



# PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025



**Parish Priest:** Fr Jonathon Bowes

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**Church Open Daily:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8.00am - 5.00pm Saturday 8.00am - 2.00pm

### Safeguarding

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are listed below or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 243 3305 or at [safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Reps:** St. Teresa's: Jean Potts

St. Anthony's: Maria Duncan

**Parish Website:** [www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk](http://www.stteresaseastnewcastle.org.uk)

## THIS WEEKS REFLECTION FROM FR JONATHON

Like last Sunday's Scriptures, today's readings proclaim that while salvation always comes from God, God does expect and await human response. Imagine – the Almighty chooses to save and re-create humankind only with our cooperation! While Isaiah paints a portrait of humanity perfected "that day" of God's final salvation, Matthew underscores the human role in bringing about a world ruled by divine values and power.

By describing the work of God's Messiah, the one through whom God was expected to bring a new age of salvation, Isaiah sketches an outline of the divine vision. The awaited Messiah will be king of the line of David ("a shoot ... of Jesse", David's father) who will perceive, judge and act in "the spirit of the Lord." In the Bible, divine "spirit" describes the powerful presence of God within a person or community, imparting strength to carry out God's wishes and commands.

As king, a Messiah acting in God's spirit will create a new human community of justice. This biblical term points to a state of right relationships: when justice reigns, human beings live in right relationships to the God who always saves, to all members of the human community, and to the material world. Under the rule of God's vision of justice, artificially created boundaries dissolve, all people work together to meet the needs of all, and the physical world itself functions as a peaceful unity.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist announces that this new world is at hand in Jesus, who fulfils Isaiah's prophecy. The expected one bearing God's Spirit is already present in the person of Jesus, and he will share that Spirit with those who respond with repentance.





## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH, PARTNERSHIP AND DIOCESE

### WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers all those we know who are unwell, as well as the many who have no one to pray for them and for those in hospital. Please keep in your prayers all those who have died recently, especially, Margaret McEvoy, Emily Bell, Anne Allan, William Robson and Anthony Ingoe, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Anne's Cremation service will take place on Wednesday 10th December at 1.30pm at the West Road Crematorium. Emily's Requiem Mass will take place at St Teresa's on Friday 12th December at 1.30pm followed by cremation at Whitley Bay cemetery. Margaret's Requiem Mass will take place at St Teresa's on Monday 15th December at 10am followed by burial in Heaton Cemetery. William's Requiem Mass will take place at St Teresa's on Wednesday 17th December at 12.30pm followed by burial in Heaton Cemetery. Tony's Requiem Mass will take place at St Teresa's on Thursday 18th December at 10.30am followed by burial in Heaton Cemetery.

### MARIAN CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION

This Sunday evening (Sunday 7th), on the eve of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception we will be hosting a Candlelit Procession, beginning at 5.30pm in front of the Pavilion in Heaton Park before heading to St Teresa's praying the Rosary by candlelight. We will conclude in St Teresa's Church with the celebration of Vespers, Homily & Benediction. Please do come along and join this wonderful celebration.

### BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

Pope St. John Paul II, some decades ago, invited children and adults to bring their Baby Jesus figures from their cribs at home, to be blessed by the Pope in St. Peter's Square on the third Sunday of Advent. The tradition continues in Rome, and has spread throughout the world. Therefore, you are invited to bring along your baby Jesus figure from your crib at home (or the whole crib if baby Jesus is not detachable) to be blessed on the Third Sunday of Advent.

### ADVENT ALMS

Throughout the season of Advent there is an opportunity to give Advent Alms, which goes towards the work of St Cuthberts Care. There is a option on the Card Machine for those who wish to give by contactless donation, or a basket will be available as you leave.

### PARISH GIVING

Can we take this opportunity to thank you all for contributing towards the work of the parish. Since we became one parish the number of standing orders has dramatically reduced. If you would like to give by standing order and haven't yet changed the details with your bank, our new bank details are as follows.

