

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	30 Mar	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil	St. Anthony's	The People of the Parishes	Holy Sunday
Sun	31 Mar	9.00 am 11.00 am	Solemn Mass & Baptisms Solemn Mass of Easter	St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's	Stephen Hanson (Anniv.) Dec's Johnson & Winn Families	Easter Sunday
		5.00 pm	Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's		
Mon	1 Apr	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Raffaele Adinelfi	Easter Monday
Tue	2 Apr	9.15 am 10.00 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	In Thanksgiving (OSCG Exam)	Easter Tuesday
Wed	3 Apr					Easter Wednesday
Thur	4 Apr	8.45 am 9.30 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's	No Intention received	Easter Thursday
Fri	5 Apr	8.45 am 9.30 am	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Fr. John McElhone	Easter Friday
Sat	6 Apr	10.00 am	Holy Mass (1st Saturday)	St. Teresa's	People of the Parishes	Easter Saturday
		4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Nancy & Joe McGee	Divine Mercy Sunday
Sun	7 Apr	8.15 am	Confessions	St. Lawrence's	The Hanson Family Peter Gowens	Divine Mercy Sunday
		9.00 am	Holy Mass	St. Lawrence's		
		10.30 am	Confessions	St. Teresa's		
		11.00 am	Holy Mass	St. Teresa's		
		2.45 pm	Divine Mercy Devotions	St. Teresa's		



St. TERESA'S
Heaton Road, Heaton



St. ANTHONY'S
Welbeck Road, Walker



St. LAWRENCE'S
Byker Crescent, Byker



Parish Newsletter

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday 31st March



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

Christ is Risen! As we celebrate Easter we are called to enter into the joy of the resurrection. The excitement of the women at the tomb. The astonishment of the disciples on hearing the news of the empty tomb. The joy of those in the room when Jesus first appeared, risen and in his glory. In a true sense joy is the message of the Gospel and we are called to share our joy at the news of the resurrection with all those in our lives – with our children, with our parents, with our families and friends, with our work colleagues and those we meet in our everyday lives.

Faith is the source of this joy. As we are reminded so clearly by the readings we hear of our salvation history on the night of the Easter Vigil, God created us so that we might enjoy happiness in some measure on earth, and in its fullness in heaven. That joy is based in our joy of love and friendship with one another, but most of all in knowing that we are loved by God our Father who created us in a plan of sheer goodness to have a share in his own blessed life. This love, and knowing of this love, should transform our lives and fill us with joy. It should make us realise that Jesus came not to place burdens upon us, but to show us what it means to be fully happy and fully human. And through his death and resurrection, Jesus shows us that even in the greatest moments of darkness and sin, by remaining faithfully at his side placing our trust in him, we will journey through our trials to the glory of Resurrection that he has promised to us. As Pope St John Paul II proclaimed 'We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!'

This Easter let us seek to share our joy with others. Let us pray that we will be parishes that grow together in our encounter with Christ, and that serve those in our community with love and compassion, so that the people of Byker, Heaton & Walker, may come to know the source of our joy and the power of God's saving love for us all.

Fr. Jonathon

Welcome Home

At Easter, many people will come and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus and rejoice in the saving news that Jesus has Risen!! It is always lovely to welcome everyone to Church! This is a Church where you are only a stranger once, a place where everyone is welcome. If you haven't been to Mass since last Easter or since Christmas, Welcome Home! Thank you for joining us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord!

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 Deevey 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!

CONGRATULATIONS

Our prayerful congratulations to all those adults who were Baptised, Confirmed and received into the Church at the Easter Vigil this weekend. We also send our prayerful congratulations to Joseph, Pheobe, Madeleine, Joseph, Isobel and Adanna who were baptised this weekend.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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

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.

HOLIDAYS

Fr. Jonathon will be away from the Parish for a few days of well earned rest between the 11-19 April. In the case of an emergency please ring St Charles' Gosforth on 285 1370

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.

EASTER RAFFLE: A list of prize winners are on view at the back of Church. A marvellous total of £344 was raised. Thank you to all organisers, contributors and purchasers.

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

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