

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.*

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A, 7 & 8 MARCH, 2026

The Cycle of Prayer

Lent

During Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

LENT 2026

Tuesday 10 March - Mass including Stations of the Cross: 9.30am - St Edward's, Whitley Bay

Wednesday 11 March - Lent Study Group: 10.30am (after Mass) - Immaculate Heart of Mary, West Monkseaton

Thursday 12 March - Stations of the Cross: 7.00pm - Immaculate Heart of Mary, West Monkseaton

Friday 13 March - Stations of the Cross: 6.30pm - St Mary's, Cullercoats

Tuesday 17 March - Mass including Stations of the Cross: 9.30am - St Edward's, Whitley Bay

LENT 2026

During Lent, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at each church before weekday Masses from 9.30am (apart from Tuesdays). Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Tuesdays (during Mass), Thursdays and Fridays. A Lent Study Group will meet after the 10.00am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church in the St Edmund's Room on Wednesdays. Further details including locations and times will appear each week during Lent in the box above.

FUNERALS

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Louise Parker of Village Court, Whitley Bay, who died on 16 February aged 94 years. A Funeral Service will take place at 12.30pm on 10 March at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by committal at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May she rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Kelly, who died on 16 February aged 89 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 12.00 Noon on 11 March at St Cuthbert's Church, North Shields, followed by cremation at Whitley Bay Crematorium at 1.30pm. May she rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ron Bolam of Gleneagles Court, Whitley Bay, who died on 28 February aged 70 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 12.30pm on 13 March at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by committal at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.

LENTEN ALMS

During Lent, there is a collection for Lenten Alms, to support the work of St Cuthbert's Care. A collection plate is available at the back of church for your donations. At St Edward's and Immaculate Heart Churches, you can also donate using the contactless card readers.

ST MARY'S CULLERCOATS — STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Friday evenings during Lent at 6.30pm. Please sign up on the list at the back of Church if you would like to lead. Resources are available in the Sacristy.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy of the Word is celebrated during Mass on the second and third Sundays of each month — Immaculate Heart, Saturday 7 & 14 March, 6.00pm and St Edward's, Sunday 8 & 15 March, 9.30am. Children 3 to 11 years are invited to attend.

OUR LADY & ST OSWIN'S AND ST MARY'S — PARISH OPEN MEETING

There will be a Parish Open Meeting on Saturday 14 March from 11.00am until 1.00pm. Tea and coffee will be available from 10.30am.

ST MARY'S CULLERCOATS — BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Thanks to those who attended last week's meeting regarding the future of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. It was agreed that the chapel would continue as a prayer space and for Confessions and families during Mass. From Easter, the Blessed Sacrament will be reserved only in the Tabernacle in church. The chapel curtains will be left open to allow sight of the Tabernacle. The outside door will be locked with a key when a new door is fitted at the end of March, and a key will be available in a coded key safe on the outside wall. Further details to follow. Mgr Andrew.

JOURNEY IN FAITH 2025 - 2026

The Coast Parishes' Journey in Faith sessions will continue on Tuesday 17 March at 7.00pm in St Edward's meeting rooms.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Thursday 15 March. Helen Young will lead a 6-mile route from Rainton Meadows, taking in Hetton Bog and Hetton Country Park. Please meet at Immaculate Heart Church at 9.30am.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — LUNCH CLUB

After a visit from the environmental health department last week, we have been once again awarded 5 stars. Thank you to everyone who helps in any way to make sure that our very high standards are maintained. The next Lunch Club is on Thursday 26 March at Immaculate Heart Church, West Monkseaton at 12.00 Noon. Please book with Chris on 07984 963769 or Deirdre on 07963 570901.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL STRATEGY - PARISH DISCERNMENTS

In his Pastoral letter on the first Sunday of Lent, Bishop Stephen invited every parish to consider, listen and discern prayerfully our future mission as a diocesan family. The Parish Pastoral Councils for the Parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea and Our Lady and St Oswin's and St Mary's will be determining the approaches for each of our parishes to contribute to this process, ensuring that all parishioners can contribute. Further details will follow when they have been confirmed. In preparation, all parishioners are encouraged to read the materials the Diocese has provided to support parishes in their discernments. These include a Parish Toolkit to guide every parish's prayerful discernment of its mission and how we can work more closely in a sustainable way. The materials can be found on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/pastoral-strategy/>. If you don't have the internet, please contact the Parish offices, to print the materials for you. Further details to follow regarding parish meetings.

