



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Sunday 14th September 2025

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

This week the Church pauses to celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, a solemnity that invites us to lift our eyes and hearts toward the very heart of our faith. The Cross, once a brutal instrument of torture and humiliation, has become for us the sign of victory, mercy, and eternal life. What the world saw as defeat, God transformed into triumph.

In the Gospel for this feast, Jesus reminds us of the bronze serpent Moses raised in the desert: those who looked upon it were healed and saved. In the same way, the Son of Man is lifted up on the Cross so that "everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." This is not only a memory of an event long ago; it is a reality we live each day. The Cross remains lifted up in our midst, on our altars, in our homes, and most especially in our hearts. It is not simply a piece of wood or a religious decoration, but a sign of God's unfailing love.

St. Paul tells us that Christ "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross." The exaltation of the Cross is therefore not only about Christ's suffering, but about His radical obedience and limitless love. When we gaze upon the Cross, we are reminded that our own sufferings, offered in union with Christ, can also be transformed. The Cross teaches us that God's love is stronger than sin, stronger than suffering, and stronger than death itself.

This feast challenges us to see the crosses in our lives differently. Each of us carries burdens, illness, loss, worry, or disappointment. On our own, these crosses may feel crushing. Yet, when united to Christ's Cross, they become part of God's saving work. The Cross is not meant to trap us in despair, but to lift us into hope.

As a parish, let us never tire of lifting high the Cross. May our prayer, our worship, and our daily witness proclaim that the Cross is the tree of life, the sign of God's mercy, and the path to true freedom. In the words of the liturgy: "We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world."



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We offer our prayerful congratulations to Amelia and Millie Tonks who were baptised at St Teresa's this weekend. We also 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, especially Elizabeth Ann Tierney, Susan Jones and Florence Lyddon and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Susan's Funeral Service and Burial will take place at the West Road on Wednesday 17th at 10.30am. Florence's Funeral Service will take place on Thursday 25th September at 10.30am at St Anthony's followed by burial in Heaton Cemetery. Elizabeth's Funeral service will take place on Friday 26th September at 12.45pm at the West Road Crematorium.

FIRST SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME 25/26

This weekend our children who are beginning their preparation for First Confession and First Holy Communion will be enrolled as candidates for the Sacraments during Mass at St Teresa's. Please do pray for them all, along with their families, as they prepare for these beautiful Sacraments.

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. 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.

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 this Sunday, 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 yet 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

If you pay Tax here in the UK you could also gift-aid your donation, which costs you absolutely nothing however the Church will receive an extra 25%. If you would like to do this please speak to Fr Jonathon to get a form.

INTERNATIONAL MASS & CELEBRATION

Next weekend is Home Mission Sunday and the day where we celebrate and think about how the Gospel is spread here in our own country amongst our own people. We will be celebrating the diversity of our parish communities. The Readings and Bidding Prayers will be proclaimed in different languages and our communion hymn will be sung in Spanish. After the celebration of Holy Mass you are encouraged to come along to the Hall to continue the celebration with different music and dances. Please do make every effort to get involved.

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.



PARISH SCHOOL TAKEOVER MASSES

Next weekend will see the return of our Parish School Takeover Masses, where our children will be leading us in the readings, bidding prayers and the offertory. The Children will also be picking the hymns for the celebration. As the last Sunday of September is traditionally Harvest Sunday, we will also be taking a collection of items for the foodbank. As we thank God for gift of the harvest and for everything that he gives us, if you are able to bring any items along with you to donate to the foodbank please do.

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.

PARISH MEN'S GROUP

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 6.30pm and we will then go over to the Catholic Club.

YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting takes place on Thursday 25th September. 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.

EDUCATION SUNDAY - RETIRING COLLECTION

Sunday 14th September is Education Sunday. It is a Day of Prayer for all involved in Education, especially Catholic Education. There will be a Retiring Collection this weekend at all Sunday Masses along with an appeal.

ST TERESA'S CHURCH OPEN DAILY

A reminder that St. Teresa's Church is open throughout the week (except Wednesday) for private prayer. The Church will be opened for Morning Prayer at 7.45am and will then remain open until 5pm. It is a great opportunity to pop in, even for a few minutes, to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament. Please close the door as you leave.

MASSES FOR THE HOLY SOULS

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.

