

This week's Mass Times, Services and Intentions

	St. John the Baptist, Annitsford	St. Paul's, Cramlington
Sat 23 rd		5:30 – 5:50pm Rosary 6:00pm Mass People of the parish
Sun 24 th	9:00 – 9:20am Rosary 9:30am Mass John Bennet-Gray R.I.P.	Pentecost Sunday
Tue 26 th	9:30 – 9:55am Rosary 10:00am Mass Peter Cryan R.I.P.	
Wed 27 th	10:00am Funeral & Burial of Sheila Aston	NO MASS Coffee 10:00am
Thu 28 th		10:00am Mass Thanksgiving for Marriage of Kevin Kelly & Jessica Cesford
Fri 29 th	6:30 – 7:00pm Rosary 7:00pm Mass Mary & Richard Tedesco R.I.P.	
Sat 30 th		5:30 – 5:50pm Rosary 6:00pm Mass People of the parish
Sun 31 st	9:00 – 9:20am Rosary 9:30am Mass Ray Smith R.I.P.	

Mass Intentions - We offer the facility to have Mass celebrated for your own Intention. There are quite a few dates available at St. Paul's with St. John's booked till 31st May. 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. **Thank you.**

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.



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.

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

Parish Partnership Meeting: A meeting of the Parish Partnership was held on Wednesday, 20 May, at St. Bede's Church to discuss the initial submissions presented by the various parishes within our Partnership. Mrs Joyce G. and Fr Manoj represented our parish communities.

Once the points and observations from all the parishes have been collated, they will be presented to the parish communities so that everyone will have a clearer understanding of the thoughts and recommendations being taken forward to deanery level as part of our discernment process.

Items for the Bulletin: If you wish to have items go into our weekly Bulletin, please send them **by 7:00pm Wednesday evening** via email to the addresses shown below 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 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: vo10040@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



24th May 2026 Pentecost Sunday [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.



Pope Leo XIV's message for May 2026:

That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



This weekend, the Church celebrates Pentecost, one of the most important feast days of the year that concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church. This is what you need to know.

The timing and origins: Pentecost always occurs 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus and 10 days after his ascension into heaven. Because Easter is a moveable feast without a fixed date Pentecost depends on the timing of Easter and can fall anywhere between May and June. The timing of these feasts is also where Catholics get the concept of the novena – nine days of prayer - because in Acts 1, Mary and the Apostles prayed together "continuously" for nine days after the Ascension leading up to Pentecost.

Traditionally, [the Church prays the novena to the Holy Spirit](#) in the days

before Pentecost. The name of the day itself is derived from the Greek word "pentecoste," meaning 50th. There is a parallel Jewish holiday, Shavu'ot, which falls 50 days after Passover. Shavu'ot is sometimes called the festival of weeks, referring to the seven weeks since Passover. Originally a harvest feast, Shavu'ot now commemorates the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai, when the Lord revealed the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai. Every year, the Jewish people renew their acceptance of the gift of the Torah on this feast. What happens at Pentecost? In the Christian tradition, Pentecost is the celebration of the person of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered together in the Upper Room. A "strong, driving" wind filled the room where they were gathered, and tongues of fire came to rest on their heads, allowing them to speak in different languages so that they could understand each other. It was such a strange phenomenon that some people thought the Christians were just drunk — but Peter pointed out that it was only the morning, and said the phenomenon was caused by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit also gave the apostles the other gifts and fruits necessary to fulfill the great commission — to go out and preach the Gospel to all nations. It fulfills the New Testament promise from Christ (Luke 24:46-49) that the Apostles would be "clothed with power" before they would be sent out to spread the Gospel. Where's that in the bible? The main event of Pentecost (the strong driving wind and tongues of fire) takes place in [Acts 2:13](#), though the events immediately following (Peter's homily, the baptism of thousands) continue through verse

Happy Birthday, Church! It was right after Pentecost that Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, preached his first homily to Jews and other non-believers, in which he opened the scriptures of the Old Testament, showing how the prophet Joel prophesied events and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

He also told the people that the Jesus they crucified is the Lord and was raised from the dead, which "cut them to the heart." When they asked what they should do, Peter exhorted them to repent of their sins and to be baptized. According to the account in Acts, about 3,000 people were baptized following Peter's sermon.

