

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Hilda Partnership Parish of St Thomas of Canterbury		
Holy Rosary Presbytery, 2 Grosmont Drive, Billingham. TS23 2EP Parish Priest: Father Adrian Dixon. Telephone: 01642 553 118		
Week beginning: 16th February, 2025		

Website	www.rcdhnbillingham.co.uk	Facebook	www.facebook.com/rcdhnbillingham
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Day	Holy Mass and Services	Intention
Sunday 16th February The 6th Sunday of the Year. Racial Justice Sunday.	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Parishioners
Monday 17th February	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Lance, Gemma, and Jane Moon
Tuesday 18th February	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Rose Wall
Wednesday 19th Feb.	Mass at St Paul's School at 9.15 a.m.	Intention as announced
	Exposition and Vespers at Holy Rosary - 6.15 PM	
	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 7.00 PM	Leonard and Rosetta Meek
Thursday 20th February	Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	Florence and Peter Corley
Friday 21st February	Holy Mass at Saint John's - 10.00 AM	Intentions of Jane and Bill Simpson
Saturday 22nd February Vigil of the 7th Sunday of the Year.	Confessions at Saint John's 10.00 AM to 10.30 AM	
	Vigil - Holy Mass at Saint John's - 5.30 PM	Parishioners
Sunday 23rd February The 7th Sunday of the Year.	Sunday Holy Mass at Holy Rosary - 10.00 AM	May Hutchinson

Please pray for those who have died recently:
Wendy Shepherd, Audrey Upton, and Avril Wordsworth.

Please pray for the sick:			
Sheila Allen	Canon Stephen Dye	Grace Ollie	Lily Ward-Thurlbeck
Stephen Allison	Sheila Holmes	Christine Rooney	Helen Webb
Maureen Braithwaite	Judy Houchen	Max Simpson	Kate Williams
Carol Brownlee	Brian Kane	Father John Skivington	
Ann Christeson	Sarah McAllister	Peter Smith	
Bill Devine	Rev. Dan Mckie	Judith Sowerby	

Survive-Miva Appeal.

This weekend there will be an appeal on behalf of Survive-Miva

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp: Volunteering is a Work of the Heart

Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9-12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, preparing salads, and washing dishes, they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained. Further information found at: <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you would like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

Newman Tyneside Circle

invites you to come and hear Tony Flannery speak about The Bible, history or myth? Why it is important to know. The talk will be given twice at Holy Name Parish Hall, Jesmond, Newcastle, on Tuesday 11th March, at 2.30pm – and again at 7.30pm.

Monday Mass live streamed

Monday's Mass will be live-streamed. To watch it, please visit our website, click the "Live Streaming" link, and follow the on-screen instructions. Website address is on the notices at the top.

Bereavement Group

Our Parish Bereavement Group is looking for new members. If you would like to become a member, please speak to Father Adrian.

Setting up for Mass and Services

We are very fortunate to have some parishioners who help with arranging things for Services such as Baptisms, Funerals and Masses, but there is a real need to have more people involved. If you would be able to help out in this way please contact Father Adrian.

Question Corner

Brand new puzzle from Father Adrian is waiting for you this week – have a go on our website in Question Corner!! Right then! Fr Adrian's puzzle last week proved a tricky one, and while we've no winners this week, we do have an honourable mention to announce. Please check our website.

Thoughts on Sunday's readings

Father Adrian has written another reflection for you which can be found on our website. Make it one of your weekly reflections. Spread the word.

All our Yesterdays

Part of the history of every parish are the stories of how things began and who were the well-known members of the family of the local Church in its early days. Older parishioners often have special memories of how it all started, and it is important that these are not forgotten. It would be good to put such recollections together and include them on our parish website. We could record you on your own, or with a friend, reminiscing or you might like to write down your memories. If you would like to help with this, please contact Father Adrian.

Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

The Diocese is looking for helpers for this year's Pilgrimage which will take place from Friday, 25th July to Friday, 1st August, 2025. Adult and Youth section volunteer registration forms are now open and will be live until 31st March, 2025. There are links on our Parish Website. You can also register via one of the following links:

Existing Appointed Registered Helpers from the Diocesan Pilgrimage in 2023 or 2024: please visit: <https://forms.office.com/e/bdNSkV8HvK>

New Adult Volunteers please visit: <https://forms.office.com/e/PbtE9Jd6aS>.

Young people aged 16-21 (on the date of travel) or in full-time education please visit:

<https://forms.office.com/e/m1MQfReuZD>

Please see the Tangney Tours website for prices of travel and accommodation:

<https://www.tangney-tours.com//diocese-hexham-newcastle/> If you would like any more information about becoming a registered helper on the pilgrimage, please email: lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk or visit our Facebook page: *Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes*. If you are a young person and would like to go, please contact Father Adrian and we will look into fundraising to help to pay for your costs.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

**Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

Gloria

Collect

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,
grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.
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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the LORD: 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from
the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see
any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the
wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

'Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the
LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots
by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its
leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 1:1-2. 3. 4, 6. R. Psalm 40(39):5a

R. Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the LORD.

Blessed indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the path with sinners,
nor abides in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the LORD,
and who ponders his law day and night.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they, like winnowed chaff,
shall be driven away by the wind.
For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians. 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Brothers and sisters: If Christ is proclaimed as raised
from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no

resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised,
not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been
raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then
those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If
in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people
most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the
dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

Luke 6:23ab

**Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord,
for behold, your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia.**

Gospel

Luke 6:17, 20-26

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on
a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great
multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the
sea coast of Tyre and Sidon. And he lifted up his eyes on his
disciples, and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is
the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for
you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you
shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when
they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil
on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap
for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their
fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for
you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full
now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for
you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak
well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.'

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

Homily

The Nicene Creed or The Apostles' Creed

Prayer over the Offerings

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse and renew us
and may it become for those who do your will
the source of eternal reward.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

R.

R.

Communion Antiphon

Jn 3:16

**God so loved the world
that he gave his Only Begotten Son,
so that all who believe in him may not perish,
but may have eternal life.**

R.

Prayer after Communion

Having fed upon these heavenly delights,
we pray, O Lord,
so that we may always long
for that food by which we truly live.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



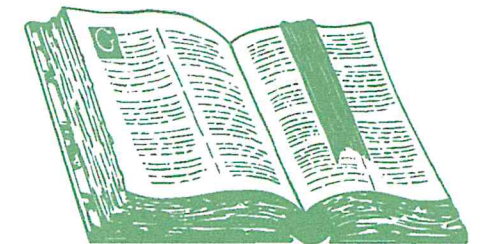
Most Christians could probably recite
the Ten Commandments by heart.
But how many could do the same for
the Beatitudes? Not many perhaps.
And yet the Beatitudes, which are the
content of today's Gospel, are from
the Gospel and proclaimed by Jesus

so many challenges in life: poverty,
distress, humiliation, the struggle for
justice, persecutions, the difficulty of
daily conversion, the effort to remain
faithful to our call to holiness, and
many others. But if we open the door
to Jesus and allow him to be part of our

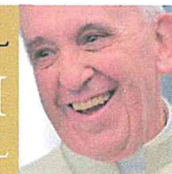
himself, whereas the Ten
Commandments are
from the Old Testament.
But why are the
Beatitudes so important
for the Christian Life?
Pope Francis, in his
message to World Youth
Day in 2014 explains:
'In proclaiming the
Beatitudes, Jesus asks
us to follow him and to
travel with him along
the path of love, the
path that alone leads
to eternal life. It is not
an easy journey, yet
the Lord promises us
his grace and he never
abandons us. We face

lives, if we share our joys and sorrows
with him, then we will experience the
peace and joy that only God, who is
infinite love, can give.

The Beatitudes of Jesus are new and
revolutionary. They present a model of
happiness contrary to what is usually
communicated by the media and by
the prevailing wisdom. A worldly way
of thinking finds it scandalous that
God became one of us and died on a
cross! According to the logic of this
world, those whom Jesus proclaimed
blessed are regarded as useless,
"losers". What is glorified is success
at any cost, affluence, the arrogance
of power and self-affirmation at the
expense of others.'



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



THE JOY OF
ACKNOWLEDGING OTHERS

219. When one part of society exploits all that the world has to offer,
acting as if the poor did not exist, there will eventually be consequences.
Sooner or later, ignoring the existence and rights of others will
erupt in some form of violence, often when least expected. Liberty,
equality and fraternity can remain lofty ideals unless they apply to
everyone. Encounter cannot take place only between the holders of
economic, political or academic power. Genuine social encounter calls
for a dialogue that engages the culture shared by the majority of the
population. It often happens that good ideas are not accepted by the
poorer sectors of society because they are presented in a cultural garb
that is not their own and with which they cannot identify. A realistic
and inclusive social covenant must also be a "cultural covenant", one
that respects and acknowledges the different worldviews, cultures and
lifestyles that coexist in society.

Pope Francis'
Amoris Laetitia
LOVE IN THE FAMILY

"A great number of children are born outside of
wedlock, many of whom subsequently grow up with
just one of their parents or in a blended or reconstituted
family... The sexual exploitation of children is yet
another scandalous and perverse reality in present-
day society. Societies experiencing violence due to
war, terrorism or the presence of organized crime are
witnessing the deterioration of the family, above all
in large cities, where, on their outskirts, the so-called
phenomenon of 'street-children' is on the rise".²⁸ The
sexual abuse of children is all the more scandalous
when it occurs in places where they ought to be most
safe, particularly in families, schools, communities and
Christian institutions.

