

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	30 Nov	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Tony Errington RIP <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>
Sun	1 Dec	8.30 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 10.55 am 5.00 pm	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Confessions Holy Mass Confessions Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	Susan Thornton RIP People of the Parishes <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>
Mon	2 Dec	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Elaine Clayton RIP <i>Advent Feria</i>
Tue	3 Dec	9.15 am 10.00 am	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass	Lesley Stephenson RIP <i>St Francis Xavier</i>
Wed	4 Dec	6.30 pm	St. Anthony's	Holy Mass	In Thanksgiving <i>Advent Feria</i>
Thur	5 Dec	8.45 am 9.30 am	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Holy Souls <i>Advent Feria</i>
Fri	6 Dec	8.45 am 9.30 am	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	Brian Stobbs <i>St. Nicholas</i>
Sat	7 Dec	7.30 am 4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Rorate Mass Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls People of the Parishes <i>St. Ambrose</i> <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>
Sun	8 Dec	8.30 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 10.55 am 5.00 pm	St. Lawrence's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Confessions Holy Mass Confessions Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	Special Intention (A.G.) Special Intention (M.B.) <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 1 December 2024



Parish Priest:	Fr Jonathon Bowes	Presbytery:	0191 265 5290
		Parish Mobile:	07761 885745 (Emergencies only)
		Email:	Jonathon.bowes@diocesehn.org.uk
Parish Secretary:	Christine Dixon		
Office Hours:	Tuesday & Thursday	9.00am-3.00pm	Tel: 0191 265 5290
	Wednesday	10.00am-2.00pm	Email: stteresa.heaton@diocesehn.org.uk
Safeguarding	The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are listed below or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 243 3305 or at safeguarding@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

Today is the first Sunday of the new liturgical year, and the first Sunday of Advent. It's important not to view Advent merely as the countdown to Christmas, but as a season in itself. It is a time to prepare for the second coming of the Lord, and to reflect on our own part in God's ongoing work of redemption. The coming of Christ can be understood in three ways – in the past, the present, and the future. As we hear in the penitential rite "Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom... you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness... you will come in glory with salvation for your people." Those who long for the day when Christ will come again are overlooking his active presence in our lives here and now!

Today's readings do point to his final coming, but also how we should behave in the present. Saint Luke emphasises that we should be vigilant to recognise and welcome the Lord - and that includes recognising him as he comes to us without warning in the ordinary events and people of our daily lives; in the places we least expect. We look at the beauty that is here on earth and in all of creation, and give thanks for the gifts that have been given. Most of all, we can thank our loving Father for sending his Son Jesus to make eternal life possible for all of us. This is really the only gift at Christmas that matters, and we can give no better gift in return than to live in union with Christ. We should use this Advent season of penitence and reconciliation to remove from our lives anything and everything that keeps us apart from him. Our gift to Christ, our Advent prayer, can be found in the simplicity of today's psalm: "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour.."

Fr. Jonathon

Please continue to remember in your prayers:

those who are sick or housebound and their carers:

John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Mrs Wilson, Aileen, Tommy Allan, Pat Matfin and Mary McLaren.

Our sick children: Ezra Stephen Johnson, Josh Graham, James Taylor, Joseph Relph, Colby Taylor & Charlie Davidson

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for December:

For Pilgrims of Hope: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

During Advent & Christmas

We are asked to pray for these intentions: Migrant and Refugees and for All Expectant Mothers,

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers Ellie Adamson and Kathleen Baxter who have died recently. Ellie's Funeral Service will take place on Monday 2nd December at 11.30am at St Anthony's followed by a private burial. We continue to pray for all those we know who are unwell, as well as the many who have no one to pray for them; for those in hospital, and for all those who have died recently, along with those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP STEPHEN

This weekend Bishop Stephen has written a pastoral letter to be read at every Mass. Copies of the letter will be available in the porch of the church for those who would like to take it away and reflect upon it.

SECOND COLLECTION - ADVENT ALMS FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CARE

This weekend the annual Advent Alms collection will be open for St Cuthbert's Care. Collection baskets will be available throughout Advent for any other donations. Thank you for your continued generosity

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Next Monday the Church celebrates the Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady. Although it is not an Holy Day of Obligation, it is a solemnity. Therefore, Mass on Monday 9th December at 6.30pm at St Teresa's will be a Solemn Mass, with Hymns.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Now that we have become one single parish, it gives us all the perfect opportunity to look at how we serve each other and our communities. As part of this, the parish council have agreed that now is the perfect time to hold the Parish Council Elections. In our Church porches you will find nomination sheets for the positions that are available on the Parish Council. A general meeting will then take place on Wednesday 4th December at 7.00pm at St Anthony's Church, where we will report back on the work of the parish council over the past year and elected those to serve on the Parish Council for the next 2 years. It would be wonderful if we could have people responsible for certain areas of parish life, including Communications, Social coordinator, Ecumenical relations, Catechises coordinator, Young Adults coordinator, Schools Link, and Mission outreach. It would be wonderful to have people on the parish council from a mix of ages, backgrounds and cultures. If you would like to be involved please either sign up on the sheet in the church porches or come along to the meeting on Wednesday 4th December at 7.00pm! This is YOUR parish so please do get involved.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you are looking to get your Child Baptised, you should collect a Baptism Application Form from Fr. Jonathon after Sunday Mass. Please remember that one parent must be a Catholic and that you should be living or worshipping within the parish boundaries. The next preparation meeting takes place on Monday 2nd December at 7.15pm at St Teresa's, Heaton.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION COURSE 2024/25