Account Name: DHN Newcastle Christ the King

Account Number: 52010917 Sort Code: 40-34-18

### REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT

If you go to the CAFOD website, <https://www.cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar> you can subscribe to daily reflections from them for the season of Advent. This could be a great benefit for your Advent spiritual journey.

### "PEOPLE LOOK EAST"

This year, between the 17th-24th December we will celebrate all Masses *ad orientem*, with the priest and the people facing the same direction during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. It is particularly appropriate to do this during Advent, especially the final part, as we look with longing and anticipation to Christ's coming in glory.

### ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

There will be an Advent Penitential Service at St Tere's Church on Tuesday 16th December, beginning at 6.30pm. Priests from the city centre partnership have agreed to come and help Fr Jonathon on the evening.

### ADVENT 'RORATE' MASSES

Every Saturday, throughout Advent, at 7.30am we will have a 'Rorate Mass', which is celebrated by candlelight in honour of Our Blessed Lady. This will be followed by Tea & Toast in the presbytery. Mass will be celebrated in the side chapel, so please do wrap up warm as it may be cold!

### CHRISTMAS CAROLS AROUND THE FIRE

On Friday 19th December we will have Traditional Carols and Christmas Songs around the 'Fire' in St Teresa's Hall from 7pm. During the evening there will be a festive quiz and maybe some other entertainment. Tickets are now available at £5 each, which will include a pulled pork sandwich and a prize for the best Christmas Jumper!!

### CHRISTMAS CANDLES FOR OUR LOVED ONES

This year we would like to invite parishioners to burn a candle in memory of loved ones. These red Sanctuary Candles will burn continuously around our Crib through the Octave of Christmas for loved ones. If you would like a candle, please pick up an envelope from the back of the Church. The cost of the candles are £7.50 or 2 for £12.00. The closing date is 20th December. Please put your envelopes in the offertory basket when it comes around on Sunday.

### A GENTLE REMINDER

Please remember to switch off your mobile phone (or put it on silent) when coming into Church, and please do not eat or drink while in Church. This is a way we show reverence to Jesus present in the Tabernacle. When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion can we please remember **'Jesus gives himself to me. I eat Him where the priest can see. And if I want the cross to make, I eat Him first for safety's sake. If it's for Jesus that I long, why not receive Him on my tongue? Flat hand or tongue the choice I make, I never just reach out and take!'**

### ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A Christmas Concert is taking place on Wednesday 17th December at 6:00pm in the school Atrium. Following the performance, seasonal refreshments will be served and original artwork, cards and prints created by our students will be available to buy. All money raised will go to CAFOD. There is no charge for the evening but the event is ticketed. If you would like tickets, please contact the school reception on 0191 215 3260

### PARISH NEW WINE PRAYER GROUP

The parish is blessed to have a charismatic prayer group that meets every Wednesday at St Anthony's Church at 6.30pm. Please feel free to come along. Entry is by the presbytery door via the car park.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S ORATORY

The parish will be establishing two new groups in the New Year. These groups will meet once a month and have a spiritual conference/discussion on certain topics. We will conclude the sessions with some prayer and socialising. More details are available on the posters in the Church Porch. Please do come along if you are able. The First Sessions of each group will look at 'God's Love for us'. The men's group will meet on Thursday 22nd January, and the women's group will meet on Tuesday 27th January. These groups are open for people aged 12+, however under 18's must be accompanied by a parent. We are currently looking at establishing a children's oratory for 8-12 year olds. More details about this in the new year.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

This pilgrimage takes place from Friday 31st July – Friday 7th August 2026. It is a special one Being the Centenary year since the first Diocesan Pilgrimage led by Bishop Joseph Thorman. It would help our Tour Operator (Tangney Tours) if you could fill in the pre-registration form on their website if you are contemplating travelling with them. This will assist in helping with travel arrangements and hotels. Please note, this is pre-registration, it does not mean you have booked your place. Please follow this link <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-newcastle-2/> or phone 01732 886 666.

CONNECT (Newcastle): 20-40 YEAR OLD?

