Introduction. God is good, and God's goodness is to be seen especially in God's justice and patience. Today's parable encourages us to imitate God in justice and mercy.

First Reading Wisdom 12:13. 16-19

God, who is all-powerful, shows strength in gentle judgement.

Second Reading Romans 8:26-27

God understands our weakness and the Spirit expresses our yearning.

Gospel Matthew 13:24-43

The world, God's field of wheat, is invaded with darnel weed. Let it grow till harvest time.

Please pray for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:

JULY

23 Elsie Hardiker

24 Henry Rimmer, Fr Frank Hodson, Mary Pye

25 Vincent Crook, Ann Lakeland

26 Fred Barton, Fr James Keville 29 James Flemming

Annual Pilgrimage to the Diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator Sunday 10th September 2023.at 3pm

The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Paul Swarbrick. Our theme this year is 'Our Lady, Star of the Sea.'.

We will provide tea and coffee. People can bring their own packed lunch. As well as having a beautiful replica of the Lourdes grotto, we also have in the grounds of the shrine at Cleator statues of the Cure of Ars and St Therese of Lisieux. The pilgrimage will be an opportunity not only to honour Mary the Mother of God, but also these two great saints, and to ask their intercession for healing and consolation.

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 23rd July 2023

Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J. Towers VF

114 Hoyles Lane, Cottam, PR4 0NB

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

Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe

Tel: 01257 264445 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

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It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full grown it is the largest of plants. Matthew 13:32

SATURDAY 22 July

5.30pm (Vigil Mass) Holy Souls

Mass will be live streamed from Parish website

SUNDAY 23 July - Mass Books - p105

9.00am (Lea Town) People of the Parish

10.30am Repose of the soul of Kathleen Cuff (7865)

3pm Afternoon Devotions & Benediction 6.00pm Doreen Keefe (7735) Special Collection This Weekend – Good Shepherd Fund

MONDAY 24 July

St. John Boste, Bl Christopher Robinson & companions, Martyrs of Cumbria (Memorial)

9.15am Patrick & Delia Durkin (7710)

TUESDAY 25 July - St. James (Feast) - NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 26 July – St. Joachim & St. Anne (Memorial) 9.15am (Mass at St Anthony's, Cadley Causeway)

THURSDAY 27 July 9.15am (Mass at Holy Family, Ingol)

FRIDAY 28 July 9.15am (Mass at St Anthony's, Cadley Causeway)

SATURDAY 29 July Sts. Mary, Martha, & Lazarus (Memorial)

9.15am **NO MASS**

5.30pm (Vigil Mass) Vera & Osbourne Phoenix (7867)

No Confessions Next Saturday 29th July

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

<u>The Knights of St Columba</u> 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**.

<u>Mass Intentions</u> 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.

Marriage Care is looking for married people who might consider volunteering with the charity. Most pressing at the moment in order to meet the demand for Marriage Preparation courses we are looking for new recruits who could give up to 3 Saturdays a year to present and facilitate our courses to couples. Full training is given and experienced support is there working alongside to begin with. Couples and married individuals are most welcome to come forward. Please consider how your own experience of marriage could help those embarking on their own Catholic marriage. Contact www.marriagecare.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

WEBSITE: www.standrewscottam.org.uk