

**Introduction.** Faith is a two-way relationship. Human beings yearn for God, and God our Father longs for us to turn back to him. We are free either to answer that call, or to turn away. We have both the freedom and the responsibility to choose the Christian life.

**First Reading** Isaiah 55:10-11

The word of the Lord is like rain falling on the earth, enabling it to bear fruit.

**Second Reading** Romans 8:18-23

Humanity, like creation, is waiting for God to set it free.

**Gospel** Matthew 13:1-23

People are like the places where seeds fall – their faith will determine whether there is a harvest of God's riches.

Please pray for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:

## JULY

**17** Thomas Bilsborough, Colm Begley

**18** James Horan, Finola Tyson

**21** Sarah Cray, Mary Allen, Marian Taylor, Kathleen Gallagher

**22** Roseann Haughey, Mary Milton

## Parishes of St Andrew & Blessed George Haydock, Cottam, and St Mary, Lea Town

### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J. Towers VF**

114 Hoyles Lane, Cottam, PR4 0NB

Tel: (01772) 726166 E-mail: [parishpriest@standrewscottam.org.uk](mailto:parishpriest@standrewscottam.org.uk)

**Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe**

Tel: 01257 264445 [johncliffe@standrewscottam.org.uk](mailto:johncliffe@standrewscottam.org.uk)

Baptisms and Marriages by Arrangement.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday (4.30pm to 5pm) or on request. Please call in to the Presbytery or speak to Canon Adrian before or after Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Tony Murphy 07557 373534 (St Andrew's)

Mike Fitzpatrick 07739 880965 (St Mary's)

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator [www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk)

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My word shall not return  
to me void, but shall do  
my will, achieving the end  
for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

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## **SATURDAY 15 July**

5.30pm (Vigil Mass) Joan Almond – Lately Dead (7848)

**Mass will be live streamed from Parish website**

### **SUNDAY 16 July - Mass Books – p102**

9.00am (Lea Town) Christians of the Holy Land

10.30am People of the Parish

#### **No Afternoon Devotions**

6.00pm In Honour of Our Lady of Walsingham (7852)

## **MONDAY 17 July**

9.15am Chris Graham (7860)

## **TUESDAY 18 July - NO MASS**

## **WEDNESDAY 19 July**

**St. John Plessington, St. John Wall & Companions  
Martyrs of Lancashire (Memorial)**

9.15am In Thanksgiving to St Jude (7854)

## **THURSDAY 20 July – St. Apollinaris (Opt. Memorial)**

8.15am (Lea Town) Austin M<sup>c</sup>Alonan RIP (7858)

## **FRIDAY 21 July – St. Laurence of Brindisi (Opt. Memorial)**

9.15am Doris Graham RIP (7859)

## **SATURDAY 22 July – St. Mary Magdalen (Feast)**

9.15am Marie Hothersall (7863)

5.30pm (Vigil Mass) Holy Souls

**Confessions** Each Saturday from 4.30pm to 5.00pm.

## **St Mary's Italian Evening**

Thank you to everyone who supported St Mary's Italian Evening on Friday night. What a fun night! We were also delighted to present St Mary's school with £99 for books from the proceeds of the raffle. Looking forward to our next event!

**Lourdes Petitions/Candle Donations** Deacon John Cliffe will be going on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July, if you have any petitions that you would like him to take or donations to light candles in Lourdes, please give them to Deacon John.

**Tea/Coffee & Light refreshments** in the Haydock Room after 10.30am Mass. All welcome.

**The Knights of St Columba** are active in helping in the spiritual and faith development of young people through local and national initiatives. Please come forward and make a difference by being part of a greater voice working in Faith, Family and Fraternity towards a greater good. To find out more about the Knights of St. Columba please contact **Andrew Fowler on 07914 751020** or **Philip Wilcock on 07710 225868** or go to [www.ksc.org.uk](http://www.ksc.org.uk).

## **JOIN THE TEAM AT CASTLERIGG MANOR**

Castlerigg Manor is the Diocese of Lancaster Youth Retreat Centre. It's in Keswick in the Lake District and it's been part of the Catholic landscape in this part of the world for more than half a century. They are currently looking for a few people for their 2023-24 ministry team. They are looking for gap year volunteers as well as a Senior Programme Leader. For more info, check out <http://castleriggmanor.com/join-the-team/> or Email [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**Mass Intentions** We are running short of Mass Intentions. All Mass offerings and intentions are most welcome. If you require a Mass on a particular day, please let Canon Adrian know or place the intention, offering and details in an envelope on the collection plate at the weekend Masses. Mass intention envelopes are at the back of church.

**WEBSITE: [www.standrewscottam.org.uk](http://www.standrewscottam.org.uk)**