

TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP

PARISH OF OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

St Edward's Church, Coquet Avenue

Whitley Bay NE26 1EE

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Church Close

West Monkseaton NE25 9PG

PARISH OF OUR LADY'S & ST OSWIN'S,

TYNEMOUTH &

ST MARY'S, CULLERCOATS

Our Lady's & St Oswin's Church, Front Street

Tynemouth NE30 4BX

St Mary's Church, Farrington Road

Cullercoats NE30 3EY

♦ *We are Safeguarding Parishes respecting the dignity of all.*

♦ *Contactless payment is available at St Edward's, Whitley Bay and Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton.*

GAUDETE SUNDAY — 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A, 13 & 14 DECEMBER, 2025

The Cycle of Prayer

Advent & Christmas

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASSES & OTHER SERVICES

17 December: 7.00pm Partnership Parishes Penitential Service, St Mary's Church, Cullercoats

24 December: 5.30pm Carols & 6.00pm Christmas Mass, St Mary's Church, Cullercoats

24 December: 5.30pm Carols & 6.00pm Christmas Mass, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay

24 December: 7.30pm Carols & 8.00pm Christmas Mass, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, West Monkseaton

25 December: 9.30am Christmas Morning Mass, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay

25 December: 9.30am Christmas Morning Mass, Our Lady's & St Oswin's Church, Tynemouth

25 December: 10.30am Carols & 11.00am Christmas Morning Mass, St Mary's Church, Cullercoats

29 December: 10.00am Mass for the Feast of St Thomas Becket, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay

1 January 2026: 11.00am Mass for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, St Mary's Church, Cullercoats

6 January: 10.00am Mass, The Epiphany, St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay & 7.00pm Mass, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, West Monkseaton

FUNERALS

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lawrie Ashton who died on 26 November, aged 83 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am on 18 December at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by committal at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Martin Gannon of Eastside Gardens Care Home, Wallsend, who died on 4 December aged 84 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 11.00am on 30 December at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by committal at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.

JUBILEE 2025 — PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Jubilee Year is a year of pilgrimage and prayer, celebration and reconciliation. Information at: www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/jubilee2025.

ADVENT ALMS — ST CUTHBERT'S CARE

This Advent, St Cuthbert's Care is asking for your support for those who are in greatest need. There is a basket for donations at the back of church or beside the Advent Wreath. You can also make a contactless donation at St Edward's and Immaculate Heart Churches. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9.30am before 10.00am Mass each weekday during Advent.

JOURNEY IN FAITH 2025 - 2026

The Coast Parishes' Journey in Faith sessions continue on Tuesday 16 December at 7.00pm in St Edward's meeting rooms.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is celebrated during Mass on the second and third Sundays of each month at both churches. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Saturday 13 and 20 December, 6.00pm and St Edward's, Sunday 14 and 21 December, 9.30am. Children 3 to 11 years are invited to attend.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Monday 15 December. Pauline Warren will lead a walk from Gosforth through Jesmond Dene onto the Quayside. Please meet at West Monkseaton Metro Station at 9.30am and don't forget your bus pass.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CULLERCOATS — MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE — 21 DECEMBER

There will be mince pies and mulled wine in the hall after Mass on Sunday 21 December. Everyone is welcome.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CULLERCOATS — CHILDREN'S CHARITY GROUP CONCERT — 21 DECEMBER

The Children's Charity Group will be putting on a charity concert in the hall after Mass on Sunday 21 December. Savour a mince pie and mulled wine while you enjoy the performances — any donations will be gratefully received. There will be a rehearsal at 10.30am that morning for the children taking part.

MILL HILL MISSIONARIES — RED BOX APPEAL

The 2026 Mission Today Calendar is now available at Immaculate Heart and St. Edward's churches. If any supporters wish to donate for the December quarter, please contact Margaret Graham (Immaculate Heart) on 2529569 or Bill Crumbley (St. Edward's) on 07889 969639. Please could Red Box holders from St Mary's and St Oswin's contact your collector or leave your box at the back for the church for collection. Thank you to all who donated for the September quarter.

ST EDWARD'S CHURCH — STAMP COLLECTION

If you receive Christmas cards in the post, please remember we collect used stamps for The Little Sisters of the Poor. Please leave your used stamps in the box on the window ledge in the Narthex at St Edward's Church.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — FOODBANK

Thank you to everyone who has donated so generously to the Foodbank this year, particularly over the last few weeks. Next Monday, 15 December is the last Foodbank collection for 2025. Collection will resume on Monday 5 January 2026.

Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
Tinned rice pudding	Pasta in sauce	Microwave rice	Juice

Merry Christmas Everyone!

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA WALKING GROUP — NEW YEAR'S WALK — 6 JANUARY

On Tuesday 6 January 2026 we will have a short walk, followed by lunch at the Beehive. If you want to attend, please leave your name with Peter Weighill, 0191 2512917, by the end of the year.

TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP MEETING — THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH AND THE ROLE OF THE LAITY

On Saturday 24 January 2026, following Mass at 9.30am, the Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea will host a meeting at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, West Monkseaton, to be led by Amy Cameron, the Director of Formation at the Diocese. The meeting, which will discuss the future of the Church is particularly relevant in the light of Bishop Stephen's Advent pastoral letter. It is open to all parishioners in the Partnership and will finish at 1.00pm.

SVP 200 CLUB

Please note that subscriptions to cover January - December 2026 are now due. The cost is still £12 per number per year. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to "SVP 200 Club". Please contact Bill Crumbley on 07889 969639 with your subs. Thank you for your continued support.

NORTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER

The December edition of the Northern Cross newspaper is available at the back of Immaculate Heart of Mary, St Edward's, St Mary's and St Oswin's churches. Price £1.50.

OTHER NOTICES

SYCAMORE ONLINE ADVENT COURSE

As we begin the journey of Advent, towards the birth of Jesus, why not join us to take some time to understand God's invitation for you during this season? This series of online sessions will run every Thursday in Advent, from 7.00-8.15pm on Zoom. You are welcome to attend as many sessions as you can, or why not invite a friend or two to join? You can register your interest at: <https://bit.ly/DHNSycamoreAdvent2025>.

FORMATION WEBINARS

The next seminar in the series will be on 16 December from 7.00-8.00pm and is titled *Who does what (and why it matters): Roles, Remit and Recruitment*. With guest speaker Sarah Adams, Director for the Department of Adult Education and Evangelisation, Diocese of Clifton. A full list of all the seminars in the series, and a link to register can be found at: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/reimagining-pastoral-councils/>.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley	stedwards.whitleybay@diocesehn.org.uk	0191 2528021
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	olss.whitleybay@diocesehn.org.uk	0191 2527066
Star of the Sea Primary School	starofthesea.primary@ntl.org.uk	0191 6432080
Our Lady's & St Oswin's & St Mary's	office.cullercoatstynemouth@diocesehn.org.uk	0191 2513770
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	stmarysrcprimary@stmarysonline.co.uk	0191 2518080
Tynemouth Priory Partnership	www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk	

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Office Opening Hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.15am - 4.45pm, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. For bulletin entries please contact the Parish Secretary - email: olss.whitleybay@diocesehn.org.uk or phone 0191 2527066. Items for inclusion in the bulletin should be received by 3.00pm on Wednesday.

Confessions: Saturdays 10.30am St Mary's, Cullercoats & 5.30pm Immaculate Heart of Mary, West Monkseaton

MASSES & OTHER SERVICES

DAY & DATE	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	ST MARY'S	ST OSWIN'S
Saturday 13th December ST LUCY		6.00pm Kevin Clarke (DC)	10.00am Katie Mooney (PS)	
Sunday 14th December 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am People of the Parish		11.00am Barbara Shippen (SS)	9.30am People of the Parish
Monday 15th December	NO MASS			
Tuesday 16th December	10.00am Private Intention (PJC)			10.00am Jenny Cawood (AC)
Wednesday 17th December		10.00am Richard Liszka (MR)	7.00pm Partnership Parishes Penitential Service	
Thursday 18th December	10.30am Requiem Mass Lawrie Ashton			
Friday 19th December	10.00am The Cooke Family (PJC)			
Saturday 20th December		6.00pm People of the Parish	10.00am Maria Alves (LA)	
Sunday 21st December 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am Mary Annan (TA)		11.00am Tom & Teresa Wetheridge (PA)	9.30am People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers: Ann Stroud, Win Foley, Annette Pilman, Michael Thrift, Dora Percival, Susan Swaddle, Don Williams, Susan Ellis, Layton Newton, Rona Halbert, Sheila Gibson, Michael Quinn, Margaret Elliot, Alan & Jim Hughes, Kathleen McNamee, Lisa & Gerrard Stimpson, Sandy & Tim Madden, Luke Goodwin, Roger Burton, Wendy O'Toole, Pat Haddon, Maureen Ruddick, Wanda Parker-Lockwood, Dave Child and Andrew Storr, who are sick. Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently: Mary Whiting, Joan Black, Malcolm Boyle, Irene Taylor, Pat Scott, Win Brown, Sheila Heathcote, Angelique Cook, Manuel Caldeira, Lawrie Ashton and Martin Gannon. May they rest in peace. Amen.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

North Tyneside General Hospital & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Cramlington: Contact the Chaplaincy on 0191 2934268 or Father Sebastian on 01670 712476. **RVI, Freeman and Walkergate Hospitals:** Contact Fr Arockia Mariadass Pagyasamy OCD, on 0191 2733903. **Newcastle General Hospital:** Sister Teresa, 0191 2336161 ext. 28465.

PRIESTS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Mgr Andrew Faley 0191 2528021, Fr Chris Hughes 0191 2575801, Fr David Smith 0191 2623882.

READINGS AT MASS — 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — YEAR A, 13 & 14 DECEMBER 2025

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, 'Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Sion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 146(145):6c-7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R Matthew 5:3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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| 1. It is the LORD who preserves fidelity for ever,
who does justice to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the LORD who sets prisoners free. | 2. The LORD who opens the eyes of the blind,
the LORD who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the LORD who loves the just,
the LORD who protects the stranger. |
| 3. The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The LORD will reign for ever,
your God, O Sion, from age to age. | |

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'
And Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.'
As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.
'What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."
'Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**