



St. John the Baptist RC Church & St. Paul's RC Church
Annitsford & Dewley
Cramlington & Cramlington
NE23 7QR & NE23 6EF
Parishes of the St. Benet Biscop Partnership, Northumberland



Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Manoj Joseph Punchakunnel SAC

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22nd December 2024
4th Sunday in Advent Cycle C

Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday: 5:30pm - 5.50pm before Mass at St. Paul's
Sunday Morning: 9:00am - 9.20am before Mass at St. John's
Church is a place of prayer and reverence for the Blessed Sacrament reserved.
Please keep due silence and atmosphere of the 'Presence of God'

Psalm Response: *God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.*

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions.

St. John the Baptist	St. Paul's
	Sat 21 st 6.00pm John Reid R.I.P.
Sun 22 nd 9:30am Fr. Richard B Harriott R.I.P. Jim Davidson & Frank Ward R.I.P.	4th Sunday of Advent
Tue 24 th 10:00am Living & Deceased members of St. John's Christmas Eve: Carols @ 11:30pm Christmas Eve: Mass at 12:00am People of the Parish; Brenda & David Knights R.I.P.	Tue 24 th Christmas Eve: Carols @ 6:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass at 6:30pm People of the Parish
Wed 25 th 9:30am Mass People of the Parish; Peter & Winnie McGee; Martin & Agnes Leonard R.I.P.	Wed 25 th 10:45am Mass People of the Parish
	Thu 26 th 10:00am Mass
Fri 27 th 6:00pm Adoration & Mass at 7:00pm	
	Sat 28 th 6.00pm
Sun 29 th 9:30am John Gray R.I.P. & Maud Maddison R.I.P.	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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 of Advent, or the Angel's Candle, represents LOVE and is coloured purple to represent the boundless love that God has for us.** During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us by the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts to welcome the birth of Jesus, our saviour, into our lives.

New Year's Day Service.

St. Paul's: Wednesday 1st January – New Year's Day Mass @ 10:00am

Christmas Wishes

I would like to wish all my parishioners in both parishes 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.

School Carol Service

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



Poinsettias

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, they will be placed on the altar at Christmas. Please bring them to church as soon as possible. Thank you!

2025 Calendars

We still have a number of the Calendars produced in house for Sr. Agnes containing her unique contemplations for each day of the year available for sale at £2.50 in St. Paul's Piety Stall. Please do have a look at them with a view to buying one. Any profit made will go to St. Paul's parish funds.



Lamb House

Lamb House in East Cramlington is St. Paul's adopted local refuge for homeless and vulnerable people of all ages. During Advent we invite you to please make a donation, no matter how small, to help make Christmas a little more cheerful for those less fortunate than ourselves. Your donations will be delivered to Lamb House next Monday, 23rd December.

Please place all your donations for Lamb House at the back of church in the baskets adjacent to the Café area. Items donated for the Food Bank will resume after Christmas. Thank You for your continued support.

Jubilee 2025

Pope Francis announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, and the theme is "Pilgrims of Hope". It will be a year of pilgrimage, prayer, celebration and reconciliation to open on Christmas Eve. Our Diocese will open the Jubilee with celebrations at our 2 Jubilee Hub Churches on Sunday 29th December. Bishop Stephen will be celebrating Mass and opening the Holy Door at St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle at 11.30am and at St. Joseph's Hartlepool at 4.00pm. Everyone is welcome. There's more information about the Jubilee Year on the Diocesan website www.bit.ly/DHNjubilee2025. Pope Francis' prayer intention for the month of December invites Christians to pray that each of us may become pilgrims of hope as a result of the 2025 Jubilee and is as follows: **"Let us pray that this upcoming Jubilee may strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope."** He lamented the suffering afflicting our world, saying humanity has great need of hope. "Christian hope is a gift from God that fills our lives with joy," said the Pope, calling hope an anchor for our lives. "We have to hold onto the rope of hope – hold on tight," he urged. Pope Francis went on to invite Christians to allow God to fill our lives with hope, so that we may become gifts of hope for everyone around us. **"Let us help each other discover this encounter with Christ who gives us life, and let us set out on a journey as pilgrims of hope to celebrate that life,"** he said. "And entering into the upcoming Jubilee is the next stage within that life." As Church prepares for the Jubilee, Catholics are called to become pilgrims of hope, which forms the theme for the 2025 Holy Year. "Don't forget," said the Pope, "hope never disappoints." As he walked alone during the *Statio Orbis* in St. Peter's Square on March 27, 2020, Pope Francis drew on the Gospel metaphor of a boat tossed by the waves to recall the fragility of humanity in the midst of great trials. Now, as the world faces conflict and war in various countries, the Church has the task of strengthening her own hope and sharing it with the world. **"In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future will bring."** Pope Francis.



Advent Alms

Your Advent Alms Box donations this year will go to support St. Cuthbert's Care. Please try to be as generous as you can to help this very worthwhile charitable arm of our Diocese.

Remember in your prayers

Please keep Sr. Agnes Miller in your prayers as she has now been transferred to her new home in Astor Lodge. Please also pray for Chris Garrett, Holly's husband and Glynis Mayes that their health may continue to improve.

St. Paul's Bonus Ball Result for 7th December - No. – 18 R Norwood

St. Paul's Rota List

	<u>21st December</u>	<u>24th December</u>	<u>28th December</u>
Bidding Prayers	Teresa K	Terry C	Malcolm G
Welcomers	Peter K & Margaret H	Stella S & Marylyn T	Barbara B & Anne Marie L
Readers	Teresa K & Barbara B	Peter K & Margaret F	Malcolm G & Gladys H
Coffee	Victoria L & Pamela McG	VOLUNTEERS PLEASE	Joyce & Malcolm G
Counting	TEAM 3: Bob M, Julie M & Sheila H	TEAM 4: Maureen B, Meg C & Kathy O'R	TEAM 4: Maureen B, Meg C & Kathy O'R
Cleaning	TEAM 1: Stephanie N & Barbara W + VOLUNTEERS PLEASE		TEAM 2: Terry C + VOLUNTEERS PLEASE
Bulletin	Peter		Peter



St Paul's Weekly Collection for 14th December along with the 200 Club Draw and Bonus Ball Results for 14th & 21st December will be published in next weekend's Bulletin due to holidays.