



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 6 April 2025



Parish Priest: Fr Jonathon Bowes Presbytery: 0191 265 5290 Parish Mobile: 07761 885745
Email: Jonathon.bowes@diocesehn.org.uk

Church Open Daily: Monday - Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 2.00pm

Parish Secretary: Mr. Anthony Almedia
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm Tel: 0191 265 5290
Email: christtheking.newcastle@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. Anthony's: Vacant

Parish Website: www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk

THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR JONATHON

In today's Gospel Jesus is confronted by the scribes and the Pharisees, who bring before him a woman caught in the act of adultery. The Pharisees were the Jewish religious leaders. They were well educated, well known, and reputed to be men of wisdom and high moral standards. But as the story unfolds, we discover that they are ruthless, calculating and hypocritical. In their pride and arrogance they look down upon this women, seeing her as nothing; a life to be thrown away in their war against Jesus. They stand over her, judging and condemning from their position of moral superiority.

Jesus cared about the law, but he cared about people more. "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her" - Jesus' words strike at the hearts of the Pharisees, opening them to the realisation that they too are sinners, and not one of them can claim to be stain-free. Every one of us is like this woman, and these Pharisees - all sinners who are truly guilty in the eyes of God. Whenever we confront wrongdoing we must refrain from judgement and humbly consider our own sins and transgressions. Jesus does not say that sin doesn't matter, because sin does matter and damages our relationship with God.

In his compassion, Jesus forgives the adulterous woman and restores her dignity, because he loves her (just as he loves all sinners), and because he loves her, he wants what is best for her - to live from this point on a life of loving union with God. "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." This is the gift and graces we are given in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and precisely the attitude we should bring: a true repentance with a firm intention to amend our lives.

Fr. Jonathon

Lent.
A SEASON OF RENEWAL



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers all those we know who are unwell as well as the many who have no one to pray for them and for those in hospital. We also remember all those who have died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

NBF - SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend, and throughout April, there will be a second collection for the 'Northern Brethren Fund', which supports the sick and retired priests of the Diocese. This is our opportunity to give back to the priests who have given so much to us throughout their ministry. Please be as generous as possible.

MASS ON TUESDAY MORNING

On Tuesday morning Holy Mass will be celebrated in St Alban's School so that all the children can join us for Mass. Please do come along to the School, which is on Westbourne Avenue.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent we are invited to journey with Our Lord to Calvary by making the stations of the Cross. This takes place every Tuesday at 9.15am at St Anthony's and every Friday at 6.30pm at St Teresa's.

LENTEN ALMS

During Lent we will be supporting several charities, all with a particular focus as Catholic Charities. St Cuthbert's Care is our diocesan Charity and all Lenten Alms collections go towards their work here in the diocese supporting many different things that they do. This year in particular they ask that the financial support that we offer goes towards their Young Stars Fostering Group.

VOLUNTEERS FOR HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

As usual we will be looking for volunteers to help with the various roles during Holy Week. This includes readers, watchers and those who would like to have their feet washed. Sign up sheets are available in the porches of our churches if you would like to be involved. Please be generous.

CONFESSIONS BEFORE EASTER - EASTER DUTIES

Sadly the penitential service that was planned for during Lent has had to be cancelled. However, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at the following times during Holy Week to allow as many people as possible a chance to go to Confession before Easter.

Saturday	-	4.00-5.10pm	@St. Anthony's
Palm Sunday	-	10-10.45am & 4.00-4.45pm	@St. Teresa's
Monday	-	8 - 10.00am & 5.30-6.15pm	@St. Teresa's
Tuesday	-	8 - 10.00am & 5.30-6.15pm	@St. Teresa's
Wednesday	-	8 - 9.00am & 5.30-6.15pm	@St. Teresa's
Holy Thursday	-	8 - 9.00am	@St. Teresa's
Holy Saturday	-	10am - 12noon	@St. Teresa's.

SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Every Sunday at 6.00pm 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! It only lasts 40 minutes and is such a beautiful service.

BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

If you wish to organise a baptism, please speak to Fr Jonathon. Please be aware that one parent must be a Catholic and you should be living in the parish. If you do not live within our parish you will be asked to speak to your own parish priest. The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Monday 7th April at St Teresa's at 7.15pm. Meetings usually last around 30 minutes.

