



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 3rd December 2023

1st Sunday of Advent (B)

“Stay awake because you do not know the hour!”

Mass Times and Intentions

Wednesday Masses will be in Back Room.

Sat 2nd 6:00pm at St. Paul's People of the Parish

Sun 3rd 10:45am at St. Paul's People of the Parish

Tues 5th 10:00am at St. John's

Wed 6th 10:00am at St. Paul's

Thur 7th 10:00am School Mass: Year 4 at St. Paul's

Fri 8th Dec Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. John's at 6:00pm then Mass at 7pm

Sat 9th 6:00pm at St. Paul's People of the Parish

Sun 10th 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 2nd December Vigil Mass, Sun 3rd December Mass

First Reading: Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17

Responsorial Psalm: 79

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9

Gospel: Mark 13: 33 - 37

Hymn Numbers for both Masses this weekend

2, 241, 243, 1010, 275, 357, 426.

Mass Intentions

There have been very few Intentions submitted for the coming month so there are plenty of opportunities to have a Mass celebrated for deceased members of your family, for family celebrations (birthdays, wedding anniversaries etc.) or sick members. Please use the envelopes available at the back of church and place in the Offertory Collection.

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 **first candle** symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival. The purple colour symbolises royalty, repentance, and fasting.

Food Bank

We have been given vouchers from the Trussell Trust for Food Parcels to be made available for anyone who is in need. Please speak with either Fr. Manoj or Peter Killen in confidence should you wish to use this facility.

School Carol Services

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

Thank you and HELP!

A big thank you to John and Teresa Reid who organised the raffle to collect a substantial amount towards the church fund. It is a huge help 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.

Fatima Pilgrimage, September 2024.

There are now a few additional places available due to some people having to cancel because of health problems. If you are interested in going please speak with Fr. Manoj as soon as possible for further information.

Christmas Raffle

Thanks to all who bought / sold tickets and donated prizes. Winning lists are at the back of church. 800 books on sale; Less 20 not returned at £1 each; Less printing £75; Less first prize £100; Net profit for parish funds £605.00 Thank you

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 via email, lee.marie@lsplondon.co.uk or on 07856256095.

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 17th 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.

Children's Christmas Party

We are hoping to hold a Christmas Party for the children of the parish on **Saturday 9th December** from 2 pm to 4 pm. Ticket will be £3. If any children are interested could their parents please put their child's name on the list in the porch on the right as you exit the church or they can speak to Linda, Terri or Fr Manoj.

We need your help!

The Social Group would be grateful for any suggestions from parishioners for future social events. If you have any suggestions, please speak to a member of the Social Group i.e. Linda Turnbull, Terri Robson,

Marilyn Turton, Maria Holdsworth and Maria Waterworth.

We would be grateful for donations of Poinsettias and Greenery for decorating the church to be dropped off from **16th December**.

Advent Stars - Letter from Ss Peter & Paul's School

"If you and your family would like to remember a deceased loved one this Advent, please write their name on a star. In December our Christmas tree will be decorated with the stars, and we will remember those people in our school family and wider community who have gone before us. Please complete a star for your loved one, which are found on the table next to the Café along with a box for their return to school as soon as possible please."

Christmas Angels

A parishioner has kindly knitted a number of Christmas Angels which are on display on the table next to the Cafe area. Please do choose one in memory of a loved one with our blessing. A donation for your angel towards the upkeep of the church could be placed in the adjacent box. **A BIG THANK YOU** to Kathleen for her hard work knitting the Angels to help boost church funds.

Christmas Cake Raffle

Tickets at £1 per strip of 5 for a similar beautiful cake to previous years, supplied by Agnes and baked by Ann, will be sold 2nd and 9th December. The Draw will take place after Mass on 9th

200 Club and Bonus Ball

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

Bonus Ball

Result for 25th November No 49 congrats to Graham

Finances

Weekly Collection 18th/19th Nov. £185.80 Catholic Youth £98.98

Rota List

Bidding Prayers	2 nd Dec	
Welcomers	2 nd Dec	Barbara B & Anne Marie L
	3 rd Dec	Barbara W & Bob M
Readers	2 nd Dec	Gladys H & Volunteer
	3 rd Dec	Eddie L & Julie M
Coffee	2 nd Dec	Pamela & Victoria
Bulletin		Mariella
Weekly Cleaning Team 2:		Terry C & Averill R
Collection Counting Team 3:		Bob & Julie M and Sheila H

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

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

Job Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following 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 for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.



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Bulletin email: bulletin@stpauls-rc.co.uk Webmaster email:

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

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/StPaulsRCChurchCramlington

Website: www.stpauls-rc.co.uk