

This Week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 13 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass People of St. Paul's parish
Sun 14 th	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Victims and families impacted by Hurricane Melissa & Mary (Pat) Love R.I.P.	Third Sunday of Advent Laudate Sunday
Tues 16 th	10:00am Edwin & Patricia Cryan: Grace Mailey R.I.P.	
Wed 17 th		10 .00am Mass 10:30am Coffee Morning Harold Turner R.I.P.
Thu 18 th		10 .00am Mass Paul Battersby R.I.P.
Fri 19 th	5:00 – 5:55pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Private Intention (TB)	
Sat 20 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass
Sun 21 st	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Robert & Elizabeth Sheridan R.I.P.	Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions - We offer the facility to have Mass celebrated for your own Intention. There are quite 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

Mass Intentions for those named on the purchased candles are now complete. The candles will continue to be lit during the Christmas period to remind us of our dear departed loved ones. Grateful thanks go to everyone who purchased a candle and supported this project.



Reconciliation

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

Bulletin: To try and reduce the number of copies printed and the cost of our weekly Bulletin, copies are now sent via email to parishioners of both parishes. Copies are also posted on both the Parish Websites, and in St. Paul's WhatsApp Group. If you would like to have a copy sent to you via email in future, please give your email address to Gerry or Peter Killen.

A Weekly Reflection and Daily Readings for Advent 2025

Advent is a time of preparation and to reflect, and hold onto, the messages of hope, peace, joy and love which God promised to us in the birth of Christ Jesus. Members of our Diocesan Writing Team offer this Advent resource to help guide a daily space for reading of the Scripture, reflection and prayer. In it you will find a reflection based on the theme of each week of Advent and an easy-to-follow reference to the readings for each day. The reflections are available to view and download on the homepage of the Diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk.

Stella Maris Carol Service & Seafarers' Appeal

Join us for the Stella Maris Carol Service at **St Aidan's Church, Ashington, on Wednesday, 17 December at 7:00 pm**, followed by refreshments in the hall.

St Aidan's is also running a **Christmas appeal for seafarers** at our local docks. During the reception, we will present **Steve Willows, Stella Maris Port Chaplain**, with approximately 70 care packs containing toiletries and a small gift. We are currently collecting items for these packs, which will be assembled with help from pupils at **St Aidan's RC Primary School** during our **Monday Escape session on 15 December. Donation deadline: Noon, Monday 9th December.** Please see the attached information sheet for details of suggested donations.

Requests: If you would like to have a Baptism, Marriage, Funeral etc. held in your own church please visit your own parish Website, [see the top of the Bulletin's Front Page](#), download the relevant Form from the "SACRAMENTS" Tab, complete it and return it to Fr. Manoj as per the form's listed instructions. This will ensure that the services are scheduled at the correct parish and alleviate any confusion as to where they need to be held.



St. John the Baptist RC Church & St. Paul's RC Church
Annitsford
Cramlington
NE23 7QR



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
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/stpaulscramlington

St. John the Baptist Parish House, Annitsford, Cramlington, NE23 7QR: Tele 01670 712476
Parish Priest email: pp.stjohn.annitsford@diocesehn.org.uk Bulletin email: vol0040@diocesehn.org.uk
Website <https://stjohnbaptist-rc.uk> YouTube www.youtube.com/c/StJohntheBaptistChurchAnnitsford
Facebook: www.facebook.com/StJohntheBaptistAnnitsford

14th December 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Advent [A] "Maranatha come Lord Jesus"

Sacred Silence, Please

As you enter, we invite you to keep a spirit of quiet prayer. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed, and your silence helps everyone to pray more deeply. Thank you for your reverence.



Pope Leo's prayer intention for December

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



Advent Wreath and Candles

Advent is a time of expectation and hope filled with rich traditions. "Advent" means "arrival" or "coming," and it prompts us to pause each day in December and remember why Jesus came at Christmas. The advent wreath and candles provide beautiful symbolism for each week of advent as we wait for Christmas to arrive. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Each candle represents something different, although traditions vary. Often, the first, second, and fourth candles are purple; the third candle is rose-coloured. Occasionally, a fifth white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and is lit on Christmas Day to celebrate Jesus' birth. **The Third Candle** is called the **"Shepherd's Candle"** and represents joyfulness and rejoicing. Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, the birthplace of King David. The Third candle is **PINK** to symbolise preparation for the coming king.

What Joy and Rejoicing is Jesus inviting you to rediscover during this Advent?

