

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	10 Feb	4.45 pm 5:30 pm	St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Elaine Clayton RIP 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun	11 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am 11.00 am	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass	People of the Parishes Cal Knowles RIP 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Mon	12 Feb				Feria
Tue	13 Feb	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Living & Deceased of the Logan Family Feria
Wed	14 Feb	9.15 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass Holy Mass	Fr. Michael Conaty RIP Jomon & Anju Intentions Ash Wednesday
Thur	15 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	Robert Madden RIP & Family Lent Feria
Fri	16 Feb	8.45 am 9:30 am	St. Teresa's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	Deceased of St. T C.W.L & Tuesday Ladies Group Lent Feria
Sat	17 Feb	4.45 pm 5:30pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Ray Gallagher Lent Feria 1st Sunday of Lent
Sun	18 Feb	8.30 am 9:00 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	Holy Souls People of the Parishes 1st Sunday of Lent

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 February:

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 Lent

We are asked to pray for these intentions: ; Candidates for the Sacraments, Women, The Needy and Hungry of the world, Penitents and Wanderers.



St. TERESA'S

Heaton Road, Heaton



St. ANTHONY'S

Welbeck Road, Walker



St. LAWRENCE'S

Byker Crescent, Byker



Parish Newsletter

6th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



Sunday 11th 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

After six weeks we have come to the conclusion of the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark. We reach new heights and move swiftly from episode to episode. Though our English Bibles refer to the person cured as a 'leper', the term means anyone with a skin disease. An entire chapter in the book of Leviticus is dedicated to diagnosing and treating skin diseases, which are broadly categorised in the ancient world as 'leprosy'. The chapter discusses how a person with the disease is to behave, namely, by crying 'unclean' before approaching others, and living apart from the community for as long as the infection lasts. So, the healing performed by Jesus is not merely a healing of a skin disease, though it certainly is that. It's for this reason, among others, that scholars and preachers say that Jesus' ministry was about inclusion.

Jesus ministered to those on the margins, even outside of the community, like this person with a skin disease, and Jesus made them whole. Once whole, the excluded persons could be welcomed back. Interestingly, even though Jesus has warned the man sternly and ordered him to tell no one apart from the priest, the cured man publicised the matter widely! And this publicity affected Jesus' ministry so that he was no longer able to enter towns openly. It's as though Jesus was being stalked by the ancient equivalent of the paparazzi. He was not left alone in the deserted places outside of the villages. Will his fame spread beyond the backwaters of Galilee? Who else on the margins or outskirts of society will we embrace? What kind of whirlwind will he be?

Sometimes the news is so good we can't keep it to ourselves. This might happen when someone is getting married, or having a baby, or is out of hospital after a long illness. Our joy cannot be contained and so it was with the man afflicted with a skin disease. He told everyone that Jesus had cured him! The news spread throughout the region, and Jesus was left to live with the consequences. Why was the cured man so joyful? Not only because the affliction was cured, but because now he was able to be restored to the community.

Whom do we see excluded today? What is today's equivalent of an ancient skin condition? Are there groups or individuals who are effectively preceded with shouts of 'unclean'? Jesus' desire isn't merely to heal the man's skin disease, but to restore him to the community. In effect, the healing of the leper was as much for the community as it was for the leper. The community had rejected this person and would not accept him with that condition. If we want to be like Jesus we can find those on the margins and bring them into the fold. We may not have the power to heal physical ailments, but we can certainly reach out to the marginalised and draw them close.

Fr. Jonathon

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

NEW MASS TIMES FOR OUR PARISHES

Next weekend we introduce the new schedule of 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of lent. Holy Mass and distribution of Ashes will take place at 10.00am at St Anthony's and at 6.30pm at St Teresa's. Fr Jonathon will also be going into our primary schools for a liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of Stations of the Cross will circulate around the three parishes on a Sunday afternoon at 5.00pm as follows: St. Teresa's 18th February & 10th March, St Anthony's 25th February & 17th March, St. Lawrence's 3rd March. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us for this important aspect of our Lenten spirituality

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Any Parents hoping to have their child baptised are asked to speak to Fr Jonathon after Sunday Masses, as to collect an application form. Once the form is returned you will be invited onto the next Baptism Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday February 13th at St Teresa's Church.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP

Sister Sylvia will be leading a scripture reflection group on a Tuesday evening at 7pm at St Anthony's Presbytery. The group will look at the coming weeks scripture readings and reflect upon them. This will begin on Tuesday 13 February and throughout Lent. Everyone is most welcome!

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.

DIOCESAN RESOURCES FOR LENT

The Diocesan Website has lots of Resources to help you spiritually throughout Lent. Daily Scripture Reflections will be available on <https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>. But there are many more resources for use throughout Lent, all accessible via this link -<https://www.diocesahn.org.uk/living-the-faith/lent>. This is a great asset for us during our six weeks of Lent.

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."

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	'The Chosen' & Discussion Group	St. Teresa's