

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 18 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass Holy Souls
Sun 19 th	9:00 – 9:20am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass Maud Maddison R.I..P.	Third Sunday of Easter Misericordia Sunday
Tues 21 st	NO MASS	
Wed 22 nd		NO MASS Coffee Morning 10:00am
Thu 23 rd		NO MASS
Fri 24 th	6:00 – 6:50pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7:00pm Mass Joel, Calum & Chloe	
Sat 25 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Reconciliation and Exposition 6:00pm Mass Nancy, John & Keith McCarthy R.I.P.
Sun 26 th	9:00 – 9:20am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass Moira & John Page	Fourth Sunday of Easter

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.



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.

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.

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

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

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.co.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

19th April 2026

Third Sunday of Easter [A] - Misericordia Sunday

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.



Misericordias Domini – Good Shepherd Sunday

Misericordias Domini, the third Sunday of Easter, is one of the most well-known Sundays of the Church year. The original Latin name for this day comes from the historic introtit, which begins with the words *Misericordias Domini* and includes various verses of Psalm 33. The Sunday has long been nicknamed "Good Shepherd Sunday" because the Gospel reading is John 10:11-16: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep..." *Misericordias Domini* means "the

of the Lord," a phrase that expresses the joy that Christians experience because of

redemptive acts of God. This thanksgiving is all the more appropriate in the weeks following Easter since the miracle of the Resurrection has just been commemorated within the liturgical cycle. All of the Sundays after Easter are intended to illustrate the newness of life that we have in Christ, as does this third Sunday of the Paschal

season.

The readings for Good Shepherd also reflect these realities, depicting our lives as Christians in terms of sheep that follow their master. The more recent Old Testament passage from Ezekiel recounts the Lord saying, "Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out." The Epistle that is often used comes from I Peter, describing mankind's wayward actions in terms of sheep: "For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." Additionally, this Sunday's close proximity to the previous liturgical season of Lent gives Christians hope in the tender love and care of God: the sin and temptation, death, persecution, and fear that is experienced on earth (and was so acutely reflected upon during Lent) is instead replaced with the peace that Christ brought with his salvific works.

It is clear that the description of Christ as our shepherd has always provided significant comfort to the Church. The truth of Christ's death and resurrection and his deepest, most incomprehensible love for mankind—central to the Easter mystery—is easily grasped in the Good Shepherd picture. Further, Christ's continual nourishment and care for us, given to us through the bread and wine of the Sacrament, is also part of the paschal mystery. In Holy Communion we eat and drink, remembering that he gave his body and shed his blood to rescue us and bring

Pope Leo XIV's message for April 2026

Pope Leo's prayer intention for April is for those going through moments of crisis, when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope.



Pastoral Visit by Bishop Stephen Wright: We are pleased to announce the Pastoral Visit of Bishop Stephen Wright on the 9th and 10th May. He will be visiting St. Paul's Church, Cramlington on

evening of Saturday 9th May at 5.30 PM, and St. John the Baptist Church, Annitsford 9.00 AM on Sunday the 10th May. A pastoral visit is always a special time for us as a parish community to meet and spend

with our Bishop. It offers a valuable opportunity to share in fellowship, listen, and discuss any matters of

St. John's Parish News

Sick List - remember in your prayers: Anne Hall, Karen Mackie, Anna Shinwell, Peter Laggan, Chris Garrett

PLANNED GIVING – 2026/27 There are a few uncollected boxes at the back of the church, please can you check them, if you live close to anyone, it would be helpful if you could deliver the boxes to them. Anyone who does not currently 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.

Mass Intentions: We now have Mass Intentions booked up to 15th May 2026.

Friday Mass Times: Now that we have lighter nights, Friday night Mass will return to 7pm preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 6.60pm

Church Cleaning Rota - The church will be cleaned on the first Saturday of the month.
Group B 2026 - 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.

Northumberland County Council: have provisionally planned to alter the Church Drive Entrance (to prevent rainwater flooding the drive) on Wednesday 20th May therefore there will be no access to the church drive that day.

Collection: Sunday 5th April £430.07 12th April £306.40 Holy Places £78.10 Easter Cumulative £327.00

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.' We will begin again on April 21st to finish off our theme.

