



# PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 25 May 2025



**Parish Priest:** Fr Jonathon Bowes    Presbytery: 0191 265 5290    Parish Mobile: 07761 885745  
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**Church Open Daily:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8.00am - 5.00pm    Saturday 8.00am - 2.00pm

**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](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Reps:** St. Teresa's: Jean Potts  
St. Anthony's: Maria Duncan

**Parish Website:** [www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk](http://www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk)

### THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR JONATHON

Today's Gospel from John continues the "Farewell Discourse" of Jesus. Anticipating the approaching feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, the reading tells both of Jesus' imminent departure, and his promise of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus says to the disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." Incredibly, in his boundless generosity, God wishes to make his home with each of us - individually, on a permanent basis, so that wherever we are God will be at the centre of our lives. We must take care not to hear this as a conditional offer, dependant on us keeping Jesus' word - but rather, it is his love that comes first, which enables us to do the same. When we truly love Jesus, we "keep his word" by trying to be like him in all ways - to live by his words, actions and teaching. This is made possible when the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts, which is why Jesus makes a further promise, "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." He reassures his disciples that although he will no longer be physically present, they will not be left uncared for, abandoned. The comfort, assurance and peace he gave his disciples during his lifetime continues in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

This peace is Jesus' farewell gift to his disciples, and to us - "his" peace, a kind of peace the world cannot give. Not just on the surface, not just an absence of problems; it is something deep down which can be there even in times of hardship and suffering; the spiritual serenity and inner certainty that comes from harmony and communion with God - the peace of having God dwelling within us in all our walks through life. We need not be troubled or afraid because truly, we are never alone.

Fr. Jonathon





## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

### WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We offer our prayerful congratulations to Autumn Elizabeth Taylor who was baptised on Saturday at St. Anthony's. 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 in our prayers all those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### THE ASCENSION - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

On Thursday this week we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of The Lord. The Ascension is a Holy Day of Obligation, where all Catholics are obliged to attend Holy Mass. Therefore to allow you all the opportunity to fulfil the Obligation to attend Mass there will be two Mass on Thursday. 10am at St. Anthony's and 6.30pm at St. Teresa's.

### NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

As we prepare for the great solemnity of Pentecost, we will be praying together the Novena to the Holy Spirit. This will be prayed after all Masses from Friday of this week until Pentecost Sunday. Sheets can be collected from the porch during the week to join in with the Novena.

### SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Every Sunday 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.

### A DAY OF LIGHT

During lent we held our first 'Night of Light' event, which saw many people come and light a candle before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Our next day will be held on Saturday 31st May between 10am and 12noon. We will be inviting people in off the street to come and light a candle and to say a prayer before Jesus. If you are able to come along and help with this event, please speak to Fr Jonathon this weekend.

### QUARANT'ORE - 40 HOURS WITH THE LORD

The parish is currently organising for the traditional Quarant'Ore or 40 Hours. This will take place from Thursday 19th June - Sunday 22nd June. In order to hold this beautiful period of exposition with the Lord we will need volunteers to stay for an hour to pray, while the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. There are sign-up sheets in the porches of our churches. Please be as generous as possible with your time as without you we will not be able to hold this sacred time with the Lord.

### PARISH MARIAN PROCESSION

On Saturday 31st May the Vigil Mass at 5.30pm at St. Anthony's will be followed by a Marian Procession around the perimeter of the grounds of the Church. Please do come along as we celebrate the end of the Month of May.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

If you wish to organise a baptism, please speak to Fr Jonathon after Mass. Please note 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 2nd June at St Teresa's at 7.15pm in the porch. Please bring the baptism application form back with you to that meeting if not before.

### ALTAR SERVERS

We are always looking to welcome new Altar Servers onto our small teams of servers. If you have made your First Holy Communion and would like to serve at Holy Mass, please speak to Fr. Jonathon.

### 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. Children need to be at least 7 years old to take part. Please scan the QR code for the online form or speak to Fr Jonathon for a hard copy of the interest form.



### THE MONTH OF MAY

Throughout the month of May the church honours Our Blessed Mother. It has also been agreed that before all celebrations of Holy Mass the Holy Rosary will be prayed. Please do set aside some time each day to pray a decade of the rosary, maybe for the intentions of the universal Church.

### YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting takes place on Thursday 29th May after the 6.30pm Mass for the Ascension. We will be heading over to St T's Club after Mass for some refreshments and some social time. 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

### MASS INTENTIONS

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. Currently the parish has no Mass intentions booked in during the week from the beginning of June. There is nothing better than having a Mass offered for someone, or for a specific 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? To have a Mass said please fill out a Mass envelope (available in the church porches) and return to Fr Jonathon or place in the offertory collection during Mass.

### PENTECOST SUNDAY

As we continue to celebrate the season of Easter we also look to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. As we prepare for this celebration in the life of the Church, we are encouraged to go out and tell everyone about Jesus!! Over the next few weeks you will be given an invitation card to give to a neighbour, a friend, or someone you work with, which invites them to join us for Mass. Please do take these and invite people to encounter the risen Lord.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS

Our Children who have been preparing to make their First Holy Communion ask for your prayers in these final weeks. The First Holy Communion Masses will take place on Saturday 7th June at 10.00am at St Anthony's and on Saturday 14th June at 10.00am at St. Teresa's. Please do come along to these parish celebrations and pray for our young people.

### JOURNEY IN FAITH GROUP

On Pentecost Sunday (8th June) at St Teresa's during the 11.00am Mass we will have the baptisms, Confirmations and Communions of the last of this year's group. Please do pray for them as they prepare for these Sacraments. If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, or if you would like to be confirmed please speak to Fr Jonathon so that you can register your interest in the next course beginning in September.



## EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION AT USHAW COLLEGE

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, led by Bishop Stephen Wright, and starting at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Weather permitting, the procession will go through Ushaw's gardens, returning to the Chapel for Benediction. Teas and coffees will be available after the service. You do not need a ticket for this event, but please sign up on the sheet available at the back of church, to help Ushaw to estimate numbers. Please indicate if you are bringing a car: this will help Ushaw to manage car parking requirements.

## HOLY ISLAND SVP CAMP

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. 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](mailto:BarbaraT@svp.org.uk).

## SICK & HOUSEBOUND

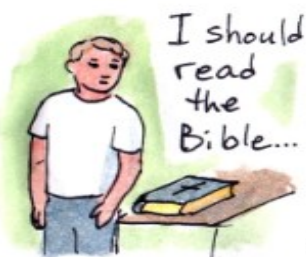
We pray for all our parishioners who are unable to attend Mass because of illness or infirmity. If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, because you are unable to come to Church due to sickness or are housebound, please contact either Fr Jonathon and the appropriate arrangements will be made.

## EXAM SEASON

Exam season is now firmly with us. We offer our prayers of support to all our students through from year 6 to those completing degree and vocational courses. We think particularly of our year 11 GCSE pupils. We pray they all enjoy the success they deserve.

## Jesus Promises to Send the Holy Spirit

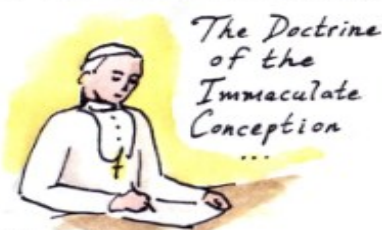
In today's Gospel reading Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to the disciples after He was gone. The Holy Spirit would teach them all they needed to know.



would come to them and show them what they needed to do.

After Jesus left, the disciples would be confused about what Jesus had wanted them to do and how to go about building the Church He had started. But Jesus promised that they would not be alone. God the Holy Spirit

Where is the Holy Spirit now? He is still working in the Church. He inspires people to do what is right and to learn the truth. He also shows the leaders of the Church what God wants of them and keeps the Church's teachings free of error. Can you think of times when the Holy Spirit helped you?



