

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	3 Feb	4.45 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's	People of the Parishes <i>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>
Sun	4 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Robert Madden & Family Louise Tinning RIP <i>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>
Mon	5 Feb				<i>St. Agatha</i>
Tue	6 Feb	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Intentions of Beverley Prevatt-Goldstein <i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>
Wed	7 Feb	9.15 am 10.00 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Intentions of NW & A Prayer Groups <i>Feria</i>
Thur	8 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's	Holy Souls <i>St Josephine Bakhita</i>
Fri	9 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Teresa's	Margaret Lindsay <i>Feria</i>
Sat	10 Feb	4.45 pm 5:30pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Elaine Clayton RIP <i>St. Scholastica 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>
Sun	11 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am 11.00 am	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	People of the Parishes Cal Knowles RIP <i>6th Sunday of Ordinary Time</i>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 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 all those whose anniversaries occur at this time

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Parishes prayer intention for the coming week:

For those preparing for marriage: We pray that those who are preparing for Marriage may continue to mature in their love for each other, and know that God is always with them.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for January:

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment

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

5th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



Sunday 4th February 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

The priorities in life

Sometimes when children are excited and tell stories of their latest adventures they can skip over details, jumping from one tale to the next. 'And then' is a common conjunction joining these hurried sentences that quickly moves the narrative forward, often in fits and starts. The excitement definitely carries the story. The listener (maybe even a parent!) is often left wondering exactly what happened. There are a number of questions left unanswered, but one thing is clear: 'This is exciting!' Something similar is happening in the first chapter of Mark, and throughout the entire Gospel of Mark! We see this excitement and hurried storytelling on prominent display in today's gospel reading.

The action begins in Capernaum, where Jesus has been preaching in the synagogue. He and his new disciples go to the house of the brothers Simon and Andrew. There Simon's mother-in-law is healed. We learn from this that Simon (Peter) had a wife; and the extended family included at least his brother and his mother-in-law living under the same roof. And by evening it seemed the entire town was at the door! Jesus cured many of the townspeople before leaving early the next day.

The action and excitement covered in this brief period is palpable. In one sense it covers only twenty-four hours before concluding with a sentence that says Jesus went throughout the whole of Galilee preaching and driving out demons. Jesus has a purpose and his followers are witness to it. It's as though there is no time to spare, not even a predawn moment to himself, for that is filled with prayer.

At times our busied lives can seem frenetic, simply moving from one activity to the next with barely a moment in between. Most of us feel the pressure of time because we are driven by a purpose. There are things we need to do. And today we hear of Jesus driven by the same. He has something to accomplish. He has a purpose. Though he wakes before the dawn to have some time to himself, even that sacred moment quickly vanishes in the midst of the day's activities. Simply being busy or having things to accomplish is not a bad thing. In fact, it can be the opposite. Today we have a chance to reflect on what motivates us. For what purpose are we driven? Are we taking time to pray, brief as it may be? Even when we do find a moment of solitude, the needs of others come before our own needs.

Fr. Jonathon

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

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.

PALM CROSSES

Please bring back to Church your old palm crosses, by next Sunday, and place them in the boxes marked 'Palm Crosses'. These will then be burnt to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Next weekend you will all receive a information booklet with all the various liturgies that will take place during the season of lent. It will also include the information about Mass times for Holy Week and Easter. Lent gives us all an opportunity to look at our lives, to reflect about how our relationship with God is, while also focusing upon the three pillars of lent, Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

DAILY MASS AND EXPOSITION

Mass is celebrated within our three parishes every day (except a Monday). Are you retired? Are you on holiday? Are you free during the day? Do you need some support? Come to Mass during the week and experience the benefits we receive by doing so. Adoration gives us some quiet time for prayer and peacefulness and at Mass the Lord Jesus feeds us with his body and blood. What a wonderful opportunity lies before us every week!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST. TERESA'S

Children's liturgy is available for Children aged 4-8. For those children who do attend the sessions, we do need a parental consent form filled in so that we are following the latest safeguarding guidelines. It is also important that children attend the liturgy on their own, as parent's are not allowed to stay with them due to safeguarding regulations. All our catechists do have enhanced DBS's and are trained to lead the sessions.

