



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 24th August 2025



Parish Priest:	Fr Jonathon Bowes	Presbytery:	0191 265 5290
		Parish Mobile:	07761 885745 For Emergencies only
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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			
Safeguarding Reps:	St. Teresa's:	Jean Potts	St. Anthony's: Maria Duncan
Parish Website:	www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk		

THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR JONATHON

In today's Gospel, Jesus is asked the question: "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" His reply does not give statistics, but rather a challenge: "Strive to enter through the narrow door." It is a striking image, one that invites us to pause and consider what it means for our journey of faith. In ancient times, city gates often had two entrances. There was the large gate, broad enough to allow carts, carriages, and caravans of goods to pass through with ease. It was designed for traffic, trade, and armies. But built within or alongside that great entrance was often a much smaller gate, narrow and low, intended for pedestrians. This smaller door required people to bend down, to walk carefully, to leave behind excess baggage. It was not the way of pomp or grandeur, but the way of humility.

When Jesus speaks of the "narrow door," he invites us to imagine entering the kingdom of God not through a grand archway of privilege, prestige, or entitlement, but through the smaller gate, the one that asks us to let go of pride, selfishness, and all that weighs us down. The wide gate may be easier, but the narrow one leads to life. This image speaks powerfully to our Christian life today. In a world that often prizes success, wealth, and recognition, we can be tempted to think that following Christ should guarantee us an easy road or a place of honour. Yet Jesus reminds us that discipleship requires effort: "Strive to enter." The word "strive" suggests struggle, discipline, perseverance. Salvation is gift, yes, but we are called to respond with our whole selves.

The narrow door challenges us to examine what we carry. Are there resentments, grudges, or attachments that make us too "bulky" to fit through? Are we weighed down by the need for control, recognition, or material comfort? Passing through the narrow door is not about exclusion, it is about conversion. It is about becoming leaner in spirit, freer to love God and neighbour. And notice too: the pedestrian gate admits one person at a time. We cannot rely on our family heritage, our parish membership, or our association with others to carry us through. Each of us must answer Christ's call personally, entering in faith, in humility, in trust. Yet once inside, we discover the joy of a banquet shared with people from east and west, north and south, the great communion of God's people. This Sunday, let us take Jesus' words to heart. The kingdom of God is not a fortress that keeps people out, but a home with a door that is open, yet narrow. It is not closed by God, but narrowed by the demands of love and truth. As we walk together in faith, may we encourage one another to travel lightly, to let go of what hinders us, and to enter joyfully through the narrow door that leads to life.



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We offer our prayerful congratulation to Alba Ellen-Marie Marney who will be baptised during the 11am Mass at St Teresa's. We also offer our prayerful congratulations to Charlie Cole who is to be baptised on Sunday at St Teresa's. We remember 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. Please keep in your prayers all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

FUTURE OF SAINT ANTHONY'S

As Fr Jonathon shared with us, the Parish council have been discussing the future of our buildings in light of the works that are needed to be carried out. At present St Antony's does not have a functioning heating system in the Church due to its failure in March. In order to repair the heating system we would need to spend in excess of £160,000. This doesn't solve the problem that we have with the damp or include the cost of replacing the Church roof. If repairs are to be carried out on the Church we would need to close the Church for 4-6 months for these to be carried out. With the winter months approaching a decision needs to be made by the whole parish on what we should do. Therefore, an open meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd September at 7.00pm at St Anthony's. Please do put this in your diary and come along to this important meeting.

GREAT NORTH RUN - CAFOD

Christopher Metcalf, a parishioner from St Teresa's, will be taking on the 13.2 miles between Newcastle and South Shields for CAFOD. Christopher is looking for sponsorship as he takes on this challenge and will be at the back of Church after weekend Masses with a bucket for any contributions. You can also contribute by scanning the QR code



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. As the winter months approach we will return to the earlier time of 4pm from the 14th September.

PARISH GIVING

Can we take this opportunity to thank you all for contributing towards the work of the parish. Since we became one parish the number of standing orders has dramatically reduced. If you would like to give by standing order and haven't changed the details with your bank, our new bank details are as follows.

Account Name: DHN Newcastle Christ the King

Account Number: 52010917 Sort Code: 40-34-18

MASS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Are you on holiday? Why not come along to weekday Mass one day, or a few days, while you're on holiday. You may find that it does you some good!! We'd love to see you with us!

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 25/26

If you are in secondary school and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are invited to fill in the interest form for our next course beginning in September. More information will be emailed to you after you have completed the initial interest form. Please scan the QR code for the online form or speak to Fr Jonathon, or your parish priest, for a hard copy of the interest form.



FIRST SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME 25/26

Thank you to all those who have signed up for this year First Sacraments programme. There is an introductory meeting for all parents to attend on Tuesday 9th September at 6.30pm in St Teresa's Church. This will allow us to introduce the team of catechists and to answer any questions you may have about the programme. If you haven't signed up yet, and would like your child to attend, please speak to Fr Jonathon as soon as possible. A full list of the dates are on the parish website, along with the topics we will be covering.

MASS INTENTIONS

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. 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.

