



Come, Pray

The Prayer I Need This Day

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lent 2021

Sunday 21st February 2021:
1st Sunday of LENT Year B (Version 1)

Ss. ANTHONY OF PADUA & FRANCIS

Parish Priest: FR. DAVID SMITH (Direct No: 0191 2623882)

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Tele. No: 0191 2623817

(the answerphone will give information about contacting the Parish Secretary if required.) Parish Office Hours: Wed & Thurs 9am-2pm and Friday 9am-3pm

Parish Email Address: Newcastle.stanthony@rcdhn.org.uk

Parish Website Address: stanthonystfrancis.org.uk (with links to YouTube Channel and streamed Mass.)

Newcastle Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Mariadass, Tele: 0191 2733903

Reopening of Churches. As you know we needed to close our parish churches due to the effects of the COVID19 pandemic. The high infection rate meant we had a duty of care to one another and the NHS and our plan was to reopen as soon as safely possible. Unfortunately, the news about continued transmission rates of coronavirus is still not as positive as hoped. As soon as we have more positive news we will endeavour to open again as safely as we can. In the meantime, our Lenten journey has begun and there are lots of resources within this Newsletter to help you. *Please watch this space for further information regarding reopening.*



YouTube

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOLLOWING OUR PARISHES' MASSES STREAMED ON 'YOU TUBE'

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.' *Please keep an eye on our Website & Newsletters for regular updates.* THANK YOU, FR. DAVID

DAY	SERVICES & INTENTIONS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK VIA 'YOU TUBE'
Sunday 21 February	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube
Monday 22 February	No Services
Tuesday 23 February	7pm Tuesday Evening Mass will be available on YouTube
Wed 24 February	10am Mass will be available on YouTube. Mass for: RECOVERY OF YVONNE SESAY
Thursday 25 February	10.00am Mass will be available on YouTube.
Friday 26 February	10am Mass will be available on YouTube. Mass for: MULDOON & RICHARDSON FAMILIES 4pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be available on FACEBOOK
Saturday 27 February	No Services
Sunday 28 February	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube



STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Please join with Father David to pray the Stations on YouTube on **FRIDAY at 4pm**



As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor – He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.

— Mother Teresa —

TRIALS in the WILDERNESS

SOME THOUGHTS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL: MARK 1: 12-15

Only God could be so human as to endure temptation. Mark's Gospel depicts Jesus as divine but also deeply human. He enters the wilderness for one purpose only: to find God, to seek God and to belong to Him totally. Only then does he come into Galilee and proclaim good news.

Lord, come with me into my wilderness. Speak to my preoccupied heart. Reveal to me where addiction to power, possession and gratification choke my path. Only when I am free from these can I be good news to others. Only then do I become part of the solution to the world's problems

The wilderness is the place of destruction and danger, of being tempted off one's path and also of meeting God. Jesus finds God's path for him in the wilderness. Prayer is a wilderness time. It can be dangerous for it brings us in touch with the evil as well as with the good in ourselves. With practice, it introduces us to the peace of God in Christ - the harmony of the desert of Jesus. It is also the place of rededication to God and of finding God's strength.



An Act of Spiritual Communion

can help us and the Priests we see online celebrating Mass in empty Churches, they encourage us to ask Our Lord's guidance by offering prayers like this one written by St. Alphonsus Liguori in the 18th century.

"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"

Please pray for all our sick:

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 and Nicola Campbell, Rosemary Prest and Eileen.

We remember all of our Children who need our prayers, including:

Joseph Relph, Josh Graham, James Taylor, Theo James Abbott and Martha

Can we also remember in prayer: Our NHS & frontline workers, our own St. Anthony of Padua Carers, all our Priests, Deacons and other Clergy ministering to the sick. Also for all those preparing and administering vaccines

RESOURCES FOR 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 are 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.

YMT has produced '**Wait a Minute – It's Lent**' videos, which are available to watch on their [YouTube channel](#)

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

Words of Pope Francis.

Fast from hurting words and say kind words
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
Fast from anger and be filled with patience
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope
Fast from worries and have trust in God
Fast from complains and contemplate simplicity
Fast from pressures and be prayerful
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate
Fast from grudges and be reconciled
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

CATHOLIC BISHOP'S CONFERENCE: 'LENT'

Lent is a 40-day fast — a reference to the time Jesus spent being tempted in the desert. It's a time when we can prepare our hearts for the remembrance of Christ's death. Our observance of Lent culminates in the solemn celebrations of Holy Week when on Palm Sunday we follow Christ from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to the foot of the Cross as sorrowful bystanders to His Passion, before rolling back the stone of the empty tomb and the joy of the Resurrection. The six-week period, excluding Sundays, is dedicated to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation for this great celebration of the Easter Triduum. [Read More](#)



CAFOD's LENT APPEAL: (Family Fast Day Friday 26th February)



I hope that you are all keeping well. Here are some details of online resources specifically to promote CAFOD's Lent Appeal in these challenging times. A short guide can be found at this [link](#) with suggested posts, downloadable images and short videos for use at home Parish Facebook, WhatsApp, Electronic versions of parish newsletters; and Livestream Mass. More information about CAFOD's Lent Appeal can be found [here](#). I would be most grateful for anything you can do online for our Lent appeal, so that we all have an opportunity to express our love and care for the poorest of our brothers and sisters overseas. **You can return any donations to THE PARISH (marked CAFOD) or directly to CAFOD's head office.** Thank you again for your ongoing support for CAFOD's work. **Tim Madeley**, Community Participation Coordinator, **CAFOD** – Hexham and Newcastle | St Bede's Presbytery | Carr House Drive | Durham | DH1 5LZ

Myanmar (Burma)

Cardinal Charles Bo, Archbishop of Yangon, has written to Cardinal Vincent Nichols thanking him for his letter expressing prayerful solidarity with the people of Myanmar as the country faces intense challenges. The military carried out a coup on 1 February following a general election in which incumbent leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, and her National League for Democracy (NLD) party won by a landslide.

Cardinal Bo, President of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences, calls for continued prayer and values the solidarity expressed by Catholic leaders, not least Pope Francis: "Pope Francis, ever the prophet of mercy to those in margins, has twice already referred to our people's challenges through prayers and best wishes. His prayers and fellowship by people like Your Eminence make our journey at this most trying time in our history a consoling balm." He concludes by reinforcing the need for Myanmar's faithful to focus on "prayer and peaceful means" at this time. Cardinal Nichols last visited Myanmar (also known as Burma) in January 2020, as President of the Santa Marta Group, to attend a conference working to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



Let us keep this country and its people firmly in our prayers.

LINKS & RESOURCES

Diocese Hexham & Newcastle

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](#))

WALKER FOODBANK & 'WALKING WITH' FOODBANK

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. Examples to include dried food, rice, pasta, tinned foods and toiletries.

You can either drop them off to St. Columba's Presbytery, Wallsend, or St. Anthony's can organise for them to be collected, if you call St. Anthony's Parish Office

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

'**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 hold onto your weekly offerings, if you so wish, and hand them in after this latest Lockdown. Thanks.

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN: CHURCH CLOSURE

The continuing situation of the Coronavirus, and the Government's advice to all people to 'STAY AT HOME' and limit our contact with other households, reiterated by Scientists and Directors of Public Health across the country. Therefore our Church will remain **CLOSED** – except for Funerals – until the current national restrictions are lifted. Should the situation regarding funerals change I will liaise with families of the deceased. While Churches in England may remain open for public Mass and other Services it's not acceptable to ask volunteer stewards, cleaners and others taking part in Mass to risk their health or be the potential cause of others being infected. We also have a moral duty not to be anything that would endanger the staff in our hospitals and the limited facilities of the NHS. This situation will be reviewed on a regular basis but I expect this closure to be in effect until the national lockdown restrictions are lifted.

Thank you all so much and stay safe, God Bless, Fr. David Smith.



Celebrities TALKING ABOUT FAITH

Cookery Favourite
MARY BERRY

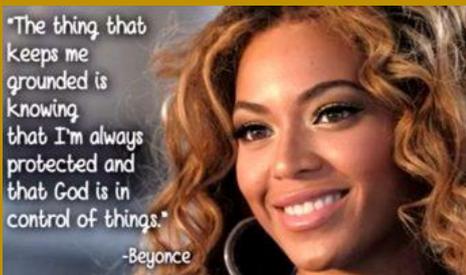
Mary Berry has spoken in an interview of her Christian Faith, which she claimed was 'tested' when her 19-year old son died in a car accident. She said his death changed her as a person and 'little things' just don't seem to bother her. You have to count your Blessings she said and she feels her life has been immensely blessed by God.

DWAYNE

"THE ROCK" JOHNSON



Actor, producer and former professional wrestler, Dwayne, exudes confidence on and off the camera. However, on the inside he has dealt with an ongoing battle with depression. In a recent interview he emphasized how his Faith was instrumental in combating his depression, saying "You have to hold onto that fundamental quality of Faith. Have Faith because on the other side of your pain is something good." He also counts his blessings every day, saying he wouldn't be where he is today without Jesus.



Listening With Love



'Listening with Love' is a resource inviting People to reflect on the impact of abuse. The Catholic Bishops' Conference are releasing this material for Lent 2021 but it can be used at any time. It is a seven session resource rooted in Scripture, listening and conversation. The survivors identified the themes and decided that, in conversations, the voice of the survivor could be heard. If you would like to read more about this, please click on this link. [Read More](#)



Bishop's House 26 West Avenue Gosforth
Newcastle NE3 4ES
Tele. No: 0191 228 0003



CALLING ALL OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The North East Catholic Writers` Guild are running a literary competition for schoolchildren
"Compose a hopeful prayer for this difficult time" Entry deadline: 8th April 2021

Maximum 20 lines. The lines don't have to rhyme. Open to 8-10 year-olds. Please include your age, name, address and phone number and send to: Veronica Whitty, Secretary, Catholic Writers` Guild (NE), 51 Queen's Crescent, Wallsend, NE28 8DW Or e-mail: veronicawhitty@hotmail.com

NB: Entries: excludes anyone related to any member of the Guild or related to anyone at Northern Cross.

BLESSED ARE YOU WHO BEAR THE LIGHT

by —Jan Richardson
from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons

Blessed are you who bear the light in unbearable times. Who testify to its endurance amid the unendurable. Who bear witness to its persistence when everything seems in shadow and grief. Blessed are you in whom the light lives, in whom the brightness blazes— your heart a chapel, an altar where in the deepest night can be seen. The fire that shines forth in you in unaccountable faith, in stubborn hope, in love that illumines every broken thing it finds.



Website Address:

stanthonystfrancis.org.

You Tube Channel (search for)

St. Anthony's & St. Columba's R.C. Churches

(You can access the Channel by going to our Parish Website, following in the search, the link which takes you to our 'You Tube Channel.' Here you will find recorded Masses and Services`

Email Newsletter:

If you'd like to receive an electronic copy of the weekly Parish newsletter then please contact the Parish email address below:

newcastle.stanthonystfrancis@rcdhn.org.uk



Fr. David Direct Line

0191 2623882

Parish Office

0191 2623817 (answerphone)