



SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES

CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR



Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748

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21ST APRIL 2024: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B:

Divine Office: Week 4

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR 61ST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The 4th Sunday of Easter is also known as **Good Shepherd Sunday**, and was the day first chosen by **Pope Paul VI in 1964** as *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. For his 2024 message, Pope Francis has chosen the theme: *Called to sow seeds of hope and to build peace*:

“Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord’s call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life. Hearing that divine call, which is far from being an imposed duty . . . is the surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness. Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, what our gifts are, where we can make them bear fruit, and what path we can follow in order to become signs and instruments of love, generous acceptance, beauty and peace, wherever we find ourselves.

This Day is always a good occasion to recall with gratitude to the Lord the faithful, persevering and frequently hidden efforts of all those who have responded to a call that embraces their entire existence: mothers and fathers who think not first of themselves but shape their lives through relationships marked by love and graciousness, open to the gift of life and committed to their children's growth in maturity; those who work in a spirit of cooperation with others, who strive to build a more just world - those who devote their lives to working for the common good; consecrated men and women who offer their lives to the Lord in the silence of prayer and in apostolic activity, sometimes on the fringes of society, exercising their charism by serving those around them; those who have accepted God’s call to the ordained priesthood, devoting themselves to preaching of the Gospel, the Eucharist, sowing seeds of hope and revealing to all the beauty of God’s kingdom.

To young people, especially those who feel uncertain about the Church, I want to say this: Let Jesus draw you to Himself; bring Him your important questions by reading the Gospels; let him challenge you by his presence. More than anyone, Jesus respects our freedom. He does not impose but proposes. Make room for Him and you will find the way to happiness, and should he ask it, by giving yourself completely to Him.

A People on The Move: The polyphony of diverse charisms and vocations that the Christian community recognises helps us to appreciate more fully what it means to be Christians. As God’s people, guided by his Holy Spirit, as living stones in the Body of Christ, we come to realise that we are members of a great family, children of the Father and brothers and sisters of one another. In this sense, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations has a synodal character: amid the variety of our charisms, we are called to listen to one another and to journey together in order to acknowledge them and to discern where the Spirit is leading us for the benefit of all. Right now, our common journey is bringing us to the **Jubilee Year of 2025**. Let us travel as pilgrims of hope towards the Holy Year, for by discovering our own vocation and its place amid the different gifts bestowed by the Spirit, we can become messengers and witnesses of Jesus’ dream of a single human family, united in God’s love and in the bond of charity, cooperation and fraternity.

This Day is dedicated in a particular way to imploring from the Father the gift of holy vocations for the building up of his Kingdom: “*Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest*” (Luke 10:2). **Prayer** – as we all know – **is more about listening to God than about talking to him**. The Lord speaks to our heart, and he wants to find it open, sincere and generous as He reveals to us the entire will of the Father. In this present year, devoted to prayer and preparation for the Jubilee, all of us are called to rediscover the inestimable blessing of our ability to enter into heartfelt dialogue with the Lord and thus become pilgrims of hope . . . **for prayer opens the door to hope**. (*Catechesis, 20 May 2020*).

Pilgrims of Hope and Builders of Peace: Those who go on pilgrimage seek to keep their eyes fixed on the goal. To do this they need to concentrate on every step, which means travelling light, carrying only the essentials and striving to set aside weariness, fear, uncertainty and hesitation. Being a pilgrim means setting out each day, beginning ever anew. This is the ultimate meaning of our Christian pilgrimage: we set out on a journey to discover the love of God and at the same time to discover ourselves, thanks to an interior journey nourished by our relationships with others. We are pilgrims because we have been called: called to love God and to love one another. Our pilgrimage on this earth is far from a pointless journey; on the contrary, each day, by responding to God’s call, we try to take every step needed to advance towards a new world where people can live in peace, justice and love. We are pilgrims of hope because we are pressing forward towards a better future, committed at every step to bringing it about. This is, in the end, the goal of every vocation: to become men and women of hope.

As individuals and communities, amid the variety of charisms and ministries, all of us are called to embody and communicate the Gospel message of hope in a world marked by epochal challenges; the baneful spectre of a 3rd world war fought piecemeal; the flood of migrants fleeing their homelands; the burgeoning numbers of the poor; the threat of irreversibly compromising the health of our planet, to say nothing of all the difficulties we encounter each day, which at times risk plunging us into resignation or defeatism.