DIOCESAN JUBILEE DAY

Bishop Stephen invites you to a Jubilee Day on Saturday 27th September, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead. There'll be guest speakers, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. This is an opportunity to explore what a Church in Mission invites us to be and do! There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a prayer space in the chapel, and praise and worship led by Durham musicians 'Set A Fire'. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25> where you'll also find more information about the seminars you'll be able to join during the day.

KEYHOLDERS

The parish is currently reviewing who has keys to its buildings for insurance purposes. Therefore, if you have a key to any of our buildings please could you contact the Parish Office informing us what key you have and why. If we do not know who has a key, we will need to get all the locks changed.

LEGACIES & DONATIONS

Raising funds through wills and charitable legacies is a massive part of our fundraising and it is where we have obtained donations to the parish in the recent past, through the very generous donations of parishioners in their wills. Very simply, the request is, that if you are writing your will, is there any way that you can remember your parish in your will and so help us with our fundraising.

It has always been a tradition of the Church to pray, and to offer Masses, for the Holy Souls. Therefore, to help us to pray for the Holy Souls, we now have a box by the candles in the side Chapel at St Teresa's for donations towards Masses. If you are lighting a Candle by those statues please put the candle money in this box. A Mass will be offered each week for the Holy Souls in the parish.

The parish is hoping to establish a men's group within the parish for men to come together to socialise and to discuss any relevant topics together. It will take place on the last Friday of every month. The first gathering will take place on Friday 26th September. If you would like to come along, please come to the presbytery for 7pm and we will then go over to the Catholic Club.

Our next meeting takes place on Thursday 28th August. This will follow the 6.30pm Mass, where we will have a time of Adoration, with the opportunity for confessions. We will then head into the presbytery for food and drinks. If you are looking for a welcoming space to grow in faith and fellowship this is a group for you! The Prayer Group is a vibrant community of young Catholic adults (18 to 35). We share in faith, friendship and great conversations, followed by a meal or a drink in the Catholic Club.

A International Mass and Celebration will take place on Sunday 21st September during the I Iam Mass at St Teresa's. The Readings and Bidding Prayers will be proclaimed in different languages. If you would like to volunteer to read, please speak to Fr Jonathon or Andrea. After the celebration of Mass we will then move into the parish hall to continue the celebration with different music and dances. Please do make every effort to get involved.

Several social events are currently being planned for the Autumn in St Teresa's Hall. I would highly encourage you to put these in your diaries and make every effort to come along.

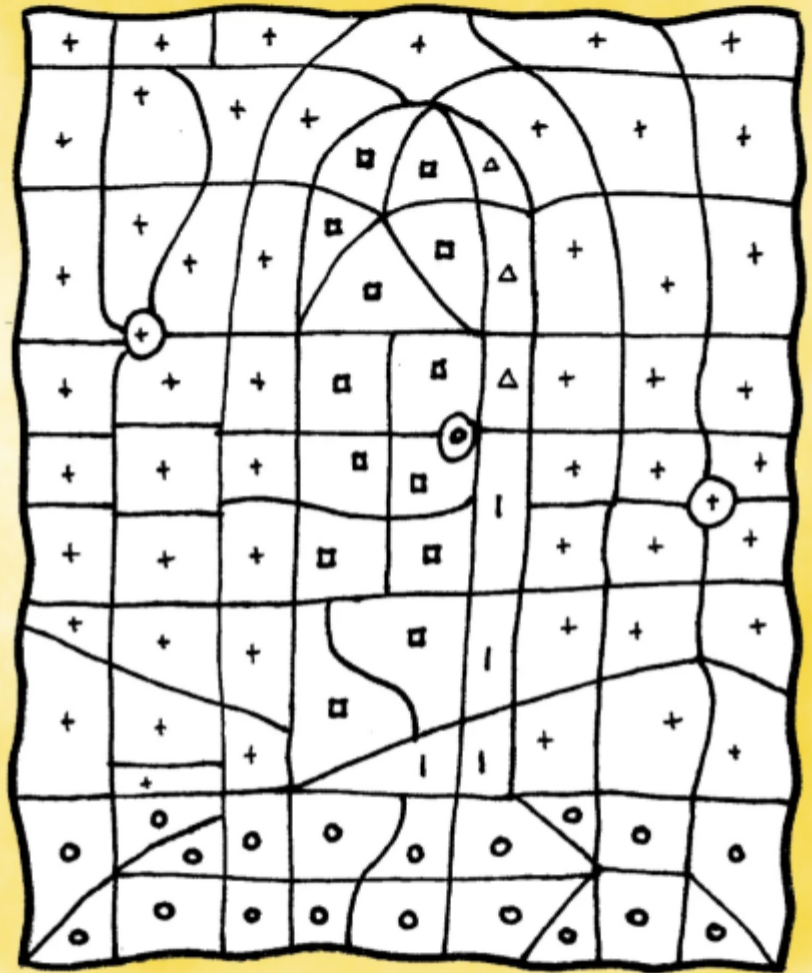
On **Friday 19th September** we will be having a Quiz Night beginning at 7pm. It will also include a few games of Bingo. It will be £2 per person for the Quiz, with quiz teams of no more than 6.

