

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 5 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Vigil Mass Speedy recovery for Marie Fenwick
Sun 6 th	9:00 – 9:20am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Deceased of the Laggan & Dorris Families, also Maureen Beadling, James Wood and Deceased of the Wood Families R.I.P. 5:00pm The Way of the Cross (Stations)	Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)
Mon 7 th		
Tue 8 th	9:30 – 9:50am Rosary 10:00am Mass Living & Deceased members of St. John's Parish	
Wed 9 th		9:30-9:55am Rosary 10:00am Mass 10:30am Coffee Morning
Thur 10 th		10:00am School Mass Year 2 People of the Parish
Fri 11 th	6:00 - 6:55pm Reconciliation and Exposition 7:00pm Mass Thomas & Alice Heal R.I.P. also Deceased members of the Vose family	10:00am The Way of the Cross (Stations)
Sat 12 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 13 th	9:00 – 9:20am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Maud Maddison R.I.P. 5:00pm The Way of the Cross (Stations)	Palm / Passion Sunday (C)

Mass Intentions

We offer the facility to have Mass celebrated for your own Intention and there are a few Masses in each parish without any scheduled Intentions. If you would like a Mass celebrated for your personal Intention please use an envelope available at the back of church and hand it to Fr. Manoj.



Reconciliation

Facilities to attend Reconciliation will be available prior to every daily Mass. You can also request Reconciliation at your convenience with a prior agreed time.

See also the Partnership Reconciliation service next Wednesday at 7:00pm in St. Bede's, Bedlington.



Our Holy Father

We ask you all to continue to pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, after his return from hospital that God's healing grace will surround him during his recovery time and that he may he soon return to his sacred and important duties with renewed strength and good health.

Easter Services for 2025

Palm Sunday 13th April

6:00pm Vigil Mass St. Paul's on 12th April
9:30am Mass at St. John's on 13th April
5:00pm Stations of the Cross



Maundy / Holy Thursday 17th April

7:00pm Mass of the Last Supper at St. Paul's



Good Friday 18th April

10:00am The Way of the Cross at St. John's
3:00pm The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ at St. John's



Easter Sunday 20th April:

6:00pm Vigil Mass St. Paul's on 19th April
8:30pm Vigil Mass St. John's on 19th April
9:30am Mass at St. John's on 20th April



New Bulletin

In order to try and reduce the number of copies printed and the cost involved in the production of our weekly Bulletin, copies have previously been sent via email to parishioners of both parishes. Copies are also posted on both Parish Websites and in St. Paul's WhatsApp Group. If you would like to help reduce our costs further and have a copy sent to you in future via email in lieu of collecting one at church, please give your email address to Peter or Gerry Killen.

Weekly Homily

Fr. Manoj's Homilies are normally posted on both Parish Websites to assist those who have difficulty in hearing or are unable to attend Mass in person. If you would like a copy via email please speak with Peter or Gerry Killen.



St. John the Baptist RC Church
Annitsford
Cramlington
E23 7QR

St. Paul's RC Church
Dewley
Cramlington
NE23 6EF



Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle – St. Benet Biscop Partnership, Northumberland

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Manoj Joseph Punchakunnel SAC

Residence - St Paul's Parish House, 28 Dewley, Cramlington, NE23 6EF: Tele 01670 712476

Parish Priest email: pp.stpaul.cramlington@diocesehn.org.uk **Bulletin email:** bulletin@stpauls-rc.co.uk

Website: www.stpauls-rc.co.uk **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/c/StPaulsRCChurchCramlington

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Parish Priest email: pp.stjohn.annitsford@diocesehn.org.uk **Bulletin email:** vo10040@diocesehn.org.uk

Website: <https://stjohnbaptist-rc.uk> **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/c/StJohntheBaptistChurchAnnitsford

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StJohntheBaptistAnnitsford

Sunday, 6th April 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (C)



ASSIST US TO LIVE NOT TO DIE

Dear Friends and Defenders of human life, This Sunday you will be given a voting card to send to your MP. I encourage you to use this vote. Life is sacred and must be protected at all costs until the end of natural life, even if, and when, we struggle to find meaning and purpose. Life is a gift to be protected, especially when threatened by sickness and death. Palliative care, with expert pain relief, and good human, spiritual, and pastoral support, is the right and best way to care for people towards the end of life. The Catholic Bishops in England, Wales, and in Scotland have written a statement, and there are copies available at the back of church. Here are two points they make:

1) We appeal to those who share our Catholic belief in human dignity and sanctity of life, including fellow Christians, other religious people, and people of reason and good will, to join with us in defending the weakest and most vulnerable who are at risk through this proposed legislation. 2) We are alarmed by the impact that legalisation will have on the most vulnerable members of our society. The option to end life can quickly, and subtly, be experienced as a duty to die. Some may well feel their continued existence is a burden to others, and, implicitly or explicitly, be pressured into assisted suicide. This includes people who are elderly, infirm, and living with disabilities. The protection of such people is the foundation of civilised society. It is at the heart of good government. Bishops in England, Wales, and in Scotland.

The Way of the Cross / Stations of The Cross

These will be held every Sunday at 5:00pm in St. John's, Annitsford and every Friday at 10:00am in St. Paul's, Cramlington during Lent. Please do try and attend as part of your Lenten Observances.

7:00pm St. Paul's Church: Maundy Thursday, 17th April – Mass of the Last Supper.

We are looking for 6 volunteers from each parish to take part in the Washing of Feet ceremony. Please give your name to Fr. Manoj if you are willing to take part. Thank you.

St. Benet Biscop Partnership Schedule for the Lenten Masses and Reconciliation Services

7:00pm Wednesday 09 April 2025: Reconciliation Service & Mass: St. Bede's Church, Bedlington

Earthquake Appeal.

There will be a Special Collection taken in both parishes next weekend with all proceeds going to CAFOD's DEC Appeal. Please be as generous as you can towards the Myanmar Earthquake Appeal to provide water, food, solar lights, mosquito nets and water purification tablets to those devastated by this disaster. CAFOD have been providing support to communities in Myanmar, including the region at the epicentre of the earthquake for many, many years. While the full scale of the earthquake's impact will take time to emerge, we know that this disaster has further strained resources and exacerbated existing hardships. Your generosity will extend far and wide and will help the Catholic Church in Myanmar bring comfort and relief to families who are in urgent need. Alternatively you can donate directly at <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/myanmar-earthquake-appeal>

St. John's News Items

Lenten Alms Box

located in the Porch Floor for your donations to support the work of St. Cuthbert's Care.

Children's Liturgy Easter Raffle

The tickets are now on sale after Sunday Mass this weekend, 6th April. Tickets will be sold at £1 each strip and the raffle will be drawn on Sunday 13th April to allow winners to collect their prize. Please do try and support the Children's Liturgy Group.

Relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council

YMT and the Diocese are thrilled to announce the upcoming relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council, a vital platform for the voices of young people in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This initiative, paused during the COVID-19 pandemic, offers a space for young leaders to develop skills and engage in meaningful dialogue about the future of our Church. The first meeting is scheduled for Sunday 18th May 2025, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle, from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm. We are actively seeking motivated students from Year 9 and above to join this transformative council. For more details on how to nominate candidates visit: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/announcing-the-relaunch-of-the-diocesan-youth-council/>

Information Links

To receive information and Newsletters published by the Diocese of H & N, and the Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, please visit the following websites and request to be added to their distribution lists <https://diocesehn.org.uk> & <https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

Cleaning Rota

Group A - May, July, Sept, Nov. Group B – April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec. Cleaning on the 1st Saturday of every month.

New to the Parish

If you are new to the Parish and have not completed a new to the Parish form, please complete a form available at the back of the church. You will then receive import updates of Parish Activities etc. Thanks.

Parish Emails

To be included in the Parish email system, likewise, if you no longer wish to receive St. John's parish email communication, please contact Gerry Killen at vol0040@diocesehn.org.uk

St. John's Graveyard

A reminder that all NEW PLOT burials will almost certainly be a single depth coffin burial. A double burial will only be possible with one coffin and one ashes casket. It is important therefore that couples and families are aware of this restriction. Burials to an EXISTING PLOT may well be double depth, however, a test will be carried out to confirm this prior to the second burial. Please also note the following - IMPORTANT – It is a requirement of the church that NO CURBS be fitted to the grave with the Memorial Headstone, or at any time after the burial. There is a 300mm. maximum area from the Headstone (grave width) for flower holders etc. There may also be a requirement to have soil spoil temporarily over the plot when a burial is arranged to an adjacent plot.



Remember in your prayers

Barry Hall, Pat(ricia) Ryder, Tony Middleton, Anne Hall and Karen Mackie, Jean Hall, Anna Shinwell, Chris Garrett and Maureen Cowan's friend. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony (Tony) Gerard MIDDLETON who died Tuesday 1st April and whose funeral and burial will be held 22nd April (time to be confirmed).

Red Mission Boxes



Will all Parishioners with a box please empty it and place the money in a bag in the Basket on St. Joseph's Altar. Please add your name in the bag. Anyone unable to get to church with their money, please contact Monica Mills on 0191 2680222. Thank You.

Cramlington Food Bank.

Your recent donations of food items and cash were delivered to Cramlington Food Bank on Wednesday last week. They send their grateful thanks, love, thanks and blessings.

Grateful Thanks and A Request

The parish wish to thank Phil Stout for his dedicated work as a gardener over many years for St John's; he is retiring because of health issues. We are appealing for volunteers to join the gardener's team. Please contact Frank Swindle 077 794 25610 or Gerry Killen 079 635 15190 if you can help.

Cluster Flies

Unfortunately, the Local Authority indicate they are almost impossible to eradicate and will return year after year. We will attempt to clear them on a regular basis. Apologies.

Planned Giving & Gift Aid:

The boxes for 2025/26 are now available at the back of church. Please collect yours and if possible, deliver someone else's if you know they are not coming to Mass. For those who contribute by Standing Order there is a small box of Special Collection envelopes only. If you do not contribute by Planned Giving but wish to do so and / or wish to Gift Aid your contributions please speak to Gerry Killen 07963 515190.

St. John's Collection Sunday 31st March - £274.10

St. Paul's News Items



Easter Raffle: Tickets at £1 per strip are now on sale for an Easter Cake and Easter Eggs with the Draw taking place after evening Mass next Saturday. Please support this effort to raise funds for the parish as there are several ongoing and upcoming maintenance jobs which need to be completed with high bills expected.

Planned Giving

The most convenient way to donate to the upkeep of your parish is by setting up a Bank Standing Order when joining our scheme. The alternative option is to use weekly envelopes. For those who use these envelopes they are now ready to be collected from the Piety Stall for the 2025 / 26 Tax Year. *If you are not using the scheme, please do consider joining.* If you are a taxpayer and sign up to Gift Aid this would enable the parish to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your donations thus giving us an additional 25%, **AT NO COST TO YOU.**

Volunteers



TO KEEP YOUR PARISH FUNCTIONING EFFECTIVELY we are desperately in need of more people to assist / take on board a variety of roles within the parish; namely Financial Co-ordinator, Cleaners, Live Streaming of Services, Music for Mass when David is unavailable, Bulletin Production, Volunteers Weekly Rota, Flower Arranging, Parish Website Upkeep, YouTube Channel Updating, Facebook Page monitoring / updating, Gardener (grass cutting), Welcomers etc. All required training and assistance will be available. Without your help the load will continue to mount unsustainably on Fr. Manoj and the limited number of our ever-aging (generally 75+) volunteers resulting in a serious deterioration in the running of YOUR parish. Please do give this some serious thought and if you can help in any way **PLEASE** do speak to either Fr. Manoj or Peter Killen (07948 403341).



Remember in your prayers

Please keep Sr. Agnes in your prayers and pray for Chris Garrett and Glynis Mayes that their health may continue to improve. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Binita Gunnion who died in tragic circumstances following the death of her husband leaving a young family behind.

Ministry Rota

	5 th April 2025		12 th April Palm / Passion Sunday
Bidding Prayers	Malcolm G		Terry C
Welcomers	Julie & Bob M		Russell & Stephanie N
Readers	Malcolm G & Gladys H	<u>WED: Eddie L</u>	Terry C & Margaret F
Coffee	Joyce & Malcolm G		Victoria L & Pamela McG
Counting	Team 3 Sheila H, Bob & Julie M		TEAM 4 Maureen B, Meg C & Kathy O'R
Cleaning	Team 4 Julie & Bob M		TEAM 1 Stephanie N & Barbara W
Bulletin	Kathy		Mariela

If you are a Minister of the Word please check the new Rota List covering the Easter Services and let Peter Killen, 07948 403341, know if you are unable to fulfil your Ministry.



Finances

St. Paul's Collection, 29th March: £215.27

Bonus Ball: No 19 T Robson

Joint News Items

Northern Brethren Fund



The Annual Collection is scheduled to be taken this weekend 5th / 6th April 2025, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, and will remain open for all other donations until Sunday 27th April. The NBF paid fully for all full grants for our retired priests in addition to the Funding offered by the Diocese through the new Sick and Retired Priests are very grateful to you all for the support given in 2024 with last year's Church Collection raising £28,750.16 0 raised in individual donations.

National Catholic Leadership Programme

This programme is for serving Deputy Headteachers in Catholic Primary and Secondary schools who are considering the role of headteacher in the next two years. It is fantastic training for the role of Catholic Headteacher, delivered by inspirational leaders across our Diocese. Please contact education@diocesehn.org.uk for further information.

Diocesan Lenten Reflections

These reflections are now available to view and download on the Diocesan Website via the following link:

<https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>.