

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	6 Jan	4.45 pm 5:30 pm	St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Frank Shields <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>
Sun	7 Jan	8.45 am 9:30 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Lawrence's	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Hour	Derek Cooper People of the Parishes <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>
Mon	8 Jan				<i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>
Tue	9 Jan	11.00 am 5.45 pm 6:30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Funeral Service Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Robert McGuinness (RIP) Pat & Phil Sweeney <i>Feria</i>
Wed	10 Jan	9.15 am 10.00 am	St. Anthony's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Alfonso Trujillo RIP <i>Feria</i>
Thur	11 Jan	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	St. Lawrence's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Fr. John Gibbons RIP <i>Feria</i>
Fri	12 Jan	8.45 am 9:30 am	St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Special Intention <i>St Benet Biscop</i>
Sat	13 Jan	12.00 pm 4.45 pm 5:30pm	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's	Nuptial Mass (Anniv.) Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	People of the Parishes <i>2nd Sunay of Ordinary Time</i>
Sun	14 Jan	8.45 am 9:30 am 11.00 am	St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass	Louise Tinning RIP <i>2nd Sunay of Ordinary Time</i>

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY FOR THOSE IN YEAR 3 OR UNDER
TAKES PLACE DURING THE 11AM SUNDAY MASS**

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, Tony Errington, Pat Matfin & Mary McLaren

Our sick children: Josh Graham, James Taylor, Joseph Relph, Colby Taylor & Charlie Davidson

And those who have died recently:

Fr. John Gibbons, Robert McGuinness, Agnes Dunlavy, Sheila Rooney, Joyce Pearce & Elaine Clayton

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for January:

For the gift of diversity in the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

During Ordinary Time from January to February

We are asked to pray for these intentions: ; Peace on earth, Openness to the Word of God, Christian Unity, The Sick and those who care for them, Victims of trafficking, and the Unemployed.



St. TERESA'S
Heaton Road, Heaton



St. ANTHONY'S
Welbeck Road, Walker



St. LAWRENCE'S
Byker Crescent, Byker



Parish Newsletter

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Sunday 7th January 2024

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

THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR. JONATHON

OUR TRUE SHINING STAR

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Epiphany, and also the Magi who brought Jesus their costly and symbolic gifts of gold, myrrh, and frankincense. The term Epiphany is from a Greek verb which means "to reveal," or "to manifest." It recognises the many ways through which God has revealed himself to us and our world.

The Prophet Isaiah describe an incredible longing to return from exile, and what that would mean. We know ourselves that this is still mankind's desire: to return to God from the exile that we experience in sinfulness. Isaiah foretells the story of Magi, how "all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord". Indeed, the kings are a symbol in Gospels for all the peoples of the world of every background, who could now come and worship the Lord. There are many lessons for us in their story. The Magi came to offer Christ genuine worship - like theirs, our worship must be sincere and from our hearts, not the false worship proposed by Herod. Like the kings, we must be ready to offer Jesus something precious. The best gift we can offer God for his goodness to us is ourselves. It is the gift of good life, the gift of love; the gift of obedience, of humility, of peace and of sacrifice for one another.

Another important lesson is that we must continue to follow the light that Jesus shows us, trusting that he will never mislead us. Each of us has a star that we follow, something that draws us and guides us in a particular direction. As well as guidance through prayer, our stars are people, places and things here on earth that show us the way, that inspire us, that attract us to a good and holy life. And through all of these, Jesus is constantly working to guide us to God. We must not allow ourselves to be deceived or distracted on our journey by the Herod's of this world. Jesus Christ is always the brightest star - he is our way, our truth and our life.

Fr. Jonathon

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

Crib Offerings

This year any offerings that are made at our cribs will be given to the Friends of the Holy Land, which supports the Christians who live in in the Holy Land. Please be as generous as possible as we try to help our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land who are suffering so much at this present time.

Recently deceased

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Robert McGuinness, Elaine Clayton, Sheila Rooney, Joyce Pearce and Agnes Dunlavy, who have died recently. Robert's funeral service will take place on Tuesday of this week at 11.00am at St Teresa's. Agnes' funeral service will take place on Wednesday of this week at 12.30pm at West Road Crematorium. Sheila's Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 16th January at St Teresa's at 12noon. Eileen's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 17th January at St. Anthony's at 10am. Joyce's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 18th January at St. Anthony's at 12noon. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and light perpetual shine upon them.

