



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Newsletter  
Ss. Anthony of Padua & Francis,  
Newcastle.

Parish Priest:  
**FR. DAVID SMITH**  
Direct Tele. No: 0191 2623882  
PARISH OFFICE Tele. No:  
0191 2623817

**“You are my Son, the Beloved.”**

DAY	SERVICES & INTENTIONS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK VIA ‘YOU TUBE’
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	No Services
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	7pm Tuesday Evening Mass will be available on YouTube
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	10am Mass available YouTube. Mass for: <b>Our sick, those going for hospital tests.</b>
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am Mass will be available on YouTube.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	10am Mass will be available on YouTube. Mass for: <b>Sid &amp; Joan Luntley</b> <b>4pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be available on FACEBOOK</b>
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	No Services
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube



Due to the announcements made by the prime minister on Monday 22nd Feb. regarding the gradual lifting of restrictions enabling our safe passage out of lockdown, it has been decided that the Parishes of Our lady and St Columba and St Anthony of Padua and Francis will re-open for Sunday Masses on **Sunday 7th March**. St Columba’s will have its usual 9.30am Mass and St Anthony’s its usual 11.00am Mass. For the time being there will be no public weekday Masses, these will continue to be celebrated as live streamed until such a time as we can celebrate them publicly in safety. This decision means we will place less pressure on our team of very committed stewards who have enabled us to celebrate Masses publicly and safely when we have been permitted to do so. We will still celebrate funerals in church should we need to. Please see the article on baptisms on this newsletter to see how to arrange a baptism. Father David will be arranging the Holy Week liturgies and timetable as we travel through lent and when we are clearer about infection rates etc. Thank you for your patience and understanding and for your continued support. I look forward to welcoming you all back into Church on Sunday 7th March.

**THOUGHTS ON TODAY’S GOSPEL: MARK 9: 2-10:**

**Jesus, you needed this deep experience of transfiguration to strengthen you before your Passion. Life is hard, so help me to believe that like you I too am ‘the beloved of God’ as Saint Paul says (Rom 1:7). This will steady me in times of trial.**

**The divine is hidden within each of us. Sometimes my goodness shines out, and sometimes it is hidden. But everyone I meet, at home, on the streets, at work, in the hospital and the super-market, is a daughter or son of God. Lord, help me in this Lenten season to see that everyone is a divine mystery in motion!**



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**  
Please join with Father David to pray the Stations on YouTube on **FRIDAY at 4pm**

**The guidelines to book for SUNDAY MASS (7<sup>TH</sup> March) are the same as before, because of distancing our places will be limited. To book for Sunday please call the Parish Office 0191 2623817 on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> or Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March between 10am and 1pm.**

**FOLLOW OUR PARISH MASSES**

 **YouTube**

To access – choose ‘YouTube’ site on your browser and in YouTube search for ‘St Anthony and St. Columba RC Churches’ once on the site you will be able to subscribe (free of charge) to alerts whenever anything is posted on this site. Or access via our Website **‘stanthonystfrancis.org.uk.’ Website & Newsletters have regular updates.**

**Website:** stanthonystfrancis.org **Email:** Newcastle.stanthony@rcdhn.org.uk

**Telephone Numbers:** Fr. David Smith Direct Line (based at Our Lady & St. Columba’s) 0191 2623882  
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**Please pray for all our sick, including:** Rhoda Robertson, John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Margaret O'Brien, Dorothy Milor, Elaine Clayton, Rosemary McIlvenna, Monica McKinnon, Martin Finchen, Allison Maghie, Gail McDonnell, Aileen, Sam Lee, Peter Graham, Nicola Campbell, Rosemary Prest, Eileen and Maureen Geeling.

**Please remember all of our children who still need our prayers, including:** Joseph Relph, Josh Graham, James Taylor, Theo James Abbott and Martha

**Can we also remember in prayer:** NHS & frontline workers, our St. Anthony of Padua Carers, all Priests, Deacons and other Clergy ministering to sick. Also for all those preparing and administering vaccines. As well as all those going for tests this week to hospital and for those who are caring for sick relatives. **Lord grant them your strength.**

## LENT 2021

### Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

This year as we enter Lent, we are considering what it means to be Missionary Disciples. Reflecting on our calling to 'Go and make disciples', the Vicariate for Faith & Mission has worked with Clergy and Laity to produce daily reflections that offer support as you reflect on the readings for the day. The Lenten Daily Reflections now available at

<http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/faithandmission/prayerlentresources.php>

to view, read, download and print. Whilst we acknowledge many of our parishioners enjoy the printed versions of the daily reflections, this year we are also offering the daily reflections by email – one sent per day – for anyone who would like to receive them digitally. Please subscribe [here](#) to register for daily reflections by email starting from Ash Wednesday.

**YOUTH MISSION TEAM** has produced  
**'Wait a Minute – It's Lent'**

videos, which are available to watch on their [YouTube channel](#)



### England and Wales will come together to pray on 2 March 2021

Bishops from all over Europe, through their Bishops' Conferences, will join together during Lent to celebrate a series of Masses and pray for the victims of Covid-19. The continent has suffered over 770,000 deaths from the virus.

The initiative, promoted by the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE), aims to offer a sign of communion and hope for the entire continent. Each nation, or nations, will come together to celebrate Holy Mass on a designated day to be part of this continental prayer network – a Eucharistic chain.

**Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Vice President of Council of European Bishops' Conferences, will celebrate special live-streamed Mass on Tuesday, 2 March 2021, at 17:30 in Westminster Cathedral.**

Bishops across England and Wales will also celebrate Masses in their own dioceses. Since the start of the pandemic, bishops from across Europe have added their voices to that of Pope Francis to reiterate the Church's closeness to all those struggling with coronavirus – the victims and their families, the sick, health and social care workers, the volunteers and all those on the front line at this challenging time.

[Read More](#)



# BAPTISM

I would like to congratulate all of our parents who have welcomed new babies during the past year. It's wonderful to hear the news that we have so many new arrivals. For obvious reasons we are very behind with baptisms and so while we have had the news that restrictions will soon be lifted, we are not there yet. If you have already made enquiries regarding your child's baptism and have been given a date or indeed had a date cancelled, we will be in touch very soon. If you are making enquiries for the first time, here is the procedure. Please do not contact the parish stating you want to book a christening/baptism telling us what date you would like the baptism on, as it does not happen like that. Also, telling us you already have a venue booked for after the baptism will not guarantee you the date you are requesting. To request a baptism for your child you need to come along to **Sunday Mass 9.30 am at Our Lady and St. Columba's or 11.00 am at St. Anthony of Padua** once we are open. Please keep yourself informed by regularly looking at our newsletters which are on our website: [stanthonystfrancis.org.uk](http://stanthonystfrancis.org.uk) You will need to come for at least a few weeks before requesting a baptism. Please do not arrive for the first time and ask for a baptism as it does not work like that, unless you already regularly attend which means the Priest knows you and can therefore see that you are prepared to be committed members of the community. If you do not already regularly attend then after doing so for a few weeks, please introduce yourself to **Father David Smith** our Parish Priest and he will have a brief chat and if appropriate give you a baptism application form.

Once the form is returned you will be given a date to attend a baptism catechesis session. Once that is completed then you will be offered dates from which you can choose. All I ask is that you are patient, understanding and respectful during this process. Apologies to the majority who would always be patient, understanding and respectful but lately we have had people who are not. I look forward to baptising your child and welcoming them into the community.

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# Sr. Vincent writes to the Parishes of Ss. Anthony of Padua and Francis of Assisi AND Our Lady and St. Columba's Wallsend.

Sister Vincent writes:

To all my faithful friends in the parishes of St Anthony of Padua & Francis in Walker and Our Lady and St Columba in Wallsend I send my loving greetings to you all from our Mission here in Muhoroni. May I take this opportunity to say a special thank you to all my faithful friends for assisting me on my missionary journey in Muhoroni, a small town in western Kenya where I have been developing the St Vincent de Paul mission hospital for the past eighteen and a half years after serving over fourteen years in another part of Kenya.

Since 2002 I have been very blessed to have the support of Fr David Smith. He has enriched our mission in so many ways and he has always managed to gain the help and support of the parishioners he has served wherever he has been in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. All this support has enabled us to carry out works of mercy here in Muhoroni and in Nairobi in so many ways.

Fr David has been a regular visitor to Muhoroni using his own holiday time to allow the priest in Muhoroni to take a rare break. Over the years, Fr David has undertaken some big projects. In 2017, he and Aidan Duffy, a Catholic primary school headteacher, encouraged 17 Catholic primary schools to fundraise during the Year of Mercy for a borehole for the St Vincent de Paul Mission Hospital. They smashed their target of £23,000 and raised £32,000. The money raised



took pipework from the borehole into many departments of the hospital. Life giving water is a precious thing and even more precious when not readily available and now the borehole is making such a difference to everyone.



Parishioners of Fr David have also raised the funds to have donated statues restored and sent out to Kenya giving us all spiritual boost. Statues of Our Lady now stand in our churches, our hospitals, and schools along with statues of the Sacred Heart and St Agnes. Fr David has also set up knitting groups who have knitted over 10,000 baby packages, with each package made up of a cot size blanket, hat, jumper, booties, and a knitted toy.



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These packages have encouraged expectant mothers to deliver their babies in our maternity unit as they receive your beautiful, knitted baby clothes as gifts for their newborn babies.



I can't begin to tell you how many lives your efforts have saved, with every stitch offering a stitch of love to a mother and baby in difficulty and who could be helped because they were in the right place where treatment could be offered. Just in January 2021 our hospital delivered over 90 new lives. Whenever I thank Fr David for all his support he always replies, "I couldn't do it without the people." This was something he said when our new paramedic ambulance was delivered in 2020. This ambulance has already saved countless lives. Fr David has groups all over the UK raising little pots of money that when added together can assist us so much.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020, the Sisters of Mercy Institute handed over St Vincent de Paul Mission to the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph (Mill Hill Sisters). Our policy as Sisters of Mercy is to develop and then hand over to our Kenyan Sisters, a great legacy of mercy and love. The new hospital administrator is Sr Tambasi

Margaret. We wish her and all the staff many blessings in the future. I will be in Nairobi nursing one of my sisters before leaving for the UK. I will ask all my faithful friends to pray for me as I pray for you, **God bless you and your families, Sr Vincent Finnerty**



**Act of Spiritual Communion**  
(Can be said after Holy Communion, during on-line Mass)  
"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen"



**FINANCIAL SUPPORT PARISH**  
To set up a regular **STANDING ORDER** or make a one off donation. Please print the 'Standing Order Mandate Form' on our Website and pass on to your own Bank.  
If you have personal **ONLINE BANKING** you will be able to set this up yourself, you will need the following information.  
Account Name:  
**"DHN Newcastle Ss. Anthony of Padua & Francis : A Registered Charity"**  
Bank: HSBC  
(Sort Code: 40.34.45)  
Account No. 61165089

**WALKER & 'WALKING WITH' FOODBANKS**  
Once again, thank you to all who have been able to continue supporting the Foodbank. Thank you to Dennis for representing our parishes. Here is Dennis, photographed delivering your very kind donations to the Foodbank. This is a wonderful way to support people in our locality who are struggling at this time. As people continue to face hardship and financial difficulties, sadly foodbanks up and down the country have reported 250% increase in the uptake of their services. Charities helping refugees, asylum seekers and those without status are in need of our support. If you are in a position to be able to give just one or two food items next week then we, as a parish, can help in a very practical way.  
**PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATION TO SUNDAY MASS, FROM 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH. Or call St. Anthony's Parish Secretary on 0191 2623817 we can organise for them to be collected. Thank you**

**'GIFT AIDING'** for the first time and are a UK Taxpayer? You will need to download the 'Gift Aid Form 2020-2021' which can be found on our Website. Please complete and send it back to the Parish Office. This is a legal document required by HMRC and will be forwarded to the Diocese. **Please be assured that in completing this form means that the Parish will receive a small percentage back from HMRC and won't affect your own tax.**  
**You can also bring any weekly offerings to Church from 7<sup>th</sup> March which you may have been saving. THANK YOU.**




**The Vicariate for Caritas and The Road Centre**  
Caritas, in partnership with The Road Centre, is offering a number of resources to help adults, young people, and children cope with stress and anxiety during the Covid-19 pandemic.  
Resource for adults ([pdf](#)).  
Resource for young people ([pdf](#)).  
Resource for children ([pdf](#))