

Introduction We belong to God, but not like inanimate objects. We have a choice. Belonging to God is belonging to God's creation in a way that allows God's creation to belong to us. We belong to each other, if we belong to God.

First Reading Isaiah 45:1. 4-6 - We are all instruments of God, but not always willingly, so that we do not know the true meaning of our lives.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 - Sometimes we only appreciate the power of God's word in the lives of others who receive it. This is why converts will always give hope to the Church.

Gospel Matthew 22:15-21 - Don't be afraid of tough questions. Every question has an answer from God.

Please pray for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

OCTOBER

17 Paul M^cMurrough, Richard Barrie Southworth

18 Mary Agnes Lowery, Clare Ainsworth **19** Jack Snalam,

Kathleen Helm **20** Patricia Norcross, Terry Moore, Mary Fitzpatrick

21 Jim McGahran **22** Elizabeth Duckworth **23** Monsignor Francis J Gillow (former PP), Bill Kelly, Jade M^cGlashon **24** Mary Ann M^cCallion

Mass Intentions

Canon Adrian has just a very few Mass intentions left, required for specific dates. 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 back of church.

World Mission Sunday This weekend the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. By supporting World Mission Sunday you are directly helping over 1,000 dioceses bring hope and new life to people yearning to hear God's love for them.

WEBSITE: www.standrewscottam.org.uk

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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

18th October 2026

Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J Towers VF

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Tel: 01772 726166 Email: adrian.towers@lrcd.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe

Tel: 01257 264445 Email: john.cliffe@lrcd.org.uk

Parish Secretary Email: standrew.cottam@lrcd.org.uk

Baptisms and Marriages by Arrangement.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday (4.30pm to 4.55pm) or on request. Please call in to the Presbytery or speak to Canon Adrian before or after Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Christine Murphy 07928 532310 (St Andrew's)

Mike Fitzpatrick 07739 880965 (St Mary's)

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

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**Repay to Caesar
what is Caesar's and
to God what is God's.**

Matthew 22:21

SATURDAY 17th October

5.30pm Cottam Vigil Mass Chris Mould (8853)

This Mass will be live streamed from the Parish Website

SUNDAY 18th October

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mission Sunday

(New Missals page 418)

9.00am (Lea Town) Pope Leo XIV – Speedy Recovery (8873)

10.30am Cottam Valerie Whittle (First Anniversary) (8850)

No Afternoon Devotions and Benediction today

6.00pm Cottam People of the Parish

MONDAY 19th October

St. Paul of the Cross - Opt. Memorial

9.15 am Cottam Thomas Joseph McBride RIP (8851)

TUESDAY 20th October

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 21st October

9.15am Cottam Rosemary Small RIP (8844)

THURSDAY 22nd October

St. John Paul II - Opt. Memorial

8.15am Lea Town Evelyn Telfer – First Anniversary (8874)

FRIDAY 23rd October

St. John of Capistrano - Opt. Memorial

9.15am Cottam Bill Beesley (8867)

SATURDAY 24th October

St. Anthony Mary Claret – Opt. Memorial

9.15am Cottam **NO MASS**

5.30pm Cottam Vigil Mass Winifred and Jeff Guy (8864)

No Confessions next Saturday 24th October.

Next Sunday there is a special collection for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund.

RCIA Course

Do you know anyone who is interested in becoming a Catholic or just wants to know more about the Faith? The course will be on Fridays 7.00-8.00 p.m. **continuing this Friday 23rd October** in the Haydock Room. Please let Canon Adrian know if you would like to come along.

Thinking of being a priest?

Come to the Day of Discernment! The day is for single men 16 years or over who are considering priesthood: **Saturday 31 October 10am - 3.30pm** at St Peter's Cathedral, Balmoral Rd, Lancaster LA1 3BT. Enter at Cathedral House on Balmoral Rd. The day includes Mass, adoration, reflections and lunch with Bishop Paul. To book, email Heather: heather.watts@lrcd.org.uk or Tel: 01524 841190. There is no charge for the day. As well as meeting the Bishop, you will have the opportunity to get to know how discernment works and who can assist you. You will also meet many others from across the Diocese of Lancaster exploring vocation to priesthood.

Retreat: Be Still and Know that I am God

20th to 23rd November Step away from the noise and rediscover the stillness in which we become attentive to God.

Led by Fr Roger Dawson SJ, Liz Lord and Steve Noone, this residential retreat explores mindfulness, psychology and the Christian spiritual life. The weekend includes talks, contemplative prayer, Mass, Adoration and time to walk, rest and reflect in the peaceful surroundings of the Stonyhurst estate. Find out more and book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/>

Date for your diary The next Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting will be at 6.30-7.30 p.m. on **Tuesday 17th November** in the Haydock Room.

Afternoon Club

The club meets each **Tuesday** at 1.15pm, in the Haydock Room, Cottam. Prize bingo and refreshments. There will be a charge of 50p per book with no charge for refreshments.