

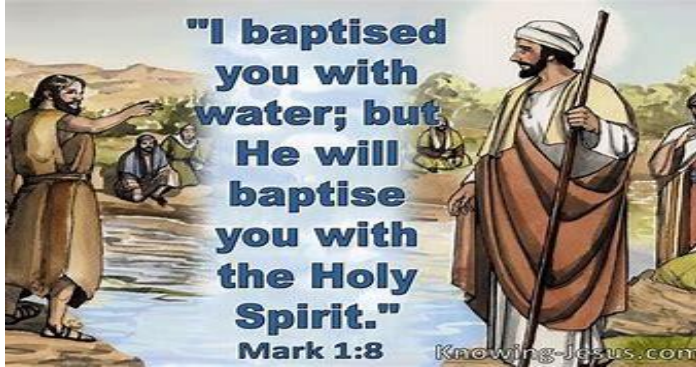


St. Paul's RC Church, Cramlington  
28 Dewley, Cramlington, NE23 6EF, Tele: 01670 712476.  
Parish Priest – Fr. Manoj Joseph



**Parish Mission Statement**

To be a welcoming community that encounters Jesus in our Sacraments and spiritual activities and reflects Jesus' experience to the periphery of our community through the works of charity and transparent Christian living.



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**2nd Sunday of Advent (B)**

**“Make his paths straight.”**

**Mass Times and Intentions**

**Wednesday Masses will be in Back Room.**

Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	at St. Paul's	Robert Hirst
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:45am	at St. Paul's	People of the Parish
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	at St. John's	
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	at St. Paul's	Special Intention (SW)
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	School Mass: Year 3 at St. Paul's	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. John's at 6:00pm then Mass at 7pm		
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	at St. Paul's	Paul Battersby R.I.P.
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:45am	at St. Paul's	People of the Parish

**Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Saturday Evening: 5:30 - 5.50pm before Mass at St. Paul's  
Sunday Morning: 10.15 - 10.35am before Mass at St. Paul's

**A time of SILENCE in church.**

As the Blessed Sacrament is exposed it is a time for people's private and silent prayer.

Please respect the situation with your silence and carry out any discussions in the Piety Stall prior to the start of Mass.

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> December Vigil Mass, Sun 10<sup>th</sup> December Mass

**First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11**

**Responsorial Psalm:84**

**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
And give us your saving help.**

**Second Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8 - 149**

**Gospel: Mark 1: 1 - 8**

**Hymn Numbers for both Masses this weekend**

**455, 246, 387, 1008, 334, 357, 236.**

**Bishop Stephen Wright's Visit to St John's & St. Paul's Parishes**

The visit is planned for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 with Mass celebrated at 6.30pm at St. John's, Annitsford. There will be refreshments served in the Hall & Presbytery after the Mass. As a parish community it is very important that all the able members of the parish community attend the celebration of the Eucharist with the bishop and after which we will have a chance to meet the bishop. Therefore, please can you add your name to the list at the back of church to allow us to plan the catering. Thank you. Names to be provided **NO LATER THAN 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

**Prayers**

The Pope's intention for December: he asks us all to pray for people with disabilities, both physical and emotional that they may be at the centre of attention.



**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 **second candle** represents **faith** and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David. The second candle is also purple to symbolism preparation for the coming king.

**School Carol Services**

These will be held in church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December both at 1:30pm. Please do try and come along to show your support for the school staff and children.

### Christmas Cake Raffle

The Cake has arrived and tickets at £1 per strip of 5 for this beautiful cake supplied by Agnes and baked by Ann, will be sold on 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> December. The Draw will take place after Mass on 17<sup>th</sup>

### HELP!

Your help is needed towards the upkeep of the parish as we are going through a depleting financial situation due to lack of needed contribution at weekends except the generous support by the parishioners by means of their Standing Order. Winter is a season where church expenditure shoots up due to the heating expenses etc. Therefore I would like to ask those who are not presently in the Standing Order scheme to be little more generous towards the upkeep of the parish and maybe contribute a substantial amount during this season of Christmas towards our church, which needs urgent financial assistance, rather than the usual charity you usually contribute to. Thanks for your kind understanding and co-operation.

