

# SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES

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

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

Parish Priest: Canon Edmond Gubbins

St Joseph's Presbytery  
1 Greyland's Park Grove, YO12 6HY

St Peter's Rectory  
Castle Road, YO11 1TH

St Edward the Confessor  
Avenue Victoria, YO11 2QS

Tel: 01723 360358 • Email: [scarboroughcatholicparishes@rcdmidd.org.uk](mailto:scarboroughcatholicparishes@rcdmidd.org.uk) • Website: [www.scarboroughcatholicparishes.org.uk](http://www.scarboroughcatholicparishes.org.uk)

8 FEBRUARY 2026 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Divine Office: Week 1

### POPE'S MESSAGE FOR 34TH WORLD DAY OF THE SICK (SUMMARISED)

Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme for the 34th World Day of the Sick, which will be celebrated on 11 February: *“The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing another’s pain”*. Pope Leo writes: *“The thirty-fourth World Day of the Sick will be solemnly celebrated in Chiclayo, Peru, on 11 February 2026. For this occasion, I would recommend reflecting once again on the figure of the Good Samaritan, for he is always relevant and essential for rediscovering the beauty of charity and the social dimension of compassion. This reflection further directs our attention towards the needy and all those who suffer, especially the sick.”*

We are all familiar with the moving account found in the **Gospel of Saint Luke (cf. Lk 10:25-37)**. Jesus responds to a scholar of the law, who asks him to identify the neighbour he must love, with this story: a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho was attacked by robbers and left for dead. While a priest and a Levite passed him by, a Samaritan took pity on him, bandaged his wounds, took him to an inn and provided for his care. I have chosen to reflect on this biblical passage through the lens of the Encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, written by my beloved predecessor Pope Francis. There, compassion and mercy towards those in need are not reduced to a merely individual effort, but are realized through relationships: with our brothers and sisters in need, with those who care for them and, ultimately, with God who gives us his love.

**1. The gift of encounter: the joy of offering closeness and presence:** We live immersed in a culture of speed, immediacy and haste – a culture of “discard” and indifference that prevents us from pausing along the way and drawing near to acknowledge the needs and suffering that surround us. In the parable, when the Samaritan saw the wounded man, he did not “pass by.” *Instead, he looked upon him with an open and attentive gaze – the very gaze of Jesus – which led him to act with human and compassionate closeness. The Samaritan “stopped, approached the man and cared for him personally, even spending his own money to provide for his needs... [Above all] he gave him his time.”*

Love is not passive; it goes out to meet the other. Being a neighbour is not determined by physical or social proximity, but by the decision to love. This is why Christians become neighbours to those who suffer, following the example of Christ, the true divine Samaritan who drew near to a wounded humanity. These are not mere gestures of philanthropy, but signs through which we perceive that personal participation in another’s suffering involves the gift of oneself. It means going beyond the simple satisfaction of needs, so that our very person becomes part of the gift. This kind of charity is necessarily nourished by an encounter with Christ, who gave himself for us out of love. The gift of encounter flows from our union with Jesus Christ. We recognize him as the Good Samaritan who has brought us eternal salvation, and we make him present whenever we reach out to a wounded brother or sister.

**2. The shared mission of caring for the sick:** St Luke continues, noting that the Samaritan *“was moved with pity.”* Compassion, in this sense, implies a profound emotion that compels us to act. It is a feeling that springs from within and leads to a committed response to another’s suffering. In this parable, compassion is the defining characteristic of active love; it is neither theoretical nor merely sentimental, but manifests itself through concrete gestures. The Samaritan drew near, tended the wounds, took charge and provided care. Notably, he does not act in isolation: *“The Samaritan discovered an innkeeper who would care for the man; we too are called to unite as a family that is stronger than the sum of small individual members.”* In my experience as a missionary and bishop in Peru, I have personally witnessed many who show mercy and compassion in the spirit of the Samaritan and the innkeeper. Family members, neighbours, healthcare workers, those engaged in pastoral care for the sick, and many others stop along the way to draw near, heal, support and accompany those in need. By offering what they have, they give compassion a social dimension. This experience transcends mere individual commitment. For this reason, in the **Apostolic Exhortation DILEXI TE, (I HAVE LOVED YOU)** referred to the care of the sick not only as an *“important part”* of the Church’s mission, but as an authentic *“ecclesial action”* (n. 49). This dimension serves as a measure of a society’s health.

