

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 21 st		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass People of St. Paul's Parish
Sun 22 nd	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Fr. Kevin Bolger R.I.P.	Fifth Sunday of Lent
Tues 24 th	10:00am Mass Private Intention of Teresa Brannigan	
Wed 25 th		10:00am Mass Coffee Morning 10:30am
Thu 26 th		10:00am Mass School Mass - Classes 1 & 2
Fri 27 th	5:30 – 6:00pm Stations of the Cross 6:00pm Mass Pasquale Santori R.I.P.	10.00am Stations of the Cross in Church
Sat 28 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass Andrew John Convery R.I.P.
Sun 29 th	9:00-9:25am Reconciliation and Exposition 9:30am Mass Holy Souls	Palm Sunday

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.

New to the Parish: If you are new to the Parish please complete a New to the Parish form available at the back of the church or via both parish Websites. You will then receive important updates of Parish Activities etc.

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

22nd March 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent [A]

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.



Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

This Sunday's readings focus on the new life that God brings – Ezekiel tells of the dry bones coming to life, Paul reflects on the Spirit dwelling within us, and in the gospel Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. Water is indeed life. "Providing water changes a place, its people, and their mindset. It makes everything around it bloom." Parched land has truly begun to bloom, as innovative techniques such as drought-resistant crops and solar-powered water pumps are enabling communities to grow food. This Sunday is World Water Day. As we celebrate the gift of water, we remember communities who face life-threatening water scarcity. God wants all people to have life in abundance. Can we roll away the stones of injustice and ecological destruction and so participate in building a world where all people have safe access to water?

Pastoral Strategy – Second Discernment Meeting:

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who took part in our second discernment meeting. This gathering brought together members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), the Finance Committee, and committed parishioners from St John the Baptist Church, Annitsford, and St Paul's Church, Cramlington. We met on Thursday 19th March at 7:00 PM at St John the Baptist Church. I am truly grateful for the thoughtful engagement, openness, and seriousness with which all participants approached our discussions. Your contributions reflect a deep care for the life and future of our parish community. In the coming weeks, we will share a summary of the key points and suggestions that emerged from this meeting. Before any final decisions are made and presented to the Deanery, the wider parish community will be invited to offer their own thoughts and reflections. Thank you once again for your continued commitment, prayerful discernment, and dedication to our shared mission.

Daily Reflections for Holy Week: The Diocesan Writing Team have compiled reflections based on the daily Gospels as we travel through Holy Week, beginning on Palm / Passion Sunday and ending with an Easter Sunday reflection by Bishop Stephen. These can be viewed and downloaded via the Lenten Resources on the Home Page of the diocesan website, www.diocesehn.org.uk.

Partnership Service for Lent: Our St Benet Biscop Partnership Parishes have prepared a Joint Service to celebrate Lent, with a focus on the Cross as a guide through Lent. This will be held **on Wednesday 25th March at St Bede's Church at Bedlington at 7pm**. This is an opportunity to join together with fellow parishioners from across the partnership in prayer during Lent. Please try to come along and support, especially if you've never been to a Partnership Service before!!

Final Scrutiny of Candidates:

As we journey closer to the celebration of Easter, we look forward to the final scrutiny of the candidates who are preparing to join our Church at the forthcoming Easter Vigil Mass.

We are truly blessed to have four individuals who will be received into our faith community this year. It has been a privilege to accompany them on their journey of faith, witnessing their openness, commitment, and desire to grow in their relationship with God.

I kindly ask you all to keep them in your prayers during this important time, that they may be strengthened in faith and filled with grace as they take this significant step.

May we, as a parish community, continue to support and welcome them with love and encouragement.

Easter Egg donations: We're looking for donations of Easter Eggs that can be given to those children less fortunate. If anyone is able to donate please bring them along to Church where they will be collected and then delivered, in Holy Week, to the Cramlington Food Bank. If they can be dropped in by Palm Sunday please, your gift will no doubt be very gratefully received.

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. Please keep Arnie and all the members of his family in your prayers,

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.

Collection: Sunday 15th March Offertory Collection £360.14

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.

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.

Five First Saturday Devotions:

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, CRAMLINGTON
NE23 6EP

SATURDAY

2 - MAY - 2026

6 - JUNE - 2026

4 - JULY - 2026

1 - AUG - 2026

5 - SEPT - 2026

10:00 ADORATION/
RECONCILIATION,
11:00 HOLY MASS,
12:45 ROSARY,
12:15 MEDITATION (15 mins).

Child Jesus said to St Luke
10 December 1863, Portovenere
"Have compassion on the heart of
your Most Holy Mother, covered
with thorns, with which I suffered
more pain in all my moments,
and there is no one to make an act
of reparation to remove them!"

All with the intention of making
reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

St. Paul's will again be holding the Five First Saturday Devotions on Saturday 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 1st August 2026 and culminating with the final one being held on Saturday 5th September 2026. The proposed Agenda is as follows: 10:00am Adoration / Reconciliation, 11:00am Holy Mass, 11:45am Rosary, 12:15pm Meditation (15mins). We encourage as many parishioners as possible to attend along with anyone else who wishes.

Bonus Ball: 14th March No. 59 L Turnbull.

200 Club: Lots of spare numbers are still available at £1 / week

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	28 th March PALM / PASSION SUNDAY
Bidding Prayers	Jacqui H	David S
Welcomers	Julie & Bob M	Russell & Stephanie N
Readers	Jacquie H & Peter K (Wed Peter K)	Eddie L & Margaret F (Wed Teres K)
Eucharistic Ministers	Linda T & Jimmy L	Passion. Jesus - Fr. Manoj; Narator - Deacon: Speaker - Teresa C
Coffee	Victoria L & Pamela McG	Rob M & Stephanie N
Counting	Team 3: Bob, Julie & Sheila	Joyce & Malcolm G
Cleaning	Team 2: Tereas C	Team 4 Margaret B, Meg C & Kathy O'R
Bulletin	Mariela	Team 3: Stella S & Barbara B
		Mariela

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 10am 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
 & 8:30pm in St. John's.
 Normal 9:30am Sunday Mass in St. John's

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham

Called to the Fullness of Life and Love



A new religious community dedicated to Our Lady of Walsingham offering talks, parish missions, retreat days, accompaniment and more, both in Norfolk and around the country. Retreats, both personal and guided are also available at their convent in Dereham, located thirty minutes from Walsingham and with good public transport links to Norwich.

Mary's House Appeal

Help us to establish a place of prayer and service in Walsingham, our spiritual home.

Please support as we raise funds for the purchase of a mission house in Walsingham as our community continues to grow, visit the website to find out more. Any donation you can give is appreciated!



Please do consider if you can assist in any way to help the construction of a place of prayer and service in Walsingham in the growth of their community.

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.