This year the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be done on a partnership-wide basis with sessions taking place at St Teresa's on a Tuesday evening (6.45-8.15pm). If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the coming year, please speak to your parish priests to collect an expression of interest form. The first session will take place on Tuesday 3rd December.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH COURSE

The 'Journey In Faith' course has started for those who are considering becoming a Catholic or who would like to deepen their knowledge of the faith. If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, or you are a Catholic who hasn't yet been confirmed, please speak to Fr Jonathon to register your interest in joining the programme. The next session is Tuesday 10th December, at 6.45pm in St Teresa's.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE & FIRST CONFESSIONS

The Parish Advent Reconciliation Service, which will also include the first confessions of our children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion, will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 6.00pm at St Teresa's. We will be joined by other priests across the diocese who will come along to support Fr Jonathon in hearing peoples confessions in preparation for Christmas. Please do make a note of this date in your diaries.

COMING ALONG TO WEEK DAY MASS & ADORATION

Please remember that we have Adoration in our churches before weekday Mass. We also have adoration on a Thursday evening and on a Sunday afternoon. Are you free to come along? Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament gives us some quality quiet time in the presence of Our Lord which we all need in our lives. The Mass is the source and the summit of everything we do. Please try and come along. The benefits will be worth it.

WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUE

The CAFOD world gifts catalogue is now available, both at the back of our churches or online. World gifts are CAFOD's range of life changing virtual gifts, which help the most poorest people in our world. This Christmas instead of giving a gift, which may not be wanted or not used, why not consider giving someone a gift to help them transform the lives of their families and communities living elsewhere. See <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

NEW LECTIONARY

The English Standard Version of the Bible is the new translation for our lectionaries and we will begin using it at Masses this weekend. As suspected, it is slightly different to the version we have used for the last 50+ years from the Jerusalem Bible. Our Missalettes will automatically change to the new version of the texts. Sunday Missals from "Hodder and Stoughton" can be bought online or ordered from Pauline Books and Media at St Mary's Cathedral, but full weekday Missals will not be available until at least April next year. All readers at each Mass are asked to check the text on the Lectern before Mass begins, and to read through the scripture passages before Mass begins so they understand the new language and the layout of the new format. Readers are reminded to go to the Sacristy before Mass begins to form the entrance procession.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

St Anthony's Christmas Raffle Tickets are now on sale! Any donations of prizes will be gratefully accepted. Raffle tickets are now available at all masses with the grand draw taking place on Saturday 14th December after the 5.30pm Mass.

RORATE MASSES DURING ADVENT

During the season of Advent we will once again be celebrating the 'Rorate' Masses in honour our Lady. These Masses take place in Candlelight. They will take place at St Teresa's on a Saturday Morning at 7.30am, followed by Tea & Toast.

PARISH FAMILY FILM NIGHT

The Parish will once again be hosting a Parish Family Film Night. This will take place at St Anthony's Church on Friday 20th December at 7.00pm. Please do bring along some sweets and drinks as we enjoy the movie together.

PARISH SOCIAL EVENT - CAROLS AROUND THE FIRE

on Monday 23rd December we will have 'Carols around the Fire' in St Teresa's Hall. Tickets for this will be on sale during Advent priced at £5, which will include a Hot Turkey Sandwiches and Mince Pies. Come along as we sing some festive songs and carols together!

CHRISTMAS CARDS - PIETY STALL

The Piety Stalls at St Anthony's and St Teresa's have been restocked with cards and rosaries. There is a wide selection of beautiful Christmas Cards, Mass Cards, and Sympathy Cards. These are all sold at cost price! The Piety Stall at St Teresa's can now be located in the cupboard on the lefthand side of the porch.

SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS THIS CHRISTMAS

Please see the posters in the church porch and on the parish website for details of Christmas collections for the People's Kitchen and Vinnies. Donations for the Socks & Chocs collection need to be in St Teresa's church by Friday 6th December. There will be a collection box for sponsoring a Christmas dinner and a tree with angel cards asking for Christmas gifts for children in the church porch. Please give as generously as possible.

SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Every Sunday at 5.00pm at St. Teresa's we have Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Benediction. This time of prayer is such a wonderful opportunity to bring our Sunday to a close, spending time with Jesus in prayer and praise. Please do try and come along if you are able to!

TIMES OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES & MASSES

Wednesday 18th December

Parish & Schools Carol Service (St. Teresa's) Service: 6.00pm

Monday 23rd December

Parish Carols around the Fire (St. Teresa's Hall) Begins: 7.00pm
Tickets Needed

CHRISTMAS EVE

(Tuesday 24th December)

Vigil Mass of Christmas (St. Anthony's) Mass 6.00pm
Solemn Midnight Mass (St. Teresa's) Carols: 10.30pm Mass: 11.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Wednesday 25th December)

Mass of the Shepherd's (St. Lawrence's) Mass 8.30am
Solemn Mass of Christmas (St. Teresa's) Mass: 10.30am