Answers to Match-up puzzle: 1-D, 2-F, 3-A, 4-C, 5-E, 6-G, 7-B.  
John 14:23-29

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

## LEARNING THE FAITH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

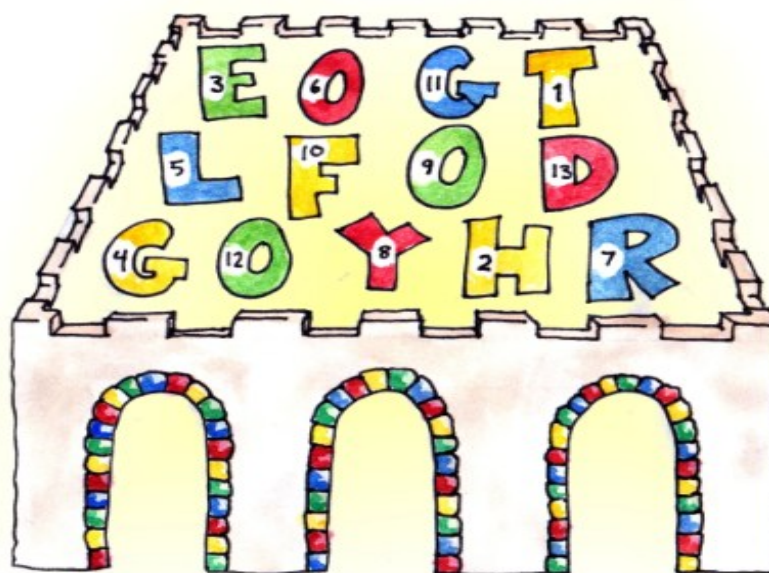
The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, says that "Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy" (14). Over the next few weeks it is praiseworthy to think about ways that one might enter more deeply into the liturgy. In this vein, I would like to offer a suggestion that could aid in precisely that.

First, it is helpful to consider what "full active participation of all God's holy people in these liturgical celebrations" (41) actually means and doesn't mean. In our frenetic age, there is a temptation to think that active participation means doing a lot of things. As the then Cardinal Ratzinger wrote in his book *The Spirit of the Liturgy*: "Unfortunately, the word [participation] was very quickly misunderstood to mean something external, entailing a need for general activity, as if as many people as possible, as often as possible, should be visibly engaged in action."<sup>1</sup> But such a reading misses the true point of the council's instructions. According to Ratzinger, "the word 'participation' refers to a principal action in which everyone has a 'part'."<sup>2</sup> In other words, it is not about each person having a separate role but rather every person fully engaging in one and the same liturgical action (according to one's state in life, of course).

*Sacrosanctum Concilium* itself offers a helpful explanation of what this means: "The Church, therefore, earnestly desires that Christ's faithful when present at this mystery of faith, should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, through a good understanding of the rites and prayers they should take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration". In other words, active participation—while it includes such things as vocalising the responses—is primarily about the intellectual contemplation and heartfelt intentionality of the faithful during the liturgy. It is about actively thinking of what is being said, what it means, and consenting with one's will to the sacred mysteries taking place.

## The Kids' Bulletin

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 25th, 2025



Today's second reading tells about the new Jerusalem, the heavenly city. Sort out the letters by their numbers to fill in the blanks...

The city has no need of sun or moon because

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

will be its light.

Rev.21:22-23

# MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	24 May	4.30 pm 5.00 pm 5.30 pm	Exposition & Confessions Holy Rosary Vigil Mass	St. Anthony's	People of the Parish	6th Sunday of Easter
Sun	25 May	10.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am  6.00 pm	Exposition & Confessions Holy Rosary Sung Holy Mass  Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's	Andrea Kane	6th Sunday of Easter
Mon	26 May	8.30 am 9.30 am	Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass	St. Teresa's	Hywell Jones RIP	St Philip Neri
Tue	27 May	9.00 am 10.00 am	Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass	St. Anthony's	Anne Clarke RIP	St Augustine of Canterbury
Wed	28 May					Weekday of Easter
Thur	29 May	10.00 am 6.30 am 7.15 am	Solemn Mass Solemn Sung Mass Young Adult Prayer Group	St. Anthony's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	People of the Parish Krystyn Onaivi	The Ascension of the Lord
Fri	30 May	8.30 am 9.30 am	Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass & Novena	St. Teresa's	Terry Clarke RIP	Weekday of Easter
Sat	31 May	9.00 am	Holy Mass (Latin) <i>followed by Day of Light</i>	St. Teresa's	Agnes Smith RIP	The Visitation of Our Lady
Sat	31 May	4.30 pm 5.00 pm 5.30 pm	Exposition & Confessions Holy Rosary & Novena Vigil Mass <i>followed by Marian Procession</i>	St. Anthony's	Elizabeth Frances Dearing	7th Sunday of Easter
Sun	1 June	10.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am  6.00 pm	Exposition & Confessions Holy Rosary & Novena Sung Holy Mass  Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	7th Sunday of Easter



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

## 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



### For Working Conditions:

## THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

### Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention for May

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

### During Eastertide

### We are asked to pray for :

New members of the Church, Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life, Survivors of Sexual Abuse, the Right use of Media, The Church, and for

