

# MASSES FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK OF ADVENT

| Day  | Date   | Time               |                         | Church                         | Mass Intention   |   |
|------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Sat  | 16 Dec | 5:30pm             | Vigil Mass              | St. Anthony's                  | Mary & George Parkins  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent                                |
| Sun  | 17 Dec | 9:30 am<br>11.00am | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass  | St. Lawrence's<br>St. Teresa's | People of the Parishes<br>Liddle Family                        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent                                |
| Mon  | 18 Dec | 4:00pm             | Christingle Service     | St. Teresa's                   |  | Advent Feria  |
| Tue  | 19 Dec | 6:30pm             | Holy Mass               | St. Teresa's                   | Frances & Patrick Healy  | Advent Feria  |
| Wed  | 20 Dec | 10.00am            | Holy Mass               | St. Anthony's                  | Special Int : Thompson Family                                  | Advent Feria  |
| Thur | 21 Dec | 9:30am             | Holy Mass               | St. Lawrence's                 | William Dryden   | Advent Feria  |
| Fri  | 22 Dec | 9:30am             | Holy Mass               | St. Teresa's                   | Mark Hayes   | Advent Feria  |
| Sat  | 23 Dec | 7.30am<br>5:30pm   | Holy Mass<br>Vigil Mass | St. Teresa's<br>St. Anthony's  | All expectant mothers<br>Thompson, Kelly & Hutchinson Families | Advent Memorial of Our Lady<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent |
| Sun  | 24 Dec | 9:30 am<br>11.00am | Holy Mass<br>Holy Mass  | St. Lawrence's<br>St. Teresa's | People of the Parishes<br>Susan Dennell RIP                    | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent                                |

CHILDREN'S LITURGY TAKES PLACE DURING AT 11AM SUNDAY MASS

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



|                  |                         |                 |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | (St Teresa's, Heaton)   | 5.45pm - 6.15pm |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | (St Anthony's, Walker)  | 9.15am - 9.45am |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | (St. Lawrence's, Byker) | 8:45am - 9.15am |
| <b>Friday</b>    | (St. Teresa's, Heaton)  | 8.45am - 9.15am |

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



|                 |                         |                 |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | (St Teresa's, Heaton)   | 5.45pm - 6.15pm |
| <b>Saturday</b> | (St Anthony's, Walker)  | 4.45pm - 5.20pm |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | (St. Lawrence's, Byker) | 8:45am - 9.20am |

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

(LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK)  
TUESDAY - SUNDAY

**Morning Prayer**  
8.00am



**Night Prayer**  
9.15pm



**St. TERESA'S**  
Heaton Road, Heaton



**St. ANTHONY'S**  
Welbeck Road, Walker



**St. LAWRENCE'S**  
Byker Crescent, Byker



# Parish Newsletter

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

|                           |                   |                                  |   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Parish Priest:</b>     | Fr Jonathon Bowes | Tel:                             | 0191 265 5290                           |
|                           |                   | Email:                           | Jonathon.bowes@diocesehn.org.uk         |
| <b>Parish Secretary:</b>  | Christine Dixon   | Tel:                             | 0191 265 5290                           |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>      | Thursday & Friday | 9.00am-3.00pm                    | Email: stteresa.heaton@diocesehn.org.uk |
| <b>Safeguarding Reps:</b> | St. Teresa's:     | Jean Potts                       |   |
|                           | St. Lawrence's:   | George Paul Atkinson             |   |
|                           | St. Anthony's:    | Christine Dixon                  |   |
| <b>Parish Websites:</b>   | St. Teresa's:     | www.stteresaeastnewcastle.org.uk |   |
|                           | St. Anthony's:    | www.stanthonystfrancis.org.uk    |   |

## THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR. JONATHON

*Rejoice in the Lord always!*

The Third Sunday of Advent, which is called Gaudete Sunday, is the Sunday of joy. In the Liturgy the invitation rings out several times to rejoice, why? Because the Lord is near. Christmas is near. The Christian message is called the 'Gospel'; i.e. 'good news', an announcement of joy for all people; the Church is not a haven for sad people, the Church is a joyful home! And those who are sad find joy in her, they find in her true joy!