Each day it is decisive that we Christians cultivate a gaze full of hope and work fruitfully in response to the vocation we have received, in service to God’s kingdom of love, justice and peace. This hope – Saint Paul tells us – “**does not disappoint**” (Rom 5:5), since it is born of the Lord’s promise that He will remain always with us and include us in the work of redemption that he wants to accomplish in the heart of each individual and in all creation. This hope finds its propulsive force in Christ’s resurrection, which “contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force. Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us, we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty. But it is also true that in the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit” (Evangelii Gaudium 276). The Apostle Paul tells us that, “**in hope we were saved**” (Rom 8:24).

To be pilgrims of hope and builders of peace, then, means to base our lives on the rock of Christ’s resurrection, knowing that every effort made in the vocation that we have embraced and seek to live out, will never be in vain. Failures and obstacles may arise along the way, but the seeds of goodness we sow are quietly growing and nothing can separate us from the final goal: our encounter with Christ and the joy of living for eternity in fraternal love. Each of us in our own small way and state in life can, with the help of the Spirit, be a sower of seeds of hope and peace.

The Courage to Commit: In this light, I would say once more, as I did at World Youth Day in Lisbon: “**Rise up!**” Let us awaken from sleep, let us leave indifference behind, let us open the doors of the prison in which we often enclose ourselves, so that each of us can discover their proper vocation in the Church and the world, and become a pilgrim of hope and a builder of peace! Let me say it again: “*Have the courage to commit!*” *No one is so poor as to have nothing to give, and no one is so rich as not to need something to receive. Let us rise up, then, and set out as pilgrims of hope so, as Mary was for Elizabeth, we too can be messengers of joy, sources of new life and artisans of fraternity and peace.*”

Masses at St Peter's Church are also live streamed via YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@stpeterschurchscarborough>

Saturday	20	5.30pm	St Edward's	
Sunday	21	9.30am	St Joseph's	<i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>
		9.30am	St Peter's (Polish)	
		11.30am	St Peter's	
Monday	22	10am	St Joseph's	
Tuesday	23	5.30pm	St Edward's	<i>ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND</i>
Wednesday	24	10am	St Peter's	<i>St Fidelis of Sigmaringen / St Adalbert</i>
Thursday	25	10am	St Joseph's	<i>ST MARK, EVANGELIST</i>
Friday	26	10am	St Peter's	
Saturday	27	10am	St Peter's	

MASS IN THE SYRO-MALABAR RITE celebrated monthly **4pm** on **4th Sunday of month** at St Edward's Church (Catechism at 3pm)

CONFESSIONS Normal times **Sat: 10.30-11am** at St Peter's & **5-5.20pm** at St Edward's; **Sun: 9-9.20am** at St Joseph's; & **by request**

ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT weekdays **9.15 - 9.55am** at St Peter's, **1 hour before Mass** at St Joseph's, **5pm** St Edward's
POPE FRANCIS' APRIL PRAYER INTENTION: *that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.*

ANNIV'S: Rob Chambers;

MASS ATTENDANCE: Vigil: St Edward's **69**; Sunday: St Joseph's **98**; St Peter's **213**; Polish **55** (est); **Total 435**

OFFERINGS: Loose Plate **£653**; Gift Aid Envelopes **£305**, **Standing Orders £760** (av.); Contactless **£85**; Polish: **£30**; **Total £1,833**.

Thank you! ONLINE GIVING Parish bank account: Barclays Bank Account No: **50003417**, Sort Code: **20-56-90**, Account name: *Diocese of Middlesbrough*. **Include a reference** if Gift Aiding your donation (do sign up if have not already). OR donate online.

300 CLUB WEEKLY WINNER: 196; £10 No.153. Congratulations! Spaces available: **£1** p/wk for 2 numbers.



ST GEORGE'S FEAST Tuesday 23 April. *St George (c.303) was martyred in Palestine during the persecution of Diocletian at Diospolis (Lydda, now Lod, near Tel Aviv, Israel), where his tomb can be found. Legend depicts him killing the dragon, a symbol of the triumph over evil. He is the patron saint of several countries &, including England & Greece. We wish all at St George's School a blessed Feast Day.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Parents meeting **6.30pm Tuesday 7 May** in St Peter's Church. **Celebration of the Sacrament of First Holy Communion** will be **Saturday 8 June** at St Joseph's and **Saturday 15 June** at St Peter's, both at **12 noon**.