PARISH GIVING

We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share that generosity with others. A generous culture is also essential for our parish to develop a sustainable ministry for the future. That generosity can be expressed in many ways, both financially and by the giving our time to help the mission of the Church. We are extremely grateful for all your contributions to our parish.

If you would like to make your regular weekly offering to the Church by standing order this is easy to set up. Our bank details for setting up a Standing Order or BACS payment are:

Account Name: DHN Newcastle Christ the King

Account Number: 52010917

Sort Code: 40-34-18

YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting takes place on Thursday 24th April at 7pm. After a time of prayer in Church there will be food in the presbytery. Are you looking for a welcoming space to grow in faith and fellowship? The Prayer Group is a vibrant community of young Catholic adults (18 to around 35) who come together on the last Thursday of each month at 7pm at St Teresa's. We share in faith, friendship and great conversations, followed by a meal or a drink in the Catholic Club. Beyond our monthly gatherings, we stay connected through social events, attending conferences and our active WhatsApp group, making it a wonderful way to meet fellow Catholics. Come and be part of a community that supports and inspires each other in faith!

CHILDREN AT MASS

When parents take their children to a special event, to a theatre or a football or rugby match, they want their children to have the best seats right at the front. At the front the children can see and hopefully learn to understand what is going on. But when parents bring their children to Mass, they sit with them at the back of church, behind tall and large adults, where there's draughts from the doors, where they can see very little about what is actually happening at Mass and therefore not too sure why they're there! And being so far away at the back, they don't know what's happening at the front because they can't see and sometimes can't hear! Please come to the front of the Church, to the seats where your children will be able to see what is going!

WELCOMING OUR VISITORS

A few people have commented recently about how they feel they have not been welcomed 'properly' when attending our churches, or that no-one spoke to them from coming into church to going out. This is difficult because no-one wants to overpower anyone, especially visitors, not everyone wants to have someone talking to them, but at the same time, many people like to be welcomed into Church, either by those who welcome at the door, or by those sitting in the benches. It is important that we make people feel welcome amongst us. So, just a thought Do you know who is sitting close to you during Mass ... have you acknowledged them? Have you said 'hello' to them? Be a bit bold and find out who your neighbour is in your pew! And if they are there next week, strike up the conversation again after Mass!

PARISH FISH & CHIPS QUIZ NIGHT

The parish are currently planning another Quiz Night which will take place on Friday 9th May at 7pm in St Teresa's Hall. Tickets will be required as we need to know numbers for the Fish & Chips. Tickets are £8 for Adults and £4 for children, and are now on sale after all Masses.

THE CHOSEN

The Chosen is a Christian historical television series, about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Season 5 is to launch very soon and will be available to watch at Cineworld in Newcastle (The Gate) in time for Easter, April 10th - 13th

FIRST SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME 2025/26

Any parent who would like their child to make their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is invited to fill in the interest form. Sessions will begin in September 2025. More information will be made available after Easter concerning all the dates for the programme. Please scan the QR code for the online form.



ST THERESE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

On Saturday 17th May at 11.00am we will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Canonisation of St Therese. To celebrate we have been asked to host a special Mass at St Teresa's. Bishop Stephen will be celebrating the Mass and the Diocesan Choir will be singing. Please do put this in your diaries and come along!

GETTING MARRIED IN 2025/26

If you are thinking about getting married in 2025/26 and haven't yet spoken to Fr Jonathon, to make sure that a Church wedding is possible, please see him as soon as you can. It is important that you give at least six months notice so that enough time is given to arrange all paperwork, especially if overseas contacts are necessary. A Marriage Preparation course must also be attended so that you are fully prepared for the Sacrament.

THANK YOU FROM CHRISTINE

Dear friends, may I thank you all for your kindness, generosity and good wishes for my retirement. It's been a pleasure to serve as your parish secretary for many years but it's time for a new chapter now. I will continue to see you all around the parish, you are such great people and my very best wishes are sent to you all.

NEW PARISH SECRETARY

It is a great pleasure to let you all know that the parish has appointed a new parish secretary. Anthony, who has been attending the parish with his wife, will begin working for us this Monday. Now that a new secretary has been appointed the offices hours will be, Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASS

Tea and Coffee will be served after Mass this weekend at St. Teresa's. Please do try and stay, even for a short period, so that we can get to know each other better. Our next Tea & Coffee after Mass will be on Easter Sunday, which will also include a Easter Egg Hunt, and a Easter Raffle. A prize will also be given to the best Easter Hat!!

