

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	17 Aug	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday Fr Neilus O'Connor RIP	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sun	18 Aug	8.15 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 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 People of the Parishes Deceased members of McConnell & Mee Families	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon	19 Aug	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's	Exposition & Confessions Holy Mass Fr Neilus O'Connor RIP (NBF)	Feria
Tue	20 Aug	10.00 am	St. Teresa's	Requiem Mass Siphathisiwe Nkai-Dube RIP	St Bernard
Wed	21 Aug				Dedication of St Mary's Cathedral
Thur	22 Aug				Queenship of Mary
Fri	23 Aug				St Rose of Lima
Sat	24 Aug	8.00 am 4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Holy Mass Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday Vocations to the Priesthood People of the Parishes	St. Bartholomew 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sun	25 Aug	8.15 am 9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 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 Healy & Dryden (Dec) Families Mary McMaster	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Please continue to remember in your prayers:

those who are sick or housebound and their carers:

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

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

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for August:

For Political Leaders: Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

During Ordinary Time (Summer)

We are asked to pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who suffer persecution, oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life & Seafarers.



St. TERESA'S

Heaton Road, Heaton



St. ANTHONY'S

Welbeck Road, Walker



St. LAWRENCE'S

Byker Crescent, Byker



Parish Newsletter

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday 18th August 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 2433305 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.stanthonyssfrancis.org.uk	

THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR JONATHON

This Sunday, we hear of the crowds who were wrestling with the words of Jesus from the previous week's Gospel, as he reveals himself to be the bread from heaven. They were not able to understand how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat, and instead of taking back his words, Jesus tells them: "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." These words of Jesus in today's gospel were difficult to hear, and the crowd began to quarrel among themselves trying to understand what Jesus meant. How could Jesus give them his flesh to eat and his blood to drink? The Jewish people lacked the faith and understanding to be able to accept this teaching, and many left Jesus as a result.

There is a famous saying that says the longest journey one takes is that from the head to the heart. To be able to transform what we hear and know to that which we believe is one of the greatest challenges in the Christian life. Paul understood deeply that this pursuit of wisdom is a noble one, as he urges the church in Ephesus to strive to be wise, to leave ignorance and pursue understanding of the will of the Lord. The first reading from the book of proverbs reiterates this, saying "forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

What is our response when we encounter difficult teaching? It is easy as the crowds did to leave and live-in ignorant bliss, but what is truly more noble is to wrestle with the truth. How are we seeking the truth in our life? Do we ask Jesus for the gift of faith, understanding and wisdom, especially when we approach the life-giving sacrament of the Eucharist? Let us try this week to learn something new about our faith, researching a question we may have been struggling with, and sharing what we've learned with someone else.

Fr. Jonathon

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers Vinnie Lewis Antonio who is to be baptised this weekend. Please also pray for 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 especially for Tony Errington, and Siphathisiwe Nkau-Dube and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Siphathisiwe Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday at 10.00am at St. Teresa's. Tony's Cremation service will take place on Tuesday at 1.30pm at Whitley Bay Crematorium.

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Please note that there are a few changes to the regular weekday Mass schedule this week and next. This is to allow Fr Jonathon to enjoy some well deserved rest.

HOLY ISLAND TRIP

The Altar Servers from across our parishes will be having an away day on Saturday 7th September to Holy Island. We will be having Mass on the Island at 10.30am. We will then be spending some time on the Island before heading to Seahouses for Fish & Chips and Crazy Golf. If any parishioners would like to join us you are most welcome. Please do let Fr Jonathon know if you are going to be joining us on the Island.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

Please make a note in your diaries of Tuesday 1st October, which is the Feast day of St Therese. To mark the Patronal Feast we will be having a Quiz Night in the Parish Hall from 7.30pm - 9.00pm. The Quiz will be based on the TV show 1% Club, which will test your general knowledge and logical thinking. Tickets are priced at £5 each which will include a Hog Roast and entry to the Quiz. Please feel free to bring your own drinks. Tickets will be available from the back of our churches from September.

PARISH CENSUS

It is always good practice to keep the parish records up-to-date. Therefore, when you enter Church, please pick up a Census form. Please fill these out at Church and place in the box marked 'completed census forms'. Please do feel free to these to parishioners who you know are sick or housebound.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC - RCIA

The 'Journey In Faith' course will begin again at the end of September for those who are considering becoming a Catholic. 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 programme will take place fortnightly on a Monday Evening, 7.15-8.15pm. It is also an expectation that you would be coming to Sunday Mass (or the Vigil) each week. Please try and speak with Fr Jonathon as soon as possible

DAILY MASS AND EXPOSITION

Mass is celebrated within our three parishes every day (except a Wednesday). Are you retired? Are you on holiday? Are you free during the day? Do you need some support? Come to Mass during the week and experience the benefits we receive by doing so. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament gives us some quiet time for prayer and peacefulness and at Mass the Lord Jesus feeds us with his body and blood. What a wonderful opportunity lies before us every week!

MASS INTENTIONS

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. Currently the parishes has very few Mass intentions booked in during the week. There is nothing better than having a Mass offered for someone, or for some 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? For Mass to be offered it is tradition that a stipend is donated to contribute to the upkeep of your priest. Please contact the office, or fill out a Mass envelope (available in the church porches) and return to Fr Jonathon if you would like a Mass offered. If you request a specific date and that date is not available the Intention will be said on the nearest possible date.

PARISH READERS STUDY DAY & DAY OF RECOLLECTION

In preparation for the new lectionary, Fr. Jonathon will be holding a study day for all parish readers. This will take place on Saturday 16th November at St. Teresa's. It will begin with Holy Mass at 10am and will be finished by 12.30pm. This day will include having a look at the new texts that are going to be used along with looking at how we prepare ourselves to proclaim the scriptures for others. The day will also allow us all to recommit ourselves to this important ministry. If you would like to become a reader, please speak to Fr Jonathon. Please put this date in your diaries!

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 Baptism preparation course will take place over two sessions, on Monday 9th and Monday 16th of September at 7.15pm. Parent's must attend both sessions.

YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting of the Young Adult Prayer Group will take place on Thursday 29th August at 7.00pm at St. Teresa's Church. The Group is primarily to allow those who are 18-35 to come together for a time of prayer, discussion and social time. Please come along if you are available.

THURSDAY EVENING ADORATION

Over the last couple of months several people have spoken to Fr Jonathon about having a time of Adoration & Confession on a Weekday Evening, to allow those who work or go to school to come along. From the beginning of September we will therefore have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with the opportunity for confessions, every Thursday Evening at 7.00pm. The Holy Hour will conclude with Night Prayer.

SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS & BENEDICTION

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

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD & RELIGIOUS LIFE

Bishop Stephen spoke recently to a group of priests about praying regularly for vocations in our parishes and how important those prayers are. If we do not pray for this intention, then we should not be surprised that no priests come forward from our parishes. Therefore, every weekday during Adoration we will pray for Vocations, praying that young men respond to the Lords call to serve the Church.

NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE & THE WIDER CHURCH

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A PRIEST?

The Vocations Team extends an invitation to men aged 18+, who think God might be calling them to serve in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle as a Priest, are invited to explore their vocation with the Diocesan Priestly Vocations Team. The evenings will take place at St Joseph's Church, Thorneyholme Terrace, Stanley on: Tuesday 3rd September, Tuesday 1st October, Tuesday 5th November, Tuesday 3rd December. These Meetings take place each month (except August) between 6pm and 8pm.

ASSISTED SUICIDE LEGISLATION ATTEMPT

At the end of July, Lord Falconer was due to be introduce a Bill in the House of Lords to legalise assisted suicide and the Prime Minister has pledged that he will make time for MPs to vote on the introduction of assisted suicide. As we face these major threats, it's important to make it clear to both new and returning MPs at the start of this parliamentary cycle that they have a large number of voters in their constituency who don't want to see extreme anti-life changes to our laws. 'Right to Life' have launched an EasyAction tool on their website - www.righttolife.co.uk - that makes it simple to contact your local MP asking them to oppose these radical changes to the law (the pre-written email also includes vital information on these threats that we are looking to get in front of MPs as early as possible in the new Parliament). Please take action and contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA DAY OF RECOLLECTION

St John the Baptist Church, Annitsford are holding a special 'Our Lady of Fatima' Day of Prayer on Saturday 31st August 2024 with Mass, Procession, Rosary, Adoration and Benediction. Please do support this day if you are able.

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle is looking to appoint the following Vacancies:

Parish Secretary, Our Lady of Mercy, Sunderland – 20 hours a week. Closing date: 21 August. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.