### Little Sisters of the Poor - Job Vacancies & Concert

Exciting opportunities are now available at St Joseph's Care Home (Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle) for care assistants and nurses. Hours : Nurse: Shifts are 8am-4pm, 1pm-9pm Care Assistant: Shifts are 8am-3pm, 3pm-9pm. Excellent rates of pay. For more information please contact Lee-Marie Thornley via email, [lee.marie@lsplondon.co.uk](mailto:lee.marie@lsplondon.co.uk) or on 07856256095. The Newcastle Male Chorus and Gibside Singers will be performing a Christmas Concert in the Chapel at St Joseph's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.00pm. The concert is in aid of the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor here in St Joseph's Home. Tickets are £8 (interval drink included), available from St Joseph's Home.

### Lamb House

Lamb House is our local refuge for Mothers, children and the other adults of all ages. During the four weeks of Advent donations to the food bank will be channelled as gifts to the residents of Lamb House. Please place your donations in the Café Area by **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December** after which they will be taken down to Lamb House. After Christmas your donations to the Food Bank will return to its normal purpose. Thank you for your generosity.

### Diocesan Job Vacancies

**Safeguarding Adviser**, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, permanent. Closing date: 12 December. **IT Manager**, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, permanent. Closing date 12 December. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.



### Thank You

A big thank you to Paul, Teresa and Kevin Kelly who donated and arranged for our Christmas Trees to be delivered, erected and decorated beautifully. They look lovely and are a great help in helping our preparations for Christmas.



### Christmas Church Decoration

We would be grateful for donations of Poinsettias and Greenery to decorate the church. Please bring them from **16<sup>th</sup> December** to enable our Flower arrangers to the church for our Christmas celebrations.

### Christmas Meal

A reminder that the Christmas Meal at Arcot Hall is this coming Friday 15 December. Could everyone please arrive at 7 pm prompt. The bar closes at 11 pm, doors close at 11.15 pm. Please bring with you a wrapped tree decoration each for the party game. Thank you.

### Holy Island SVP Camp

Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2024? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island. They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sand castle building, swimming and scavenger hunts.

Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs a donation of £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website at: <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> for further details. Applications open from 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

### 200 Club and Bonus Ball

We should be grateful if you could prepay your contributions for these up to 16 Dec to include 23<sup>rd</sup> /30<sup>th</sup> as the books will be closed and money banked on 18<sup>th</sup>. Thankyou

### Bonus Ball

Result for 2<sup>nd</sup> December No 40 congrats to John Reid

**You must be in it to win it!**

### Finances

Weekly Collection 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> December £213.08

### Rota List

Bidding Prayers	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	David S
Welcomers	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Anne Marie L & Linda T
	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Meg C & Peter K
Readers	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Barbara B & Malcolm G
	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	David S & Teresa W
Coffee	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Joyce & Malcolm G
Bulletin		Peter
Weekly Cleaning Team 3:		Stella S & Barbara B
Collection Counting Team 4:		Maureen, Meg & Kathy O'R

Bidding Prayers	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Teresa K
Welcomers	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Stella S & Marylyn T
	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Julie & Bob M
Readers	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Teresa K & John R
	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Peter K & Jacqui H
Coffee	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Joyce & Malcolm G
Bulletin		Peter
Weekly Cleaning Team 4:		Julie & Bob M
Collection Counting Team :		Stephanie N & Sheila H

**If you cannot cover your Ministry please let John Reid, 07833 692397 or Peter Killen, 07948 403341 know.**

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/c/StPaulsRCChurchCramlington](https://www.youtube.com/c/StPaulsRCChurchCramlington)

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