

# MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	23 Mar	4.45 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's	George Kelly RIP (Anniv.)	Palm Sunday
Sun	24 Mar	8.30 am 9:00 am 11.00 am	Confessions Holy Mass Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	People of the Parishes Dec'd members of the King Family	Palm Sunday
		5.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	St. Gabriel's		
Mon	25 Mar	5.45 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass Lent Talk	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	The Synod & Pope's Intentions	Monday in Holy Week
Tue	26 Mar	9.15 am 10.00 am	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Rooney Family Intentions (Well-being)	Tuesday in Holy Week
		5.45 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Holy Souls	
Wed	27 Mar	10.00 am 1.30 pm	Requiem Mass Full School Liturgy	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Gabriela RIP	Wednesday in Holy Week
		5.45 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass Lent Talk	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	<i>No Intention received</i>	
Thur	28 Mar	9.00 am 11.00 am	Morning Prayer Chrism Mass	St. Lawrence's The Cathedral	Thompson, Kelly & Hutchinson Families	Holy Thursday
		7.00 pm 8.00 pm 11.45 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Watching Night Prayer	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's		
Fri	29 Mar	9.00 am 9.30 am 3.00 pm	Morning Prayer Stations of the Cross The Solemn Liturgy	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Anthony's		Good Friday
Sat	30 Mar	9.00 am 9.30 am	Morning Prayer Confessions	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's		Holy Saturday
		8.00 pm	The Easter Vigil	St. Anthony's	The People of the Parishes	
Sun	31 Mar	9.00 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	Solemn Mass & Baptisms Solemn Mass of Easter Vespers & Benediction	St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Stephen Hanson (Anniv.) Dec's Johnson & Winn Families	Easter Sunday



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



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



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



## Parish Newsletter

**PALM SUNDAY**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March



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<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

How quickly praise can turn to derision. We see it in business, politics, with friends and family. One minute somebody is singing praises, the next it's insults and scorn. The two gospel readings for today display that very juxtaposition. The cries of 'Hosanna!' which mark the beginning of our Mass are replaced shortly after by cries of 'Crucify him!' How quickly the people turned on Jesus when they realised that he would not fulfil their plans of shaking off the Roman occupation.

The entire passion narrative in Mark shows the confusion, bewilderment and misunderstanding that punctuated the horrific scene of Jesus' crucifixion. The crowds believe Jesus is calling for Elijah, the chief priests and scribes mock Jesus as one who cannot save himself, Pilate gives in to the crowd's demands and participates in a miscarriage of justice. The centurion alone (a Gentile) confesses Jesus as Son of God, only after his death. We are fickle human beings, often in search of entertainment. We are designed by aeons of evolution to look toward the future rather than the past. Palm Sunday is our conscious effort to root ourselves in our past, the very foundation of our faith, the paschal mystery.

This week we celebrate the most ancient and fundamental mysteries of our faith. Being in touch with the paschal mystery reminds us that this life has meaning beyond the here and now. We have a future that is eternal. The love, relationships, and bonds we create in this life will endure. The passion and death of Jesus necessarily result in the resurrection, which gives us a promise and foretaste of that eternal life. Rather than seeking the next best thing, upon entering this Holy Week we recall that our faith is rooted in the past, and our destiny is eternal

**Fr. Jonathon**

### Welcome Home

At Easter, many people will come and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. It is always lovely to welcome everyone to Church! If you haven't been to Mass since Christmas or last Easter, Welcome Home! If there is someone in your family who no longer comes to Mass, you might explore ways to bring them back. Sometimes people who have ceased to attend might keep meaning to come along but just need some gentle encouragement. You could encourage them by offering a lift, inviting them for a coffee afterwards or sharing the newsletter!

### 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.

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please keep in your prayers the reposed of the souls of Gabby O'Sullivan and Nicholas Deevey who have died recently. Gabby's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday of this week at 10.00am at St. Teresa's Church. Nicholas' Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 11th April at 12.30pm at St Teresa's Church. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in peace. Amen.

### SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

The annual collection for the places of the Holy Land will be a Retiring Collection this weekend and after the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday. The collection helps the sites in the Holy Land, associated with Jesus, to be maintained. The war in Gaza means very few, if any, pilgrims are visiting the Holy Land at this time. This lack of financial support means that this collection is more important than ever to support the people of the Holy Land in their daily living

### CONFESSIONS BEFORE EASTER - EASTER DUTIES

Sadly the penitential service that was planned for during Lent had to be cancelled. However, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at various times throughout the week. These dates and times can be found on the back of the newsletter. On Holy Saturday Fr Jonathon will be available for anyone wishing to go to Confession between 9.30am and 12noon.

### LENT TALKS - 7 LAST WORDS OF JESUS

The series of short Lenten reflections on the 7 last words of Jesus will conclude this week. There will be a short reflection after Holy Mass on Monday at St Teresa's and after Holy Mass on Wednesday evening at St. Teresa's. These will last roughly 15minutes and will be a good way to reflect upon the words spoken to us from the Cross.

### HOLY WEEK MASSES AND SERVICES

As we enter into the most holiest of weeks I would like to encourage you all to journey alongside Our Blessed Lord through the events of his Passion, Death and Resurrection.

### PALM SUNDAY

Each Mass this weekend will begin with the special blessing of Palms. As we recall the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, our Masses will begin with this special blessing and procession. At St Anthony's this will take place in the presbytery garden. At St Lawrence's it will take place in the Garden by the Hall. At St Teresa's this will take place in the Parish Hall. Please do not leave any handbags or valuables in the Church.

### HOLY THURSDAY

The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7pm on Holy Thursday evening at St Anthony's, Walker. After Mass there will be the "Watching", a quiet time remembering the time of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Agony and the Arrest; this will end with Night Prayer at 11.45pm.

### GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence. All Catholics aged 18-59 are encouraged to fast; those aged over 14 are encouraged to abstain, usually from meat or some other luxury.

The Solemn Liturgy will take place at 3.00pm at St. Anthony's.

### THE EASTER VIGIL

The Easter Vigil will be celebrated at St Anthony's, Walker at 8pm. Mass will begin with the Blessing of the Fire and the lighting of the new Easter Candle. This will take place in the Presbytery Garden. There will be the wonderful celebration of several Baptisms and receptions into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. It will be a longer Mass than normal, but it will be a great celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and a wonderful celebration of our Catholic Faith. Please come along and celebrate this momentous Mass and support the five people who have made this incredible journey to become Catholic.

### 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 this weekend after Mass in the Parish Hall.

### NEW WINE PRAYER GROUP

The group is cancelled this week, due to Holy Week and will resume on Wednesday 3rd April at 6.30pm.

### BRINGING YOUR CHILDREN TO MASS

It is so wonderful to see the young families of our parishes come to Mass together. Some families stay away because they have some young children who may be quite noisy. A church without the noise of babies or young children is indeed quite dead. We need families with children at Mass, because they, because you, are the Future and the Now of our parish communities. Please do not stay away, but come and bring your children with you, even if they are young and a bit noisy.

### 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.

### 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.

## 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.

### SUMMARY OF THE LISTENING EXERCISES

On our diocesan website, diocesehn.org.uk, you will find all of the summaries from the various listening exercises that have been running in the Diocese since the summer of 2023, along with the results of the Questionnaire for the Dicastery of Bishops Report from March 2023. These are together with Bishop Stephen's response to what has been presented to him. He reflects on the past, present and our future together. The documentation is necessarily lengthy. Too lengthy for a pastoral letter. If you wish to have hard copies of all or parts of the suite of documents, then please contact the Cathedral office.

### 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.

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