KAIROS - CONNECT, BELONG & GROW (HOUSE GROUPS)

As part of our pastoral plan we wish to develop house groups, which meet bimonthly to connect, belong and to grow together. Kairos - a Greek word used often in the Bible, means the favoured time ... the opportune time ... indeed, God's time. The purpose of Kairos will be to help us all to connect with our brothers and sisters across the parishes; to increase our sense of belonging to a community of faith and help us to grow as we explore together the richness of the faith we profess and share. If you would like to join a Kairos Group, please place your name and contact details on the sheets provided in the church porches. It is hoped that we can begin these house groups during Lent.

'THE CHOSEN' & DISCUSSION GROUP

'The Chosen' is a TV series which looks at the life of Jesus and allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew him. Each Thursday evening at St Teresa's, we will meet together to watch a episode from the series and then discuss what we have seen. These episodes really do open up the Gospels for us in a new way.

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY - SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

Next Sunday afternoon at 3.30pm at Christ Church, Walker there will be a special service to mark Poverty Sunday. It will be a celebration of the hopes and dreams of our young people in our community. Several organisations will be involved including the Boste and MINE youth. Please do come along if you are able.

DIOCESAN GIFT AID SCHEME

Do you pay UK Tax and give regularly to our church collections? Do you Tithe yearly? You could join the Gift Aid Scheme! Through Gift Aid the parish gains an extra 25% of your offering, at no extra cost to you. If you would like to know more information, or would like to sign up to the Gift Aid Scheme, please contact the Parish Office for further details.

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 once a month on a Tuesday Evening. For more information, please see the posters in the church porches or speak to Fr Jonathon.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 26th July to 2nd August 2024. Join the pilgrimage as a pilgrim. Serve the sick as a Helper. Experience the pilgrimage as a young helper. If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage in 2024 and would like more information, please visit the diocesan pilgrimage website for more information and for the relevant If you would like to go, but would need some support with fundraising, please speak to Fr Jonathon as help can always be given.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE MASS

Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 17th February 2024 at 12.00pm to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage and Family Life. This is taking place during National Marriage Week. All married couples are invited with particular focus on those celebrating a significant anniversary.

THE YEAR OF PRAYER 2024 & THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Pope Francis has called a Jubilee Year for 2025, with the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'. In preparation for the Jubilee Year, he has also called for 2024 to be designated a Year of Prayer, with a particular focus on the Our Father. Every Catholic is encouraged to reflect on their life of prayer: what they pray, how they pray and why they pray. In doing so, we are encouraged to deepen our prayer life and love of God; and to help at least one other person to pray during the Year of Prayer.

Pope Francis has said "I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great 'symphony' of prayer. Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him. Prayer, moreover, to thank God for the many gifts of his love for us and to praise his work in creation, which summons everyone to respect it and to take concrete and responsible steps to protect it.

Prayer as the expression of a single 'heart and soul' (cf. Acts 4:32), which then translates into solidarity and the sharing of our daily bread. Prayer that makes it possible for every man and woman in this world to turn to the one God and to reveal to him what lies hidden in the depths of their heart. Prayer as the royal road to holiness, which enables us to be contemplative even in the midst of activity. In a word, may it be an intense year of prayer in which hearts are opened to receive the outpouring of God's grace and to make the 'Our Father', the prayer Jesus taught us, the life programme of each of his disciples. I ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to accompany the Church on the journey of preparation for the grace-filled event of the Jubilee."

PRAYING THE MASS: THE WISDOM OF BRUNO LANTERI

How do we pray the Mass? What does it really mean to fully, consciously and actively participate? Today (Sunday 4th Feb) at 4pm at St John Boste Church, Washington (NE38 0LB), Fr Luke Wilkinson will give a talk on a method of prayer suggested by Ven. Bruno Lanteri. Ven. Lanteri devised a simple method drawing on a collection of biblical characters to engage his heart and mind in prayer of the Mass. Come along and join Fr Luke as he leads us through the method, supplemented by works of Catholic art to draw our hearts deeper into the mystery of Jesus Christ.

From the Parish Diaries			
Monday	2.00 - 3.00 pm	Scripture & Natter Group	St. Teresa's
Wednesday	10.30 - 11.30 am 6.00 - 7.00 pm	Refreshments & Natter 'New Wine' Prayer Group	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's
Thursday	7.00 - 8.15 pm (Starts 15/02)	'The Chosen' & Discussion Group	St. Teresa's