

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Hilda Partnership		
Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury		
Parish Priest: Father Adrian Dixon. Telephone: 01642 553 118 Holy Rosary Presbytery, 2 Grosmont Drive, Billingham. TS23 2EP		
Week beginning: 8 th June, 2025		

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Day	Holy Mass and Services	Intention
Sunday 8 th June. Pentecost.	Sunday Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM Live Streamed	Frankie Miller
Monday 9 th June. Mary, Mother of the Church	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Terry and Molly Quinn
Tuesday 10 th June.	Holy Mass at Saint Joseph's School - 10.00 AM	John McCash
Wednesday 11 th June.	Holy Mass at Saint Paul's School - 9.15 AM	Intentions of Pat and Bill McTimoney (60 th Wedding Anniversary)
	Exposition and Evening Prayer at Holy Rosary - 6.15 PM	
	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 7.00 PM	Chris Allison
Thursday 12 th June. Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Michael Gerrard Lakey
Friday 13 th June. Saint Anthony of Padua	Holy Mass at Saint John's School - 10.00 AM	Welch and Shipley Families
Saturday 14 th June. Vigil-The Most Holy Trinity.	No Confessions	
	Vigil Holy Mass at Saint John's - 5.30 PM	Parishioners
Sunday 15 th June. The Most Holy Trinity.	Sunday Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM Live Streamed	Ves and Maureen Maddren

Please pray for the sick:				
Sheila Allen	Maureen Braithwaite	Carol Brownlee	Ann Christeson	Robert Dalton
Bill Devine	Pauline Hewitt	Sheila Homes	Judy Houchen	Brian Kane
Sarah McAllister	Rev. Dan Mckie	Marcin Odziomek	Grace Ollie	Christine Rooney
Fr. John Skivington	Peter Smith	Judith Sowerby	Lily Ward-Thurlbeck	Helen Webb
Kate Williams	Margaret Wilkie			

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Trevor Pennington, Frankie Miller, Pope Francis, Chris Allison, Stephen Allison, Denis Murphy, Audrey Upton, Terry Grogan, Coleen Webster, Margaret Loy, and Kathleen Wright (Matthews). **May they rest in Peace. Amen.**

Day for Life 2025 - "Every year, the Church in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, jointly marks the Day for Life, as a reminder of the need to respect and protect the inherent value and dignity of each life. This year, it will be celebrated on Trinity Sunday, the 15th of June. The faithful are invited to join in prayer and promotion of the Day. Useful resources, including a message from the three bishops, and prayers, can be found on the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' website.

On the 15th of June we will also hold a second collection for the Day for Life Fund. Every year, the fund allocates over £200,000 in grants, to organisations that promote the Christian respect for life from conception to natural death, in various ways. This has made a significant impact in local communities of England and Wales, by for example, providing mothers and children with necessary means. This is possible if it was not for your generous support to the fund, we therefore invite you to give as much as you can and encourage others to do so. You can also donate by scanning the QR code on the Day for Life 2025 poster in our church, or online via the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' website, where you will find out more on the Fund."

Scripture Discussion Group - Now that the RCIA Programme is complete for this year it seems a good time to think about having a Scripture Group in which we could look at God's Word in a relaxed informal way. We will start on Thursday 12th June at 6.30pm in the room at the back of the Sacristy. We'll meet for about an hour and decide how often and when we should meet on a regular basis. If you have one, bring a Bible, if you don't, still come along.

RCIA Group - Many thanks to all those who have taken part in our meetings during the months past. We will start up a new group in the Autumn. If you know of anyone who is thinking about becoming part of the Church let them know. They are welcome to come and speak to Father Adrian to learn more about it.

Corpus Christi Procession - Bishop Stephen will be leading a Procession in Honour of the Blessed Sacrament at Ushaw College on Sunday 22nd June at 3.00pm. **A coach will be leaving from Holy Rosary at 1.00pm** to take parishioners. If you would like to go please sign the list at the back of the church. It would be very helpful if some of the servers were able to come along.

Durham Cathedral - will be hosting this year's Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture of the Centre for Catholic Studies. It will be given by His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe, OP as is entitled: 'Hope in a time of darkness'. It will take place in the Galilee Chapel of the Cathedral at 7.45 PM on Monday, 23rd June, 2025. **See Quick Links** on our web notices if you would like to go.

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp: Volunteering is a Work of the Heart - Holy Island Children's Camp seeks young adult volunteers for Summer 2025 holiday weeks, supporting 9-12 year olds. Full training provided. Volunteers also needed for kitchen/caretaking roles and term-time meal support. More information on **website notices, quick links** or email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

Billingham Parish Council - During Lent, Bishop Stephen wrote a pastoral letter to all the parishes of our Diocese. He spoke about the role of a Parish Council in the life of the local Church family. Bishop Stephen wrote, *'For effective mission, I invite and encourage us all to breathe new life into parish and partnership councils'*.

Before the onset of Covid there was a parish council here in Billingham, but the effects of the pandemic have meant that it has not met for several years. It's time for us to start things up again. This will provide us with opportunities to look at the future of our parish. We need to discuss what we think is going to be needed in years to come so that we can thrive and reach out to the wider community.

