



TO OUR PARISHES OF
ST. MARY & ST. THOMAS AQUINAS',
STELLA
& ST. AGNES', CRAWCROOK.

Parishes' Landline & answering machine: 0191 4142749;

Mobile No.: 07971 354750 (Fr. Rose)

Retired in residence at St. Agnes', Crawcreek: Rev. Fr. J. James.

Sixth Sunday of Easter. 10th May, 2026.

Saturday 9 th May	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Bob & Moira Houston
Sunday 10 th May	6 th of Easter	- St. Agnes - Stella	9.00 a.m. 10.15 a.m.	Ralph Antony Simpson. Agnes & Raymond Forster.
Monday 11 th		- Stella	9.15 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Robson Family.
Tuesday 12 th	(SS Nereus & Achilleus)	- Stella - St. Agnes'	9.15 a.m.	The November Book. No Mass today.
Wednesday 13 th	(Our Lady of Fatima)	- St. Agnes' Holy Day Vigil Mass - Stella	10.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Canon Bob Spence. Joyce Wilson.
Thursday 14 th	The Ascension	- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Requiem: Bill Conner. R.I.P.
	A Holy Day of Obligation	- Stella	1.15 p.m.	Requiem: Norah Veitch. R.I.P.
Friday 15 th		- St. Agnes' - Stella	9.15 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	The Conner Family. Requiem: Anthony Noakes. R.I.P.
Saturday 16 th May		- Stella	10.00 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions.
	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Living & Deceased Members Madine Family.
Sunday 17 th May	7 th of Easter.	- St. Agnes' - Stella	9.00 a.m. 10.15 a.m.	Jack & Elsie Kelly. Pat & Brian Morrison.

Safeguarding. Our parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance, the CSSA and Diocesan policies at all times. Our Parish reps are:- Rachael Taylor (Stella) & Janet Dale (Crawcreek). The Diocesan Team can be contacted on (0191) 243 3305.

Confessions:- Daily after Masses. Confessions:- daily after Mass & Sat. 4.15 – 4.45pm. Exposition: Sat. 4.15 – 4.45.

Please pray for: the sick:- Mark Armstrong; Jenny, Kathleen & Simon Burns; D. C.; Chloe Cant; Tommy Carr; Valerie Coleman; Michael Hogan; Avril & Paul Kimmitt Joyce Madine; Margaret March; Annie O'Connor; Jessica Rich; Natasha Rose; Matthew Stewart; Fr. Alan MacKnight.

Recently deceased:- Bill Conner (Requiem at St. Agnes' on 14th May at 10a.m.); Tony Noakes (Requiem at Stella on 15th May at 10.30 a.m.); Norah Veitch (Requiem at Stella on Thursday, 14th May at 1.15 p.m.) Requiescant in pace.

Offertory Procession. This week: Rory Loughran & Family (Sat.); Nathan Maltman & Family (Sunday);
 Next week: Amari McLelland & Family (Saturday); Jessica Smith & Family (Sunday).

200 Club Weekly Winner. This week's winner: L. Rutter, No. 97. Congratulations Christine!

Parish First Holy Communion Group 2025/26. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers:- Hope Abiye; Lola Beadling; Nieve Bell; Jessica Bott; Harry Burns; Oliver Dickinson; Lola Draper; Indie Fitzgerald; Lucy Harman; Amelia Henderson; Freya Jordan; Jonas Kenna; Frank Lamb; Amari McClelland; Nathan Maltman; Lucy Miller; Dylan Lennon; Fraser & Rory Loughran; Mia Pow; Florence Rafferty; Ella, Olivia & Sophia Reed; Filip Sikorski; Jessica Smith; Emily Spoons; Erin Spoons; Eliza Thew; Noah Wightman.



Holy Day Masses:- Wednesday Vigil at Stella: 6p.m.; the two Requiem Masses on Thursday.



IMPORTANT NOTICE – SUMMER FAYRE DATE! The annual Summer Fayre at Stella will be taking place at Stella on **Sunday, 5th July at 2p.m.** It is NOT the Wimbledon Finals weekend! Please do enter this in your diaries. If you have items for the fayre, you can start bringing them along now, leaving them in the meeting room. Tombola prizes can be handed to Fr. Rose.

