

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 14 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass Agnes Miller R.I.P. (JE)
Sun 15 th	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Terence McBriarty R.I.P. & David Carr R.I.P.	Fourth Sunday of Lent
Tues 17 th	10:00am Mass In Memory, Arnie Masterson R.I.P.	 Feast of St. Patrick 
Wed 18 th		10:00am Mass Coffee Morning 10:30am Norah Brough R.I.P.
Thu 19 th	Feast of St. Joseph	10:00am Mass School Reception Class Mass
Fri 20 th	5:30 – 6:00pm Stations of the Cross 6:00pm Mass Sue & Bill Green Jnr R.I.P. Carmel & Giorgina Cauchi R.I.P.	10.00am Stations of the Cross in Church Feast of St. Cuthbert
Sat 21 st		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass
Sun 22 nd	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Fr. Kevin Bolger R.I.P.	Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions - We offer the facility to have Mass celebrated for your own Intention. There are quite a few dates available. Please use the envelopes at the back of the church to request a specific date; please give your telephone for confirmation of the date or to make an alternative arrangement if the date is already booked.

Pope Leo XIV's message for March 2026

For disarmament and peace that nations move forward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



Lenten Reconciliation Service

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 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.

Weekly Homily and Bulletin

Fr. Manoj's Homilies are normally posted on both Parish Websites to assist those who have difficulty in hearing or are unable to attend Mass in person. If you would like a copy via email, along with the weekly Bulletin to save printing costs, please speak with Gerry or Peter Killen.

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.

Details are shown below for anyone who would need to contact Fr. Manoj, for both our parish Websites and Facebook Pages which contain a lot of useful information for all our parishioners. Please do take some time to view these and let Fr. Manoj have your comments and any suggestions you have as to how you think they could be improved by the addition of any useful information.

St. Paul's Parish, Cramlington

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



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

15th March 2026
Fourth Sunday of Lent [A]
Laetare Sunday / Mother's Day

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.



Fourth Sunday of Lent: Gospel of St. John 9: 1 – 41.

Seeing with New Eyes

The 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A, brings us stories about seeing in a new way. God helps us look beyond what is on the outside. These readings remind us that God sees people differently than we do. He looks deeper and knows what really matters. In the first reading, David is chosen to be king, even though he is the youngest and smallest. Everyone thought his older brothers would be picked. But God shows that he sees things others miss. The Gospel also tells us about seeing — Jesus heals a man born blind. This healing helps him to believe in Jesus. These readings fit well with Lent which is a time to grow closer to God and let go of things that keep us in the dark. On the 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A, we are invited to open our eyes and trust God to lead us.

His ways are full of mercy and light.

On this Mother's Day let us give thanks God for all our mothers, both past and present, for the love, support and generosity they gave to us during their lifetime. May those who have gone before us be at peace in the loving arms of God and our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Learning to Pray this Lent

"Prayer in my opinion is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with him who we know loves us." St Teresa of Avila.

The Diocese is offering free online sessions during this season of Lent to help look at how we might enter more deeply into prayer with sessions with lots of practical tips, wisdom from the bible, stories from the saints and advice about common difficulties we face when praying. The online sessions will take place on Sundays during Lent from 22nd February – Sunday 29th March starting at 6pm till 7.15pm. You are all very welcome to attend as many sessions as you can, and why not invite a friend or two to join?

15th March – How to pray the Mass – What parts of Mass do you find most meaningful? What do we believe about the Mass as Catholics?

22nd March – Prayer of Thanksgiving and Gratitude – Why do we offer prayers of thanksgiving?

29th March – Silent Prayer and the Presence of God – Was there a time when you felt very close to God? Please register your interest by completing the online form at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/lent-sycamore-course/> or by contacting the admin team on 0191 243 3316.

Pastoral Strategy Discernment Meeting: Following the first meeting held last Wednesday in St. Paul's a second meeting was agreed to be held next **Thursday 19th March at 7:00pm in St. John's Church Hall** where we will split into smaller groups. There is a list of the groups at the back of church for parishioners to add their details into which group they would like to participate in. If you were unable to attend last Wednesday, you will be most welcome to join us on Thursday. If you are unable to attend but would like to be involved, please speak with Fr. Manoj who will give you the relevant documentation to read through prior to submitting your comments for discussion at our future meetings.

St. John's Parish News

Important Notice: Scattering of Ashes over an existing grave in St. John's Graveyard is not permitted; they must be buried in a plot. The **CORRECT** procedure is to firstly, apply for permission to bury the Ashes; then provide a copy of the Cremation Certificate as the Death **MUST** be recorded in the Parish Death Register; then await written permission before arranging with St. John's Parish approved Gravedigger to prepare the plot.

Sick List - remember in your prayers: Anne Hall, Karen Mackie, Anna Shinwell, Peter Laggan, Chris Garrett and Maureen Cowan's friend.

Lately dead: Arnie Masterson R.I.P. who died on Friday 20th February. Arnie's Funeral will be held in the West Chapel of the West Road, Crematorium, Newcastle at 12.30pm next Wednesday 18th March 2026. Please keep Arnie and all the members of his family in your prayers. Mass will be celebrated here in St. John's on Tuesday 17th March at 10:00am for the repose of his soul and to thank God for his work as a Gardener for our parish.

Readers at Sunday Mass: We require parishioners to volunteer to read at Mass on Sundays. If you are not already on the Rota and would be kind enough to volunteer, please give your name, phone and email) to Fr Manoj or Gerry Killen.