Join us from 6.30pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at the Tyneside Irish Centre in Newcastle for our next meeting. If you haven't been able to join us previously, you are very welcome to come along too. After the last session, we looked over all of the points raised during the feedback from the 12Is and have identified the 4 key themes below that came from this listening. At our next meeting, we will ask you to choose the theme that resonates with you the most and come ready to share stories and come with ideas of what a church which prioritises your chosen theme could look like. The themes and details of the event can be found at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/catholics-connect-2>. Contact the CONNECT (Newcastle) team on 0191 243 3316 or by email [formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk).

MASS INTENTIONS

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. There is nothing better than having a Mass offered for someone, or for a specific intention. Do you want a Mass offered for a particular intention? Perhaps for a deceased relative or friend, or for someone who is sick, or for your own intention? To have a Mass said please fill out a Mass envelope (available in the church porches) and return to Fr Jonathon or place in the offertory collection during Mass.

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7th, 2025

The one who is coming after me is mightier than I.

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What did Saint John the Baptist say about the one who was coming after him?  
Use the code to find out!

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TIMES OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES & MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

(Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December)

Vigil Mass of Christmas	(St. Anthony's)	Mass 6.00pm
Solemn Midnight Mass	(St. Teresa's)	Carols: 10.30pm Mass: 11.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December)

Mass of the Shepherd's	(St. Teresa's)	Mass 8.30am
Solemn Mass of Christmas	(St. Teresa's)	Mass: 11.00am

Please continue to remember in your prayers:

those who are sick or housebound and their carers:

John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Aileen, Tommy Allan, Pat Matfin, Maria Cape and Mary McLaren.  
Our sick children: Ezra Stephen Johnson, Josh Graham, James Taylor, Joseph Relph, Colby Taylor & Charlie Davidson



# MASSES & SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Day		Time	Service	Church	Mass Intention	
Sat	6 Dec	5.30 pm	Vigil Mass *	St. Anthony's	People of the Parish	2nd Sunday of Advent
Sun	7 Dec	8.00 am 10.15 am 11.00 am 5.30 pm 6.00 pm	Sung Morning Prayer * Confessions Sung Holy Mass * Marian Candle-light Procession Sung Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's	Intentions of Margaret McFadden	2nd Sunday of Advent
Mon	8 Dec	8.00 am 5.30 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Morning Prayer* Exposition & Confessions Sung Vespers & Benediction* Solemn Mass*	St. Teresa's	Private Intention (SD/KS)	Immaculate Conception of Our Lady
Tue	9 Dec	8.00 am 9.00 am 10.00 am	Morning Prayer * Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass	St. Teresa's St. Anthony's St. Anthony's	Ellie Victoria Adamson RIP	Weekday of Advent
Wed	10 Dec	6.30 pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	St. Anthony's		Our Lady of Loreto
Thur	11 Dec	7.45 am 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Morning Prayer * Sung Evening Prayer * Holy Mass	St. Teresa's	David Goodwin RIP	Weekday of Advent
Fri	12 Dec	8.00 am 8.30 am 9.30 am 1.30 pm	Morning Prayer * Exposition & Holy Rosary Holy Mass Requiem Mass	St. Teresa's	Knowles & Simpson Emily Bell RIP	Weekday of Advent
Sat	13 Dec	7.15 am 7.30 am	Morning Prayer * Rorate Mass *	St. Teresa's	Vocations to Priesthood	St. Lucy
Sat	13 Dec	5.30 pm	Vigil Mass *	St. Anthony's	Patrick & Francis Healy RIP	3rd Sunday of Advent
Sun	14 Dec	8.00 am 10.15 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Sung Morning Prayer * Confessions Sung Holy Mass * Sung Vespers & Benediction	St. Teresa's	Fr Xavier Aniebiet Inyang RIP	3rd Sunday of Advent



Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

## THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

### Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention for December

#### For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle-east. Might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

#### During Advent & Christmas

**We are asked to pray for :** Migrants and Refugees, and All Expectant Mothers

