

# MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	9 Mar	4.45 pm 5:30 pm	St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>
Sun	10 Mar	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	Nealy & Dryden Families People of the Parishes <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>
Mon	11 Mar	5.45 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass Lent Talk	Mary Smith RIP <i>Lent Feria</i>
Tue	12 Mar	9.15 am 10.00 am	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	Pat & Ann Muldoon RIP <i>Lent Feria</i>
Wed	13 Mar				<i>Lent Feria</i>
Thur	14 Mar	8.45 am 9:30 am	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's	Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	Fr. Paddy Kennedy RIP (N.B.F) <i>Lent Feria</i>
Fri	15 Mar	8.45 am 9:30 am 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	Fr. John McElhone RIP (N.B.F) <i>Lent Feria</i>
Sat	16 Mar	4.45 pm 5:30pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	In Thanksgiving (100th Birthday) <i>Lent Feria</i> <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>
Sun	17 Mar	8.30 am 9:00 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Anthony's	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	People of the Parishes John Dominic Wallace <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>



### 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

## THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

### Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for March:

**For the new Martyrs:** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm

#### 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

4th Sunday of Lent

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March



<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>	www.stteresaeastnewcastle.org.uk		www.stanthonysstfrancis.org.uk

## THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR. JONATHON

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."*

This Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called 'Laetare Sunday', from the Latin 'to rejoice' or 'to be joyful'. It might seem a little odd to 'rejoice' in Lent but that exhortation is a reminder or rather a foreshadowing of Easter. It is as though Easter itself is breaking into the Lenten season this Sunday.

Today, John paints a picture of God, the Father who sent his only Son not to condemn the world, but so that it may be saved through him. A loving God longing for his people to have eternal life, not eternal punishment. Jesus' words are clear: God's mission is salvation, not condemnation. He sent the light of Jesus to expose all our sins - because only if they are seen can they be forgiven. Those who willingly "do wicked things" turn away from the light, preferring to hide their sins in the darkness. In this way they reject the Son and condemn themselves. Surely none of us would condemn ourselves in this way? Yet some people live in a darkness not of their choosing. They live in the darkness of shame - sometimes from their own sins, but often not. They prefer to live there because of their fear of judgement and rejection.

Our natural response to sin in others is to point at them, to condemn. It deflects attention from us and keeps us from confronting our own shortfalls. Those who sit in judgement - and so many of us do - are themselves living in a darkness of prejudice, fear and insecurity. During Lent we remember our sins. Our own sins. We do not repent by condemning others - all that does is perpetuate the world's darkness. Let us always remember we are called to be Christ-like, to live the truth and to reach out to those in darkness. We are not called to keep salvation for ourselves, but to share it - is there anyone we can bring with us into light this Easter?

As we journey through these last few weeks of Lent, it might be fruitful for us to focus on Jesus and our belief in him. He represents and is himself the incarnation of God's love for our world. As followers of Jesus how do we represent God's love for the world?

**Fr. Jonathon**

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Guy Christal, Fr. Paddy Kennedy, Fr John McElhone & Fr Mark Whelehan who have died recently. Fr. John will be received into Our Lady & St Aidan's' Wallsend on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 6.00pm. Fr John's Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 12noon. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

### MONDAY LENT TALKS - 7 LAST WORDS OF JESUS

During Lent we are encouraged to give a renewed focus to prayer, fasting and almsgiving in our lives. These traditional Lenten activities help us to form new and good spiritual habits that prepare us for our celebration of Holy Week and lead us to the everlasting reward of God's transforming grace. I hope too, that you will take the opportunity to participate in our programme of Lenten activities. Immediately after Mass on a Monday evening, Fr Jonathon will be giving a series of short reflections on the 7 last words of Jesus upon the cross. These will last roughly 15minutes and will be a good way to reflect upon the words spoken to us from the Cross.

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

We pray for all mothers and grandmothers on this Mothering Sunday.

