

# MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	6 Apr	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's	Nancy & Joe McGee <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>
Sun	7 Apr	9.00 am 11.00 am	Solemn Mass Solemn Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	The Hanson Family Peter Gowens <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>
		2.45 pm	Divine Mercy Devotions	St. Teresa's	
Mon	8 Apr	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Confessions Solemn Mass	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Michael Lindsay <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>
Tue	9 Apr	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	John McAndrew (Anniv) <i>Feria of Easter</i>
Wed	10 Apr				<i>Feria of Easter</i>
Thur	11 Apr	12.30 pm	Requiem Mass	St. Teresa's	Nicholas Deevy RIP <i>St Stanislaus</i>
Fri	12 Apr				<i>Feria of Easter</i>
Sat	13 Apr	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	The People of the Parishes <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>
Sun	14 Apr	8.15 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am	Confessions Holy Mass Confessions Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Special Intention - Successful Exams Leo & Peggy McConnell <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>



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



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



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



## Parish Newsletter

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Sunday 7th April

<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
Office Hours:	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

**Christ is Risen!**

When do we go on the offense? When we feel threatened. When someone angers us. When we feel strongly about something. Jesus goes on the offense in today's gospel, not because he is threatened or angry, but because he feels strongly about the disciples. He cares for them and he wants them to know that he is risen from the dead, has not forsaken them, and wishes to remove any obstacles to their belief in him and following him.

The disciples are locked in, afraid. The risen Jesus appears and removes the obstacles of their disbelief, their concern for their own safety, and their paralysis in response to his crucifixion. He removes these obstacles by bestowing peace upon them, giving them the Spirit, and empowering them to forgive. The disciples see the risen Jesus and are changed – they come to belief.

When we see the risen Jesus, we also are changed – we come to deeper belief. The risen Jesus gives us everything we need to see him and believe in him. We respond to his presence by being willing to change. We move from hardness of heart to forgiveness of those who have hurt us. We move from fear of losing the regard of others to embracing publically Gospel values. We move from aloneness and discouragement to being loving and serving disciples. We reveal that we have seen the risen Jesus, have come to believe more deeply in him, and have changed.

**Fr. Jonathon**

### A PLACE WHERE YOU ARE ONLY A STRANGER ONCE

The parishes of St. Anthony, St. Lawrence & St Teresa are places of warmth and shelter for everyone. We hope that if you are visiting, or have not been for some time, you feel very welcome. We try to be places where you are only a stranger once, where the love of Christ is shared with everyone, and the joy of the Gospel proclaimed.

### Please continue to remember in your prayers:

*those who are sick or housebound and their carers:*

John Gourley, Francis Collings, 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 role of women:** We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

During the Easter Season

We are asked to pray for these intentions: ; New members of the Church; Vocations; The right use of the Media; the Church and for Human Work

## **NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE**

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please keep in your prayers the repose of the souls of Nicholas Deevy and Marina Clegg who has died recently. Marina's Funeral service will take place at the West Road Crematorium on Tuesday 9th April at 3.45pm. Nicholas' Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 11th April at 12.30pm at St Teresa's Church followed by cremation at West Road Crematorium. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in peace. Amen.

### **THANK YOU**

Can I thank everyone for their support of the past week in making sure that all our liturgies ran so smoothly. Special thanks to our Altar Servers who were given quite the challenge with the various differences. To the amazing flower ladies who have made our churches look so beautiful, and to the cleaners who have prepared our churches to be places of warmth. May I wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter Season!

### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

This Weekend we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy Image's that are now displayed in our churches will be blessed during Sunday Masses. This afternoon at St Teresa's there will be the traditional Divine Mercy Devotions, with the blessing of the image, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Holy Hour and Confessions, beginning at 2.45pm. Please do spread the word and come along.

### **CHANGES TO MASSES THIS WEEK**

There are a number of changes to Masses this week. Firstly, on Tuesday the regular morning Mass at S. Anthony's will take place at 6.30pm before the Open Meeting for the Parishes. There will be no Masses or services on Friday as Fr. Jonathon is on holiday. Advance notice that there will be no masses during the week next week as Fr. Jonathon is on Holiday.

### **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.

### **PARISHES OPEN MEETING - RESTRUCTURE OF OUR PARISHES**

A parish meeting to continue our discussions about the restructure of our parishes into one single parish will take place on Tuesday 9th April at 7.00pm at St. Anthony's, Walker. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, please feel free to pass on any questions or thoughts to Fr. Jonathon, or any member of the Parish Council.

### **ST. LAWRENCE'S PARISH MEETING - DECIDING THE WAY FORWARD**

A parish meeting will take place for St. Lawrence's on Saturday 4th May at 10.30am in St. Lawrence's Church. This meeting will allow us to look at the current situation that we are facing, along with an overview of our finances, and what work needs to be carried out. We will then look at the future of the church building and how we continue to move forward as a vibrant and thriving community. Please do spread the word and come along to this important meeting.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION 2024/25**

Application forms are now available from Fr Jonathon for children who are currently in school Year 3 or above, and would like to make their First Holy Communion in 2025. Application forms must be collected after Sunday Masses and returned by Sunday 20th July. Along with the forms, the dates and times of all sessions is attached.

### **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.

### **REFRESHMENTS & NATTER (TUESDAY)**

A big thank you to everyone who organises and supports these. Between December & March £158 has been raised for Church funds.

## **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.

### **2024 YEAR OF PRAYER**

This is a Year of Prayer, called by Pope Francis to prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025. He asks that during 2024 we focus on the words of the Our Father, and try to get back to what it really means to pray the Our Father. The banner on the Sanctuary, displaying the words of the Our Father, can help our focus during Mass on this ancient prayer. We will hold some meetings after Easter to begin discussing the Holy Father's book on The Our Father, for this special Year of Prayer. Watch here for more details of when this will be taking place

<b>From the Parish Diaries</b>			
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2.00 - 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Scripture &amp; Natter Group</b>	<b>St. Teresa's</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6.30 - 7.30 pm</b>	<b>New Wine</b>	<b>St. Anthony's</b>