

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers all those we know who are unwell, especially those who are named on our parish sick list, as well as the many who have no one to pray for them and for those in hospital. We continue to pray for all those who have died, especially Owusu Ansah and Esme Vincent who have passed away recently. Owusu's Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 28th January at 12noon followed by burial at Old Jesmond Cemetery. Esme's Funeral service will take place at Whitley Bay Crematorium on Thursday 30th at 9.30am. We also remember all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

This Sunday we celebrate the 6th Sunday of the Word of God. It is a profoundly pastoral initiative with which Pope Francis wants to make it clear how important it is in the daily life of the Church and our communities to refer to the Word of God, a Word that is not confined to a book, but which remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for the 2025 edition, within the Jubilee Year, is a verse from Psalm 119, "I hope in your Word". It is a cry of hope: man, in a moment of anguish, tribulation, and confusion, cries out to God and puts all his hope in him.

MASS NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. At the beginning of Mass, as is customary, we will have the blessing of candles for the coming year. If you would like to bring in any candles to be blessed please feel free to do so.

ANNUAL WHITE FLOWER APPEAL - SPUC

The Annual White Flower Appeal will take place this weekend. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. SPUC is involved in politics, education, legislation and culture and seeks to restore a respect for the sanctity of human life in our society. This year's postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. If able please take a SPUC postcard and send off asap to SPUC. There will be a retiring collection at the end of Mass.

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. 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? For Mass to be offered it is 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 Sunday Mass.

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!

WEEK DAY MASS & ADORATION

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 remember that we have Adoration in our churches before weekday Mass. We also have adoration on a Sunday afternoon. Please try and come along. The benefits will be worth it.

PARISH GIVING

As we begin a new year it gives us all the opportunity to think about our regular weekly offering to the Church. We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share that generosity with others. A generous culture is also essential for our parish to develop a sustainable ministry for the future. That generosity can be expressed in many ways, both financially and by the giving our time to help the mission of the Church. We are extremely grateful for all your contributions to our parish.

In the coming weeks the bank accounts will merge into a single account. Therefore, you may need to change your standing order details. If you would like to make your regular weekly offering to the Church by standing order this is easy to set up. Our bank details for setting up a Standing Order or BACS payment are:

Account Name: DHN Newcastle St Teresa of the Infant Jesus
Account Number: 52010917
Sort Code: 40-34-18

If you are not currently part of the GiftAid Scheme, or you normally make an offering through the offertory plate, I would like you to consider 'buying' the parish a coffee or a pint every Sunday. We would like to recommend, if you are able, to donate £4.50 each Sunday. The average price of a coffee at Costa is £4.20 and the average price of a pint in a pub is £4.98. Your contribution to your parish is much appreciated.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

We are currently organising another parish quiz night that will take place on Tuesday 25th February at 7.00pm in St Teresa's Hall. This time it will be a team quiz, so bring along your family and friends and enjoy a little bit of friendly competition as we put our knowledge to the test. There is no need to buy any tickets for the evening, as it will be £2 per person on the door. You are warmly invited to bring along your own drinks and snacks. Please do put this date in your diaries and come along for some social time together.

ALTAR SERVERS SOCIAL NIGHT

Our Altar Servers have done an amazing job supporting Fr Jonathon over the course of the past year. Therefore, as a Thank You, all those who serve on the Altar in our parish are invited to come along to a social night on Friday 31st January. We will be going 10 pin bowling at 'gutterball' in North Shields. The booking has now been confirmed. You will need to make your own way to the venue and be there for 6.45pm. If you have any issues getting there please speak to Fr Jonathon ASAP.

GETTING MARRIED IN 2025/26

If you are thinking about getting married in 2025/26 and haven't yet spoken to Fr Jonathon, to make sure that a Church wedding is possible, please him as soon as you can. It is important that you give at least six months so that enough time is given to arrange all paperwork, especially if overseas contacts are necessary. A Marriage Preparation course must also be attended so that you are fully prepared for the Sacrament.

BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

The next baptism preparation meeting will take place on Monday 4th February at 7.15pm at St Teresa's. To get your child Baptised, 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 for his permission.

PARISH ROTA'S

At the beginning of February a new Rota for all our Masses across the parish will be produced for all those who read, write our bidding prayers, and for those who are Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you would like to be involved in reading, singing the psalm, writing the bidding prayers, please email the parish office before Friday 31st January. The Rota will then be finalised and published.

THE JUBILEE YEAR - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Holy Father has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year with the motto and theme "Pilgrims of Hope." It will be a year of pilgrimage and prayer, celebration and reconciliation. "In the course of the year," Pope Francis had written, "every effort should be made to enable the People of God to participate fully in its proclamation of hope in God's grace and in the signs that attest to their efficacy." On 28 December 2025, the Jubilee will end in the particular Churches throughout the world. There's more information about the Jubilee Year on the Diocesan website at www.bit.ly/DHNjubilee2025

LOUDfence

St Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle is hosting a LOUDfence Workshop on Saturday 1st February at 10am. LOUDfence is a catholic movement which shares practical ways to acknowledge harm caused by abuse in any setting, through arts and crafts. All objects made in the LOUDfence workshop will form part of the liturgy in the Diocesan LOUDfence on 1st May in Alnwick. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch with them. Light refreshments will be provided. Please bring paper, light fabric, ribbon and small objects which remind you of comforting memories, particularly in childhood.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will travel on Friday 25th July – Friday 1st August 2025. The Lourdes pastoral theme for 2025 is "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope". Full details and online booking is available now on the 'Tangney Tours' Website, the tour operator for the diocesan pilgrimage. Choice of nine hotels, flying direct to Lourdes from Newcastle International Airport. www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-hexham-newcastle.

**LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE FAITH
BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

Most Catholics pray "thy kingdom come" hundreds of times in a year. But what are we asking for when we pray, and how will we know when our prayer is answered? Are we praying for a kingdom that is here or one that is coming?

The scriptures present the reign of God as both present and in the future. When the Pharisees ask Jesus about the coming of the kingdom, he says, "No one will announce, 'Look here it is,' or 'There it is.' For behold, the kingdom of God is among you" (Luke 17:21). At the core of the message of the reign of God - in the Old and New Testaments - is the reality of God's sovereignty over creation.

Jesus preached about the kingdom through word and deed. In Jesus' actions we see that when God reigns, the poor have care, and people are freed from demons and healed. Through the parables, Jesus taught that the kingdom grows like a mustard seed, is a priceless treasure, and calls for dying to self, forgiveness, and sacrifice.

The Our Father confronts Christians in two ways. It presents the kingdom as having dual timing and also dependent on Christ's followers for growth. In word and deed, we are signs of God's kingdom. We forgive and reconcile, even when it is uncomfortable. We heal by taking time and effort to be present to those who are ill physically, emotionally, or spiritually. We respect, care, and advocate for the poor. When we pray "thy kingdom come," we are praying for the future triumphant reign of God, and we are also asking to be forgiving, healing people. We pray to be changed in those areas where God does not reign in our lives.

So in what ways are we bringing forth the Kingdom of God in our families, and in our daily life? I can I do more to build up the Kingdom of God in this parish?

Saint Angela Merici
January 27

'ONE BODY' WORD-FIND

Find the words that are written in CAPITALS. Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

SAINT PAUL tells us that we have been BAPTIZED into the ONE body of CHRIST which is the CHURCH. There are MANY MEMBERS, but they all work TOGETHER and CARE for each other. But the parts of a BODY are not ALL the same as each other! An EYE is different from an ear, and a HAND is not the same as a FOOT. If all your body was an EAR, then how could you SMELL?

In the Church there are many different GIFTS. Some people are APOSTLES, some are PROPHETS, some are TEACHERS. Some people have the gift of HEALING. GOD has made all these different sorts of people to work together in the Church.

MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time		Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	25 Jan	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Finn McLaughlin RIP	3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sun	26 Jan	10.15 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	Confessions Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	People of the Parish	3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Mon	27 Jan	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Adoration & Confessions Holy Mass	St. Teresa's <i>In the Porch</i>	Intentions of Dominic Coward	Feria
Tue	28 Jan	9.00 am 10.00 am 12noon 2.30 pm	Adoration & Holy Rosary Holy Mass Requiem Mass Holy Mass (In School)	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's St. Teresa's St. Lawrence's	Private Intention Owusu Ansah RIP <i>No Intention Received</i>	St Thomas Aquinas
Wed	29 Jan					Feria
Thur	30 Jan					Feria
Fri	31 Jan	8.30 am 9.30 am	Adoration & Holy Rosary Holy Mass	St. Teresa's <i>In the Porch</i>	Intentions of Jos Czajewski	St John Bosco
Sat	1 Feb	8.00 am	Holy Mass	St. Teresa's <i>In the Porch</i>	Fr. Patrick McMahon RIP	Our Lady's Saturday
Sat	2 Feb	4.45 pm 5.30 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of Sunday	St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	People of the Parish	Presentation of the Lord
Sun	2 Feb	10.15 am 11.00 am 5.00 pm	Confessions Holy Mass Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's St. Teresa's St. Teresa's	Margaret & Alfred King	Presentation of the Lord

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 January



For a right to education:

We pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.



During Ordinary Time

We are asked to pray for these intentions:

Peace on Earth, Openness to the Word of God, Christian Unity, The Sick and those who care for them, Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it, and the Unemployed



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