### LENTEN ALMS - SAINT CUTHBERTS CARE

As usual during the season of Lent we are asked to help contribute to Saint Cuthbert's Care. A Retiring collection will take place after all Masses this weekend. Please give as generously as possible.

### SCRUTINIES FOR THE SACRAMENTS

This weekend we will celebrate the Second of the three Scrutinies for those who are preparing to receive the Sacraments at Easter. This will take place after the homily. Please do keep in your prayers all those who will be receiving the Sacraments this Easter.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross takes place this afternoon at 5.00pm at St Teresa's. Next Sunday stations will take place at St Anthony's.

### 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. Everyone is most welcome!

### HOLY WEEK MASSES AND SERVICES

As we prepare for the most holiest of weeks in our Christian Calander there will be a weekly insert in the bulletin asking us to reflect upon what we are about to celebrate, and why we celebrate these various liturgies. I would encourage each one of you to make every effort possible to come along to the Triduum liturgies as we journey with Our Blessed Lord from Cross to Resurrection. As we will see over these next few weeks The Sacred Triduum is one liturgy, from the Mass of the Lord's supper to the Easter Vigil, that is why we are keeping it in one church.

If you would like to be involved, either by reading one of the readings, leading the prayers of the faithful, being an 'apostle' and getting your foot washed, or could stay with Our Lord for an hour at the Altar of repose please signup on one of the forms in the porches of our churches. These roles have been shared out equally across the parishes.

### EASTER RAFFLES

Once again our churches are organising Easter Raffles. If you would like to donate any Easter Eggs or bottles please bring these along and leave in the Sacristy. Raffle Tickets will be available after weekend masses over the next few weeks. At St Lawrence's they will be running the 'pick a bag' for a £1, with a prize guaranteed with every bag. This will happen on the 17th and 24th March after Mass in the Parish Hall.

### YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

After Easter a 'Young Adult Prayer Group' will be formed in our parishes. The group is for those who are between 18 & 35 who would like to meet to discuss the faith, to spend time in prayer together, and to encourage each other in following the Lord's will for them. The group will meet on the Fourth Thursday of every month, meeting from 7pm at St Teresa's. The First meeting will take place on Thursday 25th April.

### ST. ANTHONY'S MISSIO 'RED' BOXES

If you have a red box at home please could you return them to St Anthony's before Easter. This will allow them to be emptied and then returned to you.

### DAILY MASS AND EXPOSITION

Mass is celebrated within our three parishes every day (except a Wednesday). 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! During Lent, there will be more opportunities to come before Our Blessed Lord, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. Please accept his invitation to 'come to me'.

### 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 during the week. 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. If you request a specific date and that date is not available the Intention will be said on the nearest possible date.

### CHILDREN'S LENTEN RETREAT DAY

The Missionaries of Charity will be joining us at Mass with the children that attend their Catechisms classes next Sunday at St. Teresa's. The Children will then be staying for a retreat day led by Fr Jonathon.

## NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE & THE WIDER CHURCH

### 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.

### LENTEN RESOURCES BY THE DIOCESE

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 at <https://www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/lenet>.

### RIGHT TO LIFE

Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Take action: Let our local MP know that we stand up for the rights of all, from conception to natural death.

### HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE

On Wednesday, of this week, there will be a Holy Hour at St Joseph's, Gateshead, to pray that the current attempt to decriminalise abortion up until birth is defeated and the right to life is protected. Please do go along if you are able to, or to pray for this intention during your daily rosary. The Holy Hour will begin at 7pm.

From the Parish Diaries			
Monday	2.00 - 3.00 pm	Scripture & Natter Group	St. Teresa's
Tuesday	10.30 - 11.15 am 7.00 - 8.00 pm	Refreshments & Natter Sunday Scriptures Reflection Group	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's
Wednesday	6.30 - 7.30 pm	'New Wine' Prayer Group	St. Anthony's
Thursday	7.00 - 8.15 pm	'The Chosen' & Discussion Group	St. Teresa's