MILL HILL MISSIONARIES — RED BOX APPEAL

Collection is now due for the March quarter. 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. Any supporters from Our Lady Star of the Sea who wish to donate, please contact Margaret Graham (Immaculate Heart) on 2529569 or Bill Crumbley (St Edward's) on 07889 969639. Thank you to all who donated for the December quarter.

FOODBANK — OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA & ST MARY'S

The foodbank is currently in need of tinned meat/curry/chilli/stew, long-life milk, meatballs, coffee and toiletries (soap/shower gel, etc). Thank you all for your generosity.

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA — FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2026

The 2026 Sacramental programme for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will begin in April, with the First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Masses being celebrated at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, on Saturday 6 June 2026. The programme is open to children from all schools within the Parish who are baptised Catholic and in Years 4, 5 or 6. You can pick up an enrolment pack in the Narthex at either St Edward's Church or Immaculate Heart Church or email the Parish Office at:

olss.whitleybay@diocesehn.org.uk to receive the information electronically. Enrolment will close on 26 March. If you have any queries about the programme, contact the catechists directly at:

1holycommunionolss@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming the children and their families as they prepare for this important step in their journey of faith.

SVP — CANDLES FOR UKRAINE APPEAL

Candles are urgently needed for Ukraine (see letter in this month's Northern Cross). Any candle wax from candles, half-used candles, or even stubs, can be used in the trenches, for lighting, and even for heating. If you can help, put your candles in the boxes or bags located near the doorways in our churches. Thank you, Pat Shinn.

OTHER NOTICES

NEWMAN TYNESIDE CIRCLE TALK — 10 MARCH

The Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear Michael Porteous speak about, and show, EIKONEΣ (Icons) in the hall of Holy Name Church, Jesmond, NE2 3JX, on Tuesday 10 March, at 2.30pm. Michael Porteous, the Chair of the Newman Association Tyneside Circle, is an iconographer who has painted - or as is traditionally said, written - many icons. The talk will include an exhibition of icons both antique and by the speaker. What of Vlad Dracul, Rasputin, the Metatron, Mary Queen of Scots, the Four Holy Living Creatures and the obscure St Adam of Bristol?

FORMATION WEBINAR — 10 MARCH

The next seminar in the series will be on 10 March from 7.00-8.00pm and is titled *Discerning and Casting a Vision that Responds to Local Needs*. With guest speaker Jordan Kelly, UK Lead, Divine Renovation. 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
Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Office	olss.whitleybay@diocesehn.org.uk	0191 2527066
Star of the Sea Primary School	office@sots.primary.co.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 7th March SS PERPETUA & FELICITY		6.00pm People of the Parish	10.00am Mass Canon Robert Spence	
Sunday 8th March 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	9.30am Elaine McVeigh (AL)		11.00am Cath Peffers (A-M&CP)	9.30am People of the Parish
Monday 9th March	NO MASS			
Tuesday 10th March	9.30am Stations & Mass Alf Louvre (LL) 12.30pm Funeral Service Margaret Parker			10.00am Priest's Intention
Wednesday 11th March		10.00am Private Intention (PJC)		
Thursday 12th March			10.00am Vera Bolam (E&BH) (Year 3)	
Friday 13th March	12.30pm Requiem Mass Ron Bolam			
Saturday 14th March		6.00pm People of the Parish	10.00am Priest's Intention	
Sunday 15th March 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	9.30am Harry Purdy (JP)		11.00am Anne Headley (CT)	9.30am People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers: Ann Stroud, Win Foley, Annette Pilman, Michael Thrift, Dora Percival, Don Williams, Susan Ellis, Rona Halbert, Sheila Gibson, Margaret Elliott, Joseph Rooney, Oliver & Grace Robson, Susan Drumgoole, Rose's Husband, Luke Goodwin, Roger Burton, Sheila Lamb, Ricci Hudson-Storey, Pat Haddon, Lisa & Gerard Stimpson, Sandy & Tim Madden, Kathleen & Tony McNamee, Doratheia Meldrum, Maureen Ruddick, Wanda Parker-Lockwood, Dave Child, Andrew Storr, Vivien Burns, Stephen Wall and Mary Hunter who are sick. Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently: Geoff Stephenson, Susan Swaddle, Mary Kelly, Sandra Mason, Margaret Parker & Ron Bolam. 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 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 LENT — YEAR A, 7 & 8 MARCH 2026

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the Lord said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'*

1. Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.
2. O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, Word of the Father, Son of God. Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, Word of the Father, Son of God.

Gospel

John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.' Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.' The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**