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

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. No tickets required, please just arrive for 7pm on the evening.

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

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 will 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.

CARD READER FOR DONATIONS

Please remember that we have a Card Reader for regular card or mobile phone donations to the Church. This is situated at the back of church in the narthex and can be used for the general collection and for other collections.

GROUND FORCE DAY - SATURDAY 20TH

We are currently looking for some green-fingered volunteers to help clean up the gardens and the car park around St Teresa's Church. No experience is necessary, just a willing enthusiasm to make the outside of our church a beautiful place. If you are able to help, please come along on Saturday 20th September at 10am. We do only have a limited amount of tools here, so if you have any tools please do bring them along. We will reward you for your time and effort with drinks and Sausage Sandwiches!!

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

This year the Mass count will take place on the last two weekends in September and the first two weekends in October (each parish is required by the Diocese to count the number of people attending Mass). The details are forwarded to the Diocese along with other parish statistics at the end of the year. So, if you see someone "clicking you in" at Mass you will know why!

PARISH SCHOOLS NEWS

It is wonderful to have all our staff and children back in our parish schools after their summer break. This week we will be celebrating start of year masses with St Lawrence's and St Teresa's. Please do come along if you are able. Fr Jonathon will also be in St Mary's school as usual on a Monday Lunchtime, and he will be celebrating Mass there on Friday morning at 8.20am, so there will be no exposition on Friday this week.

St. Lawrence's School - Monday 15th Sept @ 2.15pm

St. Teresa's School - Friday 19th Sept @ 9.30am

St. Alban's School - Wednesday 1st Oct @ 9.30am

Parish School Takeover Mass - Saturday 27th/28th Sept

Word-find: The Holy Cross

CALVARYMARYH
PCROSSSTHREE
LADJESUSLITA
ADAMSAVIOROV
CHRNTCHEVERY
EEKCARRYEETN
GATESINSDFUA
OVIFKFATHERI
DEMRYIHELLEL
LNEEECHILLNE
OFFEREDIEDAD



Find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle. Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

After ADAM and Eve sinned, the world needed a SAVIOUR who would FREE us from the punishment we deserved in HELL. JESUS, Who was the Son of GOD, LOVED us so much that He OFFERED His life to God the FATHER as a SACRIFICE for our SINS.

When the TIME came for Jesus to die, the HEAVY wooden cross was placed on His shoulders. He was forced to CARRY it to the top of the HILL. EVERY step was TORTURE. He FELL several times, and met His holy mother MARY along the way.

Finally He came to CALVARY, also called the PLACE of the Skull. The soldiers NAILED Him to the CROSS and lifted it up. The SKY became DARK as Jesus hung there for THREE hours. Finally He DIED. His soul went to God and He opened the GATES of HEAVEN.

Who found Jesus' cross after it had been buried for 300 years? _____

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

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Church	Mass Intention	Special Occasion
Sat	13 Sept	4.30 pm 5.30 pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	People of the Parish	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Sun	14 Sept	8.00 am 10.15 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	St. Teresa's	Mr & Mrs H Jones RIP	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Mon	15 Sept	7.45 am 2.00 pm 5.30 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Lawrence's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	St Lawrence Staff & Pupils Jim Moran RIP	Our Lady of Sorrows
Tue	16 Sept	7.45 am 9.00 am 10.00 am	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Sir John Onaivi RIP (Anniv.)	SS Cornelius & Cyprian
Wed	17 Sept				St Robert Bellarmine
Thur	18 Sept	7.45 am 5.30 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's	Edna James RIP	Feria
Fri	19 Sept	7.45 am 9.30 am	St. Teresa's	Patricia & Michael Jordan RIP	St Theodore of Canterbury
Sat	20 Sept	7.45 am 8.00 am	St. Teresa's	Vocations to Priesthood	The Korean Martyrs
Sat	20 Sept	4.30 pm 5.30 pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Fr. Michael Conaty RIP	25th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun	21 Sept	8.00 am 10.15 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	25th Sunday of Ordinary Time



JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

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

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention for September

For Our Relationship with All of Creation:

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

During Ordinary Time (Autumn)

We are asked to pray for :

Students and Teachers, The spread of the Gospel, The Harvest, The fruits of Human work and the reverent use of Creation, Justice and Peace in the world, All victims of War, Young People and Prisoners and their Families.