*“To be one in the One”* means truly recognising that we are members of a single Body that brings the Lord’s compassion to the suffering of all people, each according to our own vocation. Moreover, the pain that moves us to compassion is not the pain of a stranger; it is the pain of a member of our own Body, to whom Christ our Head commands us attend, for the good of all. In this sense, our service is identified with Christ’s own suffering and, when offered in a Christian spirit, hastens the fulfilment of the Savior’s prayer for the unity of all.

**3. Driven by love for God, to encounter ourselves and our neighbour:** In the double commandment, *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself” (Lk 10:27)*, we recognise the primacy of love for God and its direct consequences for every dimension of human love and relationship. Love for our neighbour is tangible proof of the authenticity of our love for God, as the Apostle John attests: *‘No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us... God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them’ (1 Jn 4:12, 16).”* The primacy of divine love implies that human action is carried out not for self-interest or reward, but as a manifestation of a love that transcends ritual norms and find expression in authentic worship. **To serve one’s neighbour is to love God through deeds.** This perspective also allows us to grasp the true meaning of loving ourselves. It means setting aside any attempt to base our self-esteem or sense of dignity on worldly stereotypes – such as success, career, status or family background – and recovering our proper place before God and neighbour.

Dear brothers and sisters, *“the true remedy for humanity’s wounds is a style of life based on fraternal love, which has its root in love of God.”* I genuinely hope that our Christian lifestyle will always reflect this fraternal, **“Samaritan” spirit** – one that is welcoming, courageous, committed and supportive, rooted in our union with God and our faith in Jesus Christ. Enkindled by this divine love, we will surely be able to give of ourselves for the good of all who suffer, especially our brothers and sisters who are sick, elderly or afflicted.

Let us raise our prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Health of the Sick, asking her to assist all who suffer and are in need of compassion, consolation and a listening ear.

**I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing to all who are sick, to their families and to those who care for them – healthcare workers and pastoral workers alike – and in a special way to all participating in this World Day of the Sick.**

**MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 8 FEBRUARY 2026 – YEAR A 5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**Masses at St Peter's Church are also LIVE STREAMED via YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@stpeterschurchscarborough>

Saturday	7	5.30pm	St Edward's	
Sunday	8	9am	St Mark's (not St Josephs)	<i>Day of Special Prayer</i>
		9.30am	St Peter's (Polish)	<i>For Victims of Trafficking</i>
		11.30am	St Peter's	<i>(St Josephine Bakhita)</i>
Monday	9	10am	St Joseph's	
Tuesday	10	5.30pm	St Edward's	<i>St Scholastica</i>
Wednesday	11	10am	St Peter's	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes / World Day of Prayer for the Sick</i>
Thursday	12	10am	St Joseph's	
Friday	13	10am	St Peter's	
Saturday	14	10am	St Peter's	<i>Ss Cyril &amp; Methodius (DSP for Europe)</i>

**MASS IN THE SYRO-MALABAR RITE** celebrated monthly **9.30am** on **4th Sunday of month** at St Edward's Church.**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 **9.30-10am** at St Peter's, 1 hour before Mass at St Joseph's, 5pm St Edward's  
**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (Children only)** St Peter's 1st Sunday monthly; St Joseph's Sundays, weekly  
**HOLY FATHER'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION:** *that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.* **DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** Fridays before Mass

**LATELY DEAD:** Elizabeth Trower, Richard Hayes, Dean Walker, Karl Agar; **ANNIV'S:** Sam Jenkinson, Trevor Grindley, Mary Wallace; **MASS INTENTIONS** received: Stubbings x3; **ATTENDANCE: Saturday Vigil** St Edward's **81**; **Sunday:** St Joseph's **98**; St Peter's **251**; Polish **50** (est); **Total 480**; **OFFERINGS:** Loose Plate: **£534**; Gift Aid Envelopes: **£302**; Av. Standing Orders: **£740** (av.); Contactless **£171**; Polish: **£30**; **Total £1,777**; **Thank you.** **ONLINE GIVING** You can use the QR code (right) or you can donate online at [donate.myдона.com/scarborough-parishes](https://donate.myдона.com/scarborough-parishes), or direct from your account: Parish bank account details: Barclays Bank Account No: **50003417**, Sort Code: **20-56-90**, Account name: **Diocese of Middlesbrough**. Include a reference - your name. If you wish to **Gift Aid** your offerings, please sign a **Gift Aid Form** if you haven't already done so). **300 CLUB WINNERS: £100 No.74.** £1 for 2 numbers to join

**ST JOSEPH'S SUNDAY MASS** is held each Sunday in **St Marks** church at **9am** (*not 9.30am*) until further notice.**REQUIEM MASS** of Elizabeth Trower née Kelly (aged 104): **1pm on Tuesday 17 February** at St Peter's Church. Elizabeth is known for her role of Nellie Ellis on the BBC soap, East Enders, Home & Away Emmerdale & starred in other TV soaps and series.**DAY OF PRAYER for victims of trafficking** (more accurately described as **modern day slavery**). The UN International Labour Organisation estimated victims at **27.6 million worldwide** (though it may be much higher as not all countries adequately report this). **77%** are victims of forced labour, and **23% sex trafficking**. Within sex trafficking, **78% are female**. Within forced labour, **67% are male**. Common forms of forced labour work include construction, agriculture, domestic servitude, mining, and fishing. Sexual exploitation often occurs in tourist hubs, eg. hotels and resorts, as well as in massage parlours, nightclubs, nail bars and increasingly through online platforms. Many are subjected to forced begging. **Would you know if you saw a trafficked/enslaved person?** There are several reputable charities that invite donations that offer safehouses, legal aid, and advocacy to combat modern slavery.**MARRIAGE WEEK** is celebrated this week **7-14 February**. For Catholics, Holy Matrimony (marriage) is a Sacred Covenant (not just a contract), by which a man and woman establish a lifelong partnership ordained for the good of the spouses and the procreation of children. Married couples will be invited to stand for a **renewal of vows** during Mass at weekend Masses next weekend **14/15 Feb.****WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK** Wed **11 February**, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Healing Masses **Sat 14 & Sun 15 Feb.** Let us think about joining Bishop Marcus and the Diocese for Pilgrimage to Lourdes at the end of May this year – more info below.**ASH WEDNESDAY** falls on **18 February**. Time to focus on the three pillars of **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving** to prepare for Easter.**LENTEN PRAYER BOOKLETS** *Praying With The Psalms* 3-minute devotion for Lent is now available, and *Walk With Me* will arrive soon – devote a short time each day this Lent in reflections and prayer. Suggested donation 50p.**BEAUTY FOR ASHES** Diocesan Holy Spirit Day of Reconciliation and Healing for Lent: **10.30am - 4.30pm Sat 21 Feb** at Sacred Heart Church, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough, TS5 6AB, beginning with **9.30am Mass**. Email [cdscmiddlesbrough@gmail.com](mailto:cdscmiddlesbrough@gmail.com) for info.**LENT COURSE** Tuesdays from **24 Feb at 2 pm** at Saint Edward's Hall for **6 weeks**, on the theme of *Exploring Faith*. All welcome**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS** **10am** in Alma Square: they need volunteers to take part as a **disciple or soldier, or as a steward, musician, or for moving props etc.** To take part or help, contact Anita at [anitahill@live.co.uk](mailto:anitahill@live.co.uk)**73RD MIDDLESBROUGH DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** **24 to 30 May**. From £925 per person. Price includes return flights from Teeside Airport and transfers to accommodation, full board for 6 nights, full religious programme. More info and to book at Joe Walsh Tours website: [joewalshstours.co.uk/tours/73rd-middlesbrough-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage](https://joewalshstours.co.uk/tours/73rd-middlesbrough-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage)**ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** led by Bishop Marcus Stock: **Sat 26 Sept.** Coach pickups are from Middlesbrough Cathedral at **5am** and York Train Station and **6am**. Coach departs Walsingham at **5pm**. Cost per pilgrim **£40**. Packed lunch recommended. For further info or to book a place contact the Bishop's Secretary, Callum Walker, at [bishopsecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk](mailto:bishopsecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk)**SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS** Help needed after St Peter's 11.30am Mass – new volunteers needed as others are stepping down.**MARY'S MEALS OLD & FOREIGN COIN COLLECTION** We will collect coins at Masses over weekends **8, 15 and 22 February**. Hand in or place in collection basket any of the above weekends in a bag/envelope marked 'Mary's Meals'.**ST PETER'S READERS ROTA** Readers please pick up a copy and check the details and speak to Andrew Carter if there are any problems.**ST PETER'S CHURCH RESTORATION** We are close to a start date for major repairs to the **church windows and some arches**. On-site meetings are afoot. The projected cost will be **£186,000 plus VAT** and contingencies (although we hope to be able to claim most of the VAT back under a government grant scheme for listed places of worship, assuming the scheme is extended another year).**SUNDAY SMILE** *My dog kept chasing people on a bike, so I took his bike away. Then he barked all day, so I gave him back his bike, as his bark was worse than his bike!*