



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 24th December 2023

4th Sunday of Advent (B)

“Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.”

Mass Times and Intentions

Wednesday Masses will be in Back Room.

Sat 23rd 6:00pm at St. Paul's James Siddle RIP

Sun 24th 10:45am at St. Paul's John & Veronica Heslop RIP

Mon 25th 10:45am at St. Paul's

Tues 26th 10:00am at St. John's

Wed 27th 10:00am at St. Paul's Winnie Hindmarsh RIP

Thur 28th 10:00am at St. Paul's Paul Dinning RIP

Fri 29th Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. John's at 6:00pm then Mass at 7pm

Sat 30th 6:00pm at St. Paul's

Sun 31st 10:45am at St. Paul's Feast of the Holy Family

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 23rd December Vigil Mass, Sun 24th December Mass

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1 - 5, 8 – 11, 16.

Responsorial Psalm: 88

I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 16: 25 – 27.

Gospel: Luke 1: 26 – 38.

Hymn Numbers for both Masses this weekend

180, 241, 63, 1010, 58, 357, 390.



John William Reid

It is with a deep sense of sorrow I would like to bring to you the news of the sad demise of our friend and stalwart of St. Paul's Parish Family,

John Reid. John left for his eternal rest during the wee hours on Friday 22nd of December 2023. The death of John has created a Vacuum which in no way is easy to fill. In him we dearly miss a friend. May the good Lord open the gates of paradise to him and grant his soul eternal rest. Our hearts go out to Teresa Reid, Chris and family. May the Lord console and comfort them in their grief and dispel the darkness and doubts that comes from the grief. Fr. Manoj Joseph

Christmas Wishes

I would like to wish all my parishioners a Blessed Christmas with all the peace and joy of the season. Thanks for your continued love and support shown to me over the past year. Fr. Manoj.



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 **fourth candle** to be lit this weekend represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle." The Angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace. He came to bring people close to God and each other again. This colour is also **purple** to represent the culmination of love through the Messiah.

School Carol Services

A very big thank you to all St. Peter & St. Paul's school children and staff for the lovely two Carol Services which they excellently performed for us last week. Well done!

Christmas and New Year Services 2023

St Paul's Church, Cramlington:

Christmas Eve: Carols at 6pm followed by Vigil Mass at 6:30pm

Readers: Peter Killen & Terry Carr

Christmas Day: Mass at 10:45am

Readers: Jacqui Hall & **Volunteer**

New Years Day: Mass at 10:45am Solemnity, Mary the Mother of God

Readers: **2 Volunteers**

St. John's Church, Annitsford:

Christmas Eve: Carols at 11:30pm Mass at Midnight

Christmas Day: Mass at 9:30am

New Years Day: Mass at 9:30am

HELP!

Your help is needed towards the upkeep of the parish as we go through a depleting financial situation due to the lack of needed contributions at weekends, except for the generous support by the parishioners Standing Orders. Winter is a season where church expenditure shoots up due to the heating expenses etc. I would 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. If you are a Taxpayer your contribution could be increased by 25% **at no additional cost to you if you join the Gift Aid Scheme.** Please do consider joining the scheme. You can speak with Sheila Hedley who can give you further information on the scheme. Thanks for your kind understanding and co-operation on this matter.

Little Sisters of the Poor - Job Vacancies

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 on 07856256095 or via email, lee.marie@lsp-london.co.uk

New Readers of the Word

The Liturgical Formation Team will be offering a course in January 2024, in Whickham.

Dates:

Session 1: Monday 15 January 2024, 7.00-9.00pm

Session 2: Saturday 20 January 2024, 10.30am-3.00pm (to include a Commissioning Service)*

*Participants to bring a packed lunch for the day event - tea and coffee provided.

Location: St Mary, Dockendale Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE16 4EN.

Cost: £12.50 per person

Please speak with Fr. Manoj if you wish to attend the above course.

Confirmation Retreat at the Emmaus Village -Jan 26 – 28 2024

There are still places for our Confirmation group to join other Confirmation candidates across the Diocese in exploring our faith, the Church, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In this YMT led Confirmation Retreat, there will be time for fun, faith, and food during these days of retreat. If you are a catechist or are considering Confirmation, please contact nsalkeld@ymt.org before January 19th 2024 if you want to book into the program.

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

The visit is planned for Thursday 25th 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 24th 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.

Partnership Mass

To mark the Feast of St. Benet Biscop we will celebrate Mass on Friday 12th January at 7pm, at St Bede's Church, Bedlington. Please do try and come along and join with others in our partnership.

Christmas Cake Raffle

This was drawn on Sunday 17th December and the winning ticket was 612. Congratulations to the winner; please bring your ticket to claim your Cake from the Piety Stall.

Bonus Ball

Result for 17th December – Number 8 Congrats to T Urwin

You must be in it to win it!

200 Club

1st Bob Mitchell – 2nd Teresa Reid – 3rd Betty Wilson

Finances

Weekly Collection 16th / 17th December £272.55

Rota List

Bidding Prayers	23 rd Dec	Malcolm G
Welcomers	23 rd Dec	Barbara B & Anne Marie L
	24 th Dec	Russell & Stephanie N
Readers	23 rd Dec	Malcolm G & Margaret F
	24 th Dec	Julie M & Eddie L
Coffee	23 rd Dec	Victoria & Pamela
Bulletin		Kathy
Weekly Cleaning Team 1:	Stephanie Norwood, Barbara W	
Collection Counting Team 1:	Joe S, Averill R, Betty W.	
Bidding Prayers	30 th Dec	Terry C
Welcomers	30 th Dec	Linda T
	31 st Dec	Barbara W & Bob M
Readers	30 th Dec	Terry C & Gladys H
	31 st Dec	David S & Teresa W
Coffee	30 th Dec	Joyce & Malcolm G
Bulletin		Kathy
Weekly Cleaning Team 2:	Terry C & Averill R	
Collection Counting Team 2:	Maria H & Kathy D	

**If you cannot cover your Ministry please let Peter Killen,
07948 403341 know.**

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/143816098991252/

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