out for details!

We are also working on a short accompaniment/ listening skills course to be available to Partnerships. If you are interested in this, please get in touch and we'll keep you up to date with developments.

Contact Details

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Upcoming Events in the Diocese and Local Centres

Northern Scripture Festival



the surprise of the Gospel

a day for Christians to experience the Bible afresh through informative and inspiring talks, workshops, and worship

Sponsored by Catholic Dioceses of Northern England, Religious Orders, Bible Charities, and Others

KEYNOTE Speaker Fr Eamonn Mulcahy

WORKSHOPS include the Bible and ...

- Art • Song • Lectio Divina • Gifts of the Spirit
- Mary • Iconography • Evangelisation
- Post-Resurrection Narratives
- Family Life • Drama

RESOURCES include ...

- Prayer stations
- Word on the Go: the Bible for busy Catholics
- Bookstall • Art displays

Saturday 12th May 2018
10am – 4.30pm
All Saints School
YORK

only £5 registration fee
ensure your place by booking early at

www.scripturefestival.org

or get a booking form by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Carmelite Communications, More House, Heslington, York, YO10 5DX



Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
DIOCESAN FESTIVAL 2018

COMING FACE TO FACE WITH CHRIST

ENCOUNTER

With talks on the theme of encounter from
Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow OBE,
Sr Judith Russi and Sara Bryson
Featuring **More Than Dance**

Including activities for families, children and young people.
Mass, music, marketplace, adoration, ceilidh and much more

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June 2018
Emmaus Youth Village, Consett

£20 per person (inc both days) or £5 for Sunday only. Under 18s free.
Booking forms available in your parish or on our website www.rcdhn.org.uk
For more information contact festival@diocesehn.org.uk / 01207 592244
Please book by 26 May 2018.

'Don't be afraid of sharing the journey.
Don't be afraid of sharing hope.'
(Pope Francis)

St Antony's Priory

Saturday 14 & 28 April 10am - 12.30pm
Together in Meditation. Two separate hours of meditation rooted in the Christian tradition at 10am and 11.30am.

Saturday 21st April 10.30 - 4 pm
Viriditas – Greening Power.

In the beginning was Viriditas. Creation and humanity is showered with Viriditas, a lush, moist greening power and vitality that is alive in every atom and every cell of our 'beingness'. We will focus on meditation, body prayer and movement, touching the earth and celebrating the Creator whom Hildegard calls 'the purest Spring'. Quiet Day Leader Lynn Nausner is a member of the Priory team, and a Hildegardian at heart.

For further information or to book
please contact Paul Golightly
0191 384 3747
info@stantonypriory.co.uk

Minsteracres

Faith and Wellness 14 April 10:00 am - 3:30 pm A workshop which explores in a gentle way how faith is the response we make to the Father's gift of life — the covenant of God's relationship with us which alone can bring true health in body, mind and spirit. The workshop will be led by Andrew Whiteley and Maria Whiteley.

Day of Prayer

18 April 2018 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Led by Rosarie Spence RSM, this day enables you to experience different ways of praying in a beautiful setting and gives you time for quiet personal prayer. Lunch, tea and coffee are provided.

For further information or to book
please contact Minsteracres Retreat Centre
01434 673248
info@minsteracres.org

Centre for Prayer and Mission

Exploring Scripture
Mondays 1.30pm-3.30pm

For those who wish to go deeper in understanding the Word of God. We are half way through Women of the Gospels which is different to anything we have heard before and is proving both popular and challenging.

On-going Formation
Tuesdays 7pm—9pm

Following Jesus then and now as Disciples.

Icon Workshop/Retreats

There will be two workshops this year – (28th May—1st June) which will be a 5 day event led by Catherine Ferguson, and the second in July led by Sister Annette, date to be confirmed.

For further information or to book
please contact Sr Michael on
0191 5813249
marymichael.lee7@googlemail.com