Roof Work at Stella. The new main roof at Stella is complete! The roofers are carrying out repairs to the remaining Westmorland slate pitches whilst on site, and will be renewing the flat and pitched roofs on the presbytery too. The garage roof is also in desperate need of renewal. Hopefully, the remaining slates will be swiftly moved so that we can have some more of the on-site parking back in regular use... ..and have the funds to carry out the additional work. The work being carried out should see us through the next 60 years!



STELLA SUMMER RAFFLE. The tickets for our Summer Draw go on sale this weekend – just £1 a strip. This year’s prizes include:- Laphroaig Quarter Cask 48% whisky; 1 lite Smirnoff 21 Vodka; Whitney-Neil Hand Crafted 43% Gin; 1 litre Napoleon Brandy; Jameson’s Whiskey; 1 litre Baileys; Jose Cuervo Especial Tequila; Spiced 40% Rum; Graham’s Ruby Port; Limoncello; Presentation Pack of Wines; Kath Kidston of London Hand Care set; etc.

Messages from Norah Dixon at St. Agnes’. a) The Summer Draw tickets are now available. Any prizes would be very much appreciated. b) On Tues., Friends of St. Agnes’ welcome Methodist church folk for a fun afternoon.

Redecoration of the church at Stella. Following all the roofing work, we will be looking at refreshing the interior of the church. Some areas have been touched up over the last twelve years, but the vast majority of the church has not seen fresh paint since the fire in Fr. Noel’s time – over twenty-five years ago. We are currently in the process of receiving quotations – all being well, the work will be carried out over the summer.

Stella Parish 200 Club Envelopes. We have spare numbers, if you would like to join!



A reflection for the month of Our Lady. Have you ever wondered why Mary is given the title “Star of the Sea” (Stella Maris)? This ancient title has been used for centuries to express trust that Mary guides believers safely through the storms of life toward her Son, Jesus Christ. It is a title rich in symbolism, hope, and spiritual meaning. First, the title “Star of the Sea” means Mary is a guide who leads us safely to Christ. In ancient times, sailors depended on the stars to navigate across dark oceans; stars showed the right direction. In the same way, Mary does not replace Jesus, she points people towards Him and helps them stay on the right path. Psalm 119 says: “Your word is a lamp to guide me, a light for my path.” Mary’s role is like a guiding light that leads us closer to God. Second, the title has deep roots in early Christian tradition. One of the early Church Fathers, St. Jerome, is often associated with interpreting Mary’s name in a way that connects it to the sea and a guiding star. Later, saints and theologians continued using this title to describe Mary’s protective and guiding role. Over time, the name “Star of the Sea” became widely loved in Catholic devotion. Third, the title reflects Mary’s role as a source of comfort during life’s storms. Life often brings difficulties, fear, uncertainty, suffering, or confusion. We see Mary as a motherly presence who encourages faith and trust during these challenging moments. Just as sailors look to the stars during rough seas, believers look to Mary for spiritual reassurance. The Bible says: “When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you.” - Isaiah 43:2. This promise reminds us that God provides guidance and protection. Fourth, the title became especially popular among sailors and coastal communities. For centuries, fishermen and travellers prayed to Mary under the title Star of the Sea, asking for safe journeys and protection from danger. Churches near the sea were often dedicated to her with this name, expressing trust in her care. The title gradually spread throughout the Church as a symbol of hope and safe guidance. Finally, “Star of the Sea” reminds us that Mary always points to Jesus, the true destination. A star does not replace the destination, it helps travellers reach it. In the same way, Mary’s mission is to lead people to Christ and encourage them to follow His teachings. Her words at the wedding feast summarize this role: “Do whatever he tells you.” - John 2:5. Mary is called Star of the Sea because she is seen as a guiding light who helps believers navigate the challenges of life and remain faithful to Jesus Christ. The title expresses trust, comfort, and hope, reminding us that even in the darkest storms, God provides direction and safe passage.

Weekly chuckle!

A woman walked up to a little old man rocking in a chair on his porch. "I couldn't help noticing how happy you look," she said. "What's your secret for a long happy life?" "I smoke three packs of cigarettes a day," he said. "I also drink a case of whisky a week, eat fatty foods, and never exercise." "That's amazing," said the woman, "how old are you?" "Twenty-six," he said.