Weekly Reflection: "The blind receive their sight and the lame walk... and the poor have the good news preached to them."

When John the Baptist asked whether Christ is the one for whom he has been waiting, Jesus replies with these words that echo the prophet Isaiah. He is the one who will help the blind to see and bring good news to the poor. In short, yes - Jesus is the one John has been expecting. Jesus spells out his mission here, and it is the message of Jubilee - a time of renewal and freedom. A time when debts will be cancelled, the land can rest and people are freed from oppression. It is a message to which we have been called to pay particular attention in this Jubilee Year 2025. We have all been called to be pilgrims of hope and to consider how we can create a world of justice, peace and love. Throughout the past year, so many people have answered this call. In parishes, schools and on their own, young and old have taken part in pilgrimages, raised their voices to demand debt cancellation and raised funds for our work alongside the poorest people in our world. As the Jubilee Year draws to a close, we take this moment to reflect on all that has been achieved. And we commit once more to participating in Christ's mission, which seeks the flourishing of all.

Prayer:

Christ Jesus, bringer of good news, liberator of captives and all who are oppressed, restorer of sight, guide us on our journey through life and lead us to be signs of hope in our world. AMEN.

Items for the Bulletin: If you wish to have any items go into our weekly Bulletin can you please send them via email to bulletin@stpauls-rc.co.uk **by 7:00pm on a Wednesday evening** to give the compositors sufficient time to prepare the Bulletin.

School Carol Service: St Peter and Paul Academy are holding their Annual Christmas Carol Service in St. Paul's Church this coming Tuesday 16th December commencing at 1:30pm. Do try and come along to support the school and the children who have been practicing hard for the past few weeks. They are good and I'm sure you will enjoy their presentation.

Christmas Mass Schedule for 2025

Christmas Vigil: Wednesday 24th December

St. Paul's Church, Cramlington: Carol Service: 6.00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass: 6.30 PM

St. John the Baptist Church, Annitsford: Carol Service: 11.30 PM Christmas Vigil Mass: 12.00 Midnight

Christmas Day: Thursday 25th December

St. John the Baptist Church, Annitsford: Christmas Day Mass: 10.00 AM

What is your Jubilee story? have all walked together united as Pilgrims of Hope. We are collecting photographs, short stories and messages to form a **Jubilee Legacy Collection**. **"Let's close this Holy Year not with a full stop, but with a radiant exclamation of hope."** Please [email your contribution](#) by 15th December 2025.

Car Park adjacent to St Paul's Church: Letters from the council about the appeal against the car park Planning Application Refusal decision have been received and the Parish is working in the best way possible to meet all the stakeholders to initiate the required action. Discussions have taken place between the parish, our Diocese and Northumberland County Council with documentation supplied prior to the Appeal Date set for 16th December.

Annual Christmas Parties: Thanks to Linda T, Terry R and Maria W for organising both the Children's and Adult parties which were both very successful and enjoyed by all who attended. The meal at Arcot Hall was excellent and an eventful raffle.

Christmas Gifts: If you are struggling to think of a Present for someone, why not consider a CAFOD World Gift. Catalogues are available at the back of Church which contain a good variety of gifts for you to choose from.



Voices in Tune CIC presents Cramlington Community Choir
A Christmas Concert - Songs we like to sing
in St. Paul's Church on Sun. 14th Dec 2025 10:30am & 12:30pm.

Doors will open at 10:00 am and 12:00pm. Tickets are free: with a suggested donation of £5.00

Please see Marylyn Turton for your tickets or contact her on 07388 417073



New to the Parish: If you are new to the Parish please complete a New to the Parish form available at the back of the church or via both parish Websites. You will then receive important updates of Parish Activities etc.

ST. JOHN'S PARISH NEWS

Friday Mass Times: During the dark winter nights, the Friday evening Mass time has been changed to 6pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass now at 5pm.

Remember in your prayers: Anne Hall, Karen Mackie, Anna Shinwell, Arnie Masterson, Peter Laggan, Margaret Caroline, Michael Brannan, Chris Garrett and Maureen Cowan's friend.

St John's Graveyard burials - Due to the ever-reducing availability, burials at St John's will be restricted to existing Parishioners unless space is available in an existing family plot. Unless ascertained at the time of the first burial into a new plot, burials will be single depth, however two burials will be possible with one coffin burial and one Cremation casket. Specification in a will may not guarantee burial at St Johns **IMPORTANT** - During the winter months, St John's Gardeners will be carrying out works to level the graveyard in front of the church. Initially it will involve spreading bark then soil and grass seed on top next year.