On **Tuesday 7th October** we will be having a film night in St Teresa's Hall. So bring along you own drinks and snacks and enjoy a movie together. The film will begin at 7pm.

On **Sunday 2nd November** we will be holding an Evening with the Saints. We will begin at 3pm in the Hall with themed games and food, before having a Saints Procession. We then have a time of prayer, praying for the Holy Souls and asking for the Intercession of the Saints. The evening will then conclude with fireworks. More information, along with tickets, to follow shortly.

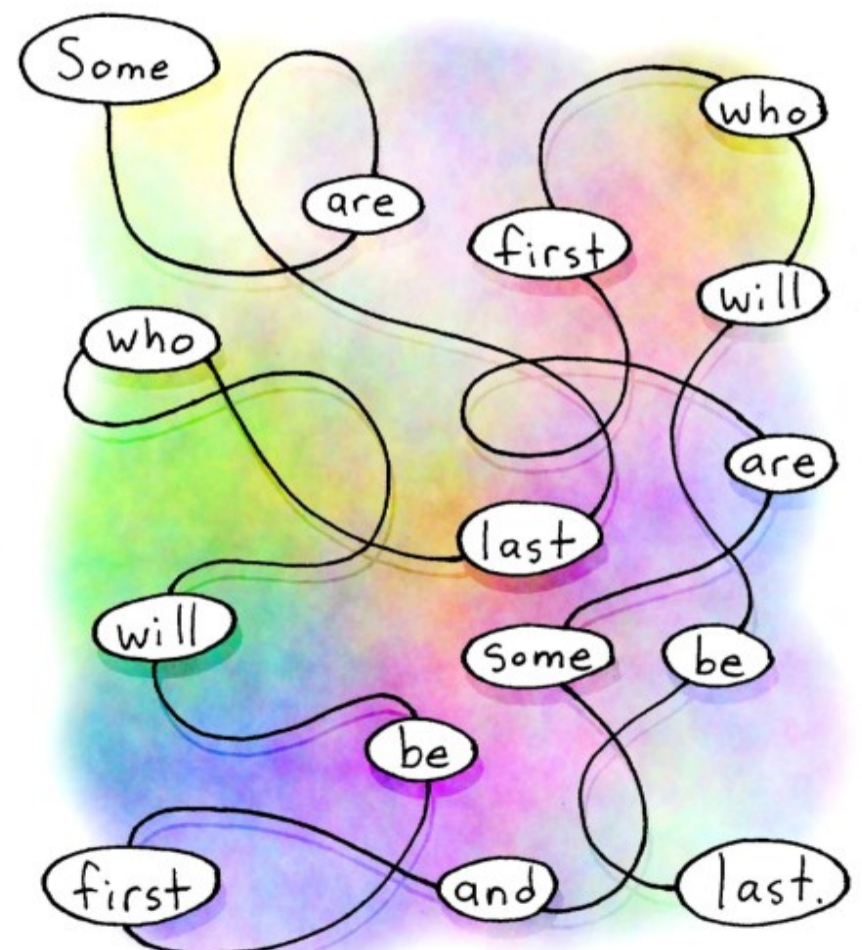
Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries are holding a day of Prayer, Testimony, Adoration and Praise and Worship at St Aidan's Church, Benton, on Saturday 30th August between 2pm & 5pm. It will be led by lay evangelist Jose Kuriakose, who is a gifted speaker and is on fire with the Holy Spirit. For more information, call Deacon Alison on 07931 136243.

Luke 13:22-30



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 ! Green ● Grey

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MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	23 Aug	4.30 pm 5.30 pm	Exposition & Confessions Vigil Mass *	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Angela Miller RIP	21st Sunday Of Ordinary Time
Sun	24 Aug	8.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Sung Morning Prayer * Confessions Sung Holy Mass & Baptism * Sung Vespers & Benediction *	St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	21st Sunday Of Ordinary Time
Mon	25 Aug					Feria
Tue	26 Aug					Bl. Dominic Barberi
Wed	27 Aug					St Monica
Thur	28 Aug	6.00 pm 6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Evening Prayer * Holy Mass Young Adult Prayer Group	St. Teresa's	Ben Arend-Trujilo	St. Augustine
Fri	29 Aug	8.30 am 9.30 am	Exposition & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Teresa's	Birthday Thanksgiving	The Passion of St John Baptist
Sat	30 Aug	7.45 am 8.00 am	Morning Prayer * Holy Mass (Latin)	St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	St. Margaret Clitherow
Sat	30 Aug	4.30 pm 5.30 pm	Exposition & Confessions Vigil Mass	St. Anthony's	Mary McMaster RIP (Anniv.)	22nd Sunday Of Ordinary Time
Sun	31 Aug	8.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Sung Morning Prayer * Confessions Sung Holy Mass * Sung Vespers & Benediction *	St. Teresa's	Maragret & Alfred King RIP	22nd Sunday Of Ordinary Time



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

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention for August

For Mutual Coexistence :

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

During Ordinary Time (Summer)

We are asked to pray for :

A deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life and for Seafarers