Planned Giving: The **2026-27** Boxes of envelopes are at the back of church, please collect your own (and anyone you know who cannot get to church). Anyone who does not current have a box of envelopes, who would wish to support the parish in this way, please speak to Gerry Killen. For parishioners who contribute by direct debit, there is a small bundle of Special Collection envelopes.

Friday Mass Times: During the dark winter nights, the Friday evening Mass time has been changed to 6pm. During Lent Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday evening at 5:30 pm before the evening Mass

APPEAL for HELPERS: We are currently two Gardeners missing from our dedicated team. Anyone who is able and could spare a couple of hours (not necessarily every week), please give your contact details to Frank Swindle 07779 425610 (or Gerry Killen). A good way to keep fit while caring for the church grounds.

Church Cleaning Rota - The church will be cleaned on the first Saturday of the month.
Group B 2026 - Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec **Group A 2026 May, July, Sept, Nov**
 We are looking for parishioners to join the cleaning groups. If you can help, please give your name to Barbara Wareing.

MASS: Facebook and YouTube recordings: If you feel that live streaming of St John's Mass, in addition to publishing later on a Sunday would be beneficial, please can you inform Fr. Manoj or Gerry Killen and it will be investigated.

Collection: Sunday 8th March Offertory Collection £305.81 CAFOD Family Fast Day £280.50 Cumulative

St. Paul's Parish News

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

Lately dead: Mary Fenwick and Peter Don R.I.P. whose funerals were held last Wednesday and Friday respectively. Please pray for the repose of their souls and keep their families in your prayers. Next Monday would have been Sr. Agnes' 94th birthday. Please pray for the repose of her soul. Saturday's evening Mass will be a Memorial Mass celebrated in remembrance of Agnes and to thank God for her contribution to our parish over many years.

Spirituality and Formation Group

The group kindly invites parishioners to their meetings taking place at 7pm, see dates below. All are welcome. We would love to see some new faces. The theme will be 'Faith.' Due to commitments we cannot meet every week so these are the following dates leading up to Holy Week: March 24th and 31st. We will begin again on April 21st to finish off our theme.

IMPORTANT: If you are scheduled for any volunteer role and are unable to attend, can you please let Peter Killen know asap so alternative arrangements can be made. If you are unable to continue with any of your roles and wish to come off the list, please let Peter know. Can **Eucharistic Ministers and Readers** please try to arrive in church at least 10 minutes prior to Mass starting so we can be sure you are attending.

Ministry Rota

	14 th March	21 st March
Bidding Prayers	Teresa C	Jacqui H
Welcomers	Meg C & Barbara W	Julie & Bob M
Readers	Teresa K & Barbara B (Wed Teresa C)	Cynthia O N & Peter K (Wed Peter K)
Eucharistic Ministers	Jacqui H & Terry R	Linda T & Jimmy L
Coffee	Joyce & Malcolm G	Victoria L & Pamela McG
Counting	Team 2: Teresa K & Sheila H	Team 3: Bob, Julie & Sheila
Cleaning	Team 1: Stephanie N & Barbara W	Team 2: Teresa C
Bulletin	Peter	Mariela

200 Club: 7th March 1st No. 79 D Cocks 2nd No 47 T Reid 3rd No 25 J Espie **Lots of spare numbers available at £1 Bonus Ball:** 7th March No. 19 T Robson

February's Parish Finances: Standing Orders £1323:00, Offertory Collections £859:90 Racial Justice £105.14

Planned Giving: The **2026-27** Boxes of envelopes are now available for collection from the Piety Stall. Please collect your box as soon as possible. If you are not part of the Planned Giving Scheme and wish to join or have more information about the scheme please speak with Sheila Hedley.

Joint Parish News



Stations of the Cross: During Lent we have Stations of the Cross each **Friday at 10:00am in St Paul's** and at **5:30pm in St. John's**. We encourage as many parishioners as possible to attend as part of their Lenten Observances.



Lenten Reconciliation Service:

During this holy season of Lent, we are given a special opportunity to turn back to the Lord with renewed hearts. This year, our parish will join together with the parishes of Blyth, Cowpen, and New Hartley for a Joint Lenten Reconciliation Service. The service will take place on **Thursday, 26 March 2026, at 7:00 pm** at the Church of Our Lady and St Wilfrid, Blyth. I warmly encourage everyone to make use of this grace-filled opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As we prepare our hearts for the great celebration of Easter, this service offers us a beautiful moment to experience God's mercy and renewal. Let us come together in prayer and repentance so that we may celebrate the Paschal mysteries with joy and peace.

Holy Week Services 2026:



Palm Sunday 29th March - Normal Saturday and Sunday Mass times in both parishes.



Maundy Thursday 2nd April - Mass of the Last Supper at **7:00pm in St. John's**, (Volunteers for Washing of Feet please)



Good Friday 3rd April - Stations of the Cross at **1000oam at St. John's**
 The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ **3:00pm in St. Paul's**



Easter Sunday 5th April - Vigil Mass at **6:00pm in St. Paul's** and **8:30pm in St. John's**.
 Normal Sunday Mass in St. John's at 9:30am.



Irish Night: The Little Sisters of the Poor (St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, NE4 7QA) are hosting an Irish Night on Saturday 21st March. There will be a Ceilidh band, dancing, food and a raffle. Tickets, priced £10 each, are available by contacting the Sisters on 0191 2731279



Items for the Bulletin: If you wish to have items go into our weekly Bulletin, please send them via email to bulletin@stpauls-rc.co.uk **by 7:00pm on a Wednesday evening** otherwise **it may not be included** the following weekend's Bulletin.