ANNUAL MAY PROCESSION 10.30am Sunday 5 May, starting near **St Mary's Church** processing down Castle Road to St Peter's Church with the **Crowning of Our Lady** as '*Queen of the May*'. A simplified May Procession in the other 2 churches.

3 MAY QUEENS NEEDED. Children's names from the 3 churches to put in hat for a draw. Parents give your child 's name to Fr.Gubbins

COFFEE MORNING FUND RAISER: 12.30pm to 2.30pm on Thursday 9 May at the home of one of our parishioners (contact the parish office for more info). **£2** entry covers coffee and biscuits. **Raffle, cakes, scarves, & jewellery stalls.** If sunny, bring a garden chair. Donations of cakes raffle prizes gratefully accepted. *All proceeds to Cancer Research UK.*

CHILDRENS CHOIR TO LEAD THE SINGING at 11.30am Mass next Sunday. Rehearsal Sunday next **10.30am** in Parish Centre.

PROPOSED SCARBOROUGH BUS PILGRIMAGE TO LISIEUX, NORTH FRANCE Pilgrimage Organisers: **Tangney Tours**. **2025 marks the centenary of the Canonisation of St Thérèse 1925 -2025** (The Little Flower). **Travel by Bus** to Dover to Calais to Paris (Hotel overnight in Paris / Tour of Paris), visiting shrine (Mass) in St Vincent De Paul & St Catherine Laboure (*Miraculous Medal*), then 3 days in Lisieux. Staying in the Hermitage (hopefully). **Returning via Bayeux and War Cemetery near Omaha Beach. £500pp** (approx.) sharing, (single supplement around £30). **If interested, add name to list. No Obligations at this stage.** Dates to be determined, possibly **Easter Week Monday 21st April to Friday 25th 2025 (Easter Sunday will be 20 April 2025)**. We will call a meeting in a few weeks.

HOUSEBOUND If you or someone you know wants a visit from Fr Gubbins, get in touch via a Eucharistic Minister or by phone.

DISPLAY CABINET AT THE BAPTISTRY AREA OF ST PETER'S CHURCH of objects excavated by **Heritage Adventures Ltd** and some of our Scarborough parishioners at St Peter's during trial trenching in 2019. Also, interesting stuff from crypt of church. Take a look.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH CAR PARK Cones are in place at car park entrances when the car park is **not** in use. Could all users ensure that these are replaced when leaving the car park. This is due to regular unauthorised parking. There is a new sign displayed on the wall.

SMALL TV SCREENS in the side aisles of St Peter's Church possibly to be fitted to pillars for the livestream of the Mass. To give a better view of the **Sanctuary / Altar area** for those seated in the sides Fr Gubbins would appreciate feedback from parishioners on this.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE Now that we are in the Season of the Resurrection, names are being taken to add to the *Book in St Peter's Church*. Give **dates of birth & death & £10 donation**. Forms at back of churches.

VOLUNTEER FOUNDATION GOVERNORS NEEDED for our Catholic Schools (St Cuthberts Academy of Schools) of St Peter, St George and St Augustine. Training provided. See notice boards. If you are interested, speak to Fr Gubbins.

DISPLAY SHED in front of St Peter's Parish Centre at St Peter's was vandalised **Friday night 12 April**. The Police are treating it as Arson. Can anyone repair the scorched side of the shed? The SHED displays various Reflections for people to read & ponder, as they pass.

JOB VACANCY: SVP Support Officer, Middlesbrough Diocese: home-based paid, **15 hours over 2 days (equiv.)**, as part of the SVP membership team in support, recruitment and development. *Own transport essential* - you must be able to travel around the diocese to make recruitment appeals (travel expenses paid). Closing date 29 April. Contact Lance Philpott, Head of Membership at lancep@svp.org.uk

SAINT PETERS BABY & TODDLER GROUP meet each Monday **9am -10.30am** at school. Newcomer's welcome

SUNDAY SMILE: *Just got back from my mate's funeral. He died after being hit on the head with a tennis ball. It was a great service.*