Cramlington Foodbank: 20.4 kg of supplies delivered to the foodbank this week giving a total of 101.9 Kg in 2025 for which they send their thanks. Last date for the Christmas collection of food from St John's, Sunday 21st December.

Mobility Scooter - Gerry Killen has received an almost new Mobility Scooter (approx. value £1700) available for a donation of £100+ Please see noticeboard for picture and speak to Gerry for further information

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

Church Cleaning Rota - The church will be cleaned on the first Saturday of the month.
Group B 2026 - Feb, Apr, June, Aug Oct Dec Group A 2026 Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov

"CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER 2025

You are invited to join us for Christmas bacon and sausage sandwiches, teas and coffees after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 21st December in the church hall. Please come along for our pre-Christmas social get-together. We wish you a happy, healthy and holy Christmas. "

Collection - Sunday 7th December - Offertory Collection £293.00

ST. PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

Help needed please: we are looking for parishioners to help decorate St Paul's church to celebrate the birth of Christ. We would also like **donations of Poinsettias** to help with this please. Tuesday 23rd December is the proposed day to do most of the work, but it is flexible if you can help at other times. Please contact Father Manoj, Averill Robson or Parish Council members or more information. Thank you

Remember in your prayers: Please pray for Christine Elliott who is going through a very difficult and traumatic time at present, for Sheila Hedley, involved in a car accident, for Aidan, Chris Garrett and Glynis Mayes along with any parishioner who is unwell.

Lamb House East Cramlington is a refuge for any vulnerable people, irrespective of sex or age. As Advent approaches, we would invite you once again to please, donate, no matter how small, to help make Christmas a little more cheerful for those less fortunate than ourselves. We will begin our collection on the first weekend of Advent, Saturday 29th November, and your donations will be delivered to Lamb House on Monday 22nd of December. Please place all donations on the table at the back of church. Our normal collection of items for the Food Bank will resume on the first Sunday after Christmas. Once again thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Parish Christmas Raffle: This was drawn on Wednesday 10th December and a full list of the prize winners is on display in the Piety Stall. Thanks to Teresa Reid, Teresa Kelly and Sheila Hedley for organising and to everyone who supported the raffle by their donations or by buying tickets to aid our parish funds. A profit of £596 was raised. Thank you.



HELP!! Will you consider making a New Year's Resolution to help with the running of YOUR PARISH? We are desperately short of volunteers to help in a variety of roles to keep the parish running efficiently. We need **Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Tea / Coffee makers, Church Collections counters, Typists to do the Weekly Bulletin, people to look after the Live Streaming of Mass and to play the Music at Mass.** None of these jobs are too time consuming and all the relevant training will be made available to you should it be required. Please speak with Fr. Manoj or Peter Killen if you can help in any way.

Immense Thanks to everyone who came along to participate in celebrating the life of our dear Chloe on Friday 12th and for the love and support shown to us all. Barbara and all the Beaney family.

Mama Mia: Sheila Hedley has 2 tickets in the Stalls for the performance at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday 11th February priced at £60 each. Please contact her on 07541 104055 if interested.

200 Club: This is drawn every 4 weeks with a First Prize of £60, a Second and Third Prizes of £30 each. We have lots of spare numbers available at £1 per week.

Bonus Ball We have One spare number 2 available @ £1 / week.
Results for 29th November. No 46 J Waterworth & 6th December No 40 D Hawkins



Finance: Standing Orders for November £1289.00 Weekly Collections £1054.14
Clergy Training Fund Collection £230.08

Future Expenditure due very soon, - £9000 to replace the two faulty church radiators, and £1400 towards the Presbytery roof repairs. Future Fund Raising Events will be published when arranged!

Ministry Rota

	13 th December	20 th December
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui H	David S
Welcomers	Barbara B & Anne Marie L	Meg C & Barbara W
Readers	Gladys H & Malcolm G (Wed Teresa K)	Peter K & Jacqui H (Wed Julie M)
Eucharistic Ministers	Terri R & Linda T	Gladys H & Jimmy L
Coffee	Victoria L & Pamela McG	Joyce & Malcolm G
Counting	Team 4: Maureen B, Meg C & Kathy O'R	Team 5: Stephanie N, Maxine T & Sheila H
Cleaning	Team 4: Julie & Bob M	Team 1: Stephanie N & Barbara W
Bulletin	Peter	Peter