For this reason, Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church — Peter, the first Pope, preaches for the first time and converts thousands of new believers. The apostles and believers, for the first time, were united by a common language, and a common zeal and purpose to go and preach the Gospel.

St. John's Parish News



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

Lately Dead: Sheila Aston [Funeral on 27th May @ 10:00am] and Peter Laggan [Funeral on 2nd June @ 10:00am].



PLANNED GIVING – 2026/27: Anyone who does not support the parish in this way but may wish to do so, please speak to Gerry Killen.

Mass Intentions: We now have Mass Intentions booked up to 31st May 2026.

Friday Mass Times: Now that we have lighter nights, Friday night Mass has returned to 7pm preceded by the Rosary being recited at 6:30pm during the month of May.

Northumberland County Council: have provisionally planned to alter the Church Drive Entrance (to prevent rainwater flooding the drive) on Monday 18th May therefore there will be no access to the church drive that day.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: The scattering of Ashes over an existing grave is not permitted in St John's Graveyard; 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 and then, await written permission before arranging with the Parish approved Gravedigger to prepare the plot.

Presbytery Roof - Works have started to replace the presbytery roof, scaffolding has been erected reducing the parking space available. Please will all drivers park with consideration, leaving space for as many cars as possible.



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: We are looking for parishioners to volunteer to join the Cleaning Groups. If you can help, please give your name to Barbara Wareing. The church will be cleaned on the first Saturday of each month. **Group B: June, August, October & December.** **Group A: July, September & November.**



A Retiring Collection will be taken today (Sunday 24th May) to Support the Clergy Training. For those who support the parish by Planned Giving, there is an envelope in the Planned Giving envelope boxes. Thank you.

Collection for last weekend (17th May) will be published in next weekend's Bulletin.

St. Paul's Parish News



Remember in your prayers: Please pray for parishioners who are going through a very difficult time at present, including Christine Elliott, Aidan, Chris Garrett, Glynis Mayes who are unwell and also Alec Evans who is very unwell in hospital.



Bonus Ball: 9th May Number 5 – G Wilkins

Collection from the Floral devotion: £ 145.00. Thanks to Paula B for the initiative.

Ministry Rota

	23 rd May	30 th May
Bidding Prayers	Teresa C	Jacqui H
Welcomers	Stella S & Marylyn T	Barbara B & Volunteer
Readers	Gladys H & Malcolm G (Wed Sue W)	Jacqui H & Peter K (Wed Patrick C)
Coffee	Joyce & Malcolm G	Victoria L & Pamela McG
Counting	Team 2 : Teresa K & Sheila H	Team 3: Bob M, Julie M & Sheila H
Cleaning	Team 2: Teresa C	Team 3: Stella S & Barbara B
Bulletin	Peter K	Peter K



Joint Parish News



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi: Led by Bishop Stephen. 22nd – 29th October 2027. £1725 per person. Places are limited to 50 pilgrims and will be allocated on a first come first served basis with payment of the deposit securing your place. The itinerary and booking details can be found on the diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk or alternatively via the parish office.

Holy Communion: Dear Parishioners, It is with great joy that I invite you to join our parish family in celebrating the **First Holy Communion** of 10 children from our parishes. These special celebrations will take place:

- **Sunday, 7th June 2026 at 10.00 AM** at St. Paul's Church Cramlington
- **Sunday, 14th June 2026 at 10.00 AM** at St. John the Baptists Church Annitsford

On these blessed days, our children will receive Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist for the very first time in their lives. This is a sacred and joyful moment not only for the children and their families, but also for our whole parish community. I kindly ask you to keep all our children and their families in your prayers during these days of preparation and celebration. Your prayers, presence, and encouragement are a beautiful witness of faith and love.

I sincerely hope and pray that you will do your best to join in their joy by being present at these Masses as one parish family. Your participation will make these celebrations even more meaningful for our young communicants.

May God bless our children abundantly as they take this important step in their journey of faith.



Stella Maris Holy Island Pilgrimage: Saturday 6th June 2026 – Prayers on the Green @ 12 noon; Mass @ 3:00pm. Safe Crossing times Sat 9:45am-6:00pm. See Notice Board for more information.

SVP Camp – Holy Island: Calling all young adults 18+. Do you have a week to spare to spend on Lindisfarne this Summer helping out at the Holy Island SVP Camp? Volunteers are needed to work alongside the children who stay in the SVP purpose-built centre on the island. Weeks, 3, 5 and 6 of the Summer have 60 children ready to have a great time rock pooling, walking, arts and crafting and enjoying outdoor activities

but we need more helpers to ensure they have the best time! Week 3 Sat 1st August - 8th August;

Week 5 Sat 15th August - 22nd August: Week 6 Sat 22nd - 29th August.

If you are interested have a look at the website <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or email Barbara Taws on her email address barbarat@svp.org.uk All helpers receive training and will need to be DBS checked.

Pilgrimage to Fatima: 8–15 September 2027

The World Apostolate of Fatima is organising a national pilgrimage to Fatima and is currently inviting expressions of interest. Travel for pilgrims from our diocese is planned direct from Newcastle Airport to Lisbon with easyJet, with accommodation at the Domus Pacis, just a short walk from the Sanctuary of Sanctuary of Fátima.

The organisers hope to keep costs as low as possible. Further details regarding the itinerary and final costs will be available once numbers are confirmed. To register your interest, please contact Fr Manoj by 30 June 2026.

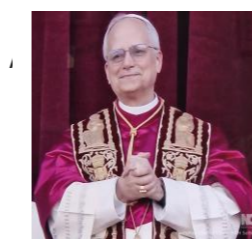


Five First Saturday Devotions:

St. Paul's began holding the Five First Saturday Devotions which commenced on Saturday 2nd May, and will continue next 6th June led by Fr. Stephen Watson. 4th July, 1st August and will culminate with the final one being held on Saturday 5th September 2026.

The 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.



Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical: Pope Leo XIV is set to publish his first encyclical, titled *Magnifica Humanitas* ("Magnificent Humanity"), on 25 May 2026. The document focuses on safeguarding human dignity in the age of artificial intelligence and reflects the Church's concern for the ethical use of modern technology. The encyclical draws inspiration from *Rerum Novarum*, the landmark social teaching document issued by Pope Leo XIII in 1891 during the Industrial Revolution. In a similar spirit, Pope Leo XIV addresses the challenges posed today by rapid technological developments, especially artificial intelligence, and their impact on human dignity, work, justice, and peace. Through this important teaching document, the Holy Father invites the

faithful and the wider world to ensure that technological progress always serves humanity and upholds the values of compassion, truth, and the common good.



Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA): We are looking for parishioners to join a group to support people who are looking to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church with a view to Easter 2027. Whether you are a cradle Catholic or were received later in life your experience will be invaluable as you journey with them. We are drawing up a programme of meetings to join regularly to share our personal journeys as they discern theirs. Christ will always play a central role as we gather together in our Father's name. There are four people already who are taking an active part in liturgy at the start of their journey. If you are interested, please speak to Fr Manoj or Deacon Rob Wareing. Let our congregations welcome our new parishioners. Thank you"



If you are a trained Doctor or Nurse, we would be very grateful if you would be willing to offer your services as a volunteer when attending Mass to assist if a medical situation occurs in church. If you feel able to assist us in volunteering for this very important role please give your name and contact details to Fr. Manoj. ASAP. Thank you!