Ministry Rota

	18 th April	25 th April
Bidding Prayers	Teresa C	Jacqui H
Welcomers	Margaret H & Volunteer	Meg C & Barbara W
Readers	Malcolm G & Gladys H (Wed Sue W)	Peter K & Jacqui H (Wed Patrick C)
Eucharistic Ministers	Meg C & Joyce G	Teresa C & Christine E
Coffee	Victoria L & Pamela McG	Joyce & Malcolm G
Counting	Team 2: Teresa K & Sheila H	Team 3: Bob, Julie M & Sheila H
Cleaning	Team 2: Teresa C	Team 3: Stella S & Barbara B
Bulletin	Peter	Peter

PPC Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th April at 6:30pm. If there are any issues you wish to be discussed, please ensure they are handed in to Fr. Manoj by Saturday 25th April.

Rota List: A new list has been drawn up covering 25th April – 24th July 2026, A copy has been sent out via email and is also on both Notice Boards, and in the Piety Stall. Please check and if you are unable to fulfil your Ministry let Peter Killen know so alternative arrangements can be arranged.

Finances for March 2026: Standing Orders £1273.00 – Offertory Collections £1102.40 Total £2375.40

Bonus Ball: 11th April Number 31 G Hanson.

Joint Parish News

Pastoral Strategy – Last weekend we shared a summary of the key points and suggestions that emerged from the previous two joint meetings of the parishes so that the whole parish community would be aware of the final reflections that we will be forwarding to the diocese. Before any final decisions are made and presented to the Deanery, the wider parish community had an opportunity to add on to offer their own thoughts and reflections. We provided the points along with some of the major questions for you to carry home and return to the suggestion box this weekend. Thank you once again for your continued commitment, prayerful discernment, and dedication to our shared mission.

Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal: A special collection will be held next weekend of 25th / 26th April for St Joseph's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle. The collection will assist in the replacement of some specialised bathing units and also ongoing general refurbishment of the Home.

If you are able to help, donations can be sent by cheque, payable to Little Sisters of the Poor, to: St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, secure online donations can be made by visiting: www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/ No gift is too small. Every act of kindness helps to ensure that residents continue to receive the care, dignity, and love they so deeply deserve. Thank you.

Sick & Retired Priests Collection – This will remain open until 26th April. Those with Planned Giving Envelopes will find a specific envelope in their box.



Feast of Our Lady of Fatima: You are warmly invited to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on Wednesday 13th May 2026 in St. Paul's Church, Cramlington. Please do join us as we come together in prayer and devotion to honour Our Lady. The Celebration will commence with reciting the Rosary at 9:30am followed by Holy Mass at 10:00am. This is a special opportunity for our communities to gather together in faith, seek Our Lady's intercession and to grow spiritually together. All are most welcome to come along. We look forward to sharing this meaningful celebration with you all.

First Holy Communion: The dates for children receiving their First Holy Communion this year are as follows - 10:00am on Sunday 7th June in St. Paul's, Cramlington and 10:00am on Sunday 14th June in St. John's, Annitsford.

Mother Mary's Floral Devotion – May 2026: During the month of May, we warmly invite all parishioners to take part in a special Floral Devotion to Our Blessed Mother. You are welcome to offer flowers in honour of Mother Mary for your dear ones, or for any personal intentions. These floral offerings will be displayed throughout the month of May as a sign of love and devotion. A Holy Mass will also be celebrated for all the intentions entrusted through these offerings. The cost for each floral offering is £5, and all contributions will go towards the upkeep of the parish. If you would like to participate, please contact the parish office or place your request with the parish team. Let us come together in prayer and devotion to Mother Mary during this special month.

Five First Saturday Devotions:



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 to come along to do so. You will all be most welcome to visit our new Side Chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima.

The First Five Saturday Devotion is based on Our Lady's Fatima Messages to the three small children, Lucia dos Santos, Francisco Marto and Jacinta Marto. In the apparitions which occurred in Fatima, Portugal and commenced on 13th May 1917 and continued on the 13th day of each consecutive month for the next five months. Part of the Fátima message is that God is asking us to make reparation for the sins of the world. The Angel in 1916 taught the children prayers of reparation and asked them to do penance. The Blessed Virgin also called for prayers and acts of reparation, and, on July 13, 1917, she promised that she would return to request a special kind of reparation. She did this in 1925, appearing to Lucia, now a novice in a Spanish community.

"Look, my daughter, at my Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

This is a request that is ongoing, and one as needed today, if not more so, than in 1925. It is also one within the reach of every Catholic. And in fulfilling it, we please Our Lord, who like any son is pleased by others coming to the defense of his mother's honor.

CAFOD: Stand with Sudan. Give monthly. On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: "So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a monthly gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbors, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored." Donate at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan