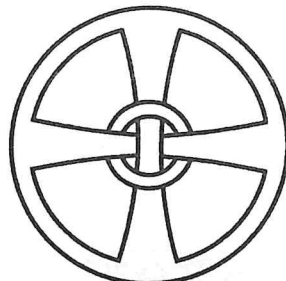


Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Hilda Partnership				
Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury				
Parish Priest: Father Adrian Dixon. Telephone: 01642 553 118 Holy Rosary Presbytery, 2 Grosmont Drive, Billingham. TS23 2EP				
Week beginning: 29 th June, 2025				
Website	www.rcdhnbillingham.co.uk	Facebook	www.facebook.com/rcdhnbillingham	
Email	StThomasofCanterbury.Billingham@diocesehn.org.uk			
Day	Holy Mass and Services			Intention
Sunday 29 th June Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles.	Sunday Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM Live Streamed			Chris Allison
Monday 30 th June.	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary at 10.00 AM			Trevor Pennington
Tuesday 1 st July.	No Mass today			
Wednesday 2 nd July.	Funeral Mass for Bernard John Clark at Holy Rosary at 1.15 PM			
	Exposition and Evening Prayer at Holy Rosary - 6.15 PM			
	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 7.00 PM			Private Intention
Thursday 3 rd July. St Thomas, Apostle.	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary at 9.30 AM			Doreen Devine
Friday 4 th July.	No morning Mass today. Funeral Service for Stuart McDougall at Saint John's - 12.00 NOON			
Saturday 5 th July. Vigil of the 14th Sunday of the Year.	Vigil Holy Mass at Saint John's - 5.30 PM			Parishioners
Sunday 6 th July. Fourteenth Sunday of the Year.	Sunday Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM Live Streamed			Stephen Allison
Please pray for the sick:				
Sheila Allen	Maureen Braithwaite	Carol Brownlee	Ann Christeson	Robert Dalton
Bill Devine	Pauline Hewitt	Judy Houchen	Sheila Hunt	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:

Frankie Miller, Neil Davis, Trevor Pennington, 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.

Children's Liturgy of the Word. At Sunday Mass in Holy Rosary we are blessed with having a Children's Liturgy Group for those younger members of our parish who can go into the Medway Hall to listen to the Gospel presented in a way for them to easily understand. It is always a delight to welcome them back into Church to hear their understanding of the message for that day – they have a lot to teach us. As is the custom, the Group will be taking time off during the Summer Holidays. We owe those who lead a great deal of thanks. There are some who have led Children's Liturgy for many years and understandably they would like to step down – so we need some new volunteers to help with this. It is not as daunting as some might think there are materials that guide you through what to say and do (we have books that provide sheets to be photocopied etc). Please volunteer for this important activity – we are all aware of our need to encourage the young, this is one of the most effective ways. We also need a group of people to restart the Group based at St. John's on a Saturday evening. Please speak to Father Adrian or contact the Group.

On Saturday at 11.00am Jeremy Wynne will be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate. You are welcome to come to the Mass if you would like to go. Please keep Jeremy and all our Permanent Deacons in your prayers.

Little Sisters of the Poor The Little Sisters of the Poor Summer Fayre, planned for 5th July, has been **cancelled** due to unforeseen circumstances.

Diocesan Education Mass School Directors and Governors are invited to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving for their dedication and service to Catholic education. The Mass will be at 6.30pm on Thursday 10th July at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle and will be celebrated by Bishop Stephen. If you would like to attend, please come along.

Billingham Parish Council - Please see our Parish website for more details about this.

Parish Scripture Group - this Group normally meets on Thursdays at 6.30 PM in the Altar Servers' Sacristy but there will be **no meeting** on Thursday 3rd July, 2025.

The Friendship Group - meets on the First Tuesday of each month at 6.30 PM in the Medway. Please come and join us - all are most welcome.

The Friendship Group is holding a Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support on **Tuesday, 16th September, 2025**. Details of the time of the Coffee Morning will follow nearer the time. Once again, we are looking for your help in providing items for Tombola Prizes and a member of the Group will collect any donated prizes from the back of each of our churches. We thank you once again for your generous support.

Patty Miller and her Family would like to thank all of those people who have been so supportive of them following the loss of Frankie - a beloved Husband and Father, Father-in-law, Grandfather, Son, Brother, Uncle and Friend to so many people. Your Mass Intentions, Cards, Flowers, and many other offerings in Frankie's memory have been a great support to all of us during these recent difficult weeks. May Frankie rest in Peace and rise in Glory.

Walsingham Quiz 3 The third Walsingham Quiz will be released on Monday. The results of Walsingham Quiz 2 will be published in next week's bulletin. Have a go before it is too late on our website.

Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP)

For any SVP enquiries, please contact Jane (07584 575541) or Janet (07840 967111). **The Food Hub** continues every Friday from 12 noon to 3.00 p.m.

SVP Coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 6th July in the Medway.

Primary schools' artwork inspired by Sunday Mass Readings Saint Paul's Catholic Primary School has added artwork inspired by this Sunday's readings. The children would be delighted if you would have a look at this week's artwork on our website.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

These are the ones who, living in the flesh,
planted the Church with their blood;
they drank the chalice of the Lord
and became the friends of God.

COLLECT

O God, who on the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul
give us the noble and holy joy of this day,
grant, we pray, that your Church
may in all things follow the teaching
of those through whom she received
the beginnings of right religion.
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 12:1-11

In those days: Herod the king laid violent hands on some who
belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the
sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to
arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread.
And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him
over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the
Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison,
but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night,
Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains,
and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold,
an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell.
He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.'
And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, 'Dress
yourself and put on your sandals.' And he did so. And he said to
him, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' And he went out
and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by
the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they
had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron
gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord,
and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the
angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am
sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the
hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 34(33): 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R.5

R. From all my terrors the LORD set me free.

I will bless the LORD at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the LORD with me;
together let us praise his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This lowly one called; the LORD heard,
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the LORD is encamped
around those who fear him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the LORD is good.
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy.
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering,
and the time of my departure has come. I have fought
the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the
faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of
righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will
award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all
who have loved his appearing.

The Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through
me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles
might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord
will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his
heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia. Matthew 16:18
You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church,
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
Alleluia.

Gospel

The Lord be with you. Matthew 16:13-19
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea
Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the
Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist,
others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'
He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter
replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And
Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For
flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father
who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock
I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail
against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and
whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the prayer of the Apostles, O Lord,
accompany the sacrificial gift
that we present to your name for consecration,
and may their intercession make us devoted to you
in celebration of the sacrifice. Amen.

R. COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Mt 16:16,18
Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the
Son of the living God.
And Jesus replied: You are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my Church.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, O Lord,
who have been renewed by this Sacrament,
so to live in the Church,
that, persevering in the breaking of the Bread
and in the teaching of the Apostles,
we may be one heart and one soul,
made steadfast in your love.
R. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



At first glance it seems strange that two great
saints like Peter and Paul share a feast day. Surely
it would make sense for them each to have his

own day, as each had a crucial
role to play in the establishment
of the first Christian
communities. Though both
Jews, the two men came from
very different backgrounds,
which is one reason why they
often disagreed about how to
proceed. But they can also
be viewed as representing
to important profiles of the
Church. Peter, designated head
of the Church by Jesus himself,
representing the so-called
Petrine profile. Paul, could be
said to represent the Marian
profile, the more charismatic
part of the Church. The fact that
they share a feast day shows how
both profiles are essential to the

Church. Pope John Paul II said
that one aspect could not exist
without the other. Together they
give a complete picture of the
Church. On this great feast day,
perhaps we should pray that the
Petrine, hierarchical part of the
Church and charismatic part of
the Church, today most often
represented by the new ecclesial
movements, should be seen as
equally essential parts of the
Catholic Church.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



INEVITABLE CONFLICT

239. Reading other texts of the New Testament,
we can see how the early Christian communities,
living in a pagan world marked by widespread
corruption and aberrations, sought to show
unfailing patience, tolerance and understanding.
Some texts are very clear in this regard: we are told
to admonish our opponents "with gentleness" (2
Tim 2:25) and encouraged "to speak evil of no one,
to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show every
courtesy to everyone. For we ourselves were once
foolish" (Tit 3:2-3). The Acts of the Apostles notes
that the disciples, albeit persecuted by some of the
authorities, "had favour with all the people" (2:47;
cf. 4:21.33; 5:13).

Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

Love is at the service of others

The next word that Paul uses is *chrestéuetai*. The word
is used only here in the entire Bible. It is derived from
chrestós: a good person, one who shows his goodness by
his deeds. Here, in strict parallelism with the preceding
verb, it serves as a complement. Paul wants to make it
clear that "patience" is not a completely passive attitude,
but one accompanied by activity, by a dynamic and
creative interaction with others. The word indicates
that love benefits and helps others. For this reason it is
translated as "kind"; love is ever ready to be of assistance.

Throughout the text, it is clear that Paul wants to stress
that love is more than a mere feeling. Rather, it should
be understood along the lines of the Hebrew verb "to
love"; it is "to do good".