However, the joy of the Gospel is not just any joy. It consists in knowing one is welcomed and loved by God. As the Prophet Isaiah reminds us today, God is he who comes to save us and who seeks to help, especially those who are fearful of heart. His coming among us strengthens us, makes us steadfast, gives us courage, makes the desert rejoice and blossom; that is, when our lives becomes arid. And when do our lives become arid? When they lack the water of God's Word and his Spirit of love. Whatever our limitations and dismay, we are not allowed to be sluggish when faced with difficulty and our own weakness. On the contrary, we are invited to strengthen the weak hands, to make firm the feeble knees, to be strong and to fear not, because our God always shows us the greatness of his mercy. He is a God who loves us so very much, he loves us and that is why he is with us, to help us, to strengthen us, help us go forward. Courage!

Our joy is Jesus Christ, his faithful love is inexhaustible! Therefore, when a Christian becomes sad, it means that he has distanced himself from Jesus. But then we must not leave him alone! We should pray for him, and make him feel the warmth of the community. May the Virgin Mary help us to hasten our steps to Bethlehem, to encounter the Child who is born for us, for the salvation and joy of all people. To her the angel said: "Hail, full of grace: the Lord is with you" (Lk 1:28). May she obtain for us the grace to live the joy of the Gospel in our families, at work, in the parish and everywhere. An intimate joy, fashioned of wonder and tenderness. The joy a mother experiences when she looks at her newborn baby and feels that he or she is a gift from God, a miracle for which she can only give thanks!

**Fr. Jonathon**

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

### Tea & Coffee

Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits are available after Sunday Masses. Please do join us if you can.

### Annual Advent Alms Appeal - St. Cuthbert's Care

The annual appeal for St Cuthbert's Care takes place through the season of Advent. If you are able to support the work of St. Cuthbert's Care donations can be placed in the boxes at the back of our churches marked St Cuthbert's Appeal.

### Bambinelli Sunday

This weekend is Bambinelli Sunday. Pope St. John Paul II, some decades ago, invited children and adults to bring their Baby Jesus figures from their cribs at home, to be blessed by the Pope in St. Peter's Square on the third Sunday of Advent. The baby Jesus figures will be blessed at the end of all weekend masses.

### 4th Sunday of Advent

Next weekend is the 4th Sunday of Advent. To clear up a little bit of confusion, all Catholics are obliged to attend Mass on a Sunday. This means you should be attending Mass either on a Saturday evening or on a Sunday morning. That is why the normal schedule of masses are being offered next weekend. Attending the Christmas Masses does not fulfil the Sunday obligation. Masses for Christmas are as advertised on this newsletter.

### Reconciliation Services and Confessions

A penitential service for the parishes will take place on Wednesday at 7.00pm at St. Lawrence's. We will have a number of visiting priests who will be helping to hear confessions. On Saturday, there will also be confessions from 10.00am to 12noon at St. Teresa's for anyone who wishes to avail themselves of the Sacrament before Christmas.

### The Sacrament of Confirmation

Application forms are still available from Fr. Jonathon for those who are baptised Catholics in school year 9 and above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### Mass Intentions

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. Currently the parishes has very few Mass intentions booked in. There is nothing better than having a Mass offered for someone, or for some intention. Do you want a Mass offered for a particular intention? Perhaps for a deceased relative or friend, or for someone who is sick, or for your own intention? For Mass to be offered it is tradition that a stipend is donated to contribute to the upkeep of your priest. Please contact the office, or fill out a Mass envelope (available in the church porches) and return to Fr Jonathon if you would like a Mass offered.

### Christmas Afternoon Tea at St. Mary's School.

The Just. Is student group at St Mary's Catholic School would like to invite all parishioners of the Partnership to a Christmas Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Catholic School, on Thursday from 1:30 – 3:00pm. This promises to be a wonderful occasion to celebrate together with tea, cakes and music. There is no cost but there will be a few stalls to raise funds for a local foodbank. Please contact the school on 0191 2153260, email [admin@st-marys.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys.newcastle.sch.uk) or drop a note to St Mary's Catholic School, Benton Park Rd, Longbenton NE7 7PE by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 if you would like to attend.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

The 1st of January is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Holy Mass will be offered at 12noon, preceded by a Holy Hour for Peace from 11.00am.

### New Years Eve

On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 5.00pm at St. Teresa's we will have Evening Prayer and Benediction. We will sing together the traditional Te Deum as we give thanks to God for the past year. Please do come along if you are able.

### Vocations thought

Speak to your Parish Priest or contact the Vocations Promoter: [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk)

### St Teresa's Christingle Service

St Teresa's School will be holding its annual Christingle Service in St Teresa's Church on Monday at 4.00pm. The service is open to all, so please do come along if you are able.

### St Alban's end of year Mass

All the children from St Alban's will be joining us for Mass at St Anthony's on Wednesday morning at 10.00am. The class winners of the competition for designing a new altar frontal will be revealed, along with the overall winner whose design will be displayed on the Altar.

### Our School Communities

As our school's prepare to break up this week for their well deserved Christmas break, we continue to pray for all the children and staff, that they may have a holy and joyful Christmas.

## NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE AND OTHER NEWS

### Anawim Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group:

This group meets at St. Andrew's Church, in the City Centre every Monday 12pm –1pm. Come along for Praise/ Intercession and Worship, with refreshments afterwards in Town. Everyone is most welcome.

### Emmanuel Catholic Charismatic Community:

A day of renewal will take place on Saturday 20th January 2024, which will include a Vigil Mass at the end of the day. The day is entitled "Pilgrims of Hope" and the guest speaker is David Wells—a renowned Catholic speaker in the UK. The day begins at 10.30am-4pm. Coffee at 10am. Venue: St. Mary's Catholic School, Benton Park Road, NE7 7PE (near Longbenton Metro.) Please bring a packed lunch and collection will be taken. To book contact Pat Kennedy on 0191 2841690 or email [pat,kennedy42@icloud.com](mailto:pat,kennedy42@icloud.com)

### Youth Mission Team in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle:

There is lots of news coming through from the Youth Mission Team, which you can read fully in several ways: Please use the YMT website at <https://ymt.org>, or you can read the emailed attachment sent with all those who receive their newsletters electronically, alternatively we have a print out of all the news on the Church notice boards. Thank you.

## TIMES OF THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

### CHRISTMAS EVE

(Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

|                                 |                               |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Vigil Mass of Christmas         | (St. Anthony's)               | Mass 6.00pm |
| Christmas Mass during the Night | (St. Teresa's) Carols: 8.30pm | Mass:9.00pm |

### CHRISTMAS DAY

(Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

|                          |                  |              |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Mass of the Shepherd's   | (St. Lawrence's) | Mass 9.00am  |
| Solemn Mass of Christmas | (St. Teresa's)   | Mass:11.00am |

### Please continue to remember in your prayers:

*those who are sick or housebound and their carers:*

John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Aileen, Tommy Allan, Elaine Clayton, Tony Errington, Pat Matfin, Mary McLaren & OUR SICK CHILDREN: Josh Graham, James Taylor, Joseph Relph, Colby Taylor, Charlie Davidson

**Please remember those who have died recently:** George 'Geordie' Gray and Ron Grant.

### From the Parish Diaries

|            |                 |                          |               |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mon 18 Dec | 2.00pm - 3.00pm | Scripture & Natter Group | St. Teresa's  |
| Wed 20 Dec | 10.30am         | Refreshments & Natter    | St. Anthony's |