PARISH OPEN MEETING

An open meeting for all parishioners will take place on Wednesday 7th May at 7.00pm at St Teresa's Church. This will allow us to look at how we are progressing as a parish and to continue to make plans for the future.

HOLY ISLAND SVP CAMP

Volunteering is a Work of Heart. Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9-12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained. If you'd like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk.

HOLY WEEK MASSES & SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY

As we recall the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, our Masses will begin with this special blessing and procession. At the Vigil Mass at St Anthony's this will take place in the presbytery garden at 5.30pm. At the Solemn Mass at St Teresa's this will take place in the Parish Hall at 11.00am. Please do not leave any handbags or valuables in the Church. Solemn Vespers & Benediction will take place at St. Teresa's at 5.00pm.

HOLY MONDAY - SPY WEDNESDAY

As we prepare for the Sacred Triduum we will keep the same schedule everyday at St. Teresa's. There will be Adoration & Confessions at 5.30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 6.30pm. There will then be a Holy Week Reflection after Mass with Exposition. At 8.00pm we will conclude with Night Prayer.

HOLY THURSDAY

We begin the Sacred Triduum with Tenebrae at St. Teresa's at 9.00am. The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7pm at St Anthony's. 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 will begin with Morning Prayer at 9.00am at St. Teresa's. This will be followed by Stations of the Cross at 9.30am. The Solemn Liturgy will take place at 3.00pm at St. Anthony's.

HOLY SATURDAY

Holy Saturday will begin with Morning Prayer at 9.30am at St. Teresa's. This will be followed by Confessions from 10.00am until Midday. The Easter Vigil will be celebrated at St. Anthony's at 8.15pm. Mass will begin with the Blessing of the Fire and the Lighting of the Paschal Candle. This will take place in the Presbytery Garden. The Mass will be much longer than the usual Vigil Mass, but it will be a great celebration of the Resurrection. Please do come along and celebrate this momentous Mass and support those who are coming into the Church.

EASTER SUNDAY

As we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord there will be Solemn Mass at St Teresa's at 11.00am followed by Tea & Coffee. At 5.00pm we will have Solemn Vespers & Benediction.

True or False?

In today's Gospel reading the scribes and Pharisees brought a sinful woman in front of Jesus. Do you know the rest of the story? See if you know which of these statements are true and which are false:

1. The law said that a sinful woman like this one should be killed. True or False?
2. The men were going to stone the woman anyway- they didn't care what Jesus thought. True or False?
3. Jesus didn't say anything right away; He just started writing on the ground with His finger. True or False?
4. Jesus said that whichever of the men had never sinned should be the first to throw a stone at the woman. True or False?
5. One of the men threw a stone at her. True or False?
6. All of the men walked away without throwing a stone. True or False?
7. Jesus forgave the woman and told her not to sin anymore. True or False?



MASSSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	5 Apr	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	John McAndrew (Anniv.) RIP	5th Sunday of Lent
Sun	6 Apr	10.15 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Confessions Sung Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	5th Sunday of Lent
Mon	7 Apr	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Exposition & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Teresa's	Eileen Harrison RIP	Weekday of Lent
Tue	8 Apr	10.00 am	Holy Mass (In School)	St. Alban's	Michael Lyndsay RIP	Weekday of Lent
Wed	9 Apr					Weekday of Lent
Thur	10 Apr					Weekday of Lent
Fri	11 Apr	8.30 am 9.30 am 6.30 pm	Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass Stations of the Cross	St. Teresa's	Eileen Wynn RIP	Weekday of Lent
Sat	12 Apr	8.00 am 8.30-10am	Holy Mass Exposition & Confessions	St. Teresa's	Aiden O'Naivi Thanksgiving	Weekday of Lent
Sat	12 Apr	4.00 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	People of the Parish	Palm Sunday
Sun	13 Apr	10.00 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	Confessions Sung Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Teresa Wallace RIP	Palm Sunday

Please continue to remember in your prayers:



those who are sick or housebound and their carers:

John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Margaret McEvoy, Aileen, Tommy Allan, Pat Matfin, Maria Cape 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 April

For New Technologies:

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



During Lent

We are asked to pray for :

Candidates for the Sacraments, for Women, for the needy and the hungry of the world, and for all penitents and wanderers.



Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen