

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	7 Dec	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday People of the Parishes	2nd Sunday of Advent
Sun	8 Dec	8.30 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 Special Intention (A.G.) Special Intention (M.B.)	2nd Sunday of Advent
Mon	9 Dec	5.45 pm 6.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass Soul of Thressiamma	The Immaculate Conception
Tue	10 Dec	9.15 am 10.00 am	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Adoration & Rosary Holy Mass Angela Miller RIP	Our Lady of Loreto
Wed	11 Dec	9.30 am	St. Lawrence's	Holy Mass No Mass Intention Received	Advent Feria
Thur	12 Dec			NO MASS TODAY	Advent Feria
Fri	13 Dec	8.45 am 9.30 am	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass Paul Blenkinsop RIP	St. Lucy
Sat	14 Dec	7.30 am 4.45 pm 5.30 pm	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Rorate Mass Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday Priest's Intention Lauren Hay	St. John of the Cross 3rd Sunday of Advent
Sun	15 Dec	8.30 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 Peggy & Leo McConnell RIP	3rd Sunday of Advent



PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 8 December 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 243 3305 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

God is totally committed to helping us become more deeply human, wiser and peace filled. His love has the power to radically transform the lives of those who truly accept it. However, such transformation is a work of cooperation with God, which the Gospel calls repentance. Repentance means "change", not just in one's moral behaviour, but above all in one's way of thinking. It involves a new way of looking at life, of relating to God and to others. Repentance makes the difference between a life of quiet desperation and a life of meaning and purpose.

Paul's cheerful letter to the Philippians was written from prison. He was awaiting trial in Rome, but this was not enough to rob him of his joy. The secret to his unfailing optimism was his faith in Christ. This faith expressed itself in two important attitudes: an attitude of gratitude for the past, and an attitude of confidence in the future anchored in God's faithfulness. Paul thanks God for his spiritual children the Philippians, and he waits with confident expectation for the Last Day when God will bring his work of salvation to completion.

This Advent most of us could do well to re-learn what it is to be truly joyful, and to share that joy with others. Let's not grumble and begrudge those who have a different wish list this Christmas, who don't yet see our Saviour as the greatest gift of all. But - since we believe that he is, we must show it! Pray for all that their love may increase "in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value" (Phil. 1:9-10). Instead of lamenting the commercialisation and materialism of the secular Christmas, or focusing on how "stressful" it is, "take off your robe of mourning and misery" (Bar. 5:1), assume the optimism of St. Paul and share with the world the mark of Christianity - our joy.

Fr. Jonathon

Please continue to remember in your prayers:

those who are sick or housebound and their carers:

John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Mrs Wilson, 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 December:

For Pilgrims of Hope: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

During Advent & Christmas

We are asked to pray for these intentions: Migrant and Refugees and for All Expectant Mothers,



Advent

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES, PARTNERSHIP AND VICARIATE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers Kathleen Baxter who has died recently. Kathleen's Cremation service will take place on Friday 13th December at 3.00pm at the West Road Crematorium. We continue to pray for all 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.

SECOND COLLECTION - ADVENT ALMS FOR ST CUTHBERT'S CARE

As is traditional during our Season of Advent, we collect our Advent Alms, which always goes towards the work of St Cuthbert's Care, our Diocesan Charity that cares for those in our diocese who are elderly, disabled, young families and children. Nic Gilbert, Chief Executive of St Cuthbert's Care, writes, "I ask for your continued support in raising funds to help those in our communities who are in greatest need. This year, we are focusing our funds on our free meal initiative at the Alan Shearer Activity Centre, which has provided over 1600 hot meals to children and adults living with disabilities and their families. These meals have been a small but welcome support for many during these challenging times. In addition, we have also been able to support community projects by distributing sleeping bags and essentials to those without a safe place to call home. All funds raised this Advent will help us expand our community services, reaching even more people who need care, companionship and support. Over the coming year we will continue our support of these vital initiatives above and seek to extend our community support of isolated and vulnerable people across the diocese; your support will be instrumental in helping us bring these plans to life. A basket will be available each Sunday during Advent for the works of St Cuthbert's Care.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Monday is the Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady. Although it is not an Holy Day of Obligation, it is a solemnity and day of great rejoicing. Therefore, Mass on Monday 9th December at 6.30pm at St Teresa's will be a Solemn Mass, with Hymns.

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 preparation meeting takes place on Monday 3rd February 2025 at 7.15pm at St Teresa's, Heaton.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH COURSE

The 'Journey In Faith' course has started for those who are considering becoming a Catholic or who would like to deepen their knowledge of the faith. 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 next session is Tuesday 10th December, at 6.45pm in St Teresa's.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE & FIRST CONFESSIONS

The Parish Advent Reconciliation Service, which will also include the first confessions of our children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion, will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 6.00pm at St Teresa's. We will be joined by other priests across the diocese who will come along to support Fr Jonathon in hearing peoples confessions in preparation for Christmas. Please do make a note of this date in your diaries.

