



NEWCASTLE CITY CENTRE PARTNERSHIP



THE DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE

In the pastoral care of Bishop Stephen Wright



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 3rd December 2023 (Year B)

The Cathedral Church of St Mary | Clayton Street West, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 5HH
0191 232 6953 | www.stmaryscathedral.org.uk | office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk

St Dominic's Catholic Church | New Bridge Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 2TE
0191 232 6953 | www.citycentrepартnership.org.uk | office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk

St Michael's Catholic Church | Westmorland Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE4 7RE
0191 232 6953 | www.citycentrepартnership.org.uk | office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk

St Andrew's Catholic Church & Chaplaincy for the Universities of Newcastle & Northumbria
9 Worswick Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 6UW
0191 232 1892 | www.st-andrews-worswick-street.org.uk | www.catholicchaplaincy.org |
newcastle.standrew@rcdhn.org.uk Lay chaplain: mia.fox@diocesehn.org.uk | 077132 59173



When I read passages from the Old Testament in the Lectionary, I often wonder what they mean and how do they speak to my life, today. They are part of the history of a people from before the birth of Our Lord and they speak of events and practices that seem to be far from our modern world. Yet, upon study they reveal something very much of today, they look at human feelings, hopes, and failures. They are a reminder that humanity has changed very little since they were written all those years ago.

Take today's passage from Isaiah, it speak of a people who have turned away from God, who have become distant from Him, a people who have rebelled against Him and live sinful, selfish lives. When we look around our world today what do we see? Is today so very different from Isaiah's time? Are we trying to live our lives with God on the periphery or is He at the centre of all we say and do. Advent is an opportunity to take a look at our lives and see how far we have travelled away from God and, perhaps, how do we get back to a loving relationship with Him. Some may say they do not need God, that He is irrelevant in their lives. We believe that God is our creator, as Isaiah acclaims, we are merely clay in the hands of our God, the potter who forms us and gives us life.

As always Paul seems to speak to us from a different world, far removed from the Old Testament yet again very relevant to our lives today. In contrast to the people of Isaiah's time there is a real sense of thanksgiving in Paul's letter. His relationship with the Christians in Corinth is very close, they have accepted the message of Christ's love for them, and the gifts of the spirit are very apparent in their behaviour towards each other.

The passage from Mark comes from the last chapters of his Gospel but his message is very relevant to our journey through Advent. From the first two readings we have signposts for our journey, but we must always be aware of the traps and pitfalls of our world which is increasingly so opposed to our beliefs. We need to be alert, to stay awake and ready for Christ is coming to us and we must be prepared to receive Him with open hearts.

David Frank

CITY CENTRE CLERGY

V. Rev. Canon Simon Lerche (*Cathedral Dean and Parish Priest St Dominic's*)

Rev. Fr Andrew Shaw (*Parish Priest St Andrews, Priest Chaplain to Newcastle & Northumbria Universities*)

Rev. Fr William Nicol (*Parish Priest St Michael's; Assistant Priest, Cathedral*)

Rev. Fr. Dermot Preston SJ, Rev. Fr Peter Randall SJ & Rev. Fr Gero McLoughlin SJ, (*Resident at St Dominic's* | www.jesuitsnewcastle.org)

Newcastle Hospitals Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Mariadass (0191) 273 3903 or Rev. Deacon Paddy Jackson (0191) 233 6161

NEWS FROM ST DOMINIC'S

Make a Crib with Love. Could you make a small Nativity scene to display and share the Love, Peace and Joy of Christmas with the whole parish community? Children from our Portuguese club and St Catherine's school are already planning theirs. Adults don't leave your talents hidden!

Mass Intentions. If you wish to have Holy Mass celebrated for your own personal intention, envelopes are always available at the back of church. Please try and give two weeks notice for your preferred date and Mass time.

Advent Collections. The two donation boxes at the back of church will be used for your contributions towards International and local causes including St Cuthbert's Care. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Advent Angels. "Light a Light for a Loved One". Our Angels will be available to hang on the tree from next weekend (2nd/3rd December) Holy Mass will be offered for your memories each Monday (6pm) and Thursday (10am) during Advent. Thank you for your kind donation towards our parish. Once again we are indebted to Eileen and her husband for producing the Angels,

Advent Calendar. At St Dominic's we have a very diverse congregation at our services. To date we have identified 24 countries to which our roots belong whilst remembering we all belong to God's Family. We all pray for Peace as we await the arrival of the Peace of Christ coming into the world at Christmas. One window on our calendar will be opened each day.

NEWS FROM ST MICHAEL'S

Christmas Fayre. The Christmas Fayre will be held on **Wednesday 13 December** at 3.30pm. Join us for the usual fantastic stalls and festive treats. All are welcome to attend.

NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S

New & Existing Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. As Mass attendance has returned following the pandemic it would seem a good time to invite ministers of Holy Communion to restart their ministry if they wish to help the celebrant distribute the Body of Christ. Also if anyone new would like to offer themselves for this ministry please see Fr Andrew (both Masses) or Mia (Sunday Mass) so we can have a conversation and compile a list. A safeguarding check (full DBS) will not be required if you distribute Holy Communion within the church environment. However, if you would like to take Holy Communion out to the sick and house bound a Full DBS will be required.

Welcomers and Readers for Saturday Vigil Mass. Would anyone like to assist the team on Saturday evening before the 5pm Mass? It will be to welcome people as they enter the church especially visitors and we could add you to the rota so commitment can be shared. There is no opening up of the church required. Please let Fr Andrew know if you are interested.

'THANK YOU'

The Trustees of 'Significance' thank everyone who supported the recent Grand Draw and all those who donated prizes. 1,606 tickets were sold which realised £8,030. The funds raised will help Significance to continue to support the Emmaus Village and provide opportunities for young people to recognise their own worth and value. Congratulations to all our winners: Danielle Dowson (St John's Catholic School, Bishop Auckland), Jamie Adams (St Mary's Cathedral), Sr Hilda (Oaklea Convent), Sarah Boyd (Dunston, Gateshead).

MASS FOR RETIRED CLERGY

Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass for the Retired Clergy of our Diocese on **Tuesday 19 December** at 12.05pm. Please note that The Cloister Café will be closed to the public for the day.

JOB VACANCIES

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:

Safeguarding Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, permanent. Closing date: 12 December

IT Manager, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, permanent. Closing date 12 December

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

St Joseph's Care Home (Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle) have exciting opportunities are available now for care assistants and nurses. Hours available: Care Assistant: Shifts are 8am-3pm, 3pm-9pm. Nurse: Shifts are 8am-4pm, 1pm-9pm. Excellent rates of pay. For more information please contact Lee-Marie Thornley on 07856256095 or email lee.marie@lspplondon.co.uk

CONGRATULATIONS

St Michael's Primary has recently been awarded the International Schools Award. This award recognises the work the school does around international links, intercultural awareness and languages. St Michael's was the first primary school in Newcastle to be awarded The School of Sanctuary award in 2020. Both awards are a celebration of the Elswick community and their drive to support one another to reach their full potential. We offer our thanks and appreciation to all involved.

IS GOD CALLING ME TO BE A PRIEST?

The Vocations Team extends an invitation to men aged 18+, who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more. The evenings will take place at the Cloister Cafe, St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, on **Tuesday 5 December**. We start at 6.00pm with a period of prayer, talk/discussion, followed by a meal together, finishing around 8.00pm. If you would like to attend, or for more information, please contact the Vocations Promoter, Fr Shaun Purdy by email: vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk.

ADVENT 2023



Advent gives us the opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ among us, which we celebrate at Christmas, and look forward to his second coming. Advent commemorates and celebrates God's salvific work for God's people and among us in Christ. Once more, this year, we are faced with many challenges and threats, including the living cost crisis and the wars in Ukraine and the Holy Land. As we live in a world where God may seem absent, Advent offers us a unique opportunity to pray and shout, in the cold night, in our churches, in our hearts, "O come, Emmanuel, come hastily". The diocese wishes to provide you with some Advent resources to act as a life-buoy, a remedy and a prayer book for the days ahead. Advent is a time to stretch and arouse our imagination for what it brings; a maturing expectation and sensitivity to the Lord's coming as redeemer and new-born child. The Advent resources can be found at diocesehn.org.uk

ADVENT REFLECTIONS WITH PARTNERSHIP CLERGY

A series of Advent talks entitled 'The Word Became Flesh' will take place in the Cathedral Conference Room at 1.00pm on each of the Thursdays in Advent, starting this Thursday, 7 November and continuing on Thursday 14th and Thursday 21st

ST CUTHBERT'S CARE ADVENT ALMS

Nic Gilbert, CEO of St Cuthbert's Care writes... This Advent, I wish to appeal for funds to support our community work, focusing on those in need of hot, nutritious food and older isolated people needing a little company. For over 10 years our Alan Shearer Activity Centre has provided free, sensory and therapeutic facilities for children and adults living with disabilities. We recognise that often those living with disabilities experience a higher cost of living due to additional costs for powering vital equipment, such as hoists and ventilators and more frequent laundering of clothes and bedding. To help alleviate some of the financial pressures faced, throughout this winter we will be providing a free delicious meal and a warm drink to our members and their family. This new project will complement our work to provide a subsidised meal for our lunch clubs where older isolated people come together to share a hot meal and much needed company. *The fund remains open throughout Advent.*

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

Carols Services at St Mary's Cathedral

Wednesday 6 December, 1.30pm - Newcastle School's Year 5 Carols Service

Tuesday 19 December, 7pm - Cathedral Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 20 December, 7pm - St Cuthbert's High School Carols Service

Carols Service at St Michael's

Wednesday 20 December, 1.30pm - with St Michael's School

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES *(Sunday morning Mass times as usual)*

Cathedral: 4pm (Family Mass) & 7pm (Celebrated by Bishop Stephen)

St Andrew's: 5pm

St Dominic's 6pm

St Michael's: 4.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES

Cathedral: 8am & 10am

St Dominic's 10am



CHRISTMAS
TIME



THE UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

Serving the Universities of Newcastle & Northumbria

www.catholicchaplaincy.org | Lay Chaplain: Mia Fox BSc MA 07713259173

Join us for social time in the Chaplaincy Room after Sunday Mass at St Andrew's.



Monday at 5:30pm: CREDO

Pray and reflect on the Sunday Readings

Wednesdays at 6pm: CONTAGIOUS FAITH (including a hot meal of veggie pasta)

Wednesday 6 December: 'Confession, Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Wednesday 13 December: 'Any Questions'

FORTHCOMING SOCIALS (further details on website)

Tuesday 5 December: CAROLOake in Sunderland

Saturday 9 December: Christmas Market

Tuesday 12 December: Chaplaincy Christmas Dinner

Please join the Chaplaincy WhatsApp group for further details.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK IN THE CITY CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER</p> <p style="color: purple; margin: 0;">The First Sunday in Advent</p>	5pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	Bryan Crossling
	5.30pm	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Patricia & Davie Kelly RIP
	8am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Antonio Gregorio (A)
	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	People of the Parish
	10am	<i>Cathedral</i>	People of the Parish
	11am	<i>St Michael's</i>	People of the Parish
	11.30am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Maria Cristina Echeverry RIP
	6pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Joe & Helen McPartlin RIP
7pm	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Mary Kelly RIP	
<p>Monday 4th December</p> <p><i>Weekday in Advent</i></p>	12.05pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Kevin Gardner RIP & Denis Duffy RIP
	6pm	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Intentions on the Advent Angel
<p>Tuesday 5th December</p> <p><i>Weekday in Advent</i></p>	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Celebrant's Intention
	12.05pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Wellbeing of Chloe & Family
	5.30pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	Fernand Dauwe
<p>Wednesday 6th December</p> <p><i>Weekday in Advent</i></p>	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Celebrant's Intention
	12.05pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Fr Kevin Daly (A)
	5.30pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	In Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes
<p>Thursday 7th December</p> <p><i>St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor (Memorial)</i></p>	9.30am	<i>St Michael's</i>	Celebrant's Intention
	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Michael Snowdon RIP & Intentions on the Advent Angel
	12.05pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Niceto Palencia (A)
	5.30pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	Leo Crossling RIP
<p>Friday 8th December</p> <p><i>The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese</i></p>	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Celebrant's Intention
	12.05pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	Irene Marston
	5.30pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	Wellbeing of RMM
<p>Saturday 9th December</p> <p><i>Weekday in Advent</i></p>	10am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Erlinda Arcillas (A)
<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER</p> <p style="color: purple; margin: 0;">The Second Sunday in Advent</p>	5pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	Fr Michael Corbett (A)
	5.30pm	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Kevin Crossling
	8am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Deceased Members of the Aynsley & Kerr Families
	10am	<i>St Dominic's</i>	Wellbeing of Anne Burleigh
	10am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Mary Catherine Johnson (A)
	11am	<i>St Michael's</i>	People of the Parish
	11.30am	<i>Cathedral</i>	Living & Deceased Members of the Family of Melvyn Y Yong
	6pm	<i>St Andrew's</i>	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	<i>Cathedral</i>	+
7pm	<i>St Dominic's</i>	People of the Parish	
			People of the Parish

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Cathedral

Mon, Wed & Fri after 12.05pm Mass.

St. Andrew's

Tues to Fri 4.45pm-5.15pm; Saturday 4.15pm-4.45pm

St. Dominic's

Wed 5pm-6.30pm



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Cathedral

Mon to Wed & Fri 11am-11.45am (Rosary on Fridays)

St. Andrew's

Tues to Fri 4.45pm-5.15pm

St. Dominic's

Wed 5pm-6.30pm