Baptism's

We welcome into the Church this weekend, through the Sacrament of Baptism, Princewell Felix & Felix Bryan Osemundianme who were baptised yesterday at St. Lawrence's and Luna Monaghan who is to be baptised today at St. Anthony's. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Second Collection for the White Flower Appeal

Next weekend there will be a second collection and an appeal made at all weekend Masses for the annual White Flower Appeal. Please give as generously as possible as we continue to uphold the dignity of life, from conception to its natural ending.

New Mass Times for our parishes

At the beginning of the season of Lent we will have a few changes to the Mass times across our parishes to allow Fr Jonathon more time on a Sunday to speak to the people at St Lawrence's and to allow him to have his day off on a Wednesday. Therefore, from the First Sunday of Lent the times of Masses across our parishes will be :-

Saturday Evening - 5.30pm St Anthonys. Sunday Morning - 9.00am St Lawrence's and 11.00am at St Teresa's. Monday 6.30pm St. Teresa's. Tuesday 10.00am St. Anthony's. Thursday 9.30am at St Lawrence's. Friday 9.30am at St. Teresa's.

2024 - A Year of Prayer in preparation for The Jubilee Year of 2025

Pope Francis has asked us, in preparation for The Jubilee Year of 2025, to have a year of prayer focused on the Our Father. This presents us with a significant opportunity to revisit the basics of prayer, and for us to become even more a people of prayer. *'Prayer doesn't help our relationship with God, prayer IS our relationship with God!'* and so when we become more devoted to prayer, we are building up that Divine friendship. Throughout the year we will hold regular monthly events to help us prepare for The Jubilee Year. The first event will be a Holy Hour TODAY at 5.00pm at St Lawrence's. Please do come along if you are able. A poster with details of the monthly events will be displayed in the church porches.

Confirmations

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. A information meeting for parents and candidates will take place on Monday 15th January at 7.00pm at St Teresa's.

Diocesan Gift Aid Scheme

Do you pay UK Tax and give regularly to our church collections? You could join the Gift Aid Scheme! We gain an extra 25% of your offering, at no extra cost to you. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

2024 Northern Catholic Calendar

Copies of the new edition for 2024 of The Northern Catholic Calendar, the diocesan handbook listing all parishes, priests, deacons, religious houses and diocesan associations are now available at the back of Church. These are priced at £3 each. We only have a limited number of these available. Once they're gone, they're gone!

NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE AND OTHER NEWS

Is God calling you to be a priest?

The Vocations Team extends an invitation to men aged 18+, who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more. The evenings will take place at St Joseph's Church, Stanley on a Tuesday Evening. The next evening takes place on Tuesday at 6.00pm. For more information, please see the posters in the church porches or speak to Fr Jonathon.

Proud Catholics

Do you identify as LGBT+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? Would you like to attend a support group run by and for LGBT+ Catholics in the North East? We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <https://www.proud Catholics.co.uk/>

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

African and Caribbean Catholic Community

There is a Mass for the African and Caribbean Catholic Community living in the diocese, on the last Sunday of every month at 2pm at St Joseph's Church, Gateshead, NE8 1LX, (right behind the Interchange for Metro and Buses). For more information please contact Fr Anthony Ohaekwusi on 07407 486 865 or email him on africancommunitydhn@gmail.com

Message from Holy Island SVP Camp

'Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2024? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island. They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sand castle building, swimming and scavenger hunts. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs a donation of £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at: <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holyisland> Applications open from 5th December 2023'

Youth Ministry Conference

This Youth Ministry and Practical Theology Conference is YMT's first conference since the COVID-19 pandemic and we look forward to gather with youth ministers, catechists, clergy, teachers, staff and volunteer co-workers from across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and beyond! The theme for the conference is "Investing in the Fearlessness of Youth", inspired by a quote from Pope Francis' letter, Christus Vivit (Chapter 7 no. 233). We hope you can join us for this Youth Ministry Conference on February 3rd 2024 . Booking is now open and you can either email nsalkeld@ymt.org or book online here: www.ticketsource.co.uk/youthministryteam. Online booking will apply booking fees. For more information about the conference visit www.ymt.org/ymt-conference

From the Parish Diaries			
Monday	2.00 - 3.00pm	Scripture & Natter Group	St. Teresa's Church
Tuesday	10.00 - 2.00	Coffee, Crafts & Natter	St. Lawrence's
Wednesday	10.30 - 11.30am 6.30 - 7.30pm	Refreshments & Natter 'New Wine' Prayer Group	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's