COMING ALONG TO WEEK DAY MASS & ADORATION

Please remember that we have Adoration in our churches before weekday Mass. We also have adoration on a Sunday afternoon. Are you free to come along? Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament gives us some quality quiet time in the presence of Our Lord which we all need in our lives. The Mass is the source and the summit of everything we do. Please try and come along. The benefits will be worth it.

SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Every Sunday at 5.00pm 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!

WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUE

The CAFOD world gifts catalogue is now available, both at the back of our churches or online. World gifts are CAFOD's range of life changing virtual gifts, which help the most poorest people in our world. This Christmas instead of giving a gift, which may not be wanted or not used, why not consider giving someone a gift to help them transform the lives of their families and communities living elsewhere. See <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

Pope St. John Paul II, some decades ago, invited children and adults to bring their Baby Jesus figures from their cribs at home, to be blessed by the Pope in St. Peter's Square on the third Sunday of Advent. The tradition continues in Rome, and has spread throughout the world. Therefore, you are invited to bring along your baby Jesus figure from your crib at home (or the whole crib if baby Jesus is not detachable) to be blessed on the Third Sunday of Advent.

NEW LECTIONARY

The English Standard Version of the Bible is the new translation for our lectionaries and we will begin using it at Masses this weekend. As suspected, it is slightly different to the version we have used for the last 50+ years from the Jerusalem Bible. Our Missalettes will automatically change to the new version of the texts. Sunday Missals from "Hodder and Stoughton" can be bought online or ordered from Pauline Books and Media at St Mary's Cathedral, but full weekday Missals will not be available until at least April next year. All readers at each Mass are asked to check the text on the Lectern before Mass begins, and to read through the scripture passages before Mass begins so they understand the new language and the layout of the new format. Please do not red the text in Red just the text in Black. Readers are reminded to go to the Sacristy before Mass begins to form the entrance procession.

RORATE MASSES DURING ADVENT

During the season of Advent we will once again be celebrating the 'Rorate' Masses in honour our Lady. These Masses take place in Candlelight. They will take place at St Teresa's on a Saturday Morning at 7.30am, followed by Tea & Toast.

PARISH FAMILY FILM NIGHT

The Parish will once again be hosting a Parish Family Film Night. This will take place at St Anthony's Church on Friday 20th December at 7.00pm. Please do bring along some sweets and drinks as we enjoy the movie together.

PARISH SOCIAL EVENT - CAROLS AROUND THE FIRE

Tickets are now on sale for our Parish Carols around the Fire on Monday 23rd December in St Teresa's Hall. Tickets are priced at £5, which will include a Hot Turkey Sandwiches and Mince Pies. Come along as we sing some festive songs and carols together!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

St Anthony's Christmas Raffle Tickets are now on sale!. Any donations of prizes will be gratefully accepted. Raffle tickets are now available at all masses with the grand draw taking place on Saturday 14th December after the 5.30pm Mass

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN REMEMBRANCE OF LOVED ONES

This year we will be decorating our churches with poinsettias over the Christmas Season. These will be placed around the Christmas Cribs and in front of the Altars. If you would like to bring along any poinsettias in memory of a loved one please bring these to Church on the 4th Sunday of Advent. If you would to leave a donation in memory of someone, please place this in an envelope and write Poinsettia on the front and give to Fr Jonathon or place in the Collection before the 4th Sunday of Advent

SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS THIS CHRISTMAS

Please see the posters in the church porch and on the parish website for details of Christmas collections for the People's Kitchen and Vinnies. Donations for the Socks & Chocs collection need to be in St Teresa's church by Friday 6th December. There will be a collection box for sponsoring a Christmas dinner and a tree with angel cards asking for Christmas gifts for children in the church porch. Please give as generously as possible.

TIMES OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES & MASSES

Wednesday 18th December

Parish & Schools Carol Service (St. Teresa's) Service: 6.00pm

Monday 23rd December

Parish Carols around the Fire (St. Teresa's Hall) Begins: 7.00pm
Tickets Needed

CHRISTMAS EVE

(Tuesday 24th December)

Vigil Mass of Christmas (St. Anthony's) Mass 6.00pm
Solemn Midnight Mass (St. Teresa's) Carols: 10.30pm Mass: 11.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Wednesday 25th December)

Mass of the Shepherd's (St. Lawrence's) Mass 8.30am
Solemn Mass of Christmas (St. Teresa's) Mass: 10.30am