In the near future we will have the opportunity to discuss this as a group of parishioners but before we do that it might be useful to do some praying and thinking as individuals and with those near us. Give the following questions some thought: What are the goals of our Parish as we face the future? How would our Parish Council help us achieve these goals? Who do we need to be members of the Parish Council?

It is important to have ideals and to mix these with a dose of practicality. To have goals that are impossible will only frustrate us; on the other hand, a sense of direction helps us to be effective and express our faith, hope and love. Pray, think, and have a chat with your family and friends.

Question Corner - Second Walsingham quiz is available. Have a go!!!

All our yesterdays - Help us preserve our parish history by sharing your memories with Father Adrian.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

COLLECT

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast
sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation,
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit
across the face of the earth
and, with the divine grace that was at work
when the Gospel was first proclaimed,
fill now once more the hearts of believers.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 2:1-11

When the day of Pentecost arrived, the Apostles were all together
in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like
a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they
were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and
rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy
Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave
them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from
every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came
together, and they were bewildered, because each one was
hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed
and astonished, saying, 'Are not all these who are speaking
Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native
language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of
Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia
and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene,
and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and
Arabians — we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty
works of God.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 104(103):1ab, 24ac, 29b-30, 31, 34. R. cf. 30

**R. Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew
the face of the earth.**

or:

Alleluia.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, how great you are!
How many are your works, O LORD!
The earth is full of your creatures.

You take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD last for ever!
May the LORD rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I will rejoice in the LORD.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Brothers and sisters: No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except in the
Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there
are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers
them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the
Spirit for the common good.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the
members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with
Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body — Jews
or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Wis 1: 7

SEQUENCE

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
from the clear celestial height
thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
come with treasures which endure,
come, thou light of all that live.

Thou, of all consolers best,
thou, the soul's delightful guest,
dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet,
pleasant coolness in the heat,
solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, Light divine,
visit thou these hearts of thine,
and our inmost being fill.

If thou take thy grace away,
nothing pure in man will stay;
all his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds; our strength renew;
on our dryness pour thy dew;
wash the stains of guilt away.

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
melt the frozen, warm the chill;
guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
thee confess and thee adore,
with thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die,
give us life with thee on high;
give us joys that never end.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20:19-23

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors
being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus
came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with
you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his
side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus
said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent
me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he
breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If
you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold
forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

R.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, as promised by your Son,
the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly
the hidden mystery of this sacrifice
and graciously lead us into all truth.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.**

Acts 2:4,11

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church,
safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given,
that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her
may retain all its force
and that this spiritual food
may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION

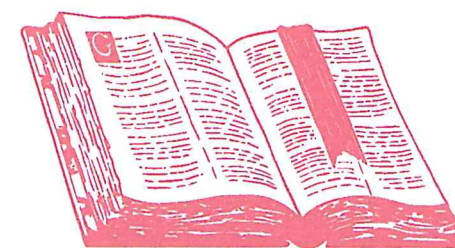


Christianity is a religion of the
"Spirit". It is the Spirit who gives life,
who "renews" the face of the earth,
who brings about a "new creation".

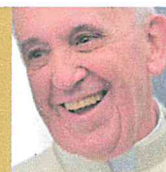
Romans, Paul writes that, "the love of
God has been poured into our hearts
through the Spirit who has been
given to us" (Rom 5,5). The Spirit

Without the Spirit Jesus
would just be another
historical figure and
the Gospel would be
just an ancient text to
be studied by scholars.
Jesus gives us the gift
of the Spirit and it is
this same Spirit which
allows us to cry out
"Abba, Father!" It is
the Spirit which brings
us right into the centre
of the communion of
love of the Father, the
Son, and the Spirit.
In his Letter to the

that is given to us is the Spirit of the
Risen Jesus and to receive the gift of
this Spirit we too must die and rise
with Christ through our immersion
in the waters of baptism. But this
is just the beginning of our lives as
Christians. It is in the living out of
our baptism by allowing ourselves
to be guided by Spirit in our words,
deeds and actions that we can hope
to say with Paul that "it is no longer I
who live but Christ who lives in me"
(Gal 2,20).



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

THE VALUE AND MEANING OF
FORGIVENESS

236. There are those who prefer not to talk of
reconciliation, for they think that conflict, violence
and breakdown are part of the normal functioning of
a society. In any human group there are always going
to be more or less subtle power struggles between
different parties. Others think that promoting
forgiveness means yielding ground and influence to
others. For this reason, they feel it is better to keep
things as they are, maintaining a balance of power
between differing groups. Still others believe that
reconciliation is a sign of weakness; incapable of truly
serious dialogue, they choose to avoid problems by
ignoring injustices. Unable to deal with problems,
they opt for an apparent peace.



Pope Francis'
Amoris Laetitia

LOVE IN THE FAMILY

In a lyrical passage of Saint Paul, we see some of the
features of true love:

"Love is patient,
love is kind;
love is not jealous or boastful;
it is not arrogant or rude.
Love does not insist on its own way,
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice at wrong,
but rejoices in the right.
Love bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things" (1 Cor 13:4-7).

Love is experienced and nurtured in the daily life of
couples and their children. It is helpful to think more
deeply about the meaning of this Pauline text and its